



# HOMA BAY COUNTY

## COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING RECOVERY STRATEGY

2020/21-2022/23





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## FOREWORD

The advent of COVID-19 in Kenya elicited a proactive response by the whole of the Government of Kenya, at both tiers strengthening inter-governmental relations. We the leaders of the National and County Governments immediately came together and quickly established practical and effective responses to this Pandemic that were geared towards safeguarding the lives and livelihoods of our people.

Acting on the basis of the recommendations and advice given to us by medical and public health professionals, we issued directives that established policy platforms and institutional mechanisms that would mitigate the adverse local effects of this global pandemic. To drive a concerted and coordinated multi-agency response, the National Emergency Response Committee on the Coronavirus Pandemic was established vide Executive Order No. 2 of 2020; bringing together all relevant government departments and agencies so that they would act in unison and synergistically pursue harmonious and complementary agenda, in line with their particular areas of mandate and expertise.

Many Kenyans have demonstrated their patriotism and sense of responsibility through adherence to the social distancing protocols, wearing face masks in public spaces and observing hygiene measures. The compliance to the containment measures demonstrate the individual and collective civil responsibility to protect ourselves, family members and other citizens. As a result, we have, together, contributed to slowing the spread of the coronavirus.

The pandemic has also taught us that as a country, we need to forge partnerships and collaboration within the country and with the rest of the world. Through extraordinary summits, organized for the National and County Governments, we discovered our synergy and commitments in responding to the needs of the citizens, in timely and appropriate manner. Through the use of technology, the National Government has kept a robust diplomatic engagement with our partners in the East African Community (EAC), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Union (AU), and Organization of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), in implementing joint measures to curb the spread of the virus across international borders. As a government, we have also held virtual bilateral and multilateral talks and consultations with our partners on **post Covid-19 economic recovery plans**.

The resolve of the government to expand our healthcare infrastructure through installing new and more medical equipment, recruiting additional healthcare workers, training of healthcare labour force on Covid-19 and increasing the testing capacity, is already bearing the expected outcomes. This notwithstanding, the Covid-19 pandemic will accelerate the realization of the national endeavor to achieve Universal Health Coverage.

The effects of Covid-19 on various sectors of economy cannot be gainsaid. Tourism, trade, manufacturing, Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), transport and education, to name but just a few, have been adversely affected. Many Kenyans have lost their jobs and livelihoods. The government has implemented various intervention measures to cushion the vulnerable Kenyans from shocks of the Covid-19, and going forward, enhancing our social protection system that is increasingly supporting the elderly, PWDs, orphans and other vulnerable households in the country, is a priority.

Among the welfare measures and interventions instituted to protect the economy include 100 per cent tax relief for persons earning gross monthly income of up to Ksh. 24,000; reduction of Income Tax Rate (Pay-As-You-Earn) from 30 per cent to 25 per cent; reduction of Resident Income Tax (Corporation Tax) from 30 per cent to 25 per cent; reduction of the turnover tax rate from 3 per cent to 1 per cent; temporary



suspension of the listing with the Credit Reference Bureau (CRB); and reduction of the VAT from 16 per cent to 14 per cent, effective 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. I am also aware that counties have collectively and individually taken measures that complement the efforts to **protect lives and livelihoods of Kenyans**.

The government, in addition to the tax relief measures, rolled out the National Hygiene Programme (*Kazi Mitaani*) for job creation to the youth and to keep our environment clean and healthier. Further, the government has supported MSEs to manufacture basic medical equipment for both domestic use and export. The resilience and entrepreneurial spirit of this country have come out strongly as Kenyans seize the opportunities provided by the Covid-19, to demonstrate that we can expand our manufacturing by exploiting the significant amount of capabilities in the sector. Today, MSEs are producing masks, Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), hand sanitizers and soap, among other products. This tells us that there are many other potential areas where we can locally produce or manufacture what we need rather than rely on imported goods and services.

During my fourth Presidential Address on the Coronavirus Pandemic in April 2020, I assured the People of Kenya that their government would formulate and implement a vibrant post COVID-19 economic recovery plan. The National and County Governments have been engaging all stakeholders including the private sector, academia, research institutions and development partners; towards the development and re-engineering of socio-economic recovery strategies in the wake of this pandemic. These strategies aim not only at dealing with the present challenges but are also aimed at enhancing Kenya's resilience and response capability in the face of future challenges of a similar nature.

We are taking into account the need to respond to both internal and external shocks arising from significant crisis situations; with a view of formulating enhanced protections for our priority areas of manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), housing, transport, education, health and social protection. The two levels of government are committed to transforming the economic and governance systems so as to ensure that the systems are more responsive to citizen needs, especially those of the youth, women and vulnerable members of the society.

The present pandemic situation has underscored the urgent need for Kenya to revitalise her welfare system; and establish a more progressive, effective, agile and sustainable system that meets the fast-changing needs of both current and future generations.

*Together we prosper.*

UHURU KENYATTA, C.G.H.,

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, AND  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCES





## TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

The promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 brought forth several reforms, key among them a devolved system of governance. Article 10 of the Constitution illuminates the National Values and Principles of Governance, Article 174 espouses the objectives of devolution and the Fourth Schedule articulates the distribution of functions between the National and the County Governments. While the last eight years have seen significant progress with devolution, the COVID-19 pandemic serves to provide more impetus to strengthen the devolved system of governance in achieving inclusive development.

The pandemic has presented an opportunity to critically reassess, rethink and review the existing systems and structures in securing the welfare of Kenyans in a devolved system of governance. This is particularly important considering the critical role of the County Governments in ensuring the delivery and implementation of the Big Four Agenda and the Kenya Vision 2030. The COVID-19 pandemic has also clearly highlighted the essential role of regional economic blocs and the opportunities that can be leveraged in post-COVID-19 to strengthen the devolved system of governance. In spite of the prevailing challenges, the potential in establishing joint regional development blocs to deliver shared services promises a more effective post-COVID-19 recovery strategy.

In responding to the pandemic, counties have come up with county-specific COVID-19 prevention guidelines and strengthened community surveillance while implementing the COVID-19 prevention measures, including social distancing and general hygiene. County Governors also moved to protect their people through movement restrictions, setting up quarantine and isolation facilities in county rooms in hospitals; launching nutrition support systems; and even specifying protocols for funerals and last rights.

The 47 County Governments are committed to continue working together in harnessing their synergies and working closely with the National Government to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and progress further to ensure realization of national development goals. This requires further deepening of the principles of intergovernmental relations as espoused under Article 6(2) of the Constitution, which provides that the National and County Governments are to conduct their mutual relations on the basis of consultation and cooperation. Thus, in discharging their constitutionally defined roles or functions and in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, both levels of Government have been guided by these two key principles of intergovernmental relations.

The recommendations emerging from the County COVID-19 Economic Re-engineering and Recovery Strategy and Specific County Strategies will go a long way in informing the policy process, ultimately strengthening the devolved system of government in the post-COVID period.

**H.E. WYCLIFFE OPARANYA**

**CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**



## UNITY IS STRENGTH; RESOLUTENESS IS THE ESSENCE OF STRUGGLE

The outbreak of Covid-19 is an eye opener on our levels of preparedness for pandemics and calamities that may threaten the existence of our society. If country borders are closed and restricted movement of goods and persons all over the world were to remain in place for much longer, one important question each country would ask is for how long each society would survive. Thus, exploiting opportunities for enhanced self-reliance becomes essential for survival of societies.

The collective response of both the national and county governments to this pandemic demonstrates the importance of interdependence of the two levels of government. Establishing policies, institutions and safeguards that can effectively respond to and mitigate such pandemics is vital. In that regard, the Council of Governors initiated a study by KIPPRA on its behalf to examine county and national policies in the context of the COVID-19 experience and its aftermath. I was privileged to chair the team that undertook this study.

As part of this preparedness is the domestic capacity to produce materials: intellectual, technical and equipment, needed at such times as much as possible.

We in Kenya should realize that the policy of Import Substitution Industrialization (ISI) that we threw out of the window in the 80s with the advent of the Washington Consensus may need to be re-examined in view of our experience with this pandemic.

With Covid-19, we have seen the importance of having: a well-functioning health care system to serve the population; proper functioning medical research institutions to develop vaccines; and a good planning of our cities, transport systems, education system and housing to offer services in the midst of the pandemic notwithstanding the threat of being left alone with the closure of international transport highways. We have also seen the importance of good government systems for continued provision of public service in difficult times, proper utilization of resources for longevity of our societies, and socio-economic sustainability in securing livelihood.

The pandemic therefore highlights the need to promote innovations and adopt modern technologies in the path to enhancing self-reliance. Our young population showcased their capabilities with innovations to help in responding to the pandemic. It takes our commitment as government to nurture innovations by re-energizing our institutions of technical training, science, technology and engineering to maintain the momentum for innovation to the level of being commercialized. This also presents an opportunity for our research and policy institutions to relook at the kind of innovation model the country and counties require in economic transformation.

What has happened in the area of health shows the relevance of research as governments and individuals have had to rely on evidence for solutions. Pharmaceutical companies, universities and research institutions all over the world have been actively engaged in research to understand the virus and help come up with vaccine, while others are actively providing evidence to inform policy formulation with the effects of Covid-19. Thus, highlighting the importance of strengthening the link between research and decision making.





We in Kenya and the East African Community need to invest even more robustly in research to be capable of implementing evidence-based policies. Evidence is an important tool in forging economic recovery strategies in view of the effects of Covid-19.

This calls for a realistic and appropriate budgeting to support our academic and research institutions. It also calls for the political class to formulate strategic laws and regulations governing our economic and social activities in all sectors of our society. For example, our taxation policies that have led to high costs of energy have not only retarded investment in our economy but also put many counties in jeopardy in the provision of services and creating enabling environment for investments.

Covid-19 has shown the importance of paying more attention and committing more investments to preventive, promotive and public health. "Cleanliness is indeed next to Godliness". During this period of the pandemic, diarrheal diseases and other water borne diseases went down considerably. This is attributed to the access to sufficient portable water both for consumption and hygiene. We could probably reduce our public health bill by investing effectively in water and hygiene.

Studies on economic recovery strategies have shown that counties are vital for the growth of the nation as frontiers for production and provision investments. Deliberate investments should be focused in the areas of food production targeting the weak and vulnerable small holder. The pandemic, however, demonstrated that without a strong value chain, the resilience of our small holder farmers can easily be jeopardized, thereby threatening the very basic foundation of our society.

Finally, the informal sector, provided with enhanced market access as a whole, can contribute even more to the counties and national economy.

**H.E. PROF ANYANG' NYONG'O**  
GOVERNOR, KISUMU COUNTY

## STATEMENT

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on both lives and livelihoods in Kenya. The National and County Governments quickly adopted a multipronged approach that help to safe protect many citizens from the pandemic. Firstly, was to respond; second, is to allow for recovery; and thirdly, is to allow for thriving. Several measures were instituted at both National and County Government levels to curb the spread of the disease including social distancing, hand hygiene, and preparation of facilities for care and treatment of confirmed cases. As the country progresses to recovery and allow the economy to thrive, County Governments found it necessary to develop a socio-economic strategy to facilitate re-engineering and recovery of their economies from the impact of COVID-19.

As part of KIPPRA's mandate to provide advisory and technical services to the government, the Institute supported the Council of Governors (COG) in jointly developing the COVID-19 County Socio-Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy (CCSERS) and 47 County Specific COVID-19 County Socio-Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategies. With the spirit of *Thinking Policy Together*, the process involved robust, independent yet consultative evidence-based research and policy analysis which saw collecting views from a wide range of stakeholders including: various committees at Council of Governors such as; health, agriculture, trade, manufacturing, cooperatives, and education, youth, sports, gender and culture. Other committees included; transport, housing, urban development and energy and tourism; and natural resources, water, forestry and mining. Consultative engagements were also carried out with all the County Governments which offered great insights that informed the development of the recovery strategies. Equally, in depth literature review and secondary data was collected, collated and analysed to inform the strategies.

County Governments have the potential to make their economies recover and thrive by leveraging on the following five pillars: Boosting private sector activity; Policy, legislatives, and institutional reforms; Strengthening County Government's preparedness and response to pandemics and disasters; Enhancing Information Communication Technology (ICT) capacity for business continuity; and Investing in human resource development. It will also be critical to institutionalize monitoring, evaluation, regular reporting and communication of the strategies up to grassroots level and across all communities and institutions in the counties.

**DR ROSE NGUGI**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
KENYA INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS (KIPPRA)





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Council of Governors extends its gratitude to all those who participated in the preparation of the County Socio-economic Re-engineering and Recovery Strategy. The development of this Strategy was a combined effort of Council of Governors, County Governments, researchers, development partners, and sector stakeholders. Special thanks go to all County Governments for their active participation and providing data and information that was used in preparation of the Combined COVID19 County Re-engineering and Recovery Strategy and County-Specific Strategies.

We acknowledge the steering committee led by H.E. Hon. Prof Anyang' Nyong'o, H.E Prof. Kivutha Kibwana and H.E. Ndiritu Muriithi who conceptualized and guided the development of this strategy.

We would like to thank the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) for providing the technical lead throughout the preparation of these Strategies. Specifically, we wish to thank KIPPRA's Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi for guiding the process.

We are also grateful to the COG County Socio-economic Re-engineering and Recovery Committee under the technical leadership of the Chief Executive Officer for their strategic and policy guidance, and the team of reviewers who provided insightful inputs towards the finalization of the Strategies.

We also greatly appreciate the county staff and stakeholders who participated in data and information collation and consultations, and others who verified the contents of various drafts of this Strategy.

Finally, we would like to thank the UNDP for financial support and technical input towards the assignment; and World Bank, UN-WOMEN and GIZ for the technical assistance in quality assurance of this strategy.

This strategy will guide County Governments in bouncing back from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic through planning and budgeting of the policy interventions in the re-engineering and recovery phase.

**JACQUELINE MOGENI, MBS**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This County COVID-19 Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy 2020/21-2022/23 embeds the principles of response, recovery and thriving. The counties will continue to respond to the crisis while dealing with the immediate effects of the pandemic to contain it, treat the affected, flatten the curve of new infections, and ensure immediate financial assistance and restructuring of County Integrated Development Plans. Towards recovery, counties are mitigating socio-economic impacts as the pandemic is controlled, while also preventing a second wave. To thrive, the re-engineering and recovery strategies are aimed at long-term interventions to prevent or address future disasters and support sustained development across counties. The Strategy also envisages the revitalisation of the county regional blocs in the recovery and re-engineering processes.

### Measures by County Governments to Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19

The Council of Governors through its mandate established under Section 19 of the Intergovernmental Relations Act 2012 has provided a central point for coordination of County Governments' COVID-19 response measures. The COVID-19 pandemic adversely impacted on various sectors particularly tourism, transport, trade, industry (manufacturing and construction) and agriculture. The pandemic has particularly affected micro and small enterprises that form a significant proportion of the establishment and many vulnerable households in the counties have been pushed into poverty. Many vulnerable households depend on farming and informal wages.

The County Governments came up with plans to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic including: Treatment of confirmed cases (recruitment of health workers, procurement of personal protective equipment (PPEs), expanding intensive care units, establishment of quarantine, isolation and testing capabilities); Preventing the spread (COVID-19 prevention guidelines, community surveillance strengthening of border disease surveillance by counties, enforcement of market guidelines, initiating production of face masks at vocational training centres in various counties); Supporting the vulnerable with formation of County Food Security War Rooms; and Raising finance by setting up COVID-19 emergency funds.

### Pillars for County Recovery and Re-engineering Strategies

#### 1) **Boosting Private Sector Activity**

The private sector is dominated by microenterprises (89.2%) and small farm holders (99.0%) majority of whom were adversely affected by the pandemic. As the engine that drives economic activity, it is important to get the private sector thriving by creating an enabling environment at county level. This will facilitate counties in enhancing their contribution to the national cake and expand the basket for own source revenue. To improve the business environment, there is need to:

- (i) Enhance access to affordable credit: For the MSES, initiate and strengthen self-sustaining funds dedicated and easily accessible to MSEs; promote tailor made financial literacy programmes; and establish frameworks for micro-leasing; utilize the SMEs credit guarantee scheme.



- (ii) Provide for worksite: Develop adequate, cluster-informed and well-equipped worksites with workshops, common user facilities, incubation centres and showrooms for artisans, and provide machines and safety gear.
- (iii) Enhance access to intermediate goods: Enhance and promote local manufacture of affordable tools and machinery including strengthening the Numerical Machine Complex.
- (iv) Improve infrastructure and security: Provide for connectivity to roads, electricity, water and drainage and enhance security to reduce crime in continuing to improve Kenya's global Ease of Doing Business ranking.
- (v) Enhance access and diversification of markets for private sector production both locally and regionally including by developing county regional bloc value chains and consolidating markets within economic integration value chains. Also increase market access with greater use of e-commerce to move transactions to the digital economy.
- (vi) Encourage formalization of informal sector with appropriate incentives to provide more sustainable income, stable employment and sustained innovation.

## 2) **Strengthening ICT Capacity**

Less than 15 per cent of households in rural areas use internet and only 5 per cent have gadgets such as desktops, laptops and tablets. As a result, even with 90 per cent of public primary schools being installed with digital literacy infrastructure and devices, continued learning from home is a challenge because only 12.8 per cent of households have access to internet. Further, only 50 per cent of counties are fully connected to the Government Common Core Network (GCCN). Enhancing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capacity in the public sector and households will enable business continuity and build resilience to future disasters and pandemics. This includes:

- (i) Complete the County Connectivity Project to the Government Common Core Network (GCCN)<sup>1</sup>.
- (ii) Enhance connectivity of businesses to ICT by extending the National Optic Fibre Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) in trade centres, public buildings and public spaces to boost e-commerce.
- (iii) Enhance household access to reliable, stable and affordable internet connectivity through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) between County Governments and ICT service providers such as the Goole Loon and Telkom Kenya partnership.
- (iv) Promote household access to and use of ICT by providing devices such as smartphones that are 4G enabled and affordable.

1. The County Connectivity Project <http://icta.go.ke/county-connectivity-project-ccp/>



## 3) **Human Capital Development**

Investing in human resource development enhances productivity which supports long term growth and development at county level. With the COVID-19, workers across various sectors reported reduced working hours and only a few who managed to provide new and expanded goods and services during the period managed to enhance their income. As such, human resource development will entail addressing health and education risks exposed by COVID-19. The interventions include:

- (i) Extending the scope of Universal Health Coverage to collectively finance health services for all, including uninsured workers and their families; and investing in community and public health.
- (ii) Investing in technical education, training and skills development to create more employment opportunities.
- (iii) Establishing a pool fund to finance a seasonal public works or employment guarantee scheme.
- (iv) Promoting safety at workplaces with enforcement of guidelines to reduce the exposure of all workers including informal workers to the virus.

## 4) **Policy, Legislative, and Institutional Reforms**

The Constitution gives the National Government the role of policy development, and thus County Governments rely on policy and legislative frameworks passed at the national level for activities in various sectors. Counties also develop their policy frameworks and it is important to improve inter-governmental relations to facilitate the integration and coordination of policies at national and county levels. With the pandemic, there is need reforming the following aspects in various sectors:

- (i) Review the Public Health Act, Cap 242, to consider modern public health trends, developments, challenges and emerging opportunities.
- (ii) Harmonization and rationalization of the various laws on agriculture to streamline operations between the National and County Governments.
- (iii) Enact appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks to regulate and control the protection of data and status of individuals who are confirmed, suspected or recovered cases of COVID-19 and other future pandemics or public health outbreaks that may occur in future.
- (iv) Develop regulations for protection and regulation of information shared, recorded or documented through online platforms including video conferencing platforms and mobile applications.
- (v) Review the Employment Act 2007 to protect patients, or suspected patients, of COVID-19 from discrimination, harassment, unlawful disclosure of their status, stigmatization, reprisals or termination of employment due to fear of COVID-19, infectious disease or on grounds of their health status.





## 5) **Strengthening County Government's Preparedness and Response to Pandemics and Disasters**

The county governments have a weak disaster management framework. A robust, comprehensive and well-coordinated policy and institutional framework for disaster management leveraging on regional bloc synergies is critical in mitigating any losses. This will include:

- (i) Developing a Disaster Risk Management Policy that covers unforeseen disasters that may occur in future.
- (ii) Linking the Disaster Risk Management Policy to policies in relevant sectors given the cross-cutting nature of disaster interventions.
- (iii) County Governments to develop a legal and regulatory framework to provide the legal foundation for a collaborative partnership in institutional participatory management of disasters, including mobilization of the essential resources necessary for the management of all disasters.
- (iv) Developing a legal and regulatory framework that applies to infectious diseases, including catering for medical costs.
- (v) Review of procurement laws including the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act 2015 to have clear provisions on emergency procurement and procurement in times of urgent needs and disclosure of information in the case of direct procurement.
- (vi) Ensuring accountability in the use of funds, and development of legal and statutory requirements for audit of the financial statements of emergency funds.

### Support to Key Sectors

#### 1) **Agriculture**

As the sector gradually shifts from an emergency response to re-engineering, recovery and building resilience, counties should aim at building back better especially for the smallholders through:

- (i) Enhancing agro-processing and value addition capacities of counties by adopting appropriate regulations, policies and legislations.
- (ii) Greater exposure to market access by pointing out alternative markets and marketing channels to farmers. Regional blocs can provide greater market access and synergies.
- (iii) Improving disaster surveillance at county level and mitigate risks associated with disasters, such as those related to floods, disease and pest invasion.



- (iv) Facilitating access to quality and affordable inputs including certified seedlings, water, animal feeds, Artificial Insemination (AI) services, fertilizers, livestock vaccination and ploughing services by county tractor hire services.
- (v) Facilitate access to affordable formal finance and advisory and information services.
- (vi) Train and build capacity of farmers on modern agricultural technologies, including integrating best practices.
- (vii) Enhance the role of agricultural cooperatives through development of more sustainable models of financing and customized training of cooperative members. County governments play a vital role in cooperative development through the effective stakeholder engagement and the implementation of well-designed cooperative policies.

#### 2) **Water and sanitation**

COVID-19 has placed high demand on water for hand hygiene, and this has compelled counties to ensure continuity in provision of water. To enhance connectivity of households, there is need to:

- (i) Expand and rehabilitate the existing piped water connection infrastructure to increase access to water.
- (ii) Expand sewer infrastructure to accommodate more households; currently there is low access to piped sewer.
- (iii) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct water and sanitation (WASH) facilities to increase access at the household level.
- (iv) Provide waste collection services at households, promote and facilitate regular waste collection, and embrace environment clean up exercises at neighbourhoods and in towns.

#### 3) **Urban development and housing**

Urban areas have emerged as hot-spots for the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, Nairobi and Mombasa and the surrounding urban areas have recorded the highest confirmed positive cases of the pandemic. Tied to this is the role that adequate housing plays in the home-based care strategy of treating COVID-19 patients. Opportunities and areas of focus for re-engineering and recovery strategies will include the following:

- (i) Promote a National Home Ownership Policy; this would cushion households from future shocks that impede payment of rent.



- (ii) Designate and approve urban areas of different cadres and undertake urban planning as an opportunity to boost investment and stimulate economic activity in the modern sectors. Ensure this is accompanied by appropriate road, water and electricity infrastructure.
- (iii) Fast-track affordable housing in counties through provision of public land to improve housing conditions and improve the turnaround period for transactions for land and construction.

#### 4) **Transport**

There is need to enhance mobility options for residents and improve road conditions to support economic, social and subsistence activities. Towards this goal, there is need to:

- (i) Use labour-based and local resource-based approaches for road development and maintenance.
- (ii) Improve and expand infrastructure for Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) and intermediate transport modes which will also enhance environmental sustainability.
- (iii) Adopt climate-smart road engineering designs to address the problem of floods that destroy roads and bridges and ensure harvesting of storm water for domestic and commercial use.
- (iv) Develop better synergies between car, bus, rail, non-motorised transport and between public and private transport and select the most environmentally friendly solutions.

#### 5) **Tourism**

The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on tourism sectors has been substantial. Re-engineering strategies for the sector include:

- (i) Allocating resources for investment and rehabilitation of tourism-supporting infrastructure, including sports stadia, modern meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (M.I.C.E) venues, and roads leading to the physical tourist attraction sites including cultural heritage sites.
- (ii) Diversify tourism products across all counties to include cultural, sports, agro-tourism, M.I.C.E, nature-based, community-based, adventure, culinary and beach-based tourism products; jetties and floating facilities; amusement parks; and construction and development of public beaches.
- (iii) Develop tourism information and data centres.
- (iv) Upgrading medical facilities to promote medical tourism.
- (v) Construct modern theatre and art gallery to support development of talent in music, visual and performing arts, and upgrading of sports stadia to develop talents in sport across counties.



- (vi) Enforce sanitation and hygiene standards in all accommodation facilities and tourist attraction sites in line with the national guidelines for reopening of hospitality establishments to ensure business continuity.
- (vii) Developing products specifically tailored to enhancing domestic tourism which is less susceptible to shocks. Such products to be affordable, and packages designed to maximize domestic tourist utility. Leverage on regional blocs for joint marketing of tourist attractions.

#### 6) **Health**

The COVID-19 has implications on healthcare systems (public hospitals, isolation centres). The healthcare system will need to strengthen COVID-19 response, and all the other healthcare services. Recovery of the sector calls for collaboration between the National and County Governments for the following:

- (i) Strengthen coordinated mechanism to facilitate care and treatment of confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- (ii) Identify training gaps among the health providers and make available targeted training.
- (iii) Proactively address the mental health needs, including those of the health workforce.
- (iv) Invest in research and development to spur innovation in health sector, including in the area of medicine.
- (v) Legislate and equip health workers and Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) to adequately provide community health and counselling on appropriate maternal, infant and young child nutrition practices amidst the pandemic.
- (vi) Mainstream family health training in medical training colleges curriculum as well as in university medical training programmes.

#### 7) **Education**

The education sector was totally disrupted with closure of all schools, which has led to loss of learning time and teaching time. Recovery of the sector will require significant collaboration between the National and County governments in:

- (i) Preparing guidelines for schools reopening, improving WASH facilities and providing adequate personal protective equipment for teachers, learners and other employees in the schools.
- (ii) Protecting the poorest and most vulnerable learners and enable them to continue learning, such as through targeted conditional cash transfers and learning vouchers.



- (iii) Supporting back to school campaigns and supporting educators on the utilization of computerized devices by giving internet data when they are required to live-stream lessons.
- (iv) Promoting monitoring and addressing psychosocial well-being of students, teachers and education officers and educating them on how to mitigate the spread of coronavirus.
- (v) Carrying out large-scale assessment to identify learning gaps and inform remedial programming and learning opportunities so that all students catch up due to the learning time lost during the pandemic.
- (vi) Strengthen ICT integration in teaching and learning in the education sector by facilitating production of radio, television and online teaching and learning materials and extending the existing distance learning programmes to all rural areas. Hybrid learning encompassing a blend of face to face and digital learning at all levels of education to be encouraged in the education sector.
- (vii) Strengthen collaboration between county and non-state not-for-profit institutions including faith-based organizations in delivery of pre-primary education across counties.
- (viii) National and county governments to review boarding vs day schooling models in guiding areas to promote investments.

## 8) **Social protection**

Kenya has an estimated 918,00 PWDs (2.2% of the total population) and 1,870,443 older persons aged 65 years and above (representing 3.9% of the population). Social protection interventions require collaboration between the National and County Governments and will include:

- (i) Supporting businesses to access credit guarantee for people whose occupations or employments have been disrupted by the pandemic.
- (ii) Ensuring effective access to essential healthcare and other basic social services, in particular population groups and individuals who have been drawn into vulnerability due to the pandemic.
- (iii) Supporting Child Help Line initiatives and other partners to provide counselling services, address mental health and psycho-social support targeting children and youth in their homes, community and in institutions and quarantine/isolation centres.
- (iv) Facilitating coordination with health, WASH, nutrition and other sectors to ensure that COVID-19 prevention services are accessible to the hard to reach children (in informal settlements, arid and semi-arid counties and other care institutions).
- (v) Use this opportunity to continue efforts to reviewing the more expansive and inclusive safety nets.



## 9) **Gender and youth**

The interventions to address emerging gender issues with the pandemic include:

- (i) Designating gender safe spaces to provide accommodation for Gender-Based Violence (GBV) survivors and create space in County Referral Hospitals to serve as GBV recovery centres.
- (ii) Promoting use of alternative means of Gender-Based Violence safe outreach and awareness-raising that limit direct contact; that is, using traditional methods such as town criers and use of loud-speakers.
- (iii) Supporting gender champions and sign language interpreters to activate and communicate an 'alert chain' to reach GBV survivors or those in imminent danger of injury and harm.
- (iv) Strengthening inclusive community outreach strategies to ensure GBV messaging is localized and clear, and addresses stigma, discrimination and other power dynamics that serve as barriers to accessing GBV services and COVID-19 information among differently able persons.
- (v) Bringing on board key stakeholders to actively engage and sensitize the youth on reproductive health; HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 prevention measures.





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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 County Context

Homabay County is one of the counties in the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB). The County has estimated population of 1,131,950 of which 47.8 per cent are male and 52.1 per cent female (KNBS, 2019) as indicated in table 1. Of the population 42,181 (4.3 per cent) are persons with disabilities. The youth constituted 34.0 per cent of the population of whom 54.0 per cent were female. The county has a population density of 265per km2. About 90.0 per cent of the population live in rural areas of whom 52.3 per cent are female. The elderly population (over 65year-old) make up 4.4 per cent of the total population of whom 59.8 per cent were female. The population in school going age group (4-22 years) was 51.1 per cent in 2019.

In 2015/2016, the overall poverty rate in Homabay County was 34.0 per cent against the national poverty rate of 36.1 per cent. In addition, 23.2 per cent of the population were living in food poverty and 78.7 per cent were living in multidimensional poverty, that means being deprived in several dimensions including health care, nutrition and adequate food, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, education, knowledge of health and nutrition, housing and standard of living, and access to information. According to the KDHS 2014, 18.7 per cent of the children were stunted as compared to the average national level at 26.1 per cent.

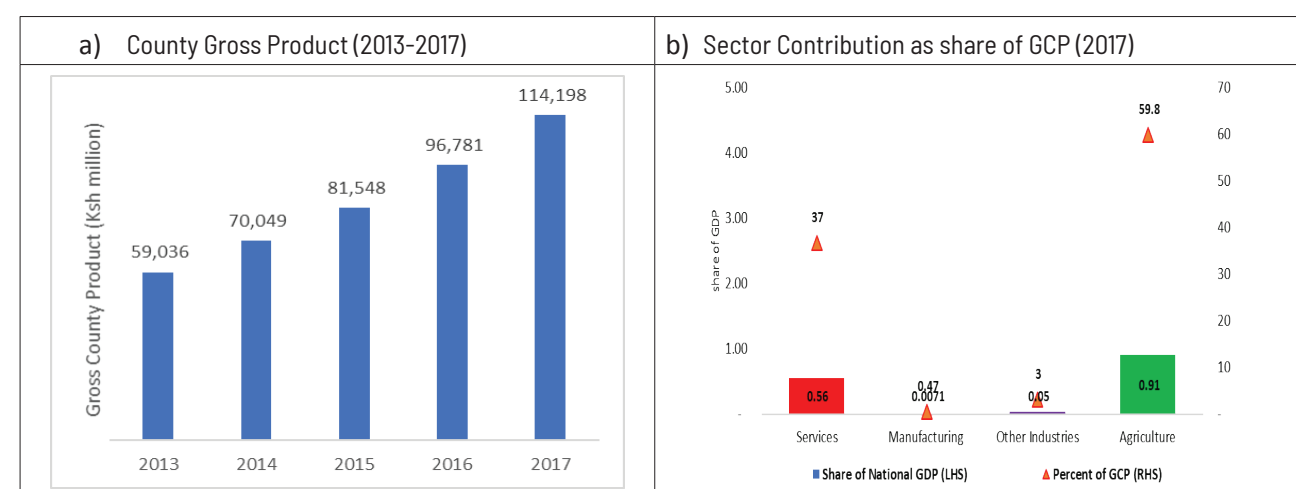
**Table 1: Development indicators in Homabay County**

	County	National
Estimated County Population (KNBS, 2019)	1,131,950	2.1% of the total population
Males	539,560	47.8%
Females	592,367	52.1%
Intersex	23	0.002%
Estimated Population Density (km2)	265	82
Persons with disability	4.3%	2.2
Population living in rural areas (%)	90.0%	68.8%
School going age (4-22 years)(%)	51.1%	68.7%
Youth (%)	34.0%	36.1%
Elderly population (over 65-year-old)	4.4%	3.9%
Number of Covid-19 cases (as at 11th September 2020)(MOH); National cases were 35,232 people	65	0.19 Of the national cases
Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	34.0%	36.1%
Food Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	23.2%	31.9%
Multidimensional Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	78.7%	56.1%
Stunted children (KDHS 2014)	24.4%	26%
Gross County Product (Ksh Million)	114,198(2017)	1.5 % Share to total GDP (2017)
Average growth of Nominal GCP/GDP (2013-2017)(%)	18.7 %	15.3 %

Data Source: KNBS (2019)

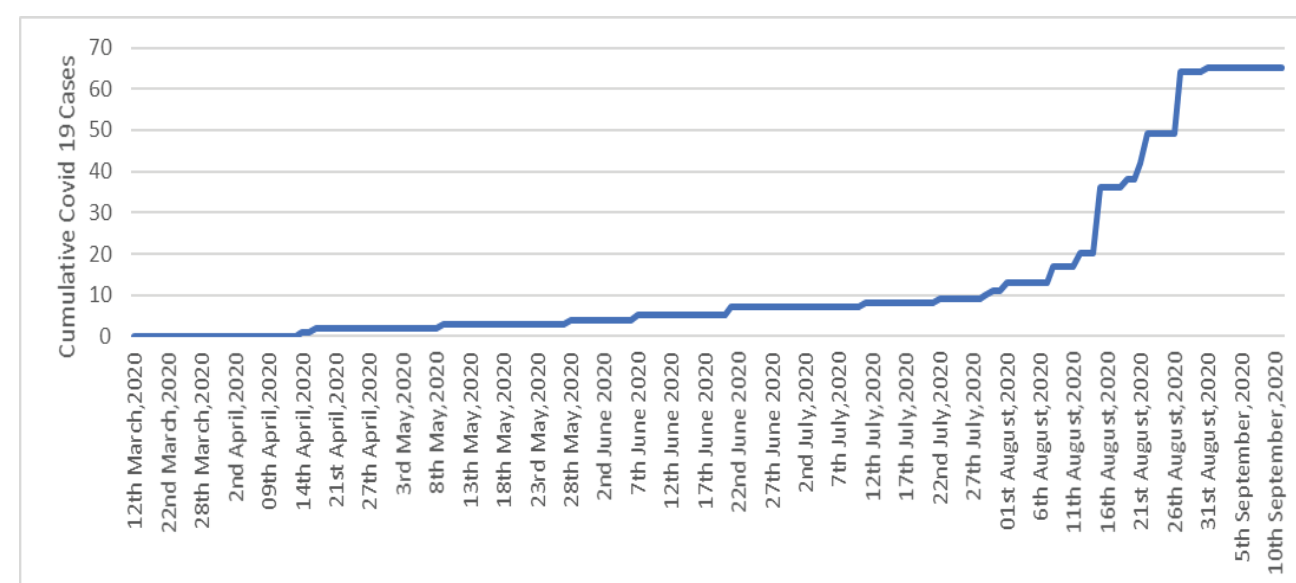
Homabay County Gross County Product (GCP) accounted for 1.5 per cent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as at 2017 as reported in figure 1. The GCP increased from Ksh. 59,036 million in 2013 to Ksh. 114,198 million in 2017 representing an average annual growth rate of 18.7 per cent. The agriculture sector contributes 59.8 per cent of GCP while services and other industries sector share constituted 37.0 per cent and 3.0 per cent, respectively. The services sector includes such activities as wholesale and retail trade. Agriculture is mainly dominated by subsistence and cash crop farming and fishing activities while industries include small scale food processing.

**Figure 1: Structure of the County Economy, 2013-2017**



Data Source: KNBS (2019)

The County first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on 14th April 2020. Since then the number of confirmed cases increased to 65 in 11th September 2020 (MOH, 2020) as indicated in figure 2.



Data Source: MOH

## 1.2 County Fiscal position

Homabay county expected to receive a total of Ksh. 8.97 billion in FY 2019/20 as revenue to finance its operations. This comprised mainly of Ksh. 6.7 billion (75.2 per cent) as equitable share, Ksh. 980.4 million (10.8 per cent) conditional grant, Ksh. 117.3 million (1.3 per cent) generated from own source revenue (OSR) and Ksh. 1.1 billion as cash balance from FY 2018/19.

During FY 2019/20, the County received a total Ksh. 8.3 billion which accounted for 92.5 per cent of the expected revenue. This comprised of Ksh. 6.2 billion equitable shares, Ksh. 645.7 million as conditional grants, Ksh. 1.1 billion as cash balance from FY 2018/19 and generated 118.5 million from OSR. However, with the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic, the county's revenue streams were affected though the impact was not hard felt during FY 2019/20. During the period, the county registered a 16.2 per cent increase in OSR from Ksh. 101.97 million registered during the same period in FY 2018/19 to Ksh. 118.5 million.

At the beginning of FY 2019/20 the County budgeted to spend a total of Ksh. 8,969.6 million consisting of Ksh. 5,460.3 million allocation for recurrent expenditure and Ksh. 3,509.3 million for development expenditure. Of the recurrent expenditure, Ksh. 3,581.1 million was meant for compensation of employees while Ksh. 1,879.2 million was set aside for operations and maintenance. The County's actual total expenditure during FY 2019/20 amounted to Ksh. 7,188.3 million. Recurrent expenditures (personal emoluments and operations & maintenance) accounted for 69.5 per cent of the total spending, with development expenditure accounting for only 30.5 per cent. This translating to absorption rates at 80.1 per cent for the overall budget, 91.5 per cent recurrent expenditure and 62.5 per cent development expenditure. Health sector expenditure accounted for 34.6 per cent of total spending with an overall absorption rate of 95.4 per cent. Absorption rate for health sector recurrent expenditure stood at 96.8 per cent while that for development expenditure stood at 87.7 per cent. At the end of FY 2019/20, the county accumulated pending bills amounting to Ksh. 692.9 million consisting of Ksh. 640.1 million and Ksh. 52.8 million in respect of development and recurrent expenditures respectively.

## 1.3 County fiscal response, interventions and budget re-allocation

With the outbreak of Covid-19 Homa Bay county undertook varied measures.

**The County established the Homa Bay County Covid-19 Response Fund Committee.** The Fund Committee is charged with the function of leading and coordinating the County-level efforts to mobilize requisite resources (Financial, Technical and Material); producing evidence-based funding needs and guidelines for donors and development partners intending to contribute to the fund; and preparing and disseminate monthly financial reports documenting progress made in resource mobilization, allocation, utilization and outcomes. The Fund Committee has raised more than Ksh 6 million for mitigation of corona virus spread. Further guidelines for donation to the kitty are also published in the county website.





**The county re-allocated its budget.** During the second supplementary budget the county freed some resources to finance the County Covid-19 Response Fund. A budgetary provision of Ksh. 200 million to address the pandemic was made. The County also cleared pending bills to suppliers worth Ksh. 580 million.

**County government received support from private sector and donors.** The county received sanitization booths from Safaricom Foundation and Belgian Government. In collaboration with Safaricom Foundation, Scope International donated non-food items worth Ksh 3.8 million to flood victims within the County. Other support received include water tanks and soap from One Acre Fund, high graded beans to farmers for planting from Self Help Africa, Alcohol based hand sanitizers and PPEs from EABL and AMPATH while Lake Victoria SDA Church donated food items and other supplies for distribution.

**The County has re-activated 'Trade fund'<sup>1</sup> for traders to increase their capital and revamp their businesses.** The fund's budgeted amount was Ksh. 20 million however the actual amount received was KSh. 6 million. So far, the fund has been boosted with KSh. 2.2 million.

**The county prepared for treatment of confirmed cases.** Following the President's directive to Counties on 6th June 2020 to increase their bed capacities to 300, the County escalated its efforts to increase bed capacity in various isolation centers. The County also recruited 200 health workers and purchased PPE's as well as other medical supplies. In addition, the county provided medical insurance for all frontline staff within the County. Homabay County has improved hospital infrastructure within its (40) wards. The County hastened the construction of its hospitals that will host (2) health centers and (2) dispensaries. The County introduced reusable face masks. This was informed by improper disposal of masks in informal settlements which affected hygiene. Training and skill development programs, workshops and seminars for health works were conducted to sensitize on handling patients.

**The county implemented working-from-home guidelines.** With the outbreak of COVID-19 and the need to keep social distance up to 70 per cent of County employees worked remotely except for those in essential services.

**In addition, the county promoted COVID-19 safety guidelines.** All essential workers received medical cover and protective gear (masks and PPE's). The county also effected the 50 per cent reduction in the seating capacity for passengers per vehicle to observe social distance; hand hygiene; fare collection using mobile money payment systems, the dusk to dawn curfew, and the cessation of movement in and out of Nairobi, Mombasa and Mandera. The county is also working closely with community-based organizations especially youth groups to carry out sensitization to traders on preventative measure against COVID-19.

1. The Trade Fund by the County provides interest free loan to businesses. According to Homabay CIDP, the funds are disbursed to Women's SACCOs only. The SACCOs then give grants to businesses.



**The county undertook to enhance hand washing, use of sanitizers and wearing of face masks.**

Sanitization booths were placed in strategic locations within the county including border points – with neighbouring counties to enhance hygiene and prevention of the spread of the novel corona virus. County also distributed over face masks, alcohol-based hand sanitizers, bar soaps across the county including to fishermen in 146 beaches within the county. Wash taps were erected at shops in the town center as well as handwashing facilities in County and sub-County offices. 1000-liter water tanks placed in every market to promote handwashing. Also, encouraged shopkeepers to put in place water tanks and hand wash at their doorsteps. The County has supplied free water using 1000-liter tanks on a weekly basis to various parts of the County that experience inadequate rain. Provided some homes and informal settlements with handwash and 20-litre jerricans to enhance hygiene.

**Enhancing social protection for the vulnerable groups.** County government distributed food items, mosquito nets, water and water tanks to vulnerable women, children and persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the county. Working with development partners the county has built houses for homeless women and provided them with furniture such as chairs. County government held meetings with landlords and requested them to accommodate tenants especially the vulnerable in society.

**The county also came up road maintenance team.** In conjunction with the National Government, the County has implemented 'Kazi Kwa Vijana' programs to keep the youth active and enable them to t earn their livelihoods during this time. The County is tasked with identifying the youth who qualify for the programs)

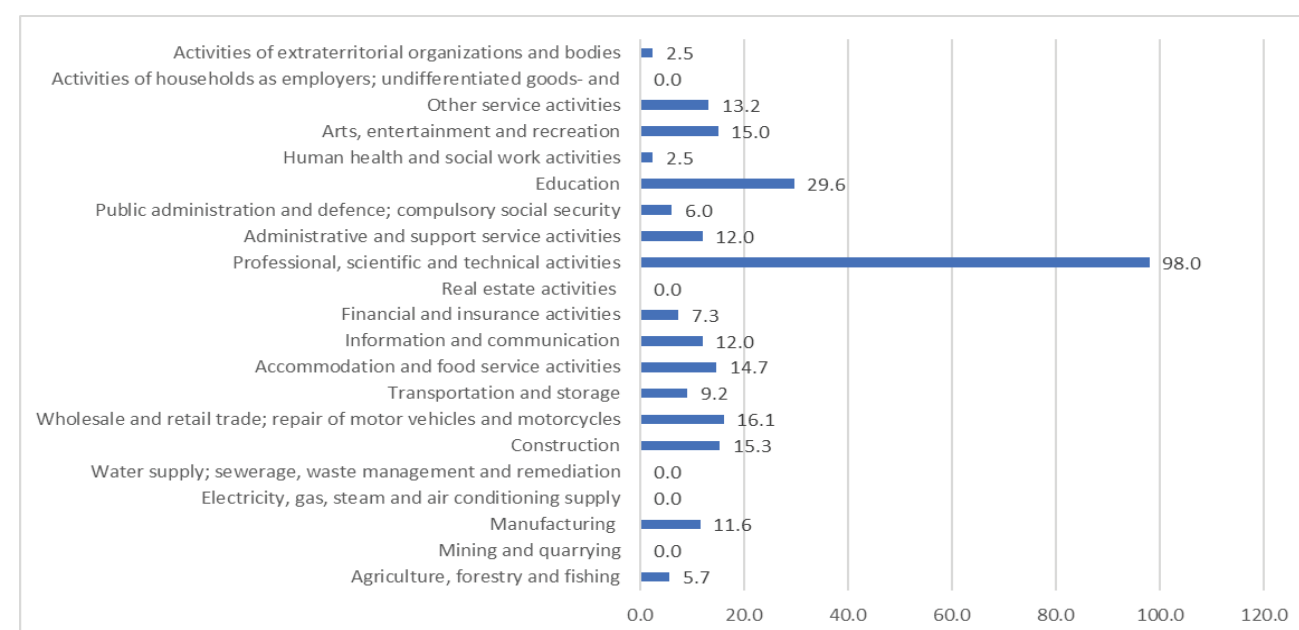
## 2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECT OF COVID-19

### a) Labor Participation

In Homa Bay County, the COVID-19 had devastating effects on all sectors. Closing of open-air markets which serves as source of income and food for most county residents negatively affected the wellbeing of people. The Nyakwere market which serves over 20,000 people in Wang'chieng' ward was closed leaving most of subsistence farmers and small-scale traders in worries of where to sell their products. According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey, the professional, scientific and technical activities sector reported the highest level of loss of hours worked per week (98 hours) followed. The large number of working hours lost can be attributed to the possibility that workers in the sector were previously working overtime and including weekends. The high number of hours lost in professional, scientific and technical activities was attributed to the fact that some workers in the sector like consultants were working beyond normal working hours and during weekends.

Education sector lost 29.6 hours while wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycle and construction lost a total of 16.1 per cent and 15.3 per cent, respectively (figure 3). Workers in arts, entertainment and recreation and accommodation and food service activities recorded on average loss of 15.0 hours and 14.7 hours per week, respectively. The loss of working hours in service sectors which contributes to 50.0 per cent of county GCP implied the county economy was affected by the implications of COVID-19.

**Figure 3: Difference between usual hours worked and actual hours worked during COVID 19 period**



Data Source KNBS

According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey, 87.0 per cent of the employees were under the category that worked without pay while 12.2 per cent worked for at least one hour for pay. About 7.0 per cent of employees did not report to work due to Covid-19 related reasons. Following the containment measures put in place by both national and county governments, some other businesses such as bars, hotels, market

centres had closed during the COVID-19 period, leading to reduced business activities. Workers in the transport sector also reported a decline in economic activities. Overall, majority of workers (70 per cent) reported decrease in income due to the COVID-19 while only 2.0 per cent of workers reported to have experienced an increase in their income during the COVID-19 period.

### b) Agriculture

The May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 survey found that 25.1 per cent of the households in Homa Bay county had instances where the household or a member of the household could not access the markets/grocery stores to purchase food items, mainly because of movement restrictions (47.2 per cent), concerned about leaving the house due to outbreak (18.6 per cent) and closure of the markets/grocery stores (10.3 per cent).

Further, with restrictions affecting seamless movement of food commodities, 83 per cent of households in Homa Bay county indicated experiencing an increase in food prices. From the KIHBS 2015/16, 54.6 per cent of households purchase food products from open-air markets and 20.3 per cent from general shops. Additionally, 54.5 per cent of the total valued consumed is from purchases, 37.3 per cent from own production, 2.3 per cent from own stock and 5.6 per cent from gifts and other sources. Thus, an increase in food prices is likely to have significant implications on household budget. Low marketing activity, due to social distancing measures, has affected farmers and traders' incomes and ultimately their livelihoods.

Further, is a decline in labor participation. An assessment of the Covid-19 effects on hours worked in agriculture related occupations indicates agricultural, fishery and related labourers recorded the highest difference of 15 hours between the usual and actual hours worked in a week. Equally affected are fishery and related workers who also recorded a difference of 15 hours between the usual and actual hours worked in a week. Other affected sub-categories include food processing and related trades workers, subsistence agricultural and fishery workers and farm workers who recorded a difference of 11 hours, 4 hours and 5 hours respectively between the usual and actual hours worked in a week.

The Covid-19 pandemic effects on the sector were worsened by floods and livestock diseases affecting 20.5 per cent and 19.5 per cent of households respectively in Homa Bay County during the pandemic period. In particular, fish farming has been affected by floods due to rising levels of the lake.

### c) Service Sector

In 2020, due to outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, the County saw a decline in tourist arrivals of close to 3000 – who normally visit the Ruma national park, Lake Victoria beaches, Mfangano rock art, lake Simbi Nyaima, along with participating in cultural and heritage events. Setbacks facing the tourism sector include: cancellation of cultural and sports tourism events due to the pandemic; cancellation of flights to Homa Bay Airport, including reduced movement by road in the region affected tourist arrivals to the county; and the tourist circuit that runs from Maasai Mara has also been affected due to movement restrictions. Hotels were affected by travel restrictions and cancellation of events owing to the ban on gatherings. Consequently, most of the hotels have laid off their workers. The Lake Victoria Basin continues to face major ecological challenges including deforestation coupled with bad agricultural practices that has



persistently exacerbated the problem of land degradation in the basin and sedimentation in the lake. This affects fishing; tourism and other social-economic activities around the lake basin. Climate change; water and air pollution, deforestation, changing water levels, prolonged drought was a threat to wildlife.

The closure of schools led to disruption of learning in the county hence loss of learning and teaching time. Further inadequate ICT infrastructure across the county made it difficult for the online learning to effectively take place in the entire county. According to the Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHS), 2019, the county had low internet access (8.2 per cent) and only 4.1 per cent of the households had access to ICT equipment such as laptops and computers. The school feeding programmes in ECDE and primary schools were discontinued after the closure of schools which exposed the students from the poor families into the risks of malnutrition.

According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 Survey, 86.0 per cent of county residents did not visit any health facility while many avoided going to the hospital due to fear of contacting COVID 19. According to Kenya Health Information System (KHIS), during the pandemic there was an upsurge in the per centage of teen pregnancies countrywide with Homabay county recording 5,961 cases between January and May in 2020 which was an increase of 0.5 per cent compared to 2019 on the same period. The incidence was attributed to closure of schools due to COVID-19 pandemic.

#### d) **Micro Small and Medium Enterprises sector**

Majority of MSMEs in Homa Bay County operate in the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (48 per cent); manufacturing (17.9 per cent); financial and insurance activities (8.8 per cent); and arts, entertainment and recreation (5.4 per cent). Broadly, these are the sectors that have been severely affected by the pandemic and need to be prioritised during reengineering and recovery of the County.

MSMEs in Homa Bay County are mainly located in commercial premises (71.7 per cent). This means that the businesses in the County faced challenges in meeting their rental obligations due income disruptions occasioned by Covid-19. According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 survey 92.9 per cent of the non-farm businesses attributed non-payment of household rental obligations to reduced incomes/earnings while 7.1 per cent attributed the same to delayed incomes/earnings. For those involved in farm businesses, 73.6 per cent attributed the same to reduced incomes/earnings, 10.4 per cent due to delayed incomes/earnings while 8 per cent were affected by temporary layoffs/closure of businesses and permanent layoffs/closure of businesses each.

The survey also indicates wholesale and retail trade sector were worst hit and lost 16.1 hours in usual and actual hours worked while accommodation and food services lost 14.7 hours in a week. In addition, manufacturing sector lost 11.6 hours.



Regarding access to markets, the KNBS 2016 survey indicates that none of the MSMEs in the County depend on export markets, while only a few (1.5 per cent) import their material inputs. Disruptions in the external markets may have adverse implications to MSMEs operations in Homa Bay County and especially in sourcing inputs for production

#### e) **Infrastructure and housing**

The transport sector measures instituted in response to the pandemic saw an increase in fares charged to cover the operating costs of service providers as well as affecting mobility options for commuters. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, passengers using public service transport saw expenditure on fares increase by 28.2 per cent. Residents responded by changing their travel patterns with 17.7 per cent of the population traveling less often, while 30.9 per cent were unable to travel due to the pandemic.

Homa Bay County Headquarters Homa Bay town is currently connected to the National Optic Fibre Backbone (NOFBI) II. Approximately 68.6 per cent of public primary schools are installed with ICT capacity under Digital Literacy Programme. That said, only 8.2 per cent of the conventional households in the county 'own' internet with 4.1 per cent owning a desktop, computer laptop or tablet. Further, only 2.6 per cent of the households participate in online e-commerce, with men participating more in online e-commerce (3.4 per cent) than women (1.9 per cent). Further, there is a gender divide in use of internet where 18.4 per cent male and 12.3 per cent of the women using internet.

Majority of households (81.4 per cent) own the housing units they occupy while 18.6 per cent of the households under rental tenure. Individuals are the primary providers of rental housing at 89.9 per cent, followed by private companies (3.1 per cent); National Government (2.8 per cent); County Government (1.9 per cent); FBO/NGO/Church based housing at (1.3 per cent); and Parastatals (1.0 per cent). With the advent of COVID-19 pandemic households' ability to pay rent was affected, with 49.7 per cent of the population indicating inability to pay rent on the agreed date. The main reason that made households unable to pay rent was attributed to reduced incomes /earnings, reported by 71.9 per cent of the population.

#### f) **Gender and Youth**

Homabay County has a population distribution of more female (52.3 per cent) than male (47.7 per cent). The youth (15-34 years) comprise 34 per cent of the population. The county was worst hit with teenage pregnancies recording 5,961 cases between January and May 2020 (KHIS, 2020) and ranked third in this unfortunate statistic. While this is an existing problem with 5,933 cases being reported during the same period in 2019, the 0.5 per cent increment could be attributed to covid-19 pandemic and the resulting measures that led to staying at home and closure of schools. There is need to ensure zero tolerance to such cases since they are associated with high rates of school dropouts, stigma, increased mental health concerns, postpartum depression and suicidal ideation. Homabay County is also faced with the challenge of Gender Based Violence both women, men, boys and girls. The May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 survey indicates that 28.1 per cent of the respondents in the County had witnessed or heard of domestic violence. According to the HAK, 2020 the county recorded 25 cases of GBV in April 2020. Other challenges affecting the youth include unemployment and drug use, especially alcohol and substance abuse.





#### g) **Water and Sanitation**

The county incurred additional cost in water service provision. The county is distributing free clean water to various parts of the county that have experienced little rain, put in place handwash taps and hand washing facilities in in town center and in County and sub-County offices, provided some homes and informal settlements with handwashing and 20 water jerrican to enhance hygiene, put in place 10 sanitizing booths at border points – with neighbouring Counties namely, Migori to the South, Kisii and Nyamira to the East, and Kericho and Kisumu to the North East; and Countries (Uganda and Tanzania).

Water companies have lost a significant amount of their revenues due to low demand of water and sanitation services mostly from hotels, schools and other institutions due to closure of operations. This in the long run may affect the delivery, development and rehabilitation of WASH services.



## 3 KEY Pillars OF THE RECOVERY STRATEGY

There is need for urgent responses for addressing the social and economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in Homa Bay County. This will help the County to recover and be on an upward growth trajectory. To this end, six (6) pillars have been identified: Boosting private sector activity; policy, legislation and institutional reforms; strengthening County government's preparedness and response to pandemic and disasters; enhancing ICT capacity for business continuity; human capital development and exploiting the fisheries.

### 3.1 Boosting Private sector Activity

The private sector plays a critical role in the county economy in reducing poverty through income generating opportunities for the vulnerable households. According to the KNBS 2016 survey, most of the private sector activities (48 per cent) are in the services sector with only 17.9 per cent in manufacturing. In terms of size, most of the enterprises in the County are in the micro category (93.7 per cent), 5.7 per cent are small, and 0.6 per cent in the medium category. Since most firms are in the micro category, this implies that the informal sector tends to dominate the private sector in Homa Bay County.

Services sector activities include the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (48 per cent); financial and insurance activities (8.8 per cent); and arts, entertainment and recreation (5.4 per cent).

Covid-19 has disrupted the operations of businesses and supply chains hence affecting demand and supply of most goods and services in the County. In general, majority of the MSMEs (44.1 per cent) in Homa Bay County get their raw materials from their peer MSMEs and individual suppliers (42.1 per cent) within the County. MSMEs widely sell their products to individual consumers (90.7 per cent) within the county. This means that when some firms are adversely affected, this spreads fast in the private sector. In the same vein, when the purchasing power of the consumers is affected, it has profound implications on the private sector.

MSMEs face various challenges in the County. This including financial and technical capacity, market environment, and worksite and related infrastructure (KIPpra 2019, KNBS, 2016). On worksites, MSEs face inadequate and unequipped worksites, lack of public toilet facilities, lack designated areas for waste disposal, poor road infrastructure, frequent power interruptions. On technical capacity MSEs are characterised by low levels of innovation, lack of training and apprenticeship programme for artisans, fragmentation due to multiplicity of players who offer training and capacity building, and lack of monitoring and evaluation of training programmes. With the market environment, MSEs face inadequate market for their local products; stiff competition among themselves; and unfair trade practises which manifest through; contract enforcement, counterfeiting, dumping (substandard goods) and misrepresentation (through weight, price, ingredient). MSEs also face bottlenecks related to; insecurity; multiple licences and permits; numerous procedures for obtaining licenses; and shortage of raw materials.



The crisis offered an opportunity to address structural issues, especially through private sector development and collaboration, in designing new growth models in industrial/manufacturing development and innovation and participation in national and global value chains are also useful especially through:

- (i) Agro - processing for value addition with important areas of focus including maize, sorghum, millet, leather, textiles, poultry, watermelon, dairy, livestock, and fishing production and processing.
- (ii) The textile and wearing apparel sectors can be enhanced to provide PPEs for use within the County and potentially for the export market.
- (iii) Exploration and production of minerals in Lake Victoria.

In strengthening the private sector, efforts targeted at improving the business environment in the County include.

- (i) Initiating and strengthening self-sustaining funds dedicated and easily accessible to MSMEs in the County; promoting tailor made financial literacy programmes for MSMEs; and establishing a framework for micro-leasing for the MSMEs.
- (ii) Provide access to affordable renewable energy in collaboration with the national government and other stakeholders for sustainable development.
- (iii) Provision of machines and safety gear will be prioritized to improve the working environment of artisans within the county.
- (iv) Enhancement and promotion of local manufacture of affordable tools and machinery for the MSMEs including reverse engineering and mainstreaming the needs of PWDs in infrastructure support services will be considered.
- (v) Harmonizing the number of licenses or permits obtained by MSEs with an intent of reducing the bureaucracies involved. Collaboration with relevant stakeholders and institutions such as Kenya Institute of Business Training (KIBT) and National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) to provide entrepreneurial training and technical training, apprenticeship and certification programmes to MSEs.
- (vi) Collaboration with the National government to ensure security is enhanced to reduce on crime and create a peaceful business environment.
- (vii) Collaboration with the AGPO secretariat to promote and enhance sensitization of MSEs on this affirmative action to increase awareness and encourage participation.



- (viii) Collaborate with the AGPO secretariat to promote and enhance sensitization of MSEs on this affirmative action to increase awareness and encourage participation.
- (ix) Enhance market access for private sector both locally and regionally by developing the regional bloc value chains, market diversification and facilitating greater use of ecommerce in shifting transactions to digital economy.

### 3.2 Policy, legislatives, and Institutional reforms

Over time, Homa Bay has enacted a number of Acts such as the Homa Bay Trade Fund Act, 2015, the Homa Bay County Finance Act, No. 6 of 2015 and Homa Bay County Alcoholic Drinks Control Act, No. 8 of 2015. At the same time, the County has several bills which are under consideration. For example, the Homa Bay County Persons Living with Disabilities Bill, 2016, the Homa Bay County Education Bursary Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2018, the Homa Bay County Civic Education and Public Participation Bill, 2019, the Homa Bay County Community Health Services Bill, 2019, the Homa Bay County Lake Region Economic Bloc Bill, 2019, the Homa Bay County Health Services Bill, 2019 and the Homa Bay County Disaster and Emergency Management Bill, 2019.

To further bolster the County's legal and institutional frameworks, the strategies below will be adopted:

- (i) Enact public health laws to articulate the purpose and content of current public health measures and to communicate health policy detailing public health measures to control infectious diseases.
- (ii) In addition, the laws will protect the human rights and privacy of those who are exposed to infectious diseases and be in a form ensuring commonly shared rights of all the subjects.
- (iii) Enact the Homa Bay County Health Services Bill which will also reflect modern developments in the health sector.
- (iv) Strengthen intergovernmental relations and coordination in implementation of government policies at national and county level.

### 3.3 Strengthening county government's preparedness and response to pandemic and disasters

The Homa Bay region is prone to floods and therefore faced with rain related disasters such as heavy downpours resulting into floods as well as strong windstorms, thunder and lightning. These are natural disasters against which essential preparedness planning and mitigation are needed in order to minimize the threat of damage to life and property. In the recovery, the county will:

- (i) Enact the Homa Bay County Disaster and Emergency Management Bill to provide for the Management of disasters and emergencies in Homa Bay County.

- (ii) Develop guidelines for accompanying communication advisories with educational messages designed to help the public develop an informed and realistic perception of the risks of infection and appropriate responses.
- (iii) Establish diverse and commonly used forms of media within the County to inform and educate the public on how best to protect themselves and their communities in the event of future disasters and outbreaks.
- (iv) Apart from research that is specific to Covid-10, other number of broader areas of basic research will be pursued in order to counter the threat that would arise from either a recurrence of Covid-19 or the emergence of other new infections, due to the potential for future outbreaks.
- (v) Utilize the media and local leaders to inform, sensitize and educate the public on measures to take the event of certain disasters.

### 3.4 Enhancing ICT capacity for business continuity

The status of ICT access and use in the county is low, especially among households. Homabay is a rural based County that mainly relies on television for online education due to the lack of ICT infrastructure, (Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHS), 2019). Approximately 41.1 per cent of the population aged 3 years and above own a mobile phone which is lower than the national average of 47.3 per cent. The perception that individuals do not need to use the internet, lack of knowledge and skills on internet are the leading reasons that the people of in the County don't have internet connection. Other key factors include the lack of internet/network in the area, and the high cost of service and equipment.

In the new normal driven by COVID-19, the County will fast track the implementation of various projects to ensure business continuity and build resilience of the County against future pandemics and disasters, including:

- (i) Support programmes in partnership with the private sector that will enable households acquire ICT assets such as smart phones and laptops and increase mobile phone ownership from the low of 41.1 per cent to 100 per cent in line with the global agenda for Universal Access to Mobile Telephony<sup>2</sup>
- (ii) Adopt programmes to ensure ubiquitous access to reliable and affordable internet (internet everywhere) by applying both terrestrial and aerial communication technologies.
- (iii) Collaborate with the Communications Authority and telecom service providers to utilize the Universal Service Fund<sup>3</sup> as a "last resort" in providing ICT access in remote areas where market forces fail to expand access.
- (iv) The IT personnel in public primary schools can be deployed to support the development of ICT

2. Universal access to mobile telephony: <http://www.itu.int/itunews/manager/display.asp?lang=en&year=2007&issue=07&ipage=universal-telephony>

3. Universal Service Fund: <https://ca.go.ke/industry/universal-access/purpose-of-the-fund/>

competence and skills among the public to enhance utilization of ICT and to promote.

- (v) Enhance internet connectivity to public buildings and key trade centres to boost e-commerce especially for MSMEs in trade and business. The NOFBI programme can be expanded to the sub-county administrative units to further enable deployment of e-governance solutions.
- (vi) Make ICT a standalone sector for planning and budget allocation. This is aimed at giving strategic prominence to planning, budgeting and investment in ICT.
- (vii) Review and implement ICT policies and procedures to manage ICT and mitigate cyber threats. Collaborate with the national Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT) and the Communications Authority (CA) towards managing cyber threats, disasters and pandemics. This is because enhanced use of ICT is known to raise threats and risks related to cyber-crime and misinformation.

### 3.5 Promoting human capital development

During the pandemic, the county government of Homabay prioritized protection of lives and health of the citizens. Most of social and economic activities were suspended and the labor market activities declines substantially. According to May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 Survey, 12.2 per cent of the county labour force worked at least for 1 hour for pay; 82.6 per cent of employees working without pay; 5.2 per cent had never worked, and 75.7 per cent worked in the informal sector. However, 9.0 per cent of employees were absent from work due to COVID-19 related issues. On average, workers in the County lost 16.9 hours per week due to COVID-19.

The County population aged 15-64 years (labour force) was estimated at 399,954 people of whom 377,888 were working and 22,066 were seeking work representing an unemployment rate of 5.5 per cent (Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019).

The average years of schooling was 7.7 years out of the target of at least 12 years if entire population was to attain basic education up to complete secondary education (KIHBS 2015/16). Human development index was 0.48 compared to 0.52 at national level and maximum of 1. The HDI at county level measures extent to which the counties can mobilize the economic and professional potential of the citizens. With a rating of 0.48 this means the county lost about 50 per cent of her economic potential due to limited education and health. 22.0 per cent of the children were stunted. Childhood stunting is associated with developmental delays that can significantly and adversely impact a person's ability to learn (both during and after the years in school), thereby limiting their ability to reach their full potential. As a such, this perpetuates inequality across generations. The NHIF coverage was 31.0 per cent as compared to the average national level at 24.7 per cent while the number of children vaccinated was 80.4 per cent as compared to the average national level at 74.9 per cent.





The pandemic also brings an opportunity of enhancing levels of innovation and development of skills relevant to all the sectors of economy with attention on production sectors especially agriculture which contributes to over 57 per cent of county GCP. To address the risks affecting human capital development including implications of COVID-19, the county will;

- (i) The County will reflect on what has worked; while bringing into perspective the implications of COVID 19 on work arrangements; continue investment in education and training; retooling and re-skilling employees in both public and private sectors on flexible working arrangements; enhancing skills development; and investments within the key sectors of manufacturing, agriculture and services.
- (ii) Rethink work dynamics, workforces and workplaces; improve access to finance for small and medium enterprises through online lending; and emerging new products' demand while ensuring sustained businesses continuity.
- (iii) The county government will reengage and redeploy the workforce to maximize their contribution and potential in the rapidly evolving workplace and organizational priorities.
- (iv) Promote implementation of a stronger labour market interventions and policy reforms that drive employment creation under the new normal. The County will deepen technical education, training and skills development; and recommit to employee well-being through a focus on employees' physical, psychological and financial needs, both at home and in the workplace. The county public and private sector employers will engage their workers with clear direction on changes in work priorities; routines including emerging technologies and virtual work arrangements; and combination of onsite and virtual work arrangements.

### 3.6 Exploiting fisheries

Homa Bay County has the longest water shoreline from Lake Victoria in Kenya hence has a huge potential to develop fisheries playing a critical role in socio-economic development of residents of the devolved unit. The county has less polluted inshore waters bordering Uganda. In addition, the county has potential for the development of aquaculture value chain as an engine for economic development, job creation and poverty reduction. The development of fisheries sub-sector and aquaculture is critical in mainstreaming blue economy in the county. Homa Bay County is estimated to produce 50 per cent of the total fish production in Kenya's Lake Victoria. The county has a total of 133 Beach Management Units (BMUs) distributed in 141 fish landing sites in which active fishing activities are undertaken.

Lake Victoria remains the highest single source of fish in Kenya accounting for 62.5 per cent of total fish landed in 2019 (KNBS, 2020). Nonetheless, the fish catch from the lake has been declining over the years due to pollution, overfishing and restrictions on fishing in neighbouring countries' waters. About 6.8 per cent of households in Homa Bay County are involved in fishing. However, only 0.4 per cent households practice aquaculture. Currently there are two fish processing industries in Homa Bay town and Mbita Point. The Covid-19 containment measures especially night curfews affected fisheries especially fishing activities that are undertaken at night. Movement restrictions also affected transportation of fish from the



land to both local and international markets. Lockdown measures by foreign governments also affected the international markets.

The county government has elaborate plans to enhance blue economy in the devolved unit. Key proposed blue economy projects include development of access to landing ports and beaches; improving fish landing sites; construction and rehabilitation of cold storage facilities and ice plants; construction of modern fish processing plants; construction of modern ship and boat yards; restocking of fish; development of aquaculture park facilities; development of animal feeds (fish); establishment of marketing channels of fish and fish products and establishment and implementation of fish value addition strategies.

County will undertake the following measures in post Covid-19 socio-economic recovery plans;

- (i) Fast track the implementation of the proposed blue economy projects to usher in transformation of fisheries sub-sector
- (ii) Enforce conservation measures in the Lake Basin to address environment degradation of the lake, rivers, wetlands and swamps.
- (iii) The county will encourage the formation of fisheries cooperatives to boost the bargaining power of fishermen and other stakeholders.
- (iv) The county will consider capacity building for stakeholders in the fisheries sub-sector in modern fishing technologies and opportunities in aquaculture.



## 4 SUPPORT TO KEY SECTORS

### 4.1 Manufacturing

The Manufacturing sector contributes to 0.5 per cent to the Homa Bay Gross County Product (GCP). Manufacturing in Homa Bay County mostly include: wearing apparel (47 per cent), food products (13.4 per cent), and wood and wood products (2.1 per cent). The key products useful in value addition and driving manufacturing include; maize, sorghum, millet, leather, textiles, poultry, watermelon, dairy, livestock, and fishing. The industries driving manufacturing sector in the county are involved in fish processing, sugar processing, drinking water packaging and processing, forest products processing. Potential also exists in cotton processing. In that regard, manufacturing sector is important in supporting recovery of the economy of Homa Bay County from the effects of Covid-19 pandemic. This is especially due to its strong forward and backward linkages.

To strengthen manufacturing the county will:

- (i) Consider an emergency rescue package for businesses and traders hard-hit by the effects of Covid-19 in the short run. The emergency Fund, supported by development partners and other stakeholders, can be used to identify and support the most vulnerable businesses and entrepreneurs affected by Covid-19. Related, the County will inject some stimulus to cushion the businesses and traders through affordable credit; waiver of some County taxes, cess, and other charges.
- (ii) Covid-19 has increased demand for locally produced goods in the County, and especially Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), sanitisers, hospital beds and ventilators. It is an opportunity to spur innovation and promote manufacturing and industry development and generation of jobs for the youth.
- (iii) Establishments in the county will adopt to the new pandemic guidelines including rearranging floor plans to allow for social distancing.
- (iv) Revive the cotton processing ginnery in Homabay town.
- (v) Collaborate with National government to rehabilitate fish landing sites in Nyandiwa as per the Third Medium Term Plan 2018-2022 flagship programmes and projects as support of the Lake Victoria rehabilitation programme.

### 4.2 Agriculture and Livestock

Agriculture accounts for a significant share of economic activity in Homa Bay county. More than a half of county economic activity is driven by the agriculture sector. In 2017, agriculture accounted for Ksh. 68,247 million out of the total KES 114,198 million Gross County Product (GCP) amounting to 59.8 per cent of the county's GCP.



About 70 per cent of the households produce crops, 49 per cent produce livestock, 0.40 per cent practice aquaculture and about 6.8 per cent are involved in fishing. About 2 per cent of the households practice irrigation farming. As the agri-food sector gradually shifts from an emergency response to re-engineering, recovery and building resilience, Homa Bay County will adopt the following strategies:

- (i) Develop partnership with the National Government, NGOs, Research Institutions and the Private sector in enhancing agro-processing and value addition capacities of the county to spur business activities in the markets and economic growth as envisioned in the national Agricultural Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS).
- (ii) Invest in fisheries and aquaculture activities particularly in: - suitability mapping; infrastructure development; availing affordable and sustainable fish feeds; diversification and domestication of fish species; and investment in hatcheries for good quality seed. To support these activities, there is need for policies to enhance environmental management and create a conducive environment for investment to attract development partners.
- (iii) Enhance a vibrant commercial agricultural sector in the county by linking farmers to product markets beyond the county level across the agricultural value chain.
- (iv) To improve storage and preservation of food, in addition to agro-processing, investments in of storage and cooling facilities particularly at collection points.
- (v) Access to quality and affordable inputs including certified seeds, water, animal feeds, AI services, fertilizers, livestock vaccination and ploughing services by county tractor hire services.
- (vi) Promote uptake of digital platforms to: - train and build capacities of farming households in modern agricultural technologies, provision of advisory and information services, marketing agricultural produce, and improving access to innovative support services including credit and insurance services.
- (vii) Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions at the county level equipped with relevant technical specialists and finances to effectively prevent, prepare, respond and prevent risks. The county will mitigate disasters, such as those related to floods, through institutional capacity development, vulnerability analyses and updates, monitoring and early warning systems, and public education.
- (viii) Establish county multisectoral committees to deal with cross-cutting issues such as marketing of agricultural produce that cuts across the trade, ICT and infrastructure sectors that provide crucial market infrastructure such as road infrastructure, lighting and water services.
- (ix) Strengthen agricultural cooperatives through effective stakeholder engagement and implementation of interventions for more sustainable models of financing and customized training of cooperative members.

### 4.3 Water and Sanitation

Frequent and correct hand hygiene has been emphasized by WHO as one of the measures to curb transmission of Covid-19. This has placed a higher demand for water more so at the households, health care facilities, marketplaces, public places and among essential services providers. The county has adequate water resources, as well as access to improved water sources, but access reduces during times of droughts. Majority of households in the county have a low access to improved sources of drinking water<sup>4</sup> both in rural (30.7 per cent) urban (33.8 per cent) and peri urban (40.8 per cent). Additionally, access to piped water remain low in rural (1.9 per cent) urban (16 per cent) and peri urban (1.6 per cent). On the other hand, access to improved sanitation<sup>5</sup> is also high among households both in rural (79 per cent) urban (93 per cent) and peri urban (97 per cent). Households access to piped sewer is low which stands at less than 1 per cent both in both in rural, urban and peri urban areas.

Furthermore, households sharing of a toilet facility with other households is common in rural (55 per cent) but higher in urban (84.8 per cent) and peri urban (67.7 per cent) (KNBS 2015/2016). According to May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 Survey, most households have had access to water and soap (68.2 per cent) for hand washing during this period of COVID-19 with a small proportion having access to both water, soap and hand sanitizer (28.9 per cent) while a small portion of households had access to water only (2.2 per cent). In addition, most households do not have access to a handwashing facility in or near there facility both in rural (14.7 per cent) urban (6.6 per cent) and peri urban (23.5 per cent)

The county 2018-2022 CIDP programs under WASH and environment include; to promote access to potable water, to Promote Rural Water Supply Services by drilling boreholes and protecting springs, to promote enhancement of Sanitation Services by constructing sewer systems, to improve management of water supplies and to Strengthen Homabay County WASH Network by holding WASH Network meetings

The county will:

- (i) Expand the existing piped water connection infrastructure to help increase access to water.
- (ii) Integrate public private partnerships arrangements to enhance water provision in the county.
- (iii) The county to Increase water supply in households, institutions and public places through drilling of boreholes in all the sub-counties.
- (iv) Rehabilitate existing water infrastructure to reduce water leakages to reduce water losses.

<sup>4</sup> Improved source of drinking water includes; water from the following sources Piped water - piped into dwelling, Piped water - piped into plot/yard, Piped water - public tap/stand pipe, tubewell/borehole with pump, Dug well - protected well, Dug well - unprotected well, Water from spring - protected spring. Unimproved sources of water which include; Water from spring - unprotected spring, rainwater collection, Vendors - tankers-truck, Vendors - cart with small tank/drum/bucket, vendors-bicycles with bucket, Surface water river/streams/pond/dam/lake/cannal/irrigation channel bottled water

<sup>5</sup> Improved sanitation include flush to piped sewer, flush to septic tank, flush to pit (latrine), flush to somewhere else, flush to unknown place, ventilated improved pit latrine, pit latrine with slab, pit latrine without slab). Unimproved sanitation include; composting toilet, bucket toilet, hanging toilet/hanging, no facility/bush/field, others. This is according to Who and UN classification of improved sources of sanitation





- (v) Upscale the construction of water pans and dams as well as round water in order to increase access to shortage, especially during dry seasons.
- (vi) Upscale abstraction of water from rivers, spring protections, harvesting of rainwater from roof and other catchments to help achieve increase to water access.
- (vii) Introduce automated billing software to help curb the increasing value of non-revenue water.
- (viii) Undertake water trucking during times of prolonged drought and emergencies to households.
- (ix) Establish water supply monitoring system for efficiency water supply and management.
- (x) Increase access to piped sewer to households and institution.
- (xi) Build toilets in communities, schools, health centres, marketplaces and other public places to help increase access to safe sanitation.
- (xii) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct WASH facilities to increase access at the household level.

#### 4.4 Urban Development and Housing

The county has challenges in quality of the housing stock. Approximately 31.2 per cent of houses are constructed using finished materials for walls, floor and roofing, compared to 68.9 per cent constructed using rudimentary materials. With regard to primary energy source for cooking, 92.7 per cent of households rely on unclean sources of energy such as firewood, paraffin and charcoal, which could adversely affect respiratory health of women and children.

For re-engineering and recovery, the county will:

- (i) Integrate the blue economy in spatial planning for human settlements and urban areas along Lake Victoria with the objective to balance Lake-based and land-based activities livelihoods.
- (ii) Develop and implement an addressing system with complete, correct and unique address data in line with the National Addressing System. To be used pandemic and disaster surveillance and emergency response.
- (iii) Avail appropriate building technology for use by the public in house construction and improvement in every subcounty, that responds to local cultural and environmental circumstances.
- (iv) Develop and implement urban planning and design instruments that support sustainable management and use of natural resources and land in line with the New Urban Agenda and as mitigative measure to future pandemics and disasters.



- (v) Fastrack implementation of the affordable housing programme with a focus on improving living conditions and building quality applying finished materials for walls, floors and roofing. Upgrade informal settlements.
- (vi) Identify and designate urban centers for upgrade pursuant to provisions of the Urban Areas and Cities (amendment) Act, 2019.
- (vii) Formulate and seek approval of urban development plans and development control policies to support investment and development of urban areas.
- (viii) Adopt programmes aimed at an increasing household access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking to mitigate against exposure to respiratory diseases.

#### 4.5 Transport

The county has a total of 4,253.11 Kilometers of classified road network. Approximately 58.1 per cent of the paved road network is in good condition, 37.6 per cent in fair condition and 1.21 per cent in poor condition. While 19.6 per cent of the unpaved road network is in good condition, 47.1 per cent fair and 32.6 per cent in poor condition.

The main means of transport used in the County is bicycle motorbike 36.2 per cent, followed by walking at 35.1 per cent, bodaboda 9.5 per cent, PSV matatus at 8.3 per cent, and own bicycle 6.7 per cent. On average, resident travel 1.84 Kilometer to their workplace which is within the threshold for Non-Motorised transport. Over 79.6 per cent of the unpaved road network is in poor and fair condition.

To enhance mobility options for residents and improve road conditions to support economic, social and subsistence activities, the County will:

- (i) Exploit the Blue Economy by developing and utilizing inland water ways and Lake Victoria ports to facilitate movement of goods and people in the East African Market.
- (ii) Promote access for all to safe, age- and gender-responsive, affordable, accessible and sustainable land and lake transport systems.
- (iii) Encourage urban-rural connectivity by investing in sustainable transport and mobility infrastructure linked to lake and land.
- (iv) Apply labor based and local resource-based approaches for road development and maintenance, where technically and economically feasible, in line with the Roads 2000 national policy<sup>6</sup>.

6. Roads 2000 programme <http://krb.go.ke/our-downloads/roads%202000%20strategic%20plan.pdf>



- (v) Focus on increasing the share of unpaved roads in good and fair condition to above 62 per cent which is the national average. For the unpaved road network, focus on adopting the Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVSr) technology for greater network coverage cost effectively.
- (vi) Adopt climate smart road engineering designs to safeguard road and bridge infrastructure from floods and to harvest storm water for irrigation and productive use.
- (vii) Identify a core rural road network for prioritization to improve the rural access index (RAI) from the current 63 per cent with a target to match the national average of 70 per cent.
- (viii) Sensitize PSV and boda boda operators on COVID-19 prevention measures and assist vehicle owners in retrofitting the seating designs.

#### 4.6 Tourism

Homa Bay County sits in a prominent position to be a lead destination in the Western Tourism Circuit and is home to Ruma National Park which is the only park where unique and rare species like the roan antelope can be found. It also hosts the Oyugis Bird Sanctuary. Physical attractions include Lake Victoria; Mfangano Rock Art; Homa Hills Hot Spring; Lake SimbiNyaima; over 18 islands such as Rusinga and Mfangano, peninsulas (e.g. sikri peninsula) and bays some with unique fauna and flora. with regard to cultural and heritage tourism, the county also hosts events and sites of mythical interest like the Tom Mboya Mausoleum, and Gor Mahia shrine. There is need to improve these tourism sites to bring in revenue to the county. It also boasts of breath-taking scenery and forested landscape leading to and around the Lake Victoria coastline, especially within Mbita and Suba, such as is the case with the Sikri peninsula. There are also opportunities for sports and cultural tourism especially as relates to the way of life of the Luo and the Abasuba whose traditional boat racing and artefacts continue to attract a lot of local and international tourists.

The county does not have star-rated hotels, which is an impediment to attracting high-spending local and foreign tourists. Accommodation and food services accounts for 0.2 per cent of the total GCP, implying low prioritization in county development planning. In its implementation plan for the 2018-2022 period, the county government planned to allocate only 4.71 per cent of the KSh. 45.5 Billion budget towards development of tourism, sports, gender, youth, culture and social services projects.

In terms of linkage with other sectors, Homa Bay County has two gazetted forests covering an area of 29.6 km<sup>2</sup>. These forests are Gwasssi and Wire Hills. The county also has eight non-gazetted forests covering an area of about 128 km<sup>2</sup>. They are Ngorome Hills, Ruri Hill, Gembe Hills, Mfangano, Homa Hills, Asego Hill and Koderia Forest. The forestry resources provide an unexploited opportunity to develop agro-forestry and eco-tourism.



Strategies for re-engineering development of tourism sector in the county include:

- (i) Enforcement of guidelines for observing high sanitation and hygiene standards in tourism establishments to contain the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (ii) Develop a county strategic plan for tourism.
- (iii) Diversification of the tourism product range:
  - Sports tourism: finalize development of the county stadium and 8 sub-county stadia.
  - Wildlife conservation centers
  - Ecotourism investments
  - Development of talent academy; enhancement of both tangible and intangible cultural talent and arts;
  - Traditional medicine
  - County cultural festivals
- (iv) Develop databank of tourist attraction sites / resources.
- (v) Investment in protection of cultural heritage sites; preservation of artefacts; demarcation of sensitive areas; securing protected environmental areas such as water catchment and forested areas.
- (vi) Tourism infrastructure development:
  - Provide incentives for investment in star-rated accommodation facilities; Improve hospitality facilities; Improvement of selected tourism sites and development of beach fronts
  - Open up access roads to potential Tourism Attraction Sites; avail timely and adequate funds for tourism infrastructure development.
  - Enhanced ICT connectivity in the county
  - Development of recreational facilities along the beaches
  - Modernize and maintain existing tourism sites
  - Allocation of land for development of tourism facilities
- (vii) Mapping, Profiling, development branding and marketing of potential attraction sites; marketing and promotion of tourism attraction sites within the Lake Victoria region.



## 4.7 Health

The county currently has one isolation centre at Malela Health Centre with 16 isolation beds. In a move to boost the county's state of preparedness to contain the coronavirus pandemic, the county government established nine existing health facilities at the sub county level to be converted to high dependency units that will enable them handle the acute level of coronavirus pandemic. Among the facilities were Nyagoro, Nyang'ela, Ober, Kisegi, Tom Mboya, Pala Masogo and Kandiege. The move were in response to a recent presidential directive that over 300 bed facilities be established in all the 47 counties. Ndhiwa has the highest number of personnels at 45 and Rachuonyo at 41. Public facilities in the county are 185, private 45 and faith based 30 in number. This sums to 260 facilities in the county. All these facilities are served by 2,117 personnel.

The health sector requires enhanced investment in health systems, including in the health workforce, capacity building of community health workers and the medical officers on COVID-19 control and management; upgrading of working conditions and provision of requisite health commodities and equipment, especially in relation to personal protective equipment and occupational safety. Providing support in health-care teams and among families, and friends, information and guidance for health workers on how to deal with stress, and post-traumatic stress counselling must be an integral part of the COVID-19 response.

Recovery strategies include;

- (i) The county will strengthen preventative and promotive health services through malaria control; expanded programmes on immunization; integrated management of childhood illness; and control and prevention of environmentally communicable diseases. Expand and equip Homabay county referral hospitals to serve the entire population of the county.
- (ii) Invest in community and primary health including community health workers, water, sanitation, immunization and public health; provide enough water collection points and water use facilities in the health facilities to allow convenient access to, and use of water for medical activities, drinking, personal hygiene, food preparation, laundry and cleaning. Priority will be given to isolation centers such as Malela Health Centre which has only 16 isolation beds.
- (iii) Promote construction, upgrading and equipping of health facilities through additional funding to health sector, this will enable the county to achieve the CIDP 2018-2022 goal of improving of Health Infrastructure and systems. Hospitals such as Rachuonyo Sub-County Hospital in Homa Bay need upgrading so that they are able to handle all health cases including Covid 19.
- (iv) Promote collaboration with other sectors in generation and application of new knowledge for improved service delivery and for investment in health research and development.
- (v) Establish Homabay County health insurance scheme and assistance system for entire county population. The health insurance agencies will be encouraged to allocate part of the health insurance fund in advance to ensure that hospitals provide treatment efficiently.



## 4.8 Education and training

The County has 1250 ECDE centres, 1025 primary schools and 236 secondary schools. About 71 per cent of children ages 4-5 years were attending pre-school. The majority (75 per cent) of children of primary school age were attending school and 25 per cent of secondary school children were in school. In urban areas, 82 per cent of eligible children attend primary school education while in rural areas attendance was at 74 per cent. The county had 50 Youth Polytechnics with a total enrolment of 2,970 students. There was a need to establish more youth polytechnics to cater for the growing youth population. There are also two University Branches in the county: Tom Mboya University College and University of Nairobi and Homa Bay Extra-Mural Centre. There is only one Technical Training Institute (TVET) in Homa Bay County known as Mawego TTI in Karachuonyo Sub County according to the most current Utawala, 2014 Survey Report.

To address the effects of COVID 19, the county will require to partner with the national government and private sector to enhance ECDE and vocation training through infrastructural development as well as equipment of all ECDE, primary, secondary and vocational training; and University branches in the County with adequate WASH and adequate learning spaces upon reopening. Some of the strategies once schools reopen include provision of WASH, PPEs, feeding programme in schools, capacity building of teachers and other staff; parents at all levels on effects of COVID-19 awareness and control. For TVETs, the main objective is to fill the gap in training of middle level and technical employees through improved construction of new centers and incorporation of modern infrastructure.

Recovery sector specific interventions include:

- (i) The County with support from stakeholders will continue to invest in early childhood development through infrastructural and workspaces expansion to allow for adequate social distancing when schools reopen; deployment of ECDE teachers and provision of sanitation facilities and WASH equipment.
- (ii) Bolster partnerships with national government to prioritize in projects that improve school water, household internet coverage and ICT infrastructure, sanitation and hygiene facilities and management.
- (iii) Combine community participation and large-scale direct communication campaigns to parents, and where possible, consider increasing attendance options to accommodate all children, including those with highest risk of dropping out, also promote back to school campaign and community outreach to ensure that no child drops out of school due to COVID-19 related factors.
- (iv) Provide financial or in-kind support, such as school feeding, to help families overcome the increased costs of attending school, also provide psychosocial support to teachers, learners and other staff in learning institutions.
- (v) Engage Technical Training Institute (TVET) such as Mawego in production of masks which will be distributed to school going children for free.



- (vi) Promote remedial/catch up lessons for learners who might lag behind due to the closure of schools; and strengthen utilization of ICT platforms and have a depository of teaching and learning materials that learners could use at their own time; both in and out of school. This will be achieved by increasing internet access from the current 8.2 per cent.

#### 4.9 Social Protection

Homabay county has about 42,181(4.3 per cent) persons with disability. The elderly population (aged 65 year and above) constituted of 4.4 per cent of the total population of whom 59.8 were female. The number of Orphans and Vulnerable children (OVC) benefiting from the cash transfers was estimated at 11,069 in 2020. In addition, the childcare facilities in the entire County were 22. There were 6 children offices (Rangwe and HomaBay Town share an officer whilst Suba North and Suba South share another one). However, the county lacks a rescue and rehabilitation centre.

The recovery strategies are;

- (i) County government will facilitate the SMES who have suffered losses in their business as result of Covid-19 to exploit credit guarantee and tax exemption measures instituted by the national government. County government will also create a fund where the county will collaborate with local banks in offering loans to the SMEs to restart and boost their businesses. The county will provide the elderly with food and other basic needs while supporting their livelihoods.
- (ii) Promote the uptake of universal healthcare Programme(UHC), to support the vulnerable communities and register them with NHIF to help them access health service at a subsidized and or no cost.
- (iii) Build linkages with other ministry in charge of PWDs, and with NGOs that work with people with disabilities to strengthen family support systems, deliver assistive devices, reduce barriers to access and provide vocational training.
- (iv) Ensure basic income security, in particular for persons whose jobs or livelihoods have been disrupted by the crisis, also coordinate social protection programmes and strengthen linkages across various social protection interventions in the county.
- (v) Protect vulnerable groups of the population from health costs by increasing coverage of the NHIF; improving knowledge of the existing insurance scheme (NHIF) to improve uptake; and subsidizing NHIF premiums for targeted populations.

#### 4.10 Gender and Youth

Addressing teenage pregnancies and gender-based violence during and after covid-19 need to be prioritized in Homabay County. Evidence indicates that 5,961 teenage pregnancy cases were reported between January and May 2020 (KHIS, 2020) while 25 cases of GBV in April 2020 (HAK, 2020).

To that effect, the following strategies will be implemented:

- (i) Prioritize elimination of gender stereotypes, transforming gender norms and revoke discriminatory practises for effective realization of the rights of women and girls.
- (ii) Community training and sensitization programmes targeting teenage boys and girls to deal with increased cases of teenage pregnancies.
- (iii) Strengthen enforcement of laws related to early pregnancies especially where adults are involved.
- (iv) Creation of help lines to facilitate reporting of GBV cases; this could be through toll-free calls and SMS numbers for victims.
- (v) Identify and train champions(individual actors) active in combating GBV and who can carry advocacy messages and contribute strongly to changing harmful and retrogressive practices.
- (vi) Collaboration between the county, state agencies, and other partners to strengthen capacities of various stakeholders including, political leadership within the county, women's groups, religious leaders, and community leaders to combat harmful practices that breed GBV.
- (vii) Designate gender safe spaces to provide accommodation for GBV survivors and create spaces to be used as recovery centers preferably County Referral Hospitals.

#### 4.11 Environment and Natural Resources

The county has two gazetted and 8 non gazetted forests which occupies 29.6Km<sup>2</sup> and 128Km<sup>2</sup> respectively. The forests are the major water catchment areas for the county and neighboring counties, the survival of the biodiversity is threatened by deforestation and encroachment on water catchment areas, forest fires, logging for firewood, inadequate disposal of biodegradable materials like plastic, urbanization, sand harvesting. For instance, most households use firewood (80 per cent) and charcoal (1.5 per cent) and LPG (2.4 per cent) as major source of energy for cooking used by most households. This has a negative effect on environment management and conservation. There is low usage of biogas and other clean sources of energy by households in the county. The most common solid waste disposal used by households are dumping in the compound (5.3 per cent), dumping in the street/ open field (34.9 per cent) and burning in open air (42.9 per cent). A small proportion of household's solid waste is collected by the county government (2.1 per cent) as well as community associations (2 per cent) and private company (0.2 per cent) for safe disposal. Occurrence of droughts and floods is common in the county where households (13.5 per cent) have been adversely been affected by droughts/ floods.





To mitigate these environmental risks, the County has put in place measures to mainstream environmental and climate change in County planning and budgeting processes with aim of strengthening disaster risk mitigation measures and reducing damages caused by natural hazards like floods and droughts. Additional strategies to enable County to recover from effects of COVID 19 include;

- (i) The county government to provide and promote alternative sources of energy for cooking such as solar energy and bio digesters.
- (ii) Promote tree planting at household and institutional level by provision of tree seedling.
- (iii) Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- (iv) Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of the environmental resources (forest, land, water).
- (v) The county to promote and facilitate regular environment clean up exercises at neighborhood and in towns, sensitization programs on importance of tree planting, environment management conservation.
- (vi) Adopt an integrated solid waste management system.
- (vii) Map and and take stock of non-gazetted forest cover.
- (viii) Build dykes and water dams to control floods to cushion households from the adverse effects of droughts or floods.
- (ix) Promote sustainable land use.







## 5 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM (ESP)

### 5.1 Economic stimulus Package

To re-engineer and put the economy of Homa Bay County on upward growth trajectory, it is important either to strengthen the existing programmes or create new ones which have multiplier effects to productivity and employment creation. The following are priority areas to be considered by the County when designing stimulus packages:

- (i) Improve infrastructure targeting roads, water and electricity.
- (ii) Subsidize farming inputs which include certified seeds, fertilizers and mechanized inputs (tractors).
- (iii) Leverage on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) which is a great enabler for business continuity during and after Covid-19.
- (iv) Invest in the Conservation of the Environment for Sustainable Development.
- (v) Give waivers and concessions on cess, single business permits, parking stickers, water bills, market fees.
- (vi) Prioritization of settlement of payment of pending bills.
- (vii) Provide extension services and market creation for Agriculture.
- (viii) Create a Covid-19 revolving recovery Fund utilizing structures such as table banking, self-help groups and MFIs to small scale traders and businesses in the informal sector.

### 5.2 Financing Economic Stimulus Package

Resource mobilization for implementation of the economic stimulus shall entail collaborations between National and County Government; support from development partners; public private partnerships and non-state actors including NGOs.







## 6 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAMME

Effective implementation of the County COVID-19 Re-engineering and Recovery Strategy will depend on adequate resource mobilization over the 2020/21-2022/23. The implementation will thus be supported through resource mobilization from relevant stakeholders in the County, including the National Government, development partners, NGOs and civil society, faith-based organizations, private sector and individuals. The Annex presents proposed action plan for the County.



## 7 MONITORING, EVALUATING AND REPORTING

The overall purpose of monitoring, evaluation (M&E) and reporting is to track progress of the County COVID-19 re-engineering and recovery strategies. Monitoring will be done periodically to track the implementation of the work plans while evaluations will be undertaken to measure effectiveness, impact and sustainability in meeting the strategic priorities. Some of the M&E activities will include documenting actions, resources, outputs and measure the impacts on expected outcomes.

Monitoring will be undertaken on a continuous basis and reporting on a quarterly basis, at mid-year, annually and at the end of the plan period leading to progress reports. The monitoring framework will track the achievements, assess use and delivery of resources and accomplishment of deliverables.

Evaluation and impact assessment of the plan will involve weighing the extent to which strategic objectives are met and impact created. Evaluation shall therefore be based on the implementation framework and theory of change. A theory of change describes how an intervention can deliver desired results and explains the causal logic of how a program modality or design innovation will reach its intended outcomes.<sup>7</sup>

The County COVID-19 re-engineering and recovery strategies reporting will be informed by annual work plans. All implementing departments will be expected to prepare M&E frameworks for each activity (see sample; Annex Table 3). The quarterly progress reports will include information on key indicators against set targets for the quarter.

For accountability purposes, County Governments through the Monitoring and Evaluation Departments (MED)s will review their existing M&E policy to include the County COVID-19 re-engineering and recovery strategies. These strategies will also inform County performance contracting targets and human resource performance management systems. The technical capacity of the M&E unit (focal persons and/or champions), on the County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (CIMES) will be enhanced to monitor and evaluate the implementation of these re-engineering strategies. CIMES guidelines on County Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (COMEC) will also play a key role and responsibility on how County Governments implement these strategies.

Furthermore, the M&E reports will always inform decision making at all county levels including County assemblies to contribute to a strong and sustainable county results-oriented M&E system. At the end of each financial year annual performance reports will be drafted highlighting key achievements, challenges, lessons learnt and recommendations on the way forward.

7. [https://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/10.1596/978-1-4648-0779-4\\_ch2](https://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/10.1596/978-1-4648-0779-4_ch2)

## 8 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Communication<sup>8</sup>, a process of creating understanding between two or more parties, is considered effective when the transmitted content is received and understood in the way it was intended. For development of County COVID-19 Socio-Economic Recovery Strategies, Communication for Development<sup>9</sup> (C4D) also referred to as Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) will be utilised. Communication for Development is evidence-based processes that involves a mix of communication channels and approaches to facilitate dialogue, participation and engagement with the target audience for positive social and behaviour change.

The communication channels<sup>10</sup> are the routes, media and techniques to be used to carry the re-engineering and recovery communication messages from the policy makers to the citizens. Based on May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey majority of Homabay respondents received information about coronavirus through radio (94 per cent), television (56 per cent) and friends and family (45 per cent). Although the survey did not specify whether mobile included both written (short text messages <SMS>) and voice (calls), 43 per cent of Homabay residents received information through mobile. Government sources and social media frequencies followed closely at 40 per cent and 39 per cent respectively. The frequency of newspaper readership was recorded at 22 per cent while Health Care Workers and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) workers were all below 6 per cent.

Accordingly, the following channels of communication shall be utilized:

- (1) Written communication such as: posters, digital (SMS) and online communications (County website, electronic mail and social media).
- (2) Verbal communication for instance: radio, telephone, and face to face meetings.
- (3) Non-verbal communication for example: sign language.
- (4) Visual communication that is: television (TV).

The effectiveness of the different channels would vary depending on the circumstance and the characteristics of the communication. Therefore, to increase buy-in from the members of the public on the county socio-economic recovery strategies, opportunities, interventions and to encourage positive feedback, table 2 below illustrates the channels of communication.

8. <https://books.google.co.ke/books?id=QVnnHUSAL7cC&printsec=frontcover&dq=creating+understanding+what+is+communication&hl>  
9. [https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF\\_2017\\_Report\\_on\\_Communication\\_for\\_Development\\_C4D.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_2017_Report_on_Communication_for_Development_C4D.pdf)  
10. <https://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/acref/9780199657681.001.0001/acref-9780199657681-e-1679?rskey=sE6yws&result=2>

**Table 2: Communication channels with target audience**

	Children 3yrs- 17yrs	Youth 18yrs- 35yrs	Men 36yrs- 70yrs	Women 36yrs- 70yrs	PWDs	Aged 71yrs +	Literate & Semi- literate	Rural	Urban & Informal settlements
Barazas <100 persons									
Face to face <100 persons									
Radio									
Newspaper									
TV									
SMS									
Website & Email									
Social Media									
I.E.C-Posters, branded gear									
Outdoor- Billboards, Graffiti, Drawings									
Telephone									
Sign language									

> Most appropriate channel to be used.

**NOTE:**

- For purposes of this report, the literacy levels will be measured by whether the target audience can listen, speak, read and write in English and Kiswahili language.
- It is assumed that children under the age of 3 years have not yet fully developed their cognitive abilities to interpret communication.
- Face to face meetings will include virtual meetings, association gatherings, friends, and family.

The communication channels for Persons with Disabilities are radio and telephone calls for the visually impaired and sign language for those with hearing impairment.

Furthermore, the scheduled communication or frequency of messaging are as follows:

- Weekly updates on County website & social media.
- Bi-weekly broadcast messages (TV interchanged with either local or kiswahili radio station).
- Monthly SMS and telephone calls.
- Quarterly I.E.C materials - Posters in reception areas and community gatherings (markets, mosques, churches, clinics, huduma centers).
- Monthly barazas.



# ANNEX

## Implementation matrix/Action plan

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
County Revenue Policy	OSR Enhancement; External grants	Lift the various waivers instituted on revenue streams; Seek for more funding from development partners inform of conditional grants	Increase in OSR and county revenues to enable smooth implementation of county projects.			Continuous from 2020/21	10	10	20	County Government	County Government
County Expenditure Reforms; Pending Bills	Re-engineer expenditure to be growth oriented and people-centered	Increase expenditure in health sectors and other non-administrative functions such as water, trade, ICT, education, agriculture while systematically reducing expenditure on non-administrative functions	County expenditure that is people-centered and focused on growth-creating sectors such as health, education, water, infrastructure, ICT etc			Continuous from 2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Reduce the approved budget-actual expenditure gap by fully implementing PFM recommendations and conducting annual expenditure reviews	County expenditure in line with existing National Government and County Government laws			Continuous from 2020/21				County Government	County Government
		Restructure county functional expenditure classification to encompass stand-alone emerging ICT functions	Fully fledged stand-alone ICT department with a budget			2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Eliminate pending bills	Systematically and in phase-out approach reduce pending bills owed to suppliers				Continuous				County Government	County Government
Agriculture	Diversification of production into fast-maturing vegetable crops through irrigation	Subsidies on fast-maturing vegetable seeds, expansion of area under sustainable irrigation	County residents eat more nutritious food	Increased number of farmers producing fast-maturing vegetables/ crops; Increased availability of nutritious vegetables/ crops in the county	Number of subsidized fast maturing seeds; Increased acreage under fast maturing crops; Acreage under sustainable irrigation		50	50	100	County Government	County Government



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
	Enhancing agro-processing and value addition capacities of counties	Attracting private partnerships in the county; Strengthen agricultural extension services; Enhance farmers training and farmers information services; Enhance collaboration with research institutions	Transformation of smallholder value chains in the County	Increased private investments in the County; Increased collaborations with research institutes; Enhanced agricultural extension and information outreach systems in the County	Number of county-private partnerships with farmers; Number of farmers trained in agro-processing; Number of farmers with access to agricultural extension services; Number of collaborations with research institutes		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Investments in storage and cooling facilities especially at collection centres	Construction of storage and cooling facilities in the County	Enhanced food security in the County	Increased storage and cooling facilities; reduced post harvesting losses	Number of storage and cooling facilities developed at the County level		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Digitization of the agricultural sector	Building capacities of farming households and agri-food sector labourers in modern agricultural technologies; Investment in digital infrastructure (e.g. data systems)	Digitized marketing, advisory and information, financial and agricultural government operations at the County		Number of users adopting digitized agricultural operations (marketing, financial, etc) at the County level		2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Disaster surveillance at County level and mitigate risks associated with disasters, such as those related to floods	Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions at the County level equipped with relevant technical specialists and finances to effectively prevent, prepare, respond and prevent risks; Institutional capacity development; Carry out vulnerability analyses and updates; Invest in monitoring and early warning systems; Conduct public education	Enhanced food security in the County	Increased preparedness of households and communities to mitigate and respond to shocks; Early warning	Number of weather forecast and flood early warning disseminated to communities; Number of men and women trained to access flood warning and weather forecast/ information; Number of men and women trained on Disaster Management; Number of community level contingency and climate change adaptation plans developed		1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government





**COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING  
RECOVERY STRATEGY 2020/21-2022/23**

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
	Enhanced access to agricultural finance	Partner with development partners, such as, the National Government, Private Sector, DFIs and NGOs, in availing access to affordable formal agricultural finance to small holder farmers in the county	Access to agricultural finance will improve farmers access to support services and commodities e.g. access to affordable formal finance will enhance: - access to high end output markets; access to modern technologies and modern inputs; enhanced opportunities for agroprocessing and value addition; resilience to climate change etc.	Increased number of small holder farmers with access to agricultural finance.	Proportion of small-scale farmers with access to agricultural finance;		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Manufacturing and MSMEs	Enhance innovation	Establish a Fund/Establish a budget line to support innovative activities in the County	Increased county revenues; Increasing levels of employment; Increasing use of new business models	New product brands in the market; Improved processes	No. of new brands in the market; No. of trainings conducted;	3 years	10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Strengthening partnerships	Attract private partnerships and other stakeholders in the county;	Increased project undertaken by partners	Increased PPP arrangements	Number of county-PPPs; increasing no. of stakeholders' engagements with the County	continuous	5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance skills	Build capacity and skills of traders and businesses persons	Increased productivity; More revenues	Increased No. of personnel trained	No. of persons trained	Continuous	5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Eliminate counterfeits	Establish administrative units in the county to address the counterfeit challenge	Increased County competitiveness	Increased output; increase manufacture sales	No. of products/ goods old	continuous	5	5	10	County Government of Nandi,National Government,	County Government
Water and Sanitation	To increase access to clean water	To Develop and rehabilitate water infrastructure	No of water infrastructure developed and rehabilitated	Increased access to clean and safe water	% of the population with access to clean and safe water; % of population covered with piped water		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To increase access to improved sanitation	To develop and rehabilitate sanitation infrastructure	No of sanitation infrastructure developed and rehabilitated	Increased access to improved sanitation	% of the population covered by sewer line		40	40	80	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Solid waste management	To achieve increased solid waste collection and management	To sensitive communities on importance of safe solid waste collection management and disposal	No of environment clean up exercised in major urban centres and neighbourhoods	Increased access to clean environment	% of population with increased access to safe and clean environment		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

**COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING  
RECOVERY STRATEGY 2020/21-2022/23**



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
Environment and Natural Resources Conservation	To increase environment conservation to clean water; To increase access to improved sanitation	To plant trees and increase area under forest	No of free trees seedlings distributed to local communities; No of trees planted	Increased forest cover	% Ha under forest cover		10	10	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Droughts and floods control	To mitigate the effects of droughts and floods	To construct dams and dykes to control floods	No of dams and dykes constructed to control floods	Increase safety from the effects of floods and droughts	% of population cushioned from the effects of droughts and floods		20	20	40	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Transport	To enhance sustainable mobility options for household	Construct NMT infrastructure across key roads in the County	Increased modal split in favor of NMT	Increase in knowledge management of NMT infrastructure in good and fair condition	Knowledge management of NMT infrastructure in good and fair condition	6 months	15	15	30	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To enhance health, safety and hygiene in public transport vehicles	Improve public transport vehicle design to address social distancing and hygiene	Compliance to the COVID-19 safety guidelines	Reduced exposure and infection rates attributed PSV use	No. of reported positive cases due to PSV used (based on contact tracing data)	4 months	5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To improve the road conditions of the road network	Improve quality of the unpaved road infrastructure using labour-based techniques	Improved accessibility and reduced vehicle operation costs	Increased proportion of roads in good and fair condition	Proportion of unpaved road network in good and fair condition		4	4	8	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Improve quality of road network using appropriate technology -Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVSR) for rural roads	Improved accessibility and reduced vehicle operation costs	Increased proportion of roads in good and fair condition	Knowledge management of roads developed using LVSR		2	2	4	County Government	County Government
	To mitigate the damage caused by floods on roads and bridges	Implement green roads design to protect road infrastructure while controlling storm water and harvesting flood water for domestic and commercial use	Resilient road infrastructure that can withstand floods with controlled damage	Number of green roads projects and water harvesting infrastructure	Knowledge management of green roads and quantity of water harvested in cubic meters annually		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	To enhance ICT capacity and use	Collaborate with private sector to enhance household acquisition of acquired ICT assets and technologies, e.g. smart phones and laptops	Increased use of ICT for domestic and commercial purposes	Increase in number of households owning ICT assets and technologies	Proportion of households owning ICT assets	1 year	5	5	10	County and National Governments	County Government
		Programme to ensure ubiquitous access to reliable and affordable internet (internet everywhere)	Increased use of ICT for domestic and commercial purposes	Increase in number of households connected to reliable and affordable internet	Proportion of households connected to reliable and affordable internet	1 year	3	3	6	County and National Governments	County Government
		Community access to ICT infrastructure and services in public primary schools	Improved access to ICT infrastructure and services	Increase in number of household able to access ICT through community facilities	Proportion of household able to access ICT through community facilities		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



**COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING  
RECOVERY STRATEGY 2020/21-2022/23**

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
	Boosting e-commerce and home-based economies through ICT access	Extending the NOFBI project to ensure internet connectivity in public spaces, markets, commercial zones and public buildings	Increased use of e-commerce to boost trade	Increased proportion of population engaging in e-commerce	Proportion of population engaging in e-commerce		7	7	14	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance prominence in County planning and budgeting	Designate ICT as a stand-alone Ministry in Homabay County Government structure and deploy requisite personnel and capability	Enhance prominence of ICT plans, programmes and projects	Increased budget for ICT	Share of ICT budget in overall county budget		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance cyber security	Formulate and implement cyber security policies and procedures and pursue ISO certification on Information Systems Security	Enhanced detection, mitigation and reporting of cyber security incidents	Reduced cyber security incidents	No. of cyber security incidents		2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Urban Development and Housing	To improve the quality of life of residents through provision of affordable and decent housing	Fastrack implementation of the affordable housing programme with a focus on improving living conditions in informal settlements	Enhanced quality in informal settlements due to improved housing conditions	Increased proportion of households provided with affordable and decent housing	No. of housing units provided		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Map flood risk settlements and implement flood disaster mitigation plans including relocation and re-settlement of households	Reduced flood risk and disaster incidents in human settlements	Increased number of households relocated from flood risk areas	No. of households relocated from flood risk areas		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To increase access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking by households	Enhanced household use of clean energy and technology for cooking; distribution of clean cookstoves and clean energy alternatives to charcoal, kerosene and firewood	Increased number of households with access to clean energy and technology for cooking	Proportion of households with access to clean energy and technology for cooking			3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Tourism	Enhance socio-economic benefits from the tourism sector	Tourism sector development master-plan; Rehabilitate infrastructure leading to tourism attraction sites	Growth in revenue generation from tourism	Increased visitor numbers to the county; increased awareness of the diversified tourism product offering	Number of local and foreign visitors; revenue collected by county government from tourism.	3 – 5 years	2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



**COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING  
RECOVERY STRATEGY 2020/21-2022/23**

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
		Niche tourism product developed, marketing incorporating aspects of COVID-19.	Diversified tourism experiences / product; Sanitation standards in tourism upheld	Increased number of tourists visiting the County; increased awareness and practice of sanitation in tourist products	Number of niche tourism products developed; Number of cultural sites preserved; Number of high-altitude training camps developed,	3 – 5 years	1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Health	Improve access to quality and affordable health services	Provide appropriate antenatal care	Improved health condition of pregnant women	Number of women benefitted	2 years		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Promote additional funding to the health sector	Health infrastructure development	Number of health facilities improved and equipped as per norms	2 years		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruit high number of public health officers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of health officers recruited	1 year		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance Medical Supplies	Increase % of availability of essential Medical products	Number health centres stocked with essential medical products.	1 year		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Improve immunization coverage in the County	Reduced mortality	Number of immunization outreaches	1 year		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To improve sanitation in the County	Enhance construction of latrines	Increased latrine coverage	% of homesteads with latrines	1 year		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Drill boreholes at County health centres and public areas	Improved access to safe water in public places	Number of boreholes drilled	2 years		15	15	30	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Strengthen collaboration with health-related sectors	Pollution control; Improvement in veterinary services; Construction of latrines	Improved service delivery	% change of health sector development	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Minimize exposure to health risk factor	Health promotion including health information; Micro-nutrient deficiency control; Infection prevention and control	Reduced mortality rate	Number of patients treated	2 years		2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Education	To improve service delivery in schools	Promote infrastructure development	Improved training environment	Number of school facilities renovated and constructed	2 years		20	20	40	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
		Train teachers on how to instruct remotely	Improvement in teaching skills	Number of teachers trained	1 years		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruitment of ECDE teachers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of ECDE teachers recruited	2 years		8	8	15	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Capacity building of school Board of management	Improvement in the management capacities	Number of trainings held	1 years		1	1	1	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance transition and retention rates in schools	Disbursement of bursaries	Increase of school attendance	No. students of supported with bursaries	2 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Promote school feeding programmes	Increase in number of students attending schools	% of students attending schools	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance back to school campaigns	Increase in number of students attending schools	% students attending schools	1 years		1	1	1	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To provide safety in schools	Provide surgical masks to students; Provide PPE to school employees	Reduction in cases of COVID-19	Quantities of PPE and surgical masks supplied	1 years		15	15	30	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Strengthen social well-being of students	Promote guidance and counselling in schools	Increased retention and attendance in school	Number of schools where guidance & counselling	1 years		1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Social Protection	Promote social protection activities	Provide medical insurance coverage	Reduction in treatment cost during emergencies	Number of people covered by insurance	1 years		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance cash transfer to vulnerable groups	Reduced poverty level	Number of people who benefitted from cash transfers	1 years		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Human Resource	Provide safety in workplaces	Provide adequate personal protective equipment for employees	Reduced cases of COVID-19 in workplaces	Number of protective equipment provided	1 years		20	20	40	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
	Improve staff digital skills	Implement policy guidelines on skills development among the staffs; Training and capacity building of staffs on use of ICT in service delivery	Improvement in remote working	Number of staff trained on digital skills	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Mainstream occupational safety and health into the sectors of the economy	Train workers on safety and health	Increased control of COVID-19 transmission	No. of workers trained	1 years		5	5	10	County Governments; development partners	County Government
		Provide adequate personal protective equipment for employees	Reduced cases of COVID-19 in workplaces	Number of protective equipment provided	1 years		10	10	20	County Governments; development partners	County Government
		Grand Total					723	723	1435		



## COUNTY GOVERNMENTS



This Strategy was developed by KIPPRA in collaboration with COG through the financial support from UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women as part of the joint Devolution Programme funded by Sweden, Finland and Italy.



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