



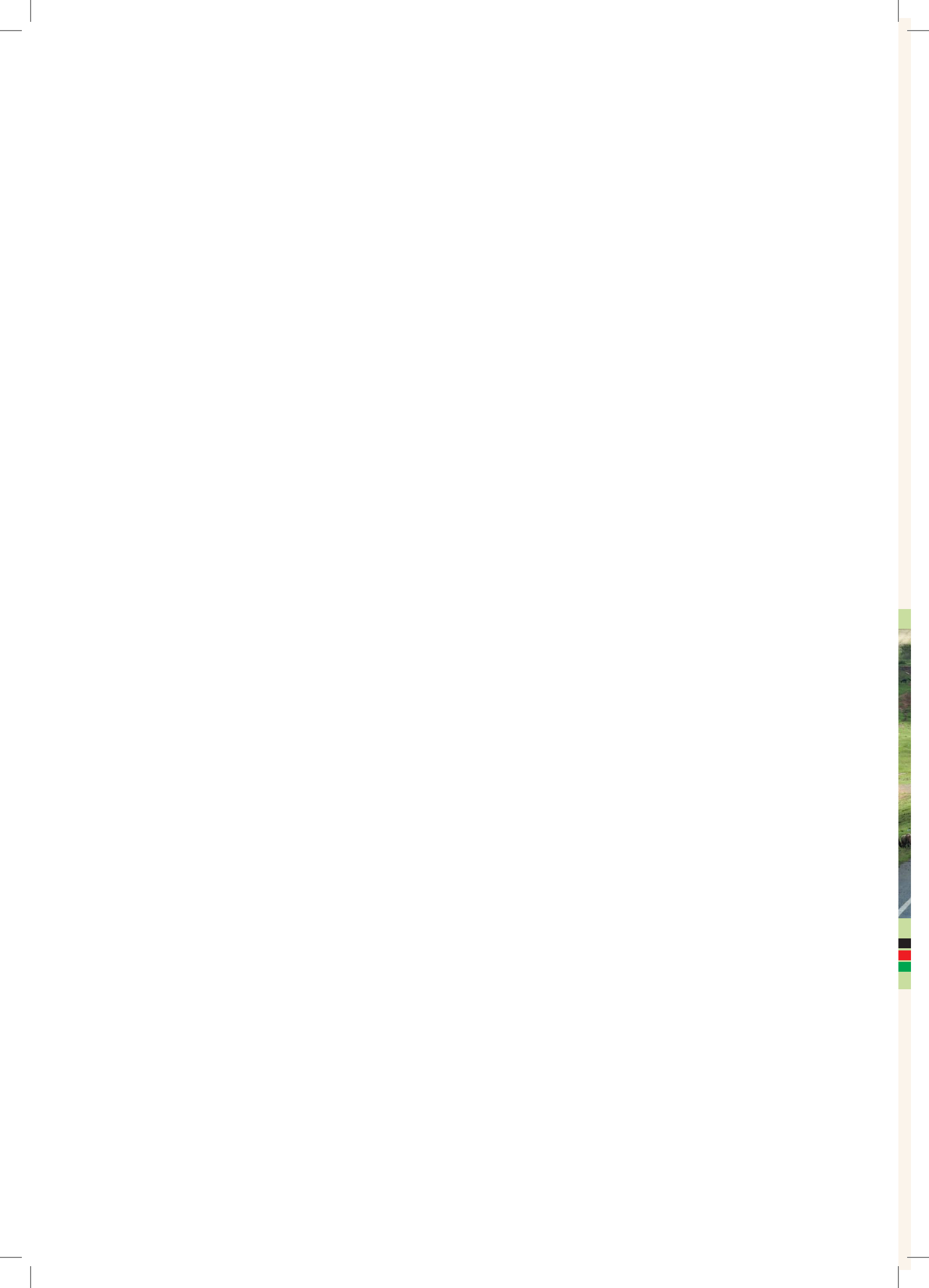
KISII COUNTY

COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING RECOVERY STRATEGY

2020/21-2022/23

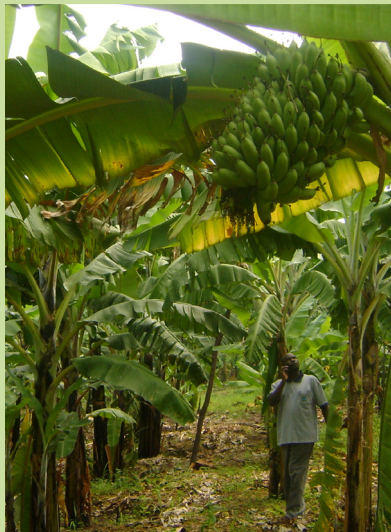


NOVEMBER 2020





KISII 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 1st 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)¹.
- (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.
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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.
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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:

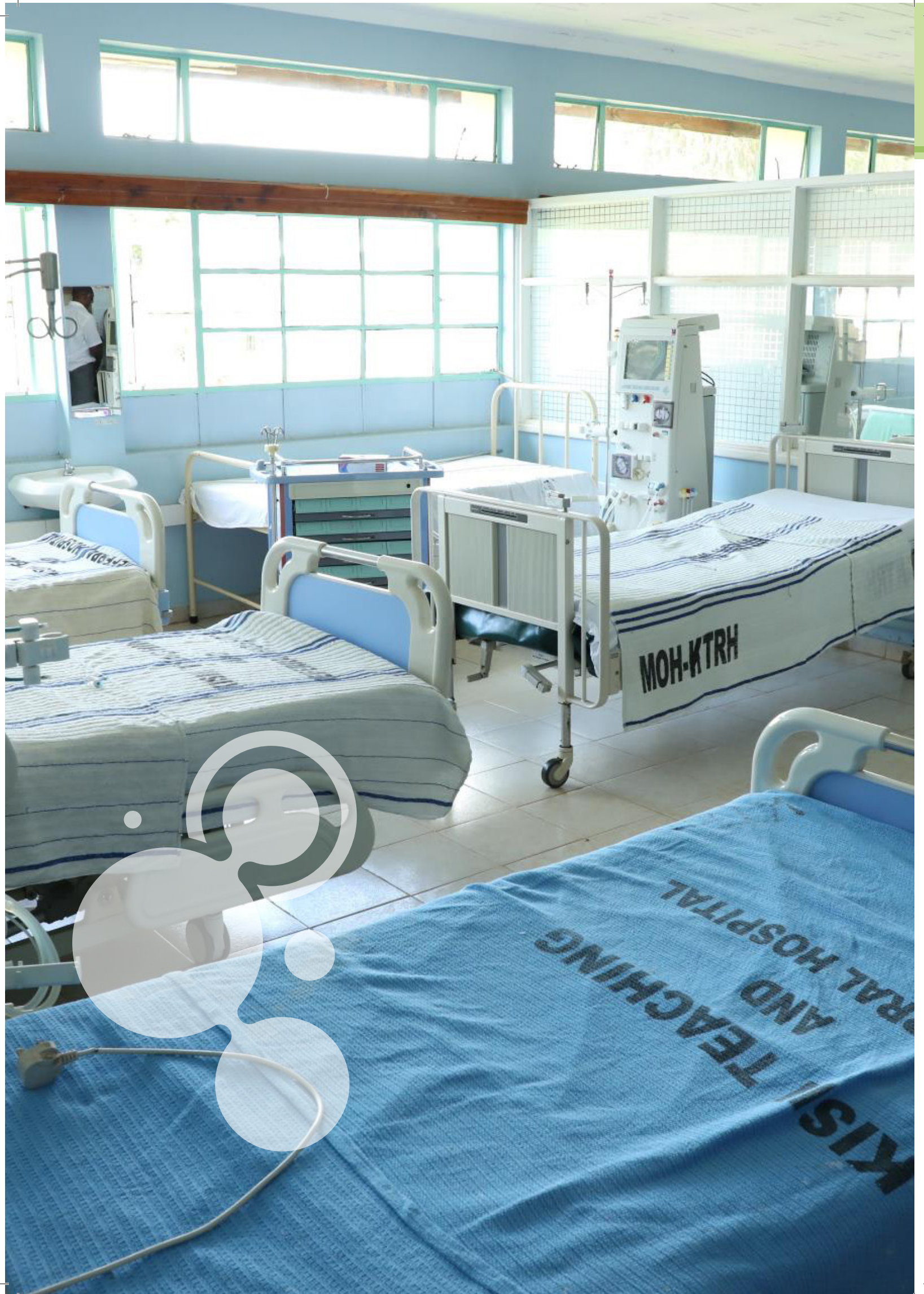
- (i) Designating gender safe spaces to provide accommodation for Gender-Based Violence (GBV) survivors and create space in County Referral Hospitals to serve as GBV recovery centres.
- (ii) Promoting use of alternative means of Gender-Based Violence safe outreach and awareness-raising that limit direct 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

Kisii County is one of the counties in the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB). The county had an estimated population of 1,266,860 people in 2019 of which 47.8 per cent were male and 52.1 per cent female (KNBS, 2019) as indicated in table 1. Of the population 36,355 (3.3 per cent) are persons with disability. The youth constituted 35.0 per cent of the population of whom 54.0 per cent were female. The county has a population density of 962 per km². About 88.0 per cent of the population live in rural areas of whom 52.3 per cent are female. The elderly population (over 65 years old) make up 4.5 per cent of the total population of whom 56.3 per cent were female. The population in school going age group (4-22 years) was 48.3 per cent in 2019.

In 2015/2016, the overall poverty rate in Kisii County was 42.0 per cent against the national poverty rate of 36.1 per cent. In addition, 44.4 per cent of the population were living in food poverty and 59.1 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 KDHS, in 2014, 25.5 per cent of the children were stunted as compared to the average national level at 26.0 per cent.

Table 1: Development indicators in Kisii County

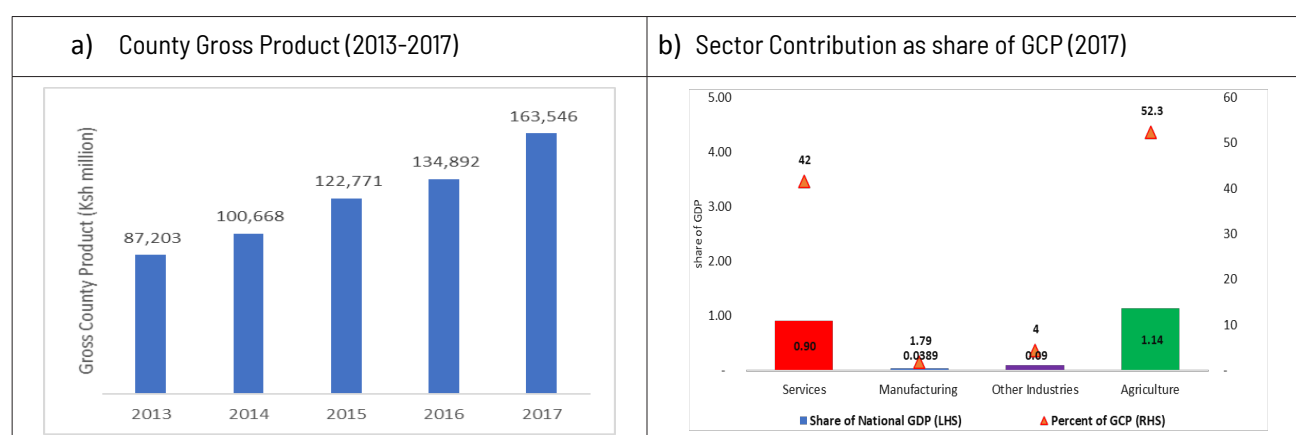
	County	National
Estimated County Population (KNBS, 2019)	1,266,860	2.4% of total population
Males	605,784	47.8%
Females	661,038	52.1%
Intersex	38	0.003%
Estimated Population Density (km ²)	962	82
Persons with disability	3.3%	2.2
Population living in rural areas (%)	88.0%	68.8%
School going age (4-22 years)(%)	52.3%	68.7%
Youth (%)	35.0%	36.1%
Elderly population (over 65-year-old)	4.5%	3.9%
Number of Covid-19 cases (as at 11th September 2020)(MOH); National cases were 35,232 people.	208	0.6% Of the national cases
Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	42.0%	36.1%
Food Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	44.4%	31.9%
Multidimensional Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	59.1%	56.1%
Stunted children (KDHS 2014)	25.5%	26%
Gross County Product (Ksh. Million)	163,546 (2017)	2.2 % Share to total GDP (2017)
Average growth of Nominal GCP/GCP (2013-2017)(%)	17.5%	15.3 %

Data Source: KNBS (2019)



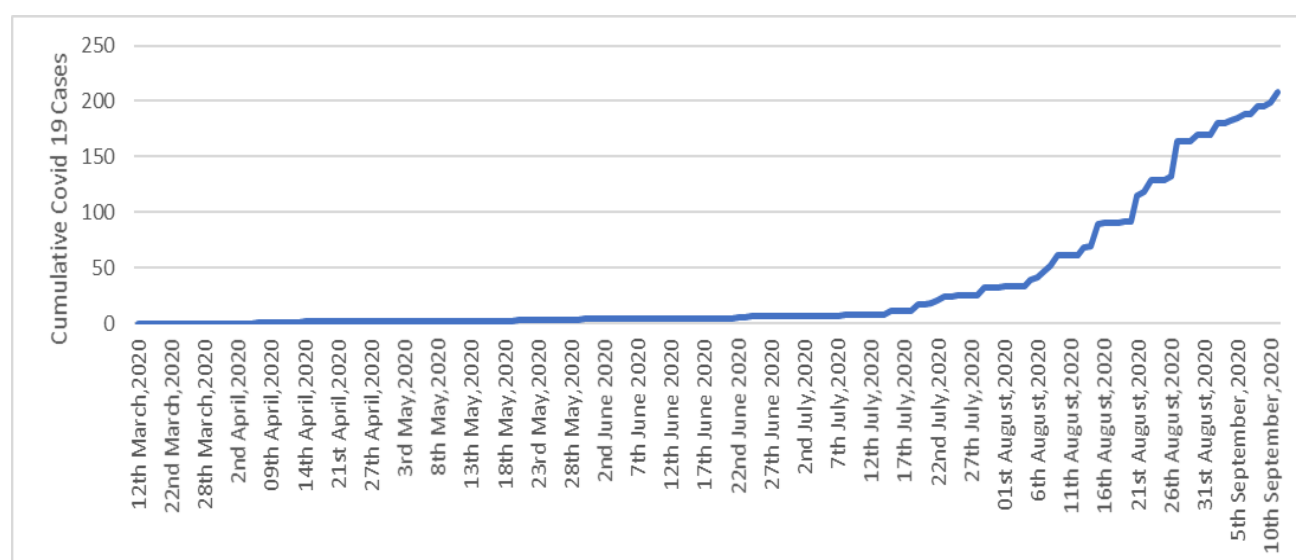
Kisii County Gross County Product (GCP) accounted for 2.2 per cent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as at 2017 as reported in figure 1. The GCP increased from Ksh. 87,203 Million in 2013 to Ksh. 163,546 Million in 2017 representing an annual average growth rate of 17.5 per cent. The agriculture sector contributes 52.3 per cent of GCP while services and other industries sector share constituted 42.0 per cent and 4.0 per cent, respectively. The services sector includes such activities as wholesale and retail trade. Agriculture is mainly dominated by crop farming and fishing activities while industries include small scale production of consumer goods such as plastics, furniture and textiles; 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 5th April 2020. Since then the number of confirmed cases increased to 208 in 11th September 2020 (MOH, 2020) as indicated in figure 2.



Data Source: MOH



1.2 County Fiscal Position

Kisii county expected to receive a total of Ksh. 12.9 billion in FY 2019/20 as revenue to finance its operations. This comprised mainly of Ksh. 7.8 billion (60.2 per cent) as equitable share, Ksh. 1.9 billion (15.2 per cent) conditional grant, Ksh. 870 million (6.7 per cent) generated from own source revenue (OSR) and Ksh. 2.3 billion (17.9 per cent) as cash balance from FY 2018/19.

During FY 2019/20, the County received a total Ksh. 10.4 Billion which accounted for 80.4 per cent of the expected revenue. This comprised of Ksh. 7.1 billion equitable shares, Ksh. 1.7 billion as conditional grants, Ksh. 1.2 billion as cash balance from FY 2018/19 and generated Ksh. 333.2 million from OSR. Following the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the county's revenue streams were adversely affected due to the various measures undertaken to curb the pandemic as well as to cushion the traders. The county government granted three months waiver for traders in the open markets, stopped collecting interest and penalties from traders who were unable to pay for their Single Business Permits and waived parking fees and three-month sticker fees for public service vehicles including motorbikes have been waived. Following the measures, the county lost about Ksh. 50.0 Million in one month. Despite the interventions, the county registered a slight increase of 0.6 per cent in OSR as compared to Ksh. 330.9 million realized in FY 2018/19.

At the beginning of FY 2019/20 the County budgeted to spend a total of Ksh. 12,925.6 million consisting of Ksh. 8,573.6 million allocation for recurrent expenditure and Ksh. 4,352.0 million for development expenditure. Of the recurrent expenditure, Ksh. 5,361.1 million was meant for compensation of employees while Ksh. 3,212.4 million was set aside for operations and maintenance. The County's actual total expenditure during FY 2019/20 amounted to Ksh. 9,444.2 million. Recurrent expenditures (personal emoluments and operations & maintenance) accounted for 73.1 per cent of the total spending, with development expenditure accounting for only 26.9 per cent. This translating to absorption rate to 73.1 per cent in overall budget, 80.5 per cent recurrent expenditure and 58.4 per cent development expenditure. Health sector expenditure accounted for 35.6 per cent of total spending with an overall absorption rate of 80.7 per cent. Absorption rate for health sector recurrent expenditure stood at 88.8 per cent while that for development expenditure stood at 58.8 per cent. Development expenditure absorption improved compared to 2018/19 when it stood at 58.5 per cent and recurrent expenditure absorption decreased compared to FY 2018/19 when it stood at 92.5 per cent. This can be attributed to county's increased expenditure efforts as a result of increased expenditure demands to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. At the end of FY 2019/20, the county accumulated pending bills amounting to Ksh. 1,099.4 million consisting of Ksh. 852.4 million and Ksh. 247.0 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 Kisii county undertook varied measures.

The County established the Kisii County COVID-19 Emergency Response Operations Committee. The committee mandate was to ensure seamless coordination of measures given by Ministry of Health (MoH)



to curb the rapid spread of the virus. The committee also oversaw the implementation of guidelines that included observing the social distance, closure of social places and ensuring that all businesses have hand washing facilities.

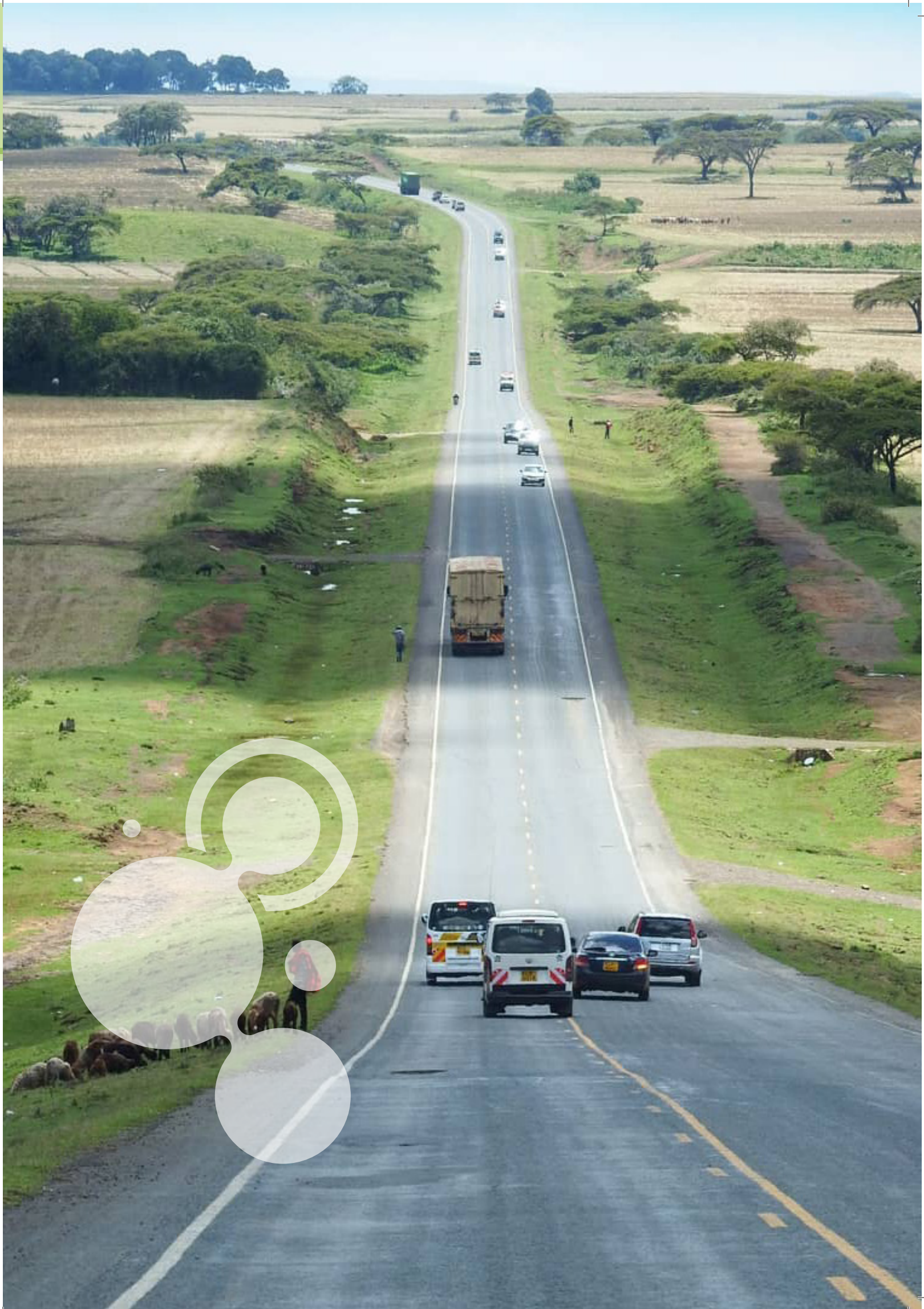
The county re-allocated its budget. The county prepared the second supplementary budget amounting to Ksh. 122.0 million out of which Ksh. 60.0 million was allocated to the Department of Health while Ksh. 62.0 million was allocated to the county emergency. This implies that the county effectively increased the County Emergency Fund from Ksh. 12.0 million to Ksh. 74.0 million while the Ksh. 60.0 million to the health budget utilized in purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and other equipment. In putting together, the Ksh. 122.0 million, the county focused more on items that they felt won't be utilized in the remaining period of the financial year. These included; foreign travels, local travels, and staff developments. The county also received a conditional grant of Ksh. 156.0 million from the National Treasury for the Department of Health.

The county prepared for treatment of confirmed cases. In preventing community transmission, the department of health set up COVID-19 isolation/quarantine centers; with a 40 -bed isolation centre at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital (KTRH) and at least one quarantine centre in each sub-county. These are: Nduru Sub-County Hospital (South Mugirango); Kegogi (Kitutu Chache North); Iranda Sub-County Hospital (Kitutu Chache South); Riana Sub-County Hospital (Bonchari Sub-County); Misesi Health Centre (Bomachoge Chache Sub-County); Nyamasibi Sub-County Hospital (Nyaribari Masaba Sub-County) and Kenyerere Sub-County Hospital (Bobasi Sub-County). Further, the department purchased 1,000 sets of full PPEs from KEMRI and in partnership with the Centre for Disease Control (CDC), Timiza Project supplied health facilities with 150 N-95 masks, 8500 surgical masks, 250 five litres washing soap/detergents, 1,522 five hundred millilitres sanitizers, 100 overalls, 5 face shields, N-gowns and googles.

Support to businesses. The county instituted measures to support the businesses and cushion traders during the period. These included: granting waivers for three months (April, May and June) for traders who use open markets. In addition, the county waived interest and penalties to traders who are unable to pay for their Single Business Permits. To cushion motorcycle operators (boda-boda operators), one of the most thriving business in Kisii, and Public Service Vehicles, the county waived all the parking fees including sticker fees for matatus and buses as well as the operational fees for motorcycles for three-months.

In addition, the county promoted COVID-19 safety guidelines. This including 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 undertook to enhance access to water for hand washing. Over the COVID-19 period, Gusii Water and Sanitation Company was instructed not to disconnect water for failure to pay bills and supply water to hand washing points installed in major markets and strategic points in Kisii.





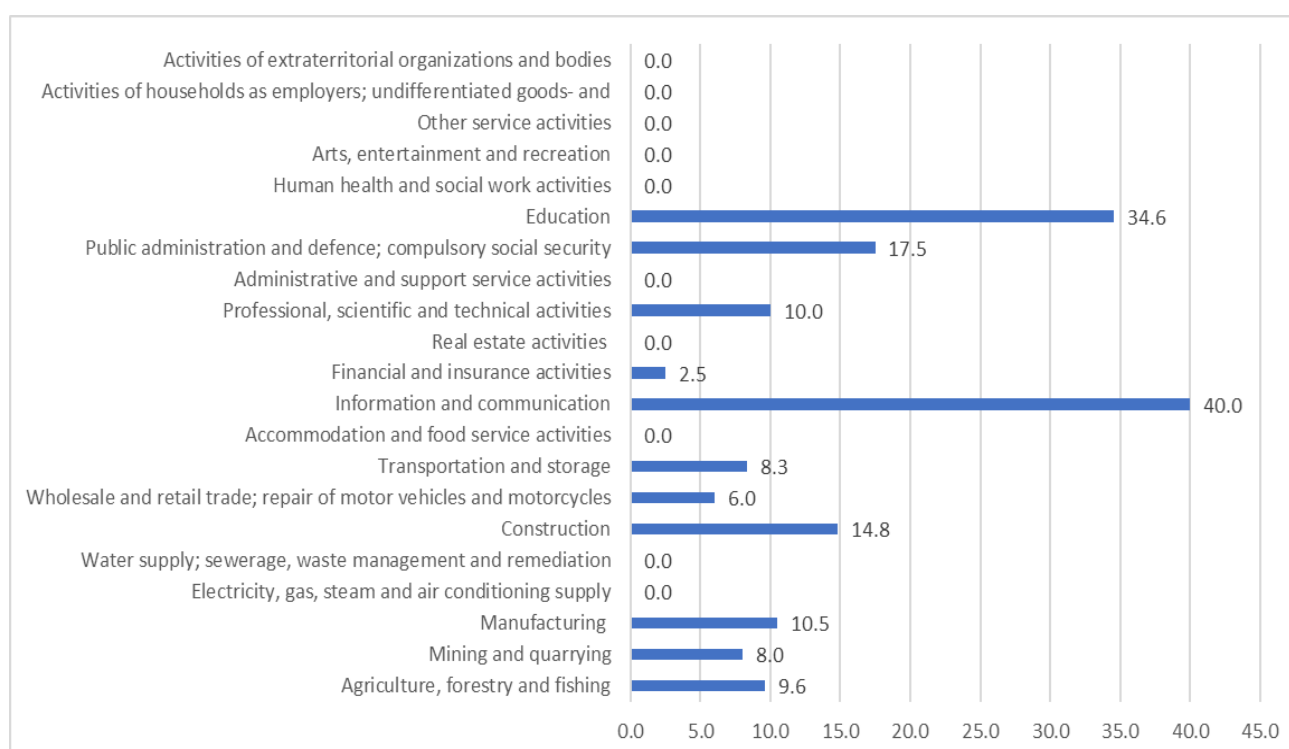
2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECT OF COVID-19

As the country was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, several other shocks hit the county including: floods; erratic rains and drought., landslides, livestock diseases

a) *Labor participation*

According to May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey, the Information and communication sector reported the highest level of loss of hours worked in a week (40 hours) followed by education sector which lost 34.6 hours worked in a week, (figure 3). Public administration and defense; compulsory social security and Construction lost a total of 17.5 hours per week and 14.8 hours per week, respectively. Professional, scientific and technical activities and Agriculture, forestry and fishing recorded on average loss of 10 hours and 9.6 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 negatively affected.

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



Data source: KNBS 2020

Majority of the workers in the private sector were given unpaid leave due to reduced activities at workplace as a result of implementing strict health guidelines. Several businesses were closed. To prevent the spread of coronavirus, the Kisii County Government directed that all night clubs, discos, bars and other open-air markets be closed. This led to loss of jobs and sources income for the people who derived their livelihood from these places. The county's main open-air market Daraja Mbili, which hosts more than 10,000 traders was among those affected. About 22.5 per cent of employees did not attend to work with other 77.5 per



cent of the employees working without a pay. Following the containment measures put in place by both national and county governments, some other businesses such as bars, hotels, market centres had totally closed, leading to reduced business activities. About 55 per cent of workers reported decrease in income due to the COVID-19 and only 3 per cent of people reported to have experienced increased income.

b) ***Agricultural sector***

The May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey found that 37 per cent of the households in Kisii 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 closure of the markets/grocery stores (71.2 per cent) and movement restrictions (25 per cent).

Further, with restrictions affecting seamless movement of food commodities, 94 per cent of households in Kisii county indicated having experienced an increase in food prices. From the KIHBS 2015/16, 43 per cent of households' purchase food products from open-air markets and 25.5 per cent from general shops. Additionally, 66.5 per cent of the total valued consumed was from purchases, 23.1 per cent from own production, 7.9 per cent from own stock and 2.6 per cent from gifts and other sources. As such, an increase in food prices is likely to have significant implications on household budget.

Low marketing activity, following closure of the open markets, led to loss of income for farmers and traders, increased farm losses and post-harvest losses. Vegetables, bananas, sugarcanes, pineapples could not be delivered to the market and hence farmers had to sell them at the local level at throw away prices whereas majority of the produce get spoilt.

Further, is a decline in labor participation. An assessment of the Covid-19 effects on hours worked in agriculture related occupations indicates farm workers recorded the highest difference of 12 hours between the usual and actual hours worked in a week. The other affected sub-category is agricultural, fishery and related labourers who recorded a difference of 10 hours 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 9.1 per cent and 11.4 per cent of households in Kisii County during the pandemic period. As a result of floods, limited transport and made it difficult for farmers to get the produce from the farms to the market for transportation to major markets, such as Nairobi, due to damaged roads. As such, very few farmers were able to access the markets in other counties.

c) ***Services sector***

Tourism sector in the county came to a halt due to the Covid-19 pandemic with no foreigners visiting the cultural and heritage tourism sites in the county. There was a 60 – 80 per cent reduction in tourism activities, earnings and employment over the second and third quarters of 2020. The famous Kisii soapstone carving artisans who normally sell their wares to tourists, experienced poor sales due to the travel restrictions



and work from home requirements. Most of the hotels were closed while others are opened partly. Apart from low uptake of tourism, mainly attributed to low investment in marketing, the sector is experiencing encroachment of forests for grazing, wood-fuel, timber harvesting and human settlement. This is a challenge to development of eco-tourism, along with destruction of natural habitats for wildlife.

The Covid-19 pandemic had implications on teaching and learning processes, including loss of learning and teaching time in Kisii County. According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey, only 5.0 per cent of households in Kisii County owned Desktop Computer/ Laptop/ Tablet; and only 8.8 per cent of household had access to internet connectivity. This indicates distance-learning had not reached most of the target learners in the county, and those without internet access or adult supervision had been the most disadvantaged.

According to the May 2020, KNBS Covid_19 Survey, 82.0 per cent of county residents did not visit any health facility while others avoided going to the hospital. The instituted COVID 19 measures especially public health interventions on water, sanitation and hygiene (washing hands and sanitation) and wearing face masks had contributed to reduction in common diseases such as diarrhea and common cold in the county.

d) *Micro Small and Medium Enterprises sector*

Most of MSMEs in Kisii County operate in the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (46.4 per cent), manufacturing (17 per cent), accommodation and food services (10.5 per cent), financial and insurance activities (7.4 per cent), and arts, entertainment and recreation (5.8 per cent), among others. Generally, these are the sectors that have been worst affected by the pandemic and need focus in achieving reengineering and recovery.

MSMEs in Kisii County are mainly located in commercial premises (77.6 per cent). This means that the businesses in the County faced challenges in meeting their rental obligations due to income disruptions occasioned by Covid-19. According to the May 2020 KNBS Covid_19 survey, 77.9 per cent of the non-farm businesses attributed non-payment of household rental obligations to reduced incomes/earnings, 13.7 per cent due to delayed incomes/earnings while 8.4 per cent attributed the same to temporary layoffs/ closure of businesses. For those involved in farm businesses, 87.5 per cent attributed the same to reduced incomes/earnings while 12.5 per cent were affected by delayed incomes/earnings. The survey indicates the wholesale and retail trade sector lost 6 hours in usual and actual hours worked in a week. This is an indicator of the adverse effects on the service sector of Kisii County due to the pandemic which could implies loss of productivity, output and employment. Equally, the manufacturing sector lost 10.5 hours.

Regarding access to markets, none of the MSMEs in the County depend on export markets, while only a few (0.5 per cent) import their material inputs. Therefore, disruptions in the external markets may have limited implications to MSMEs operations in Kisii County. It therefore important to support diversification of market for the MSMEs to secure their survival and growth.



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 transport services saw expenditure on fares increase by 66.3 per cent. Residents responded by changing their travel patterns with 29.6 per cent of the population traveling less often, while 2.3 per cent were unable to travel due to the pandemic.

Kisii County Headquarters, Kisii town is currently connected to the National Optic Fibre Backbone (NOFBI) II. Approximately 99.4 per cent of public primary schools are installed with ICT capacity under Digital Literacy Programme. That said, only 8.8 per cent of the conventional households in the county 'own' internet with 5.0 per cent owning a desktop, computer laptop or tablet. Further, only 2.2 per cent of the households participate in online e-commerce, with men participating more in online e-commerce (2.9 per cent) than women (1.6 per cent). Further, there is a gender divide in use of internet where 19.1 per cent male and 13.2 per cent of the women using internet.

Majority of households (83.0 per cent) own the housing units they occupy while 17.0 per cent of the households under rental tenure. Individuals are the primary providers of rental housing at 93.2 per cent, followed by National Government (2.4 per cent); private companies (2.1 per cent); County Government (1.3 per cent); FBO/NGO/Church based housing at (0.6 per cent); and Parastatals (0.5 per cent). With the advent of COVID-19 pandemic households' ability to pay rent was affected, with 38.3 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 62.5 per cent of the population.

f) **Gender and youth**

The social and economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have increased households' susceptibility to Gender Based Violence (GBV) in the county. Response measures taken to contain the Covid-19 pandemic, such as movement restrictions, lockdown and curfew hours, have led to loss of income, isolation, high levels of stress and anxiety exposing household members to psychological, economic, sexual violence and physical harm as couples spend more time in close contact. In Kisii county, domestic violence has been reported to be on the rise amidst COVID-19. Based on the May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 survey, 37.7 per cent of the respondents in the county indicated to have witnessed or heard any form of domestic violence in your community since MoH instituted COVID 19 measures. Further, the Healthcare Assistance Kenya (HAK) reports that a total of 7 GBV cases were recorded in the county during the Month of April 2020. Of the reported cases, 4 were from women, 2 from girls and 1 from a man.

g) **Water and Sanitation**

The county government incurred additional cost to ensure continuity in provision of water and sanitation services. The water company managed to raise only 30% of its revenues from water in 3 months, which led to delayed payment of salaries of their staff due to low inadequate revenues. In addition, the county government undertook measures to ensure continuity in supply of water and sanitation services this including; providing support to the county residents by installing 19 water points in Kisii Central Business



District, installation of ed water points in low income areas, and waiver of water bills, settling of electricity bills for the Mohr water company and, re-allocation of the county budget to ensure there is adequate water supply. The County also purchased water buzzers to circulate water in major towns and public places that are circulating and filling water where there are water points.

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

From the foregoing, there is need for urgent responses for addressing the social and economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in Kisii 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 horticulture support.

3.1 Boosting Private sector Activity

The private sector plays a critical role in the Kisii County economy in reducing poverty through income generating opportunities for the vulnerable households. From the KNBS 2016 survey, most of the private sector activities (46.4 per cent) are in the services sector with only 17 per cent in manufacturing. In terms of size, most of the enterprises in the County are in the micro category (89.8 per cent), 9 per cent are small, 1.1 per cent medium while 0.1 per cent are large enterprises. Since most firms are in the micro category, this implies that the informal sector tends to dominate the private sector in Kisii County.

Services sector activities include the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (46.4 per cent), accommodation and food services (10.5 per cent), financial and insurance activities (7.4 per cent), and arts, entertainment and recreation (5.8 per cent).

Covid-19 disrupted the operations of businesses and supply chains hence affecting demand and supply of most goods and services in the County. Overall, majority of the MSMEs (61.6 per cent) in Kisii County get their raw materials from their peer MSMEs and individual suppliers (24.2 per cent) within the County. Equally, they sell their products to individual consumers (91 per cent) within the county. This means that when some firms are adversely affected this tend to spread 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 though offered an opportunity to address the County's structural issues, for example, private sector development and collaboration and design new growth models such as industrial/manufacturing development and innovation and participation in national and global value chains in:

- (i) Agro - processing for value addition with important areas of focus include increase banana, coffee, tea, and potato production and processing, dairy production, tilapia and catfish farming and textiles.
- (ii) The textile and wearing apparel sectors can be enhanced to provide PPEs for use within the County and potentially for the export market.

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

- (i) County government in partnership with other institutions both from public and private spheres to facilitate development of adequate and well-equipped worksites with workshops, common user facilities, incubation centres and showrooms for artisans which is cluster informed and fully serviced.
- (ii) Emphasis will be laid on 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.
- (iii) Provide access to affordable renewable energy in collaboration with the national government and other stakeholders for sustainable development.
- (iv) Partnerships 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.

3.2 Policy, legislatives, and Institutional reforms

Kisii County has several county laws in place including for County Emergency Health Services, Persons with Disabilities Fund Act, County Youth and Women Empowerment Fund Act, Business Licensing, Public Participation, solid waste management, trade and markets and education.

The recovery strategy gives priority to:

- (i) Establish legal frameworks in supporting effective public health responses to infectious diseases informed by current developments in the health sector.



- (ii) Establish a framework for pandemic planning and emergency preparedness.
- (iii) 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

Kisii County is affected by a number of disasters ranging from fire outbreaks to collapse of buildings. The County has a County Disaster Management Act and a County Emergency Health Services Fund Act. However, the County has also been adversely affected by Covid-19, prompting the need to:

- (i) Work towards preventive action as a priority initiative, including improved regional capacity on surveillance and detection, infection control, containment and communication strategies as well as reviewing and reinforcing relevant laws.
- (ii) Take steps to ensure that border control, quarantining, surveillance and screening measures are designed to comprehensively address containment and infection issues while limiting the impact on trade in most goods and services.
- (iii) Prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are restricted to public health risks, and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade.
- (iv) Provide training to community leaders, responders to emergencies and volunteers, improve knowledge and capacity in disaster management.
- (v) Collaborate with regional health institutions, Organizations and agencies, municipalities and other organizations and persons in the planning and coordination of the provision, in the County, regionally and locally integrated emergency health services, urgent health services and ancillary health services.
- (vi) Collaborate with experts in the areas of public health and disaster risk management in the training of all health professionals within the County.

3.4 Enhancing ICT capacity for business continuity

The status of ICT access and use in the county is low, especially among households. Approximately 43.8 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 and the high cost of service and equipment are the leading reasons that the people of in the County don't have internet connection. The county used ICT to facilitate public participation for the budget process during the pandemic.



In the new normal driven 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 as follows:

- (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 34.3 per cent to 100 per cent in line with the global agenda for Universal Access to Mobile Telephony¹
- (ii) Adopt programmes to ensure ubiquitous access to reliable and affordable internet (internet everywhere) by applying aerial and satellite-based communication technologies.
- (iii) Focus on the balanced development of information infrastructure and technological innovation capabilities through development of ICT centers in collaboration with public primary and secondary schools.
- (iv) The IT personnel in public primary schools can be deployed to support the development of ICT competence and skills among the public.
- (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

According to May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey, 22.5 per cent of the county labour force worked at least for 1 hour for pay; 17.9 per cent had never worked, and 59.6 per cent worked in the informal sector. However, 7.0 per cent of employees did not attend to work due to COVID-19 with other 77.5 per cent of employees working without any pay. On average, workers in the County lost 13.5 hours per week due to COVID-19.

The County population aged 15-64 years (labour force) was estimated at 482,744 people of whom 450,445 were working and 32,299 were seeking work representing an unemployment rate of 6.7 per cent (Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019).

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



The average years of schooling was 8.5 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 0.61 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 0.61 this means the county lost about 38 per cent of her economic potential due to limited education and health. 25.5 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. The NHIF coverage was 44.4 per cent as compared to the average national level at 24.7 per cent while the number of children vaccinated was 82.2 per cent as compared to the average national level at 74.9 per cent. As a result of economic crisis, the NHIF coverage declined as most of county residents could not afford the monthly remittances, in addition most of people did not show up for immunizations due to fear of contracting COVID-19 hence there was a decline of vaccination rate in the county.

The economic crisis brought about by Covid-19 pandemic made private and informal sectors to lay off some of their workers. Several economic activities were disrupted due to social distance requirement. These includes the main economic activities in the county such as Tea and coffee harvesting as well as the mining of Tabaka soapstone. To gradually shifts from an emergency response to recovery, and building resilience, the county will address the risks in health and education prevailing in the County including implications of COVID-19; poverty and malnutrition; health, education, housing and unemployment.

On recovery and re-engineering strategies, the County will;

- (i) Build capacity of farmers on modern preservation methods to increase the value of agriculture products such as bananas. For this reason, modernize and expand Daraja Mbili open air market to create more business activities and employment.
- (ii) Create farmers' organizations to enable small scale farmers strengthen their connections with agricultural and food supply chains, generate more income from their products and achieve a fairer distribution of the added value.
- (iii) Promote investment and entrepreneurship through provision of loans, Kisii county will improve access to finance for small and medium enterprises through lending institutions. In addition, build capacity in areas related to marketing, operations, finance, and human resource development to enhance the chances of survival of SMEs.
- (iv) Create more employment opportunities through the development of pro employment policies; investment in education and training and skills development; and investments within the key sectors of agriculture, ICT and innovation. Offer internship to County youths who will be attached in every county office and private sector. This will equip them with the needed skills and experience.
- (v) Building workplace resilience to public health emergencies and outbreaks of infectious diseases in all Kisii sub-County. This will require modernization and equipping of medical centers such as Kisii level 5 hospitals and other 8 level 4 hospitals.



3.6 Supporting horticulture production

Kisii County is endowed with adequate rainfall, good agricultural land and favourable climatic conditions for agriculture, which accounts for the largest share of economic activity in the devolved unit. In 2017, agriculture accounted for Ksh. 53,633 Million amounting to 57.8 per cent of the county's GCP. About 67 per cent of households are engaged in crop farming. Top food crops in the county include maize, bananas, beans, kales, onions, millet and sorghum. Further, crops with high commercialization levels are French beans, carrots, sugarcane, tea and onions. Key permanent crops include avocado, tea and coffee. As the county faces high population density and dwindling farm sizes, it is critical that residents adopt new technologies and farming methods that are more suitable under the emerging realities.

Households are increasingly engaging in horticultural farming in the county. The horticulture sub-sector comprises fruits, vegetables and flowers. The county's value of fruits production in 2019 amounted to Ksh. 3.4 Billion. The area under fruits cultivation was 11,559 ha with a production of 258, 718 MT. Major fruits grown in the area include bananas, avocado, pineapples, pawpaw, purple passion fruits and groundnuts. At the same time, the value of vegetables production amounted to Ksh. 3.8 Billion. The area under vegetables cultivation was 6,208 ha with a production of 122,679 MT. Key vegetables include kales, cabbage, African nightshade, spider plant, tomato, leaf amaranth and cowpeas. The value of flower production in the county amounted to Ksh. 2.4 Million. Area under flower cultivation was 6 Ha with a production of 30 MT.

Measures that the county government has undertaken to promote horticulture in the county include setting up a greenhouse demonstration kit at Kisii Agricultural Training Centre (KATC) to train farmers on modern farming technologies; distribution of tissue culture banana suckers; construction of fruit processing plants; purchase and distribution of green houses to farmer groups. The outbreak of Covid-19 adversely affected export of horticulture products due to lockdowns and other restrictive measures in their main market in Western Europe and containment measures imposed in the country.

In the post Covid-19 socio-economic recovery plan the county will;

- (i) Invest in greenhouse technologies to boost horticulture production in Kisii County.
- (ii) Introduce varieties of horticultural crops are suited to optimize outputs in the county.
- (iii) Invest in irrigation technologies that could be critical in boosting horticulture produce in the county.
- (iv) Capacity building, training and extension services to farmers are necessary in encouraging the residents of Kisii county to take up interests in horticulture.
- (v) Diversification of international markets will be critical in reducing the risks of relying on European Union and UK markets.
- (vi) Establish additional markets in various sub-counties.





4 SUPPORT TO KEY SECTORS

4.1 Manufacturing

Manufacturing sector contributes 1.8 per cent to the Kisii Gross County Product (GCP). Manufacturing in Kisii County includes: food products (34.7 per cent), wearing apparel (27 per cent), furniture (21.8 per cent), and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (13.9 per cent). The key products useful in value addition and driving manufacturing include: coffee, tea, and potato production and processing, dairy production, tilapia and cat fish farming and textiles. Large industries driving manufacturing sector in the county are involved in processing of tea processing, coffee pulping confectioneries and water bottling. To spur manufacturing, the Kenya Industrial Estate through the Rural Industrial Development Centre (RIDC) programme established an industrial park at Daraja Mbili. In addition, the Constituency Industrial Development Centres (CIDCs) were constructed by the National Government through the Economic Stimulus programme. In that regard, manufacturing sector is important in supporting recovery of the economy of Kisii 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) Provide financial support for businesses and traders negatively affected by the effects of Covid-19. The County Government can for example, set an Emergency Fund, supported by development partners and other stakeholders. Which can be used to identify and support the most vulnerable businesses and entrepreneurs affected by Covid-19.
- (ii) The County will establish a Traders Cushion Fund to give financial support to SMEs to help them come back into operational. The County Government through the department of Trade and Industry has set aside KShs.150 Million in the FY 2020/21 to give soft loans to traders. More funds will be sourced from development partners in order to reach as many enterprise groups as possible.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) Establishments in the county to adopt to the new pandemic guidelines including rearranging floor plans to allow for social distancing.
- (v) The County will open new markets to decongest major markets in the County.
- (vi) Set up cottage industries involved in processing of hides and skins to tap into the huge potential in leather industry within the county.



- (vii) Operationalize the Constituency Industrial Development Centres by equipping them requisite equipment and infrastructure.

4.2 Agriculture and Livestock

Agriculture accounts for the largest share of economic activity in Kisii county. More than a half of county economic activity is driven by the agriculture sector. In 2017, agriculture accounted for KES 53,633 Million out of the total KES 92,866 Million Gross County Product (GCP) amounting to 57.8 per cent of the county's GCP.

About 67 per cent of the households produce crops, 48 per cent produce livestock, 0.26 per cent practice aquaculture and about 0.35 per cent are involved in fishing. About 0.96 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, Kisii 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 particularly in tea, milk, vegetables, bananas, sugarcane, pineapples. In addition, the county has opportunities in construction of abattoirs and construction of milk, meat and leather processing plants.
- (ii) Build the capacity of farmers in adoption of Modern Farming Technologies and Practices among farmers and adopt sustainable land management practices to minimize environmental degradation.
- (iii) Enhance a vibrant commercial agricultural sector in the county by linking farmers to domestic and international product markets beyond the county level across the agricultural value chain. This can be achieved through promotion of cooperative and producer associations.
- (iv) In addition to agro-processing, provision of storage and cooling facilities particularly at collection points to minimize spoilage and post-harvest losses.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) Access to quality and affordable inputs including certified seeds, water, animal feeds, Artificial Insemination (AI) services, fertilizers and livestock vaccination services.
- (vii) Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions and crop and livestock disease surveillance at the county level equipped with relevant technical specialists and finances to effectively prepare, respond and prevent risks. There is also need for the county to 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 transport sectors. In particular, transportation of agricultural produce during wet seasons has been a major barrier in accessing markets and ferrying produce, such as tea, to the factories. This results to increased post-harvest losses and reduced farmers/producers output prices.

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. According to May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey, majority (71.7 per cent) had access to water and soap while 97.6 per cent of the households did not have a designated handwashing facility in their households.

There is low access to piped water which stands at 10 per cent in urban areas and less than 3 per cent in both rural and peri-urban areas. Further, low access to piped sewer with only 6 per cent of urban households flushing to piped sewer while less than 3 per cent of rural and peri urban households have access to piped sewer. Sharing of a toilet facility with other households is common at 25.3 per cent rural, 50.6 per cent urban 40.7 per cent peri urban.

The county 2018-2022 CIDP intended to achieve the following under WASH, irrigation, environment conservation and management. a) Increase water access from the current 30 per cent to 50 per cent by 2022, this will be achieved through and to protect catchment areas to enhance water and environmental resources

The recovery strategy recommends the following strategies for implementation:

- (i) Increase water supply in households, institutions and public places through drilling of boreholes in all the sub-counties.
- (ii) The county to increase water storage capacity to store harvested water during rainy seasons.
- (iii) Upscale abstraction of water from rivers, spring protections, harvesting of rainwater from roof and other catchments to help achieve increase to water access.
- (iv) Introduce automated billing software to help curb the increasing value of non-revenue water.
- (v) Establish water supply monitoring system for efficiency water supply and management.



- (vi) Expand and rehabilitate the existing piped water connection infrastructure to help increase access to water.
- (vii) Expand sewer infrastructure to accommodate more households.
- (viii) Build toilets in communities, schools, health centres, marketplaces and other public places to help increase access to safe sanitation.
- (ix) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct WASH facilities to increase access at the household level.

4.4 Transport

The county has a total of 3,125.19 Kilometers of classified road network. Approximately 49.2 per cent of the paved road network is in good condition, 42.3 per cent in fair condition and 5.7 per cent in poor condition. While 17.9 per cent of the unpaved road network is in good condition, 49.1 per cent in fair condition and 32.5 per cent in poor condition.

The main means of transport used in the County PSV matatus at 32.8 per cent followed by bicycle motorbike 29.0 per cent, private vehicle 15.9 per cent, boda boda 14.1 per cent, and own bicycle 3.9 per cent. On average, resident travel 1.03 Kilometer to their workplace which is within the threshold for Non-Motorized transport. Over 81.6 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) 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 policy².
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Improve and expand infrastructure for Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) in urban areas and along roads with heavy -highspeed traffic to promote sustainable mobility options and enhance road safety for all road users. This is in line with the Integrated National Transport Policy 2009 and the Sustainable Development Goals³.
- (iv) Adopt climate smart road engineering designs to safeguard road and bridge infrastructure from floods and to harvest storm water for irrigation and productive use. Use the Kenya Urban Support Programme funding to build storm water management systems in urban areas.

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

3. Sustainable Mobility for All: <https://sum4all.org/implementing-sdgs>



- (v) Apply performance Based Contracting for road development and maintenance.
- (vi) Sensitize PSV and boda boda operators on COVID-19 prevention measures and assist vehicle owners in retrofitting the seating designs.

4.5 Urban Development and Housing

The county has challenges in quality of the housing stock. Approximately 37.9 per cent of houses are constructed using finished materials for walls, floor and roofing, compared to 62.1 per cent constructed using rudimentary materials. With regard to primary energy source for cooking, 85.1 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) 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. Provide low cost housing as identified in the CIDP.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Identify and designate urban centers for upgrade pursuant to provisions of the Urban Areas and Cities (amendment) Act, 2019.
- (iv) Formulate and seek approval of urban development plans and development control policies to support investment and development of urban areas.
- (v) Adopt programmes aimed at an increasing household access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking to mitigate against exposure to respiratory diseases.

4.6 Tourism

Kisii County has unique physical attraction sites including *Ngoro ya Mwaga* in Manga Hole (a hole believed to be a habitation of natural spirits). Tourists visiting the site are encouraged to carry some firewood which they throw into the hole; if smoke blows from the hole, then it is a sign of acceptance. In addition, Kegochi, Kionganyo, Igoma, Keboi, Sakawa hills among others can be used for hiking activities. There are no registered game parks in the County, but there are some geological sites such as Nyangweta, Ritumbe and Ibencho forests that offer good tourist sites. Wild animals found in these forests include: - porcupines; monkeys; snakes and various species of birds. In addition to the attraction sites, the County is a gateway to Masai Mara in Narok and Ruma Park in Homa Bay counties. With regard to cultural and heritage tourism,



there is no museum in the County; however, various cultural and heritage sites exist but have not been gazetted. These include; Mosochi caves in Chitago Borabu; Sakawa stool in Marani; Manga escarpment and Gusii cultural centre. There is need to establish a museum which will help to preserve and promote the Omogusii culture. Kisii County is also famous for soapstone carvings.

The county has 228.4 hectares of ungazetted forests, which provide opportunity for ecotourism investments. The county has potential for sports tourism. Permanent rivers like Gucha can be used for fishing activities while waterfalls at Keera in Chitago Borabu can be used for sporting activities if well exploited. However, the above sites are underutilized since they are not developed. They require infrastructural improvement in order to improve their accessibility and value.

Kisii County has two star-rated hotels (a two-star and a three star) with a total of 132 rooms and 158 beds. Two other leading hotels have a total bed capacity of 195. Investment in constructing more hotels is needed in order to increase capacity and also provide conferencing facilities which are currently being outsourced from other Counties. The accommodation and food services contribute only 0.3 per cent of total GCP, implying there is need to invest more in the hospitality sector, including conferencing facilities.

In terms of linkage with other sectors, the county is well endowed with facilities like: financial institutions; shopping malls; medical; hospitality; security and transport. There is a good road network in the County coupled with its proximity to Kisumu International Airport and Homabay airstrip making it very accessible by both road and air from the main towns in western Kenya.

To support in re-engineering the tourism sector the county will:

- (i) Development of a county tourism sector masterplan; mapping and documentation of various Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).
- (ii) Enhance branding and Marketing of Tourism Products; promotion of indigenous nutrition and traditional culinary (traditional foods); promotion of creative industries and performing arts.
- (iii) Protection and preserve the tourist attraction, culture and heritage sites; promotion and Preservation of Traditional medical practice and Herbal medicines; preservation and development of visual art and artifacts (material culture); Ekegusii language preservation through media and elders.
- (iv) Investment in physical tourism infrastructure (construction of cultural centre and cultural halls, construction of information centres and libraries, construction of social halls, establishment of a Museum and galleries, modern M.I.C.E centre).
- (v) Identification of Heroes and Heroines.



- (vi) Improvement of sanitation standards in tourist accommodation and attraction sites to combat pandemics.

4.7 Health

In the consideration on areas of interest for re-engineering the health sector, Kisii county had put lot of effort to strengthen primary and public health care. For instance, Kisii county established a coronavirus isolation centre at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital (KTRH) with the number of isolation beds in the hospital at 310. In addition, the county prioritized public health management through enhancement of latrine coverage, solid and liquid waste management.

However, the county faced some drawbacks in fight against the Covid-19 mostly because the county had inadequate health personnel and inadequate testing facilities. The doctor to patient ratio stood at 1:7,000 against the recommended World Health Organization (WHO) of 1:230. The population is served by 32 community Health Units, 84 Dispensaries, 28 Health Centres and 14 Hospitals. On staffing, the county has 41 Doctors and 504 Nurses. There is one level five; fourteen level four; twenty-eight level three; and, ninety-one level 2 hospitals, and twenty-four clinics spread across the nine Sub-Counties managed by the County.

The health sector will invest in health systems, including in the health workforce, capacity building of community health workers and the medical officers on COVID 19, Social dialogue is also essential to build resilient health systems, and therefore has a critical role both in crisis response and in building a future that is prepared for health emergencies.

Specifically, the County will;

- (i) Revamp, expand, modernize and equip health facilities, including the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital. Also, prioritize on construction of Health Facilities/KMTC College to bring healthcare services closer to Mwananchi as envisioned in CIDP 2018-2022.
- (ii) Enhance construction of water schemes. The county has estimated 1.1 per cent of households relate to piped water and only 4.0 per cent households are connected to either sewer line or septic tanks. The county will construct new water schemes, expand distribution lines and sewer lines to promote enough water supply to county residents.
- (iii) Promote construction of infectious disease wings in all level 4 hospitals, each sub-county will have infectious disease wing with adequate beds, equipment and enough medical staff.
- (iv) Proactively address the mental health needs including those of the health workforce, mental illnesses from depression, especially in response to shut-downs, economic downturns, uncustomary care and burial of affected relatives.



- (v) Implement a comprehensive human resource health management system including undertaking training needs assessments and information system to ensure skilled and motivated health care workers and equitable deployment.
- (vi) Recruit additional public health officers and community health workers to strengthen preventive and primary health systems.
- (vii) Promote and support public and community health including the installation of hand washing facilities in homes and institutions such as schools, workplaces and health care facilities with Kisii County.

4.8 Education

Kisii county has 701 public ECDE centres and 378 registered private ECDE centres in the County with a pupil enrolment of 124,991, representing 98.6 per cent net enrolment rate. There are 705 public Primary Schools and 376 private primary Schools in the County with a total of 321,082 pupils, representing a 99.2 per cent enrolment rate. The enrollment in the Primary Schools is dependent on the transition of pupils from Pre-School to Primary Education. The county also has 350 Public and 21 Private Secondary Schools with a student population of 114,166 in the County staffed with 3,940 teachers giving a teacher/student ratio of 1:48. There are two National Schools within the County namely: Kisii High School and Nyabururu Girls High School. The dropout rate in Secondary education is at 6 per cent in relation to an enrollment rate of 81.5 per cent. There are 49 youth polytechnics with a total population of 3,882 trainees. The County has one Public University (Kisii University); three public University campuses (University of Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, and Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology); and, one private university (Mount Kenya University). Additionally, there exists one National Polytechnic (Kisii National Polytechnic); two Technical Training Institutes (Keroka and Kisii South); two Teachers Training College (Kenyatta and Nyabururu) and numerous private colleges offering diploma and certificate courses.

Of the total County population 1.2million persons(48.3 per cent) are of school going age and hence were affected by closure of schools due to Covid-19.To address the effects of COVID 19, the county will 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.

The recovery strategies are;

- (i) Promote construction of additional classrooms and workshops in Early Years Education and VTCs, this will enable them to keep social distancing while learning. The County with support from stakeholders will continue to invest in early childhood development through infrastructural development to allow for adequate social distancing when schools reopen; deployment of ECDE teachers and provision of sanitation facilities.



- (ii) The County Government as well as the National Government will work under close collaboration to reduce the dropout rates from Preschool as well as increasing retention and transition rates between the two levels of learning.
- (iii) Going forward youth polytechnics will specialize in specific programmes and develop into centres of excellence in skills development. In addition, TVET capacities will be enhanced to enable the institutions produce PPEs and sanitizers.
- (iv) In partnership with national and county governments, the county will prioritize projects that improve school water, internet coverage and ICT infrastructure, sanitation and hygiene facilities and management in order to reduce future effect of similar or related outbreak.
- (v) 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 is being dropped out of school due to COVID-19 emergency.
- (vi) Provide financial or in-kind support, such as school feeding, to help vulnerable families overcome the effects of Covid-19 and also provide psychosocial support to teachers, not teaching staff and learners, through virtual platforms using communities of learning models.
- (vii) Promote remedial/catch up lessons for all learners and facilitate utilization of ICT platforms and have a depository of teaching and learning materials that learners could use at their own time both at school and at home.

4.9 Social Protection

Kisii County has an estimated number of 36,355 PWDs (3.3 per cent) and 4.5 per cent older persons aged 65 years and above of which 56.3 per cent are females. The number of registered Orphans and Vulnerable Children currently stands at 1,500 according to the Department of Gender and Social Services. Nyaribari, Masaba has the highest number of households registered with OVCs and Bomachoge Chache has the least number. Street children are estimated at 500 in the County and most of them are in Kisii Town, most of whom are below 18 years. This calls for establishment of rehabilitation centres across the County to address the plight of vulnerable children. Most of the childcare facilities are either privately owned or under the management of the Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs). Collaborations with these institutions will be enhanced to take care of children's welfare. There are five major social net programmes in the County namely run by either the National or County governments; Youth Enterprise Fund, Uwezo Fund, Youth Fund, Disability Fund and Affirmative Fund.

The recovery strategies are;

- (i) Promote the Universal Healthcare Programme (UHC), to support the vulnerable households and register them with NHIF to help them access affordable health services.



- (ii) Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters; including implications of Covid-19.
- (iii) Establish a supportive framework of policies and programmes across economic and social sectors that addresses the needs of social protection recipients. There is need, though to enhance the cash transfer programme to ensure that the needs of the registered vulnerable children are taken care of.
- (iv) Ensure basic income security, for persons whose jobs or livelihoods have been disrupted by the crisis, also coordinate social protection programmes and strengthen linkages across various social protection stakeholders.
- (v) Protect vulnerable groups in the population from health costs by enhancing NHIF coverage; improving knowledge of the existing insurance schemes to improve uptake; and subsidizing NHIF premiums for targeted vulnerable populations.

4.10 Gender and Youth

Due to social distancing and curfew hours, GBV victims had limited contact with family and friends who would act as the first contact persons during violence. Survivors also experienced challenges accessing healthcare services, counseling Services and access shelters. These challenges underscore the need for deliberate measures at the county level to prevent and support GBV survivors in times of emergencies as experienced with the pandemic.

Towards this, Kisii county will we take the following measures:

- (i) Launch hotlines/helplines using toll-free calls and SMS numbers for gender-based violence victims. This will assist GBV victims access support and guidance to include psycho-social support, counselling and health care.
- (ii) Establish platforms for Tele Counselors to offer virtual counseling services to affected persons during emergencies/pandemics to mitigate the effects of the high levels of stress and anxiety associated with such emergencies.
- (iii) Online sensitization and GBV education as a preventive measure on the prevalence of GBV during emergencies periods. The county governments will identify GBV champions to serve as change agents, changing harmful attitudes and behavior in communities that lead to GBV.
- (iv) Lastly, designate gender safe spaces to provide accommodation GBV survivors.



4.11 Environment and natural resources management

The county has 10 non-gazetted forests covering a total area of 201.5 ha. They include Nyangweta, Ritumbe and Ndonyo forests in South Mogirango Sub-County; Keboye Hills in Bonchari Sub-County; Sameta and Nyacheke Hills in Bobasi Sub-County; Igorera and Ibencho Hills in Bomachoge Borabu Sub-County; Taracha Hills in Nyaribari Chache Sub-County; Sombogo Hill in Kitutu Chache North Sub-County; and, Emborogo Forest in Nyaribari Masaba Sub-County. The forests are the major water catchment areas for the county and neighboring counties. Efforts to conserve environment are hampered by encroachment on forest land and logging.

The major sources of energy for cooking used by households are firewood at 81.5 per cent, charcoal 10.1 per cent, liquified gas at 5.3 per cent. This has a negative effect on environment management and conservation. Further, majority of the households in the county dispose their solid waste in the compound at 62.4 per cent, 7.4 per cent dispose in the streets or open field/plot. 20.0 per cent burn in the open and 7.04 per cent dispose by burying it. 0.2 per cent is collected by the county government for disposal, 0.2 per cent is collected by private company for disposal. Currently, 12.6 per cent of households have experienced droughts or floods in the past 5 years that has adversely affected their farming activities.

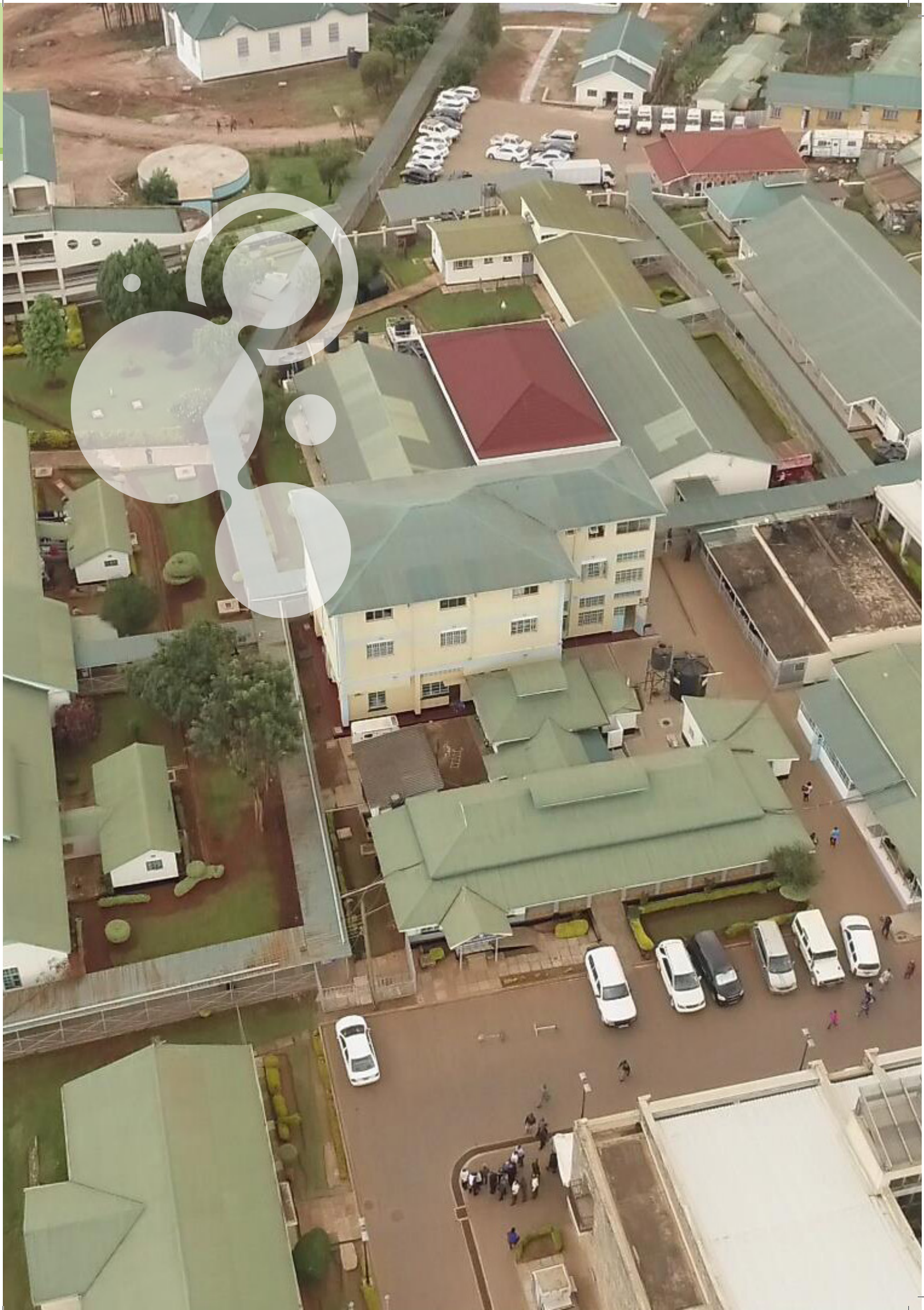
To mitigate these environmental risks, the County has put in place measures to mainstream environmental and climate change in County planning and budgeting processes with aim of strengthening disaster risk mitigation measures and reducing damages caused by natural hazards like floods and droughts.

Additional strategies to enable County to recover from effects of COVID 19 include;

- (i) Provide and promote alternative sources of clean energy for cooking.
- (ii) Develop natural resources utilization policy.
- (iii) Establish and promote community forest associations (CFA) to help in forest conservation.
- (iv) Promote afforestation in the affected areas by provision of tree seedlings to communities.
- (v) Provide capacity building of communities around forest lands on Sustainable Forest Management.
- (vi) Enforce the environment management and conservation policies.
- (vii) Impose total ban on wetland cultivation and logging.
- (viii) Develop land use management and monitoring systems.



- (ix) Provide waste collection services at households.
- (x) Increase solid waste collection and disposal.
- (xi) Promote and facilitate regular waste collection, environment clean up exercises at neighborhoods and in towns.
- (xii) Develop and implement County Solid Waste Management Strategy.
- (xiii) Cushion households from the adverse effects of droughts by having a disaster management framework.





5 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM (ESP)

5.1 Economic stimulus Package

To re-engineer and put the economy of Kisii 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.

5.3 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.





6 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE ESP

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 with focus on the evaluation principles of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

The County COVID-19 re-engineering and recovery strategies reporting will be informed by annual work plans. All implementing departments in respective counties 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.



8 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Communication⁴, 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 Development⁵ (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 channels⁶ 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 Kisii County residents received information about coronavirus through radio (84 per cent), television (57 per cent) and friends and family (46 per cent). The survey was not specific whether mobile included both written (short text messages <SMS>) and voice (calls) but 32 per cent of Kisii County residents received coronavirus information through mobile. Social media, Government sources and newspapers frequencies were all closely recorded at 28 per cent, 24 per cent and 21 per cent respectively. 12 per cent of Kisii County respondents received information via a Health Care Worker while 2 per cent from a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) worker.

Consequently, the following channels of communication will 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 are the channels of communication.

4. <https://books.google.co.ke/books?id=QVnnHUSAL7cC&printsec=frontcover&dq=creating+understanding+what+is+communication&hl>

5. https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_2017_Report_on_Communication_for_Development_C4D.pdf

6. <https://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/oi/authority>

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.

Notes:

- 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.

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.



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

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: (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
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	15	15	30	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
County Expenditure Reforms; Pending Bills	Re-engineer expenditure to be growth oriented and people-centred	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-centred and focussed 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 and National Governments; development partners	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 and National Governments; development partners	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 and National Governments; development partners	County Government

**COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING
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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/ Department
	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		30	30	60	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		10	10	20	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		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/ Department
	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;		10	10	20	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	20	20	40	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	15	15	30	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 sold	continuous	10	10	20	National Government; County Government; Donor Agencies	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		20	20	40	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		30	30	60	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
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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/ Department
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		30	30	60	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	Knowledge management of NMT infrastructure in good and fair condition	6 months	20	20	40	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	15	15	30	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		5	5	10	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 and National Governments; development partners	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		10	10	20	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	10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	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	5	5	10	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/ Department
		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
	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 Kisii 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		50	50	100	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			5	5	10	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	5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners; Kenya Tourism Fund	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/ Department
		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	5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners; Kenya Tourism Fund	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		50	50	100	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		30	30	60	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		20	20	40	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		10	10	20	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		10	10	20	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		5	5	10	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		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/ Department
		Train teachers on how to instruct remotely	Improvement in teaching skills	Number of teachers trained	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruitment of ECDE teachers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of ECDE teachers recruited	2 years		20	20	40	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	2	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		10	10	20	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	2	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		40	40	80	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		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	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		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

**COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING
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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/ Department
	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 and National 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		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Grand Total					836	836	1662		

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS



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Council of Governors, Delta Corner, Tower A
2nd Floor, Off Waiyaki Way | P. O. Box 40401 - 00100 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 (020) 2403313/4 | Cel: +254 (0) 729 777 281
Email: info@cog.go.ke | Website: <http://www.cog.go.ke>