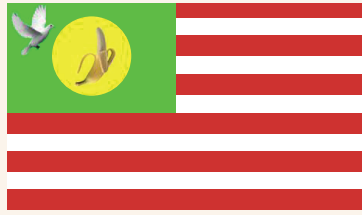


NYAMIRA COUNTY

COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING RECOVERY STRATEGY

2020/21-2022/23





NYAMIRA 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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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

Nyamira County is one of the counties in the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB). The county has an estimated population of 605,576 people of which 48.0 per cent are male and 51.9 per cent female (KNBS, 2019) as indicated in table 1. Of the population 17,549 (3.3 per cent) are persons with disabilities. The youth constituted 33.0 per cent of the population of whom 55.0 per cent were female. The county has a population density of 673 per km². About 92.2 per cent of the population live in rural areas of whom 52.2 per cent are female. The elderly population (65year-and above) make up 5.0 per cent of the total population of whom 54.7 per cent were female. The population in school going age group (4-22 years) was 47.0 per cent in 2019.

In 2015/2016, the overall poverty rate in Nyamira County was 33.0 per cent against the national poverty rate of 36.1 per cent. In addition, 37.1 per cent of the population were living in food poverty and 73.4 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 2014, 25.5 per cent of the children were stunted as compared to the average national level at 26.1 per cent.

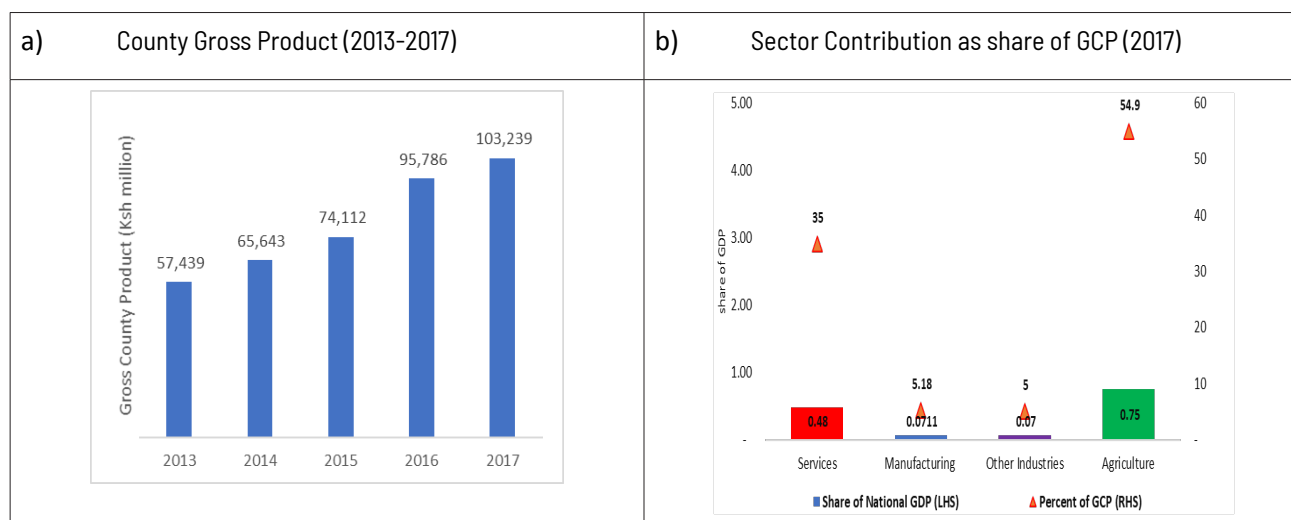
Table 1: Development indicators in Nyamira County		
	County	National
Estimated County Population (KNBS, 2019)	605,576	1.1% of total population
Males	290,907	48.0%
Females	314,656	51.9%
Intersex	13	0.002%
Estimated Population Density (km ²)	673	82
Persons with disability	3.3%	2.2
Population living in rural areas (%)	92.2%	68.8%
School going age (4-22 years) (%)	47.0%	68.7%
Youth (%)	33.0%	36.1%
Elderly population (over 65-year-old)	5.0%	3.9%
Number of Covid-19 cases (as at 11th September 2020) (MOH); National cases were 35,232 people	21	0.063% Of the national cases
Poverty (2015/2016) (%)	33.0%	36.1%
Food Poverty (2015/2016) (%)	37.1%	31.9%
Multidimensional Poverty (2015/2016) (%)	73.4%	56.1%
Stunted children (KDHS 2014)	25.5%	26%
Gross County Product (Ksh Million)	103,239(2017)	1.4 % Share to total GDP (2017)
Average growth of Nominal GCP/GDP (2013-2017) (%)	15.9%	15.3 %

Data Source: KNBS (2019)



Nyamira County Gross County Product (GCP) accounted for 1.4 per cent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as at 2017 as reported in figure 1. The GCP increased from Ksh. 57,439 million in 2013 to Ksh. 103,239 million in 2017 representing an annual average growth rate of 15.9 per cent. The agriculture sector contributes 54.9 per cent of GCP while services manufacturing and other industries sector share constituted 35.0 per cent, 5.18 per cent and 5.0 per cent, respectively. The services sector includes such activities as wholesale and retail trade. Agriculture is mainly dominated by crop farming activities while industries and manufacturing include small scale production of consumer goods such as plastics, furniture and textiles; food processing.

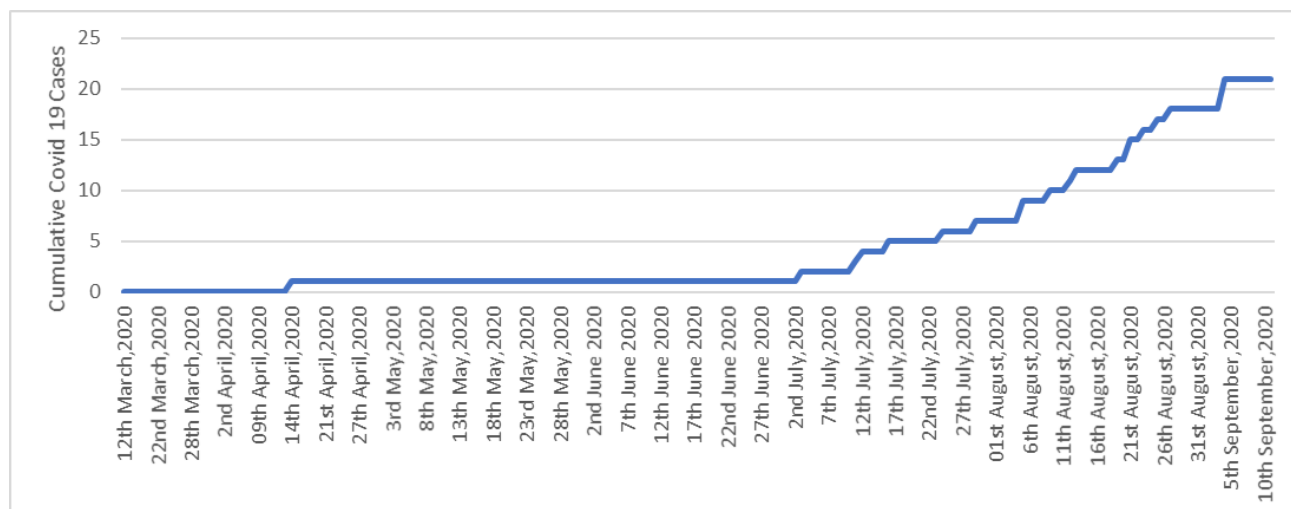
Figure 1: Structure of the County Economy, 2013-2017



Data Source: KNBS (2019)

The County first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on 14TH April 2020. Since then the number of confirmed cases increased to 21 in 11th September 2020 (MOH, 2020) as indicated in figure 2.

Figure 2: Cumulative number of Covid-19 Cases (March-September, 2020)



Data Source: MOH



1.2 County Fiscal Position

Nyamira county expected to receive a total of Ksh. 7.0 billion in FY 2019/20 as revenue to finance its operations. This comprised mainly of Ksh. 4.8 billion (68.7%) as equitable share, Ksh. 786.5 million (11.2 %) conditional grant, Ksh. 250.0 million (3.6%) generated from own source revenue (OSR) and Ksh. 1.2 billion (16.5%) as cash balance from FY 2018/19.

During FY 2019/20, the County received a total Ksh. 6.3 billion which accounted for 89.8 per cent of the expected revenue. This comprised of Ksh. 4.4 billion equitable shares, Ksh. 553.7 million as conditional grants, Ksh. 1.2 billion as cash balance from FY 2018/19 and generated Ksh. 185.6 million from OSR. Following the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the county's revenue streams were adversely affected as the county undertook various measures to curb the pandemic as well as to cushion the traders. Nevertheless, the county registered improved OSR performance in FY 2019/20, with a 12.2 per cent increase as compared to Ksh. 165.4 million realized in FY 2018/19.

At the beginning of FY 2019/20 the County budgeted to spend a total of Ksh. 7,002.0 million consisting of Ksh. 5,045.5 million allocation for recurrent expenditure and Ksh. 1,956.5 million for development expenditure. Of the recurrent expenditure, Ksh. 3,161.0 million was meant for compensation of employees while Ksh. 1,884.5 million was set aside for operations and maintenance. The County's actual total expenditure during FY 2019/20 amounted to Ksh. 5,772.2 million. Recurrent expenditures (personal emoluments and operations & maintenance) accounted for 79.2 per cent of the total spending, with development expenditure accounting for only 20.8 per cent. This translating to absorption rate at 82.4 per cent for the overall budget, 90.6 per cent recurrent expenditure and 61.5 per cent development expenditure. Health sector expenditure accounted for 30.9 per cent of total spending with an overall absorption rate of 94.1 per cent. Absorption rate for health sector recurrent expenditure stood at 94.8 per cent while that for development expenditure stood at 87.9 per cent. At the end of FY 2019/20, the county accumulated pending bills amounting to Ksh. 51.1 million consisting of Ksh. 20.2 million and Ksh. 30.9 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, Nyamira County undertook varied measures to control the spread and treat the confirmed cases.

The County established the County COVID-19 Emergency Response Committee, co-chaired by the County Governor and the County commissioner. Nyamira County government also established emergency response committees at subcounty level.

The County re-allocated its budget. During the second supplementary budget 2019/20, the County freed some resources to finance the County COVID-19 Response Fund. The county government set aside Ksh. 110.0 million emergency fund regulated by emergency fund regulations which was passed by the county assembly. These funds were utilized in COVID-19 response.



The County prepared for treatment of confirmed cases. Nyamira County has designated various centers with a total of 337 beds as isolation centers. These are Nyamira County Referral Hospital isolation wing (22 beds), Nyamira County Referral Hospital ICU (5 beds), Bombangi Health Center (5 beds), Kioge Health facility in Nyamira North Sub-county (25 beds), Igena Itambe Health Facility in Nyamira South Sub-County (60 beds), Nyakegogi Health Facility (20 beds), Nyamira Boys High School (for isolation) has been equipped with 200 beds. In a bid to support the county's preparedness in the fight against the novel COVID-19, the County Government received Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) from various private sector institutions such as the Equity Group Foundation. These included disposable gowns, surgical masks, N95 respiratory masks, hair covers, shoe covers and gumboots.

The county government enhanced screening of people in and out of the county. Screening points were set up at the county's borders including Mwongori along Kericho-Keroka highway, Ikonge along Kericho-Nyamira highway, Miruka along Homa Bay-Nyamira highway, Birongo along Kisii-Keroka highway and Chabera along Kisumu-Chepilat highway.

Local production of face masks. The County through Department of Education and Vocational Training trained 36 instructors from various vocational training centers in the County on production of face masks at the Kisii National Polytechnic to spear head the mass production of the said masks. 34 vocational training centers in the County were mandated produce 10,000 face masks per day to be distributed to community members more so the vulnerable.

The County undertook to enhance access to water for hand washing. This involved distribution of water tanks, water and soaps at points of entry, marketplaces and areas that are frequently visited by the public, offices, business premises, and banks, and scaled up fumigation of strategic points in the health facilities and public spaces.

The County rolled out an awareness campaign. More than 1,000 trained community health volunteers were instrumental in teaching the public and residents of the county on preventive measures and demonstration of hand-washing techniques. The health workers were also trained on case definition in preparedness to counter the COVID-19 disease in relation to screening, sensitization and surveillance.

County enhanced social protection for the vulnerable groups. County government distributed face masks and over 6,000 litres of alcohol-based hand sanitizers to boda-boda operators, the elderly and pregnant women. In collaboration with private sector and Non-government organizations, food items were also distributed to the vulnerable groups composed of the blind, the aged, the deaf, the physically challenged, orphans and other needy cases. Support was received from various institutions among them Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Nyamira Chapter, Corner shop, Boflos, Robsons, Mogeni Tea Factory, One Acre Fund, World Vision, Kisii University, the Catholic Medical Missionary Board and Adventist Development Relief Agency. Furthermore, in collaboration with national government administration, area chief, the sub county administrators identified vulnerable people and made efficient disbursement of the weekly national cash transfers.





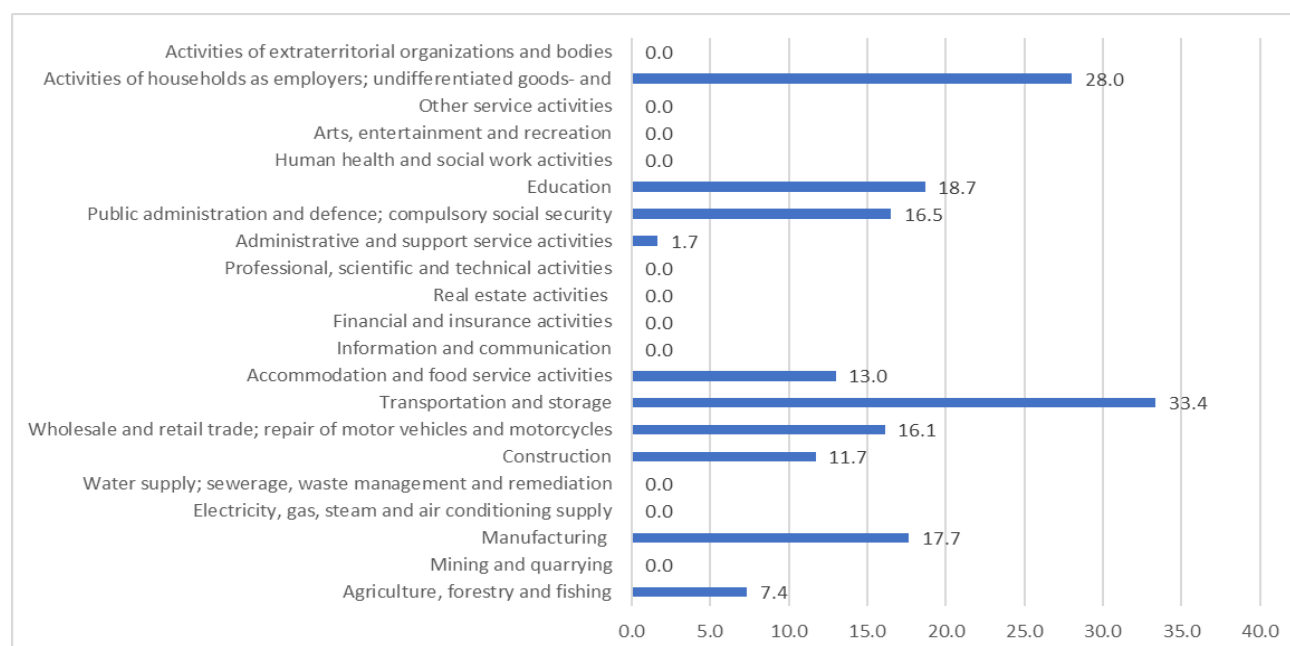
2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECT OF COVID-19

As the country was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, other shocks in the county included: Floods, Mudslides and landslides.

a) *Labor participation*

The emergence of COVID-19 affected various sectors of the county economy including employment and income sources. Trade services were considerably affected after the county government imposed mandatory COVID-19 screening at Ikonge - Kericho, Sotik - Keroka, Miruka - Nyamira and Kisii - Nyamira roads. This reduced the number of people entering and leaving the county hence affecting most of services. The end results were loss of livelihoods among the people in trading sector such as banana businesses, tea, coffee, pyrethrum, dairy farming and brick making. According to the, according to May 2020 COVID_19 Survey, the Transportation and storage sector reported the highest level of loss of hours worked (33.4 hours) followed by activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods which lost 28 hours (figure 3). Education and manufacturing lost a total of 18.7 hours and 17.7 hours per week, respectively. Workers in public administration and defence; compulsory social security and wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycle recorded on average loss of 16.5 hours and 16.1 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 during the Covid-19 period.

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



Data source: KNBS 2020

Workers in the business sector were given unpaid leave due to reduced activities at workplace following the implementation of Covid-19 containment measures. Large per centage of people working in bars, hotels, market centers, transport sector and some companies were either retrenched, given compulsory



leave or dismissed. Public sector was not spared as many offices in the county had restricted number of people while other remained closed. The County Assembly of Nyamira suspended its sittings for 21 days after a member of staff tested positive for Covid-19. All county meetings were held virtually to avoid further infections. About 13.0 per cent of employees did not attend to work with other 82.4 per cent of the employees required to work without a pay. About 49 per cent of the workers reported decrease in income due to the COVID-19 while only 1.0 per cent of people reported to have experienced increased income. The least affected sectors in terms of loss in working hours were those offering essential services such as water, electricity and financial sector.

b) **Agricultural sector**

The May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 survey found that 22 per cent of the households in Nyamira 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 (59 per cent), concerned about leaving the house due to outbreak (15.8 per cent) and movement restrictions (12 per cent). A key concern is that the food groups affected most are the nutritious food categories - fruits - which are necessary for boosting the immune system of the population.

Further, with restrictions affecting seamless movement of food commodities, 67 per cent of households in Nyamira county indicated having experienced an increase in food prices. From the KIHBS 2015/16 32.5 per cent of households purchase food products from open-air markets, 21.1 from kiosks, and 12.6 per cent from general shops. Additionally, 48.2 per cent of the total valued consumed is from purchases, 27.9 per cent from own production, 16.7 per cent from own stock and 7.4 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, as a result of closure of markets and other businesses, has had a negative impact on trade, leading to loss of income among produce farmers and traders.

Further, is a decline in labor participation. An assessment of the Covid-19 effects on hours worked in agriculture related occupations indicates food processing and related trades workers recorded the highest difference of 21 hours between the usual and actual hours worked in a week. Other affected sub-categories include: - agricultural, fishery and related labourers (10 hours difference); subsistence agricultural and fishery workers (2 hours difference); and farm workers (6 hours difference).

c) **Services sector**

The tourism sector in the county was affected negatively by the Covid-19 pandemic. In Quarter 2 of 2020 restaurants and hotels were closed and there were major job and revenue losses. The county is working towards ensuring measures for re-opening of the hospitality sub-sector are adhered to. Other challenges facing the sector include encroachment of land set aside for development of tourist sites; and lack of demarcation of the tourist sites; and lack of tourist-class hotels.

The education sector was disrupted following closure of all schools which led to loss to learning and teaching time. Although almost all schools had access to the digital literacy programme, undertaking online classes in the county was limited since about 92 per cent of the households did not have internet access.



In addition, according to the Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHS), 2019, only 3.7 per cent of the county households had access to at least a desktop computer/laptop or tablet. Therefore, conducting online classes would leave the other 96.3 per cent of the school age population uncovered while leading to learning inequities, and disproportionately, affecting children from poor, disadvantaged, and vulnerable background. The school feeding programmes in ECDE and primary schools were discontinued after the closure of schools in March 2020. This exposing malnutrition to learners from poor background who depend on the programme. However, the instituted COVID-19 containment measures especially public health interventions on wearing face masks, water, sanitation and hygiene (washing hands and sanitation) contributed to reduction in common diseases such as diarrhea and common cold in the county.

d) **MSMEs sector**

Majority of MSMEs in Nyamira County operate in the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (56.6 per cent); manufacturing (16.7 per cent); and accommodation and food services (10.6 per cent). Ideally, these are the sectors that have been worst hit by the pandemic and need to be prioritised in order to achieve reengineering and recovery.

MSMEs in Nyamira County are mainly located in commercial premises (82.1 per cent). This means that the businesses in the County could be facing challenges in meeting their rental obligations due income disruptions occasioned by Covid-19. According to the May 2020 KNBS Covid_19 survey 85.9 per cent per cent of the non-farm businesses attributed non-payment of household rental obligations to reduced incomes/earnings while 14.1 per cent attributed the same to temporary layoffs/closure of businesses. For those involved in farm businesses, 57.8 per cent attributed the same to temporary layoffs/closure of businesses while 42.2 per cent were affected by reduced incomes/earnings. In addition, the wholesale and retail trade sector lost 16.1 hours in usual and actual hours worked while accommodation and food services lost 13 hours in a week. This is an indicator of the adverse effects on the service sector of Nyamira County due to the pandemic which could imply loss of productivity, output and employment and output. The manufacturing sector was most affected losing 17.7 hours.

Regarding access to markets, about 0.3 per cent of the MSMEs in the County depend on export markets, while only a few (0.1 per cent) import their material inputs. Hence, disruptions in the external markets affect MSMEs operations in Nyamira County.

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 transport increase by 42.6 per cent. Residents responded by changing their travel patterns with 23.7 per cent of the population traveling less often, while 5.0 per cent were unable to travel due to the pandemic.

Nyamira County Headquarters Nyamira town is currently connected to the National Optic Fibre Backbone (NOFBI) II. Approximately 91.4 per cent of public primary schools are installed with ICT capacity under



Digital Literacy Programme. That said, only 7.3 per cent of the conventional households in the county 'own' internet with 3.7 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 (1.5 per cent). Further, there is a gender divide in use of internet where 18.9 per cent male and 13.2 per cent of the women using internet.

Majority of households (85.5 per cent) own the housing units they occupy while 14.5 per cent of the households under rental tenure. Individuals are the primary providers of rental housing at 84.5 per cent, followed by private companies (10 per cent); National Government (2.8 per cent); County Government (1.3 per cent); FBO/NGO/Church based housing at (0.7 per cent); and Parastatals (0.6 per cent). With the advent of COVID-19 pandemic households' ability to pay rent was affected, with 50.3 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 53.9 per cent of the population.

f) ***Gender and youth***

Nyamira County has a population distribution of more female (52 per cent) than male (48 per cent). The Kenya Health Information System (KHIS, 2020) reported 2,741 cases of teenage pregnancies between January and May 2020. While this is a drop from 3,390 cases compared to a similar period in 2019, there is need to ensure zero tolerance to such cases since they are associated with high rates of school dropouts, stigma, increased mental health concerns, postpartum depression and suicidal ideation. The May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 survey indicates that 28.6 per cent of the respondents in the County had witnessed or heard of any form of domestic violence. According to the HAK (2020), the county recorded 1 case of GBV in April 2020. Other challenges affecting the youth include unemployment and drug use, especially alcohol and substance abuse.

g) ***Water and Sanitation***

The county government incurred additional cost to ensure continuity in provision of water and sanitation services, this including, provision of water tanks in market centres to be used by the small scale traders, as well as sensitization to the small traders on Covid-19. Additionally, water companies 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 Nyamira County. This will help the County to recover and be on an upward growth trajectory. To this end, six (6) pillars have been identified: Boosting private sector activity; policy, legislation and institutional reforms; strengthening County government's preparedness and response to pandemic and disasters; enhancing ICT capacity for business continuity; human capital development; and exploiting urbanization potential in the County.

3.1 Boosting Private sector Activity

The private sector plays a critical role in the Nyamira County economy in reducing poverty through income generating opportunities for the vulnerable households. . According to the KNBS 2016 survey, most of the private sector activities (56.6 per cent) are in the services sector with only 16.7 per cent in manufacturing. In terms of size, most of the enterprises in the County are in the micro category (95.3 per cent), 4.2 per cent are small, 0.1 per cent medium while 0.3 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 Nyamira County.

Services sector activities include the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (56.6 per cent); accommodation and food services (10.6 per cent); among others. Covid-19 has disrupted the operations of businesses and supply chains hence affecting demand and supply of most goods and services in the County. In general, majority of the MSMEs (68.1 per cent) in Nyamira County get their raw materials from their peer MSMEs within the County. Equally, they sell their products to individual consumers (91.6 per cent), also within the County. This means that when some firms are adversely affected this tend to spread fast in 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 banana, maize and beans production and processing, tea, dairy farming, egg and broiler production, honey production, pyrethrum production.
- (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 will:

- (i) Strengthen the link between curricula and practical skill sets required in the industry in all learning institutions and centres for vocational training in Nyamira County.
- (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) Worksite and related infrastructure: Provision of machines and safety gear will be prioritized to improve the working environment of artisans within the county.
- (v) Enhancement and promotion of local manufacture of affordable tools and machinery for the MSEs including reverse engineering and mainstreaming the needs of PWDs in infrastructure support services will be considered.
- (vi) Enhance market access for private sector both locally and regionally by developing LREB regional bloc value chains, market diversification and facilitating greater use of ecommerce in shifting transactions to digital economy.

3.2 Policy, legislatives, and Institutional reforms

The County of Nyamira has a developed County legislative structure with laws governing agriculture, finance, education, healthcare, control of animal diseases, early childhood development education and physical planning. For example, the Nyamira County Healthcare Services Act, 2015 provides for the management of health facilities and funds and seeks to enable sustainable operations of health facilities. The County also has several bills such as the Nyamira County Wetlands Conservation and Prohibition of Destruction Bill, 2019 and the Nyamira County Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2019. Nonetheless, in the context of Covid-19 recovery, the County will:



- (i) Develop regulations to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the spread of infectious diseases and for public health emergencies.
- (ii) Create a legal infrastructure to allow emergency powers to be activated during all phases of the emergency from pre-event to recovery.
- (iii) Develop a framework for public participation and civic education and engagement within the County.
- (iv) Strengthen intergovernmental relations and coordination in implementation of government policies at national and county levels.

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

The County does not have a disaster risk management policy though it is prone to floods and landslides. In addition, the County was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, to strengthen the County's resilience to disasters and pandemics the County will:

- (i) Establish laws that detail the authoritative infrastructure of public health bodies that activate the public health system, competencies – qualification of experts in areas common to legislation and health preparedness, information – updating and publicizing health laws for content experts and healthcare workers and coordination between legal systems and within emergency response agencies.
- (ii) Inform and sensitize the public, through the media, using language that is cross-culturally accessible and understandable on matters concerning public health and prevention of the spread of Covid-19 and infectious diseases.
- (iii) Invest in strategies to ensure the early detection of outbreaks, effective communication to the public in the event of an outbreak, the promotion of research and development, strategies for containment, and multinational collaboration in implementing such strategies.
- (iv) Surveillance to be backed up with action and reinforced by sufficient laboratory capacity, well-trained personnel, and a legal framework consistent with objectives of transparency, global cooperation.
- (v) Invest in research through collaborations with research institutions such as International Livestock Research Institute and Kenya Medical Research Institute.
- (vi) Empower local communities to participate in disaster risk reduction through sensitizations, capacity building and training.



- (vii) Ensure that all medical personnel receive technical training on pandemics and infectious diseases.
- (viii) Provide technical training to relevant County staff to advance their knowledge, skills and understanding of disaster risk reduction and control of infectious diseases.

3.4 Enhancing ICT capacity for business continuity

The status of ICT access and use in the county is low, especially among households. Approximately 45.4 per cent of the population aged 3 years and above own a mobile phone which is lower than the national average of 47.3 per cent. The perception that individuals do not need to use the internet, lack of knowledge and skills on internet are the leading reasons that the people of in the County don't have internet connection. Other key factors include the lack of internet/network in the area, and the high cost of service and equipment. The County administration used ICT to facilitate public participation.

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 including:

- (i) Support programmes in partnership with the private sector that will enable households acquire ICT assets such as smart phones and laptops and increase mobile phone ownership from the low of 45.4 per cent to 100 per cent in line with the global agenda for Universal Access to Mobile Telephony¹
- (ii) Improve the laws and regulations related to information infrastructure, establish standards for the construction of information infrastructure integrated with road, water and electricity infrastructure planning and development, especially for terrestrial IT infrastructure.
- (iii) Adopt programmes to ensure ubiquitous access to reliable and affordable internet (internet everywhere) by applying aerial and satellite-based communication technologies.
- (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.

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



- (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, 17.6 per cent of the county labour force worked at least for 1 hour for pay; 82.4 per cent of employees worked without a pay. Further, 9.0 per cent had never worked, and 73.4 per cent worked in the informal sector. However, 13.0 per cent of employees were absent from work due to COVID-19 related activities. On average, workers in the County lost 13.7 hours per week due to COVID-19. Some employees in Nyamira county feared travelling to workplace using public means of transport due to the risk of contracting the virus in the “matatus” or public service vehicles (PSV).

The County population aged 15-64 years (labour force) was estimated at 249,210 people of whom 233,371 were working and 15,839 were seeking work representing an unemployment rate of 6.4 per cent (Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019).

The average years of schooling was 8.7 years out of the target of at least 12 years if entire population was to attain basic education up to complete secondary education (KIHBS 2015/16). Human development index was 0.48 compared to 0.52 at national level and maximum of 1. The HDI at county level measures extent to which the counties can mobilize the economic and professional potential of the citizens. With the rating at 0.48 it means the county lost about 45 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. As a such, this perpetuates inequality across generations.

The NHIF coverage was 35.6 per cent as compared to the average national level at 24.7 per cent while the number of children vaccinated was 92.1 per cent as compared to the average national level at 74.9 per cent. The data indicates 7.9 per cent of the children had not been immunized against preventable diseases. As a result of economic crisis, the NHIF coverage declined as most of county residents could not afford the monthly remittances. In addition, the immunization rate was threatened because most of parents feared taking children to hospitals for vaccination.

The Covid-19 pandemic made private sector including the and informal enterprises to lay off some of their workers due to reduced economic activities. To gradually shift from an emergency response to recovery and building resilience in the labour market, it is important to build strong human capital, through continued improvement in health, education, and reducing unemployment rate.



The county will:

- (i) Improve access to finance for small and medium enterprises through lending institutions for sustained business.
- (ii) 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 agro-processing and innovation. This is possible by establishing partnership with training institutions such as Bigege Vocational Training center, Ekerubo, Kegwanda VTCs, among others.
- (iii) Liaise with humanitarian actors and development partners to consider the feasibility of establishing a common pool fund to finance a seasonal public works or employment guarantee scheme and allocating more funds to small scale businesses.
- (iv) Strengthen the capacity of workers and the employers' organizations to enhance their knowledge base and understanding of the mechanism of setting minimum wages determination amidst COVID-19 pandemic. This will ensure that employees are not being dismissed without being given their dues as per labour laws.
- (v) Enhance universal health access to collectively financed health services for all, including uninsured workers and their families. Invest in Community and public health including community health workers, water, sanitation, immunization and public health.

3.6 Strengthening urbanization

The Nyamira County has a population of 605,576 persons. The County has a relatively high population density of 675/km², compared with the national average of 82/km², making a case for the County to focus on urbanization. This is further underscored by the National Spatial Plan (2015-2045) which defines the general trend and direction of spatial development for the country. It classifies Nyamira County as a region with a high potential for urbanization, as most of its areas are better developed with strong potential for development and also among the regions with relatively low levels of poverty of less than 50 per cent. Moreover, urban areas provide better access to education, medical services and other forms of social services.

To harness the urbanisation potential of the county the following intervention measures will be taken:

- (i) Create public private partnerships to provide services such as housing, road construction, and waste disposal management.
- (ii) Formulate, approve and implement Integrated Urban Development Plans for designated urban areas.
- (iii) Formulate a land development strategy that sets the urban growth limits to safeguard the high potential agricultural land.



- (iv) Formulate a strategy for local economic development (LED) to promote growth of the local economy through commerce and industry and for generation of employment and income.
- (v) Address the challenges of air pollution by, for instance, providing alternative transport systems and upgrading energy use to modern forms of clean energy.



4 SUPPORT TO KEY SECTORS

4.1 Manufacturing

Manufacturing sector contributes 5.2 per cent to the Nyamira Gross County Product (GCP). Manufacturing in Nyamira County include: food products (42.8 per cent), wearing apparel (32.2 per cent), furniture (16.2 per cent), and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (8.8 per cent). The key products useful in value addition and driving manufacturing include: banana, and maize and beans production and processing, tea, dairy farming, egg and broiler production, honey production, pyrethrum production. Large industries driving manufacturing sector in the county are involved in processing of tea (mostly multi-national companies). In that regard, manufacturing sector is important in supporting recovery of the economy of Nyamira County from the effects of Covid-19 pandemic.

This is especially due to its potential in revenue and employment generation.

- (i) Consider an emergency rescue package for businesses and traders hard-hit by the effects of Covid-19 in the short run. The emergency Fund, supported by development partners and other stakeholders, can be used to identify and support the most vulnerable businesses and entrepreneurs affected by Covid-19. Related, the County will inject some stimulus to cushion the businesses and traders through affordable credit; waiver of some County taxes, cess, and other charges.
- (ii) Covid-19 has increased demand for locally produced goods in the County, and especially Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), sanitisers, hospital beds and ventilators. It is an opportunity to spur innovation and promote manufacturing and industry development and generation of jobs for the youth.
- (iii) Adopt the new pandemic guidelines including rearranging floor plans to allow for social distancing and maintain high standards of hygiene through having hand washing facilities in manufacturing establishments.
- (iv) Develop regulation on tea hawking in order to protect the farmers from exploitation.

4.2 Agriculture and Livestock

Agriculture accounts for the largest share of economic activity in Nyamira county. More than a half of county economic activity is driven by the agriculture sector. In 2017, agriculture accounted for Ksh. 56,634 million out of the total Ksh. 103,329 million Gross County Product (GCP) amounting to 54.9 per cent of the county's GCP.

About 68 per cent of the households produce crops, 52.3 per cent produce livestock, 0.31 per cent practice aquaculture and about 0.34 per cent are involved in fishing. About 0.85 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, Nyamira County will adopt the following strategies:

- (i) Develop partnership with the National Government, NGOs, Development Partners, Research Institutions and the Private sector in enhancing agro-processing and value addition capacities of the county particularly in bananas, tea, avocado, milk and coffee production as envisioned in the national Agricultural Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS).
- (ii) Promote of poultry production and bee keeping (apiculture) among farming households particularly the youth in the county.
- (iii) To minimize spoilage and post-harvest losses, investments in storage and cooling facilities particularly at collection points.
- (iv) Digitize the agri-food sector to enhance: - training and building capacities of farming households in modern agricultural technologies, provision of advisory and information services, marketing agricultural produce at a wider scope beyond the county level, and improving access to innovative support services including credit and insurance services.
- (v) Enhance access to quality and affordable inputs including certified seeds, water, animal feeds, AI services, fertilizers, and livestock vaccination. This is can be achieved through cooperatives and farmers associations.
- (vi) Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions and livestock disease at the county level equipped with relevant technical specialists and finances to effectively prevent, 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.
- (vii) Organize sensitization programmes and enhance farmers ability to adopt sustainable land management practices to minimize environmental degradation.
- (viii) Establish county multisectoral committees to deal with cross-cutting issues such as marketing of agricultural produce that cuts across the trade, ICT and infrastructure sectors.
- (ix) Strengthen agricultural cooperatives through effective stakeholder engagement and implementation of interventions for more sustainable models of financing and customized training of cooperative members.

4.3 Water and Sanitation

Frequent and correct hand hygiene has been emphasized by WHO as one of the measures to curb transmission of Covid-19. This has placed a higher demand for water more so at the households, health



care facilities, marketplaces, public places and among essential services provides. Most households in the county have a higher access to improved sources of drinking water² in rural (79.7 per cent) urban (82.3 per cent) and peri urban (82.4 per cent). Despite this, access to piped water remain low in rural (6 per cent) and peri urban (0 per cent) compared to urban (56.9 per cent) areas. On the other hand, access to improved sanitation³ is also high among households both in rural (94.3 per cent) urban (98.8 per cent) and peri urban (86.6 per cent). Households access to piped sewer is low which stands at less than 1 per cent both in both in rural, urban and peri urban areas.

Furthermore, households sharing of a toilet facility with other households is common both in urban (70.7 per cent) compared to rural (28.4 per cent) and peri urban (20.9 per cent) (KNBS KIHBS 2015/2016). According to May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey, most households have had access to water and soap (68.4 per cent) for hand washing during this period of COVID-19 with a small proportion having access to both water, soap and hand sanitizer (30.9 per cent). (KNBS May 2020 COVID_19 Survey). In addition, most households do not have access to a handwashing facility in or near there facility both in rural (3.5 per cent) urban (3.1 per cent) and peri urban (0.6 per cent)

The recovery strategy recommends the following for implementation:

- (i) Expand and rehabilitate the existing piped water connection infrastructure to help increase access to water.
- (ii) Integrate public private partnerships arrangements to enhance water provision in the county. Increase access to water in households, schools, communities and institutions through drilling of boreholes and rainwater harvesting.
- (iii) Fast track protection of water catchment areas and fencing of water springs.
- (iv) Installation of solar water pumps for the boreholes drilled and pipeline extension. construct of dams across the county.
- (v) Installation of water harvesting tanks to public schools.
- (vi) Expand sewer infrastructure to accommodate more households.
- (vii) Build toilets in communities, schools, health centres, marketplaces and other public places to help increase access to safe sanitation.

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

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



(viii) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct WASH facilities around communities, schools and public places to increase access at the household level.

(ix) Inculcate a culture of handwashing in the county to help reduce infections arising from poor hygiene.

4.4 Transport

The county has a total of 1,697.70 Kilometers of classified road network. Approximately 59.0 per cent of the paved road network is in good condition, 36.6 per cent in fair condition and 0.1 per cent in poor condition. While 19.3 per cent of the unpaved road network is in good condition, 45.5 per cent fair and 28.6 per cent in poor condition.

The main means of transport used in the County is walking at 34.7 per cent, followed by PSV matatus at 26.1 per cent, motorbike 19.5 per cent, bicycle (boda boda) 8.8 per cent, and private car at 7.3 per cent. On average, resident travel 3.55 Kilometers to their workplace which is within the threshold for Non-Motorised transport. Over 74.1 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 policy⁴.
- (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 Goals⁵.
- (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.

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

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



4.5 Urban Development and Housing

The county has challenges in quality of the housing stock. Approximately 41.3 per cent of houses are constructed using finished materials for walls, floor and roofing, compared to 58.7 per cent constructed using rudimentary materials. With regard to primary energy source for cooking, 89.7 per cent of households rely on unclean sources of energy such as firewood, paraffin and charcoal, which could adversely affect respiratory health of women and children.

For re-engineering and recovery, the County will:

- (i) 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.
- (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

Nyamira County has notable tourist attractions that include physical attractions (Keera falls, Kiabonyoru viewpoint); cultural and heritage tourism; Agro-tourism (Nyamira is a major tea growing zone from which a huge population derives their livelihood in terms of direct income from tea sales and employment formally and informally; Medical tourism (visiting herbalists and traditional medicine men). The county has no main wildlife but there exists several other fauna and flora species. The wildlife has been displaced due to the high population. However, along the major rivers and few forests, some monkey, porcupine and various types of birds exist. In addition, the county has no wildlife conservation areas (game parks, reserves, conservancies, game ranches).

There are no star-rated hotel facilities in Nyamira County. The hotel industry in the county is yet to be modernized, hence many guests seek hospitality services from the neighbouring counties. However, at the moment we have 5 large hotels with capacity to be classified as one star with at total bed capacity of 133, and 126 other registered facilities spread across the county.



Currently the sites have not been harnessed to a level that the record of tourists can be established. However, the number can be estimated 500 per year. Hence the need to develop these sites through public and private partnership as added stream of revenue. Due to low prioritization of tourism development, the accommodation and food services sub-sector accounts for a paltry 0.4 per cent of Total GCP. In the 2013-2017 planning period, the county government allocated 2.1 per cent of the total budget of KSh. 16.5 Billion to tourism development; while in the 2018-2022 planning period, 5.2 per cent of the projected KSh. 42.4 Billion has been earmarked for the sector. In terms of linkage with other sectors, the hospitality sub-sector in the county benefits from local supplies especially fresh farm produce which is abundant in the county.

Re-engineering of the tourism sector will include:

- (i) Enforcing adherence to high sanitation standards in tourist establishments as a key component in ensuring business continuity.
- (ii) The tourism sector in Nyamira County requires a facelift in terms of product range and promotion.
- (iii) Tourism infrastructure development: development of a tourist sport resort centre at Manga ridge; infrastructure to protect tourist attraction sites; construction of modern hotels.
- (iv) Conduct tourism campaigns and marketing for increased revenue collection from the sector.
- (v) Encouraging investment in wildlife conservation.

4.7 Health

The Nyamira County has a total of 145 health care facilities up from 122 in 2013. The county has 97 public health facilities, 15 Faith Based, and 33 private facilities. The average distance to the nearest health facility has marginally reduced to 5km currently compared to 7km in 2013. The community health services face challenges with only 85 out of the 143 (59.4 per cent) anticipated Community Health Units required, only 11.7 per cent are functional due inadequate resources (DHIS2, 2017).

The total workforce serving the health sector is 1226 with 38 Medical Officers, 6 medical specialists, 17 pharmacists, 492 nurses and 3 dentists. Currently the doctors and Nurses ratios to patients are 1:11,906 and 1: 1,428 respectively against the WHO recommendation of Doctor/Nurse population ratio of 1:230.

The shortage is mainly caused by, among other factors, insufficient HRH financing, inequalities in distribution, low absorption rate of qualified HRH from training institutions especially nurses, clinical officers, laboratory technologists, public health officers and lack of an attractive retention scheme in rural and remote facilities.



As a way of responding to the pandemic, the county established two isolation centres one at Bombangi Dispensary with five beds and another one at Nyamira County Referral Hospital's isolation center with 17-bed centre and a five-bed intensive care unit. Nyamira is among counties in Nyanza that were clustered for utilization of the Kemri Nyamira lab as the county did not have the capacity to test for the virus.

Recovery strategies include:

- (i) Promote upgrading and equipping of health facilities through additional funding to health sector. This will enable the county to achieve the CIDP 2018-2022 goal of improving Service Delivery by Providing Supportive Functions for implementing Units Under the Health Services Department. Nyamira County referral hospital prioritize installation of more ICU beds and other equipment.
- (ii) Prepare and enroll high number of health officers to offer basic COVID 19 assistance all through a crisis, constraining direct mortality and maintaining eliminating infection levels. This will be possible paying and promoting health officers in good time to boost their morale. A good example is Bombangi Dispensary which lacks enough health personnel despite being an isolation center.
- (iii) Create and actualize multi-sectorial sanitation arrangements which incorporate sanitation safety planning, treatment of wastewater, and reuse in agriculture.
- (iv) 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 within Nyamira county.
- (v) Improve the health insurance and assistance system to cover infectious diseases.
- (vi) Create awareness on availability and importance of free maternity services and address other constraints to access of maternal health services in the county to address fear of contracting COVID19 in event of visiting health facility.
- (vii) The County needs to consistently allocate resources towards nutrition specific and sensitive programmes in the various sectors by establishing specific budget lines for nutrition support initiatives.

4.8 Education and training

Nyamira County has a total of 465 public and 295 private pre-school children centres with a total enrolment of 57,825 (Male-30,657; Females-27168) The county has a total of 1286 teachers and 8 coordinators. Through funds such as the CDF and LATF, new classes have been built, new schools established and old buildings in some schools have been rehabilitated. However, due to inadequate funding, most schools in



the county have poor infrastructure. The county has a total of 408 public and 154 private primary schools with enrolment of 131,953 pupils. (66074 Boys, 65879 Girls) with a total of 4142 teachers thus showing acute understaffing of teachers. Transition rate at this level is 85 per cent, gross enrolment of 67 per cent, net enrolment of 55 per cent, dropout rate of 15 per cent, teacher pupil ratio of 1:31, retention rate of 88.5 per cent and completion rate of 85 per cent. The county has 222 public and 7 private secondary schools with a total enrolment of students at 52,309 students and 2,106 teachers. The county urban centers (Nyamira and Keroka towns) have experienced the opening of satellite university campuses to meet the high demand for university education. The county has no fully fledged university. There are 3 public technical training institutions, no special teachers training institutions, 34 youth polytechnics and 8 accredited private colleges.

Some of the strategies once schools reopen include provision of WASH, PPEs, feeding programme in ECDE sections, ECDE capitation grants, capacity building of ECDE teachers and staff and parents on effects of COVID19 awareness, and establishment of ECDE teacher's college. For primary and secondary education, the county needs to increase primary and secondary enrollment rates. For TVETs, the main objective is to fill the gap in training at middle level and technical employees through improved construction of new centers and incorporation of modern infrastructure.

The recovery and re-engineering strategies are;

- (i) Collaborate with private providers and non-state actors such as faith-based organisations in provision of ECDE services while enforcing public health protocols in schools including provision of WASH and PPEs in the County.
- (ii) Deploy teacher assistants from teacher training colleges in the region to co-teach basic education classes; and ensure provision of internet and ICT support among households to support continued learning while out of school. This is possible by employing more ECD teachers and ensuring that the salaries paid match their work and skills.
- (iii) Promote monitoring and addressing psychosocial wellbeing of students, teachers and education officers as well as educating them on how to mitigate spread of coronavirus. This means that each school will have adequate thermal guards for monitoring pupils' temperatures.
- (iv) Integrate ICT into teaching and learning in the education sector- facilitate production of, Radios and online teaching and learning materials as well as extending the existing distance learning programmes to all rural areas. Local radio stations such as Egesa will be used to pass messages to the people.
- (v) Hosting different groups of learners at all levels in double track model where some learners continue learning when others are on holiday, is likely to be a cost-effective intervention towards managing small classes and ensuring social distance during the learning process in the short-term while recovering lost learning time.



- (vi) Collaborate with health authorities to establish the safety of school buildings and their surroundings before reopening; provide adequate water and sanitation facilities and enhanced school feeding programme; and promote monitoring psychosocial wellbeing of students, teachers and non-teaching staff as well as educating them on how to mitigate spread of coronavirus both within the learning environments and at community level.
- (vii) Construct more ECD classes to ensure that pupils are not overcrowded hence maintaining 1.5m social distance requirements.

4.9 Social Protection

The youth, elderly, women and other vulnerable members of society have been directly or indirectly affected by the pandemic. Upon opening of schools, the county will provide bursary funds with priority given to the vulnerable, e.g. poor, total orphans, and people with disabilities. In collaboration with national government administration, area chief, the sub county administrators have identified vulnerable people who could benefit from national disbursements of cash. The business community also assisted in provision of foodstuffs for old and elderly people.

In Nyamira the poverty levels are high and to address the issue the national Government has formulated a program of cash transfer to the vulnerable members of society. These transfers are to the old people, those above 70 years, vulnerable children, and people living with severe disability. However, this programmes are limited in coverage due to the limited resources; are weakly coordinated and need enhancement. The county government has set out some resources to address the vulnerable among the people living with disability.

The recovery strategies are:

- (i) Enroll more county residents in welfare programmes such as NHIF which will ease their access to health facilities when they fall sick.
- (ii) Construct children rescue center in Nyamira town where the street children can be rehabilitated and trained on technical skills.
- (iii) Give tax exemption for the SMES who have suffered losses in their business as result of Covid-19. County government will create a kit where they can collaborate with local banks in offering loans to the SMEs to restart and boost their businesses.
- (iv) The county in collaboration with the national government and other development partners shall address the issues above through various intervention including the implementation of the FGM Act, establishment of gender based violence recovery centres, expanding child protection centres, advocacy for more child friendly justice system, increase access to basic social services and improving data and information systems on child protection cases during the Covid 19 period.



- (v) Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.
- (vi) Expand scope and allocation of cash transfer programme especially among the elderly. This will cushion them against negative impacts of Covid 19.
- (vii) Protect vulnerable groups of the population from health costs by increasing coverage of the NHIF; improving knowledge of the existing insurance scheme (NHIF) to improve uptake; and subsidizing NHIF premiums for targeted populations.

4.10 Gender and Youth

Teenage pregnancies and gender-based violence are pertinent issues that affect the youth, women and boys and girls in Nyamira County. Evidence indicates 2,741 cases of teenage pregnancies were reported between January and May 2020 (KHIS, 2020) compounded by Covid-19.

To address this the county will:

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



4.11 Environment and natural resources management

The county has a potential forest conservation area of approximately 3641.52ha out of which, 1049.13 ha is gazetted and 2592.39 ha non-gazetted. About 177ha is under natural forest and 462 ha under forestry plantation. Efforts to conserve environment are hampered by deforestation along the riverbank, and human agricultural activities along riverbank.

The major sources of energy for cooking used by households are firewood (81.4 per cent), charcoal (10.1 per cent), liquified gas (5.3 per cent). Use of firewood and charcoal has a negative effect on environment management and conservation. Similarly, majority of the households in the county dispose their households solid waste by dumping in the compound (55.6 per cent), disposing in the streets or open field/plot (6.5 per cent) and burning in the open air (34.4 per cent). Additionally, a small proportion of households' solid waste is collected by the county government (0.6 per cent) for safe disposal. Further, 19.5 per cent of households have experienced droughts or floods in the past 5 years that has adversely affected their farming activities. Additionally a small proportion of households (0.9 per cent) have practiced irrigation farming in the past 12 months where the main source of water for irrigation is from the river (23.8 per cent), water from shallow wells (42.8 per cent) and water from springs (33.3 per cent).

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 Country to recover from effects of COVID 19 include;

- (i) Provide and promote alternative sources of clean energy for cooking such as solar energy and bio digesters.
- (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) Enforce the environment management and conservation policies.
- (vi) Impose total ban on wetland cultivation and logging.
- (vii) Develop land use management and monitoring systems.
- (viii) Provide waste collection services at households.



- (ix) Promote and facilitate regular waste collection, environment clean up exercises at neighborhoods and in towns.
- (x) Effectively implement the county Integrated Solid Waste Management System.
- (xi) Cushion households from the adverse effects of droughts or floods.
- (xii) Furthermore, the county heavily relies on rain fed agriculture for food production. To help realize full agricultural potential, the county will support agriculture through the development of irrigation infrastructure.
- (xiii) Similarly, the to develop and implement county irrigation strategy.





5 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM (ESP)

5.1 Economic stimulus Package

To re-engineer and put the economy of Nyamira 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 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.



6 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.



7 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Communication⁶, 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 Development⁷ (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 channels⁸ 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 Nyamira County respondents received information about coronavirus through radio (90 per cent), television (53 per cent) and friends and family (43 per cent). Government sources and mobile ensued closely at 29 per cent and 26 per cent respectively. The survey however did not specify whether mobile included both written (short text messages <SMS>) and voice (calls). Social media stood at 14 per cent, followed by newspaper, Health Care Worker and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) worker all under 6 per cent.

The following channels of communication will be utilized:

- (1) Written communication such as: posters, digital and online communications.
- (2) Verbal communication such as: radio, telephone, and face to face meetings.
- (3) Non-verbal communication for example: sign language.
- (4) Visual communication: Television and PowerPoint presentations.

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, below (table 2) are the channels of communication.

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

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

8. <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.

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 local & Kiswahili radio station
- Monthly SMS
- Quarterly I.E.C materials - Posters in reception areas and community gatherings (markets, mosques, churches, clinics, huduma centers)
- Monthly barazas



ANNEX

Implementation matrix/Action plan

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder
County Revenue Policy	OSR Enhancement; External grants	Lift the various waivers instituted on revenue streams; Seek for more funding from development partners inform of conditional grants	Increase in OSR and county revenues to enable smooth implementation of county projects.			Continuous from 2020/21	10	10	20	County Government	County Government
County Expenditure Reforms; Pending Bills	Re-engineer expenditure to be growth oriented and people-centered	Increase expenditure in health sectors and other non-administrative functions such as water, trade, ICT, education, agriculture while systematically reducing expenditure on non-administrative functions	County expenditure that is people-centered and focused on growth-creating sectors such as health, education, water, infrastructure, ICT etc			Continuous from 2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Reduce the approved budget-actual expenditure gap by fully implementing PFM recommendations and conducting annual expenditure reviews	County expenditure in line with existing National Government and County Government laws			Continuous from 2020/21				County Government	County Government
		Restructure county functional expenditure classification to encompass stand-alone emerging ICT functions	Fully fledged stand-alone ICT department with a budget			2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Eliminate pending bills	Systematically and in phase-out approach reduce pending bills owed to suppliers				Continuous				County Government	County Government
Agriculture	Diversification of production into fast-maturing vegetable crops through irrigation	Subsidies on fast-maturing vegetable seeds, expansion of area under sustainable irrigation	County residents eat more nutritious food	Increased number of farmers producing fast-maturing vegetables/ crops; Increased availability of nutritious vegetables/ crops in the county	Number of subsidized fast maturing seeds; Increased acreage under fast maturing crops; Acreage under sustainable irrigation		50.0	50.0	100.0	County Government	County Government



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

	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**



	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	10	10	20	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	6	6	12	County Government of Nandi, National Government,	County Government
Water and Sanitation	To increase access to clean water	To Develop and rehabilitate water infrastructure	No of water infrastructure developed and rehabilitated	Increased access to clean and safe water	% of the population with access to clean and safe water; % of population covered with piped water		30	30	60	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 RECOVERY STRATEGY 2020/21-2022/23

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	25	25	50	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 (LVSRR) 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 LVSRR		2	2	4	County Government	County Government
	To mitigate the damage caused by floods on roads and bridges	Implement green roads design to protect road infrastructure while controlling storm water and harvesting flood water for domestic and commercial use	Resilient road infrastructure that can withstand floods with controlled damage	Number of green roads projects and water harvesting infrastructure	Knowledge management of green roads and quantity of water harvested in cubic meters annually		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 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	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	County Government
		Community access to ICT infrastructure and services in public primary schools	Improved access to ICT infrastructure and services	Increase in number of household able to access ICT through community facilities	Proportion of household able to access ICT through community facilities		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



	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 Nyamira 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		40	40	80	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	County Government
		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	County Government



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

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
		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		50	50	100	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
	Mainstream occupational safety and health into the sectors of the economy	Train workers on safety and health	Increased control of COVID-19 transmission	No. of workers trained	1 years		5	5	10	County Governments; development partners	County Government
		Provide adequate personal protective equipment for employees	Reduced cases of COVID-19 in workplaces	Number of protective equipment provided	1 years		4	4	8	County Governments; development partners	County Government
		Grand Total					836	836	1662		

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS



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