

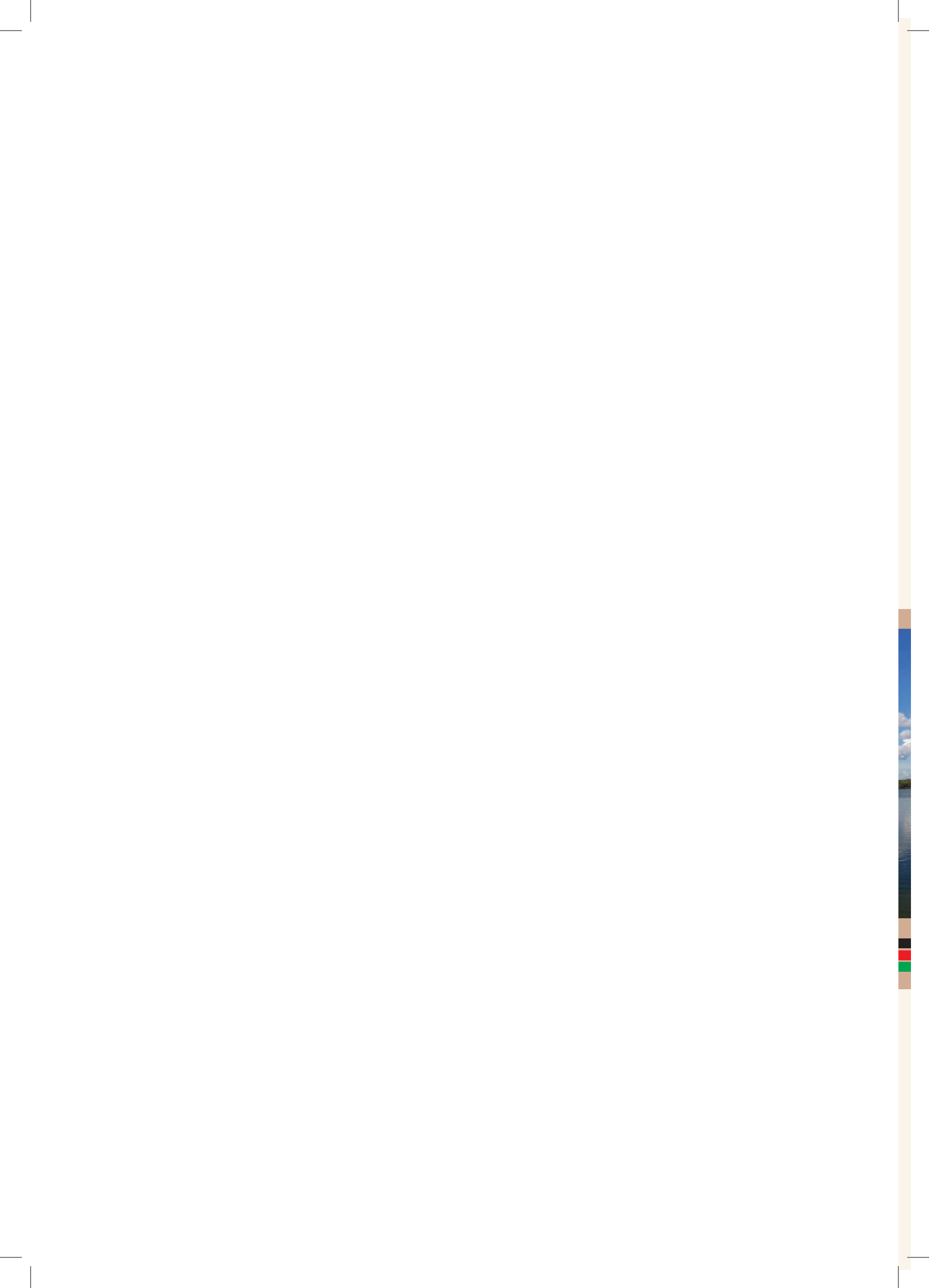
WAJIR COUNTY

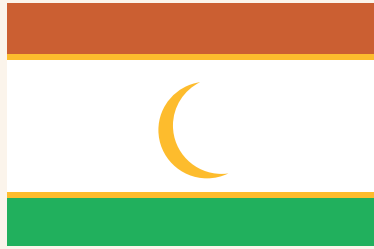
COVID-19 SOCIAL ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING RECOVERY STRATEGY

2020/21-2022/23



NOVEMBER 2020





WAJIR 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.

2) Water and sanitation

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

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

3) Urban development and housing

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

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



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

4) **Transport**

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

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

5) **Tourism**

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

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



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

6) **Health**

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

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

7) **Education**

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

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



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

8) **Social protection**

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

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



9) *Gender and youth*

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

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





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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 County Context

Wajir County is one of the counties in Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC). The county has an estimated population of 781,263 people of whom 53.1 per cent were male and 16.8 per cent female (KNBS, 2019) as indicated in table 1. Of the total population 3,793 or 0.6 per cent were persons with disabilities. The youth constituted 34.0 per cent of the population of whom 47.0 per cent were female. The County had a population density of 14 persons per km². About 77.3 per cent of the population live in rural areas of whom 46.9 per cent are female. The elderly population (over 65-year-old) made up 3.1 per cent of the total population of whom 51.9 per cent were female. The population in school going age group (4-22 years) was 51.2 per cent in 2019.

In 2015/2016, the overall poverty rate in Wajir County was 57.6 per cent against the national poverty rate of 36.1 per cent. In addition, 63.0 per cent of the population were living in food poverty and 43.8 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, 26.4 per cent of the children were stunted as compared to the average national level at 26.0 per cent.

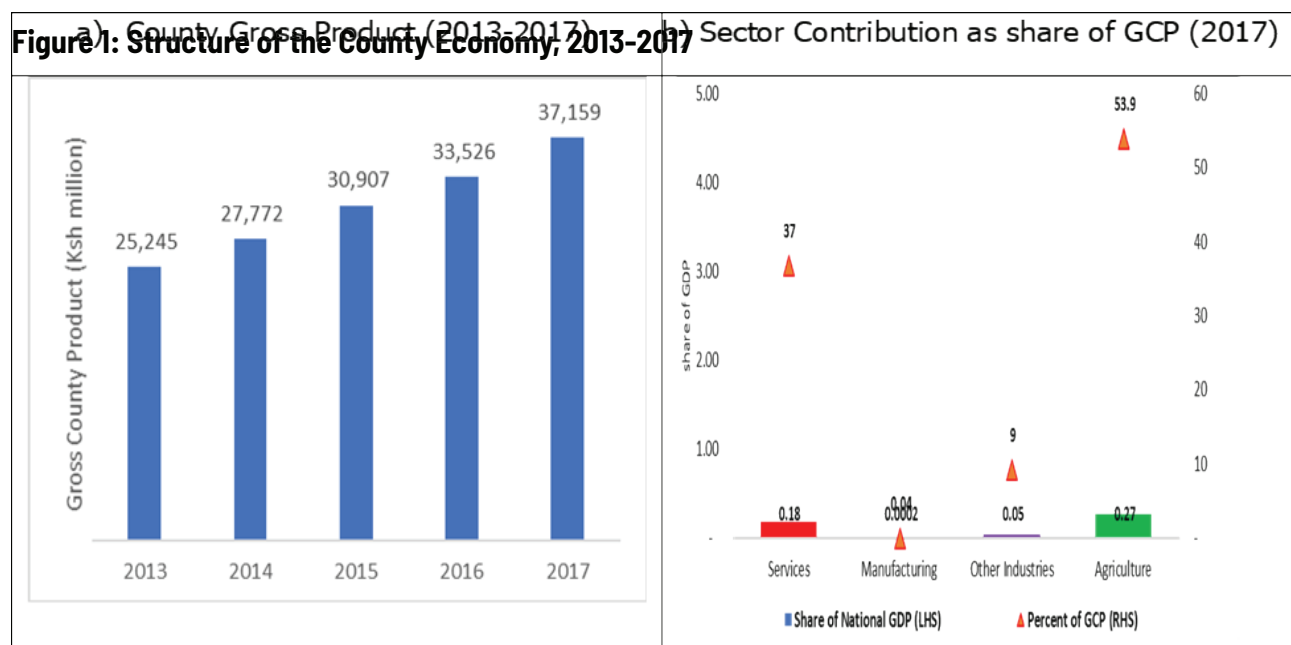
Table 1: Development indicators in Wajir County

	County	National
Estimated County Population (KNBS, 2019)		
Males	781,263	1.4% of the total population
Females	415,374	53.1%
Intersex	157,391	46.8%
	2	0.006%
Estimated Population Density (km ²)	14	82
Persons with disability	0.6%	2.2%
Population living in rural areas (%)	76.0%	68.8%
School going age (4-22 years) (%)	57.6%	68.7%
Youth (%)	34.0%	36.1%
Elderly population (over 65-year-old)	1.5%	3.9%
Number of Covid-19 cases (as at 11th September 2020) (MOH); National cases were 35,232 people	31	0.9% of the national cases
Poverty (2015/2016) (%)	63.0%	36.1%
Food Poverty (2015/2016) (%)	43.8%	31.9%
Multidimensional Poverty (2015/2016) (%)	61.0%	56.1%
Stunted children (KDHS 2014)	94.5%	26%
Gross County Product (Ksh Million)	37,159	0.5 % Share to total GDP (2017)
Average growth of Nominal GCP/GDP (2013-2017) (%)	11.7%	15.3 %

Data Source: KNBS (2019)



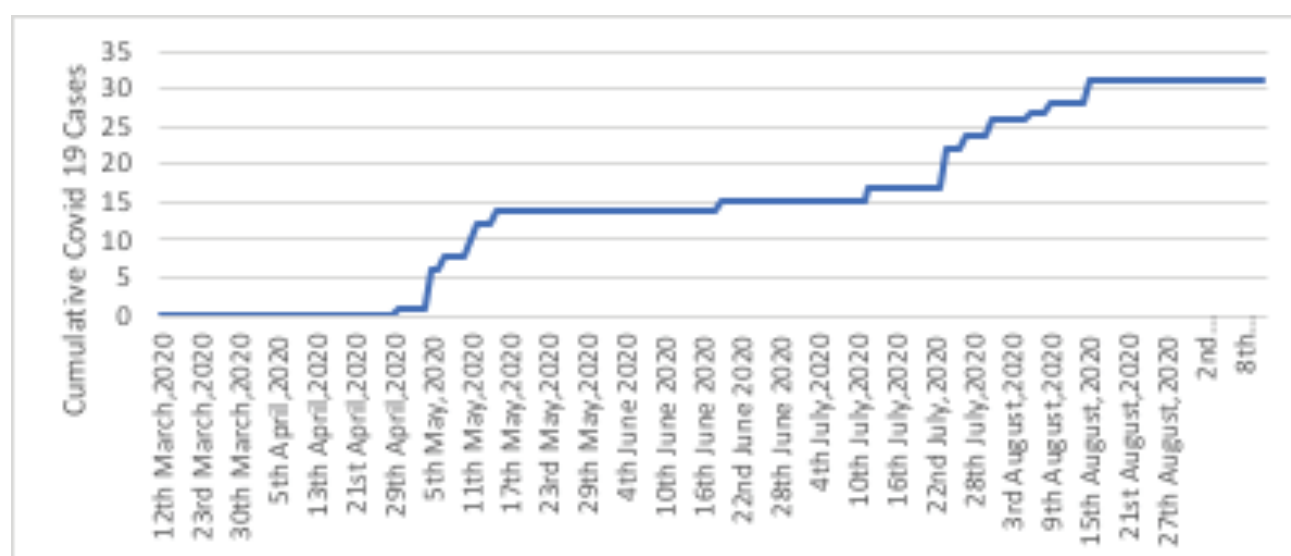
Wajir County Gross County Product (GCP) accounted for 0.5 per cent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as at 2017 as reported in figure 1. The GCP increased from Ksh.25,245 Million in 2013 to Ksh.37,159 million in 2017 representing an annual average growth rate of 11.3 per cent per year. The agriculture sector contributed 54.7 per cent of GCP while services and other industries sector shared constituted 38.0 per cent and 7.0 per cent, respectively. The services sector includes such activities as wholesale and retail trade. Agriculture is mainly dominated by livestock keeping and bee keeping while industries and manufacturing include production of consumer goods and food processing.



Data Source: KNBS (2019)

The County first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on 30th April 2020. Since then the number of confirmed cases increased to 31 in 11th September 2020 (MOH, 2020) as depicted in figure 2.

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



Data Source: MOH



1.2 County Fiscal position

Wajir county expected to receive a total of Ksh. 11.47 billion in FY 2019/20 as revenue to finance its operations. This comprised mainly of Ksh. 8.6 billion (74.5%) as equitable share, Ksh. 1.2 billion (10%) conditional grant, Ksh. 150 million (1.3%) from own sources of revenue (OSR) and Ksh. 1.6 billion (14.2%) as cash balance from FY 2018/19.

During FY 2019/20, the County received a total Ksh. 10.0 billion which accounted for 87.3 per cent of the expected revenues. However, with the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic, the county's revenue streams were affected though the impact was not significantly felt. During FY 2019/20, the county registered a 0.5 percent increase in OSR from Ksh. 60.12 million registered during the same period in FY 2018/19 to Ksh. 60.42 million.

At the beginning of FY 2019/20 the County budgeted to spend a total of Ksh. 11,468.3 million consisting of Ksh. 6,224.0 million allocation for recurrent expenditure and Ksh. 5,244.3 million for development expenditure. Of the recurrent expenditure, Ksh. 3,959.9 million was meant for compensation of employees while Ksh. 2,264.1 million was set aside for operations and maintenance. The County's actual total expenditure during FY 2019/20 amounted to Ksh. 9,615.3 million. Recurrent expenditures (personal emoluments and operations & maintenance) accounted for 63.7 per cent of the total spending, with development expenditure accounting for only 36.3 per cent. This translating to absorption rate of 83.8 per cent for overall budget, 98.4 per cent recurrent expenditure and 66.5 per cent development expenditure. Health sector expenditure accounted for 30.0 per cent of total spending with an overall absorption rate of 91.7 per cent. Absorption rate for health sector recurrent expenditure stood at 97.7 per cent while that for development expenditure stood at 54.7 per cent. At the end of FY 2019/20, the county accumulated pending bills amounting to Ksh. 1,833.3 million consisting of Ksh. 1,695.4 million and Ksh. 137.9 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, Wajir county undertook the following measures to fight the pandemic;

The County granted waivers to its residents following the outbreak of the pandemic. These included hospital charges, medical fees, markets fess and cess. The move was meant to cushion residents and traders during the pandemic. To avoid gatherings, the county closed all its livestock markets and other markets were closed.

The county passed a supplementary budget of Ksh 190 million and made budget reallocations to fund the most critical areas. The county reviewed its capacity building plans and reallocated money budgeted for it towards healthcare department. In addition, the county prepared a second supplementary budget of Ksh 38 million using the equitable share from the national government. These were occasioned by the fact that the county was not prepared in terms of budget provision for vulnerability arising from covid-19. Further, the county set aside an emergency fund of Ksh. 250 million to help fight the pandemic.



Health sector preparedness. The county government allocated Ksh. 194 million to the health sector to help fight covid-19 pandemic. Quarantine facilities and isolation centers were also established in all the sub-counties, with Wajir Girls high School being designated as the main isolation centre. Wajir referral hospital was identified as the regional testing centre and received support from the World Bank. To support its healthcare workers, the county government with the help of the National government trained its 160 workers. It also formed a multisectoral emergency response committee led by the Governor and the County Commissioner to assist in responding to issues pertaining the pandemic.

The county set aside Ksh. 60 million in the FY 2020/21 budget for provision of e-learning to support secondary students and for scholarships, orphans, children with disabilities and those from vulnerable families. Further, Ksh. 20 million was set aside towards community-based development projects in the wards including Ksh. 14 million for disability start-up funds. Since the county has 30 wards, the total amount used was Ksh. 600 million.

There was prioritization of payment of pending bills to suppliers in line with national government directive. The county cleared the FY 2017/18 pending bills but has pending bills estimated at Ksh. 2.0 billion for FY 2019/20. This measure was also taken to support their livelihoods.

There was budget provision and protective measures taken towards supporting local manufacturing and trade. To prevent covid-19 infections, awareness was raised among traders on protective measures. To decongest markets, traders were relocated to new market areas. For example, traders were moved from Soko Mjinga market to the New Soko Mjinga market which can accommodate up to 3,000 traders including having ample storage facilities. The county also provided running water, soaps and sanitizers at market entry points.

The county provided opportunities for improving the manufacturing, SMEs and trade sectors. There was support to youth and women groups to manufacture face masks. In addition, they were empowered by the county government to produce garments and clothes for import. The county also partnered with KIRDI to train county officials and locals on value addition for honey and intensive bee keeping.

The county assembly forgone many of its sittings and only had one special session in the wake of the pandemic. Public participation meetings were also put on hold. However, the county continued to document all its programs and activities on its website for public access. Currently, public participation is being done through brief sessions with key sector working groups. In addition, the county used local media stations to communicate to the people.





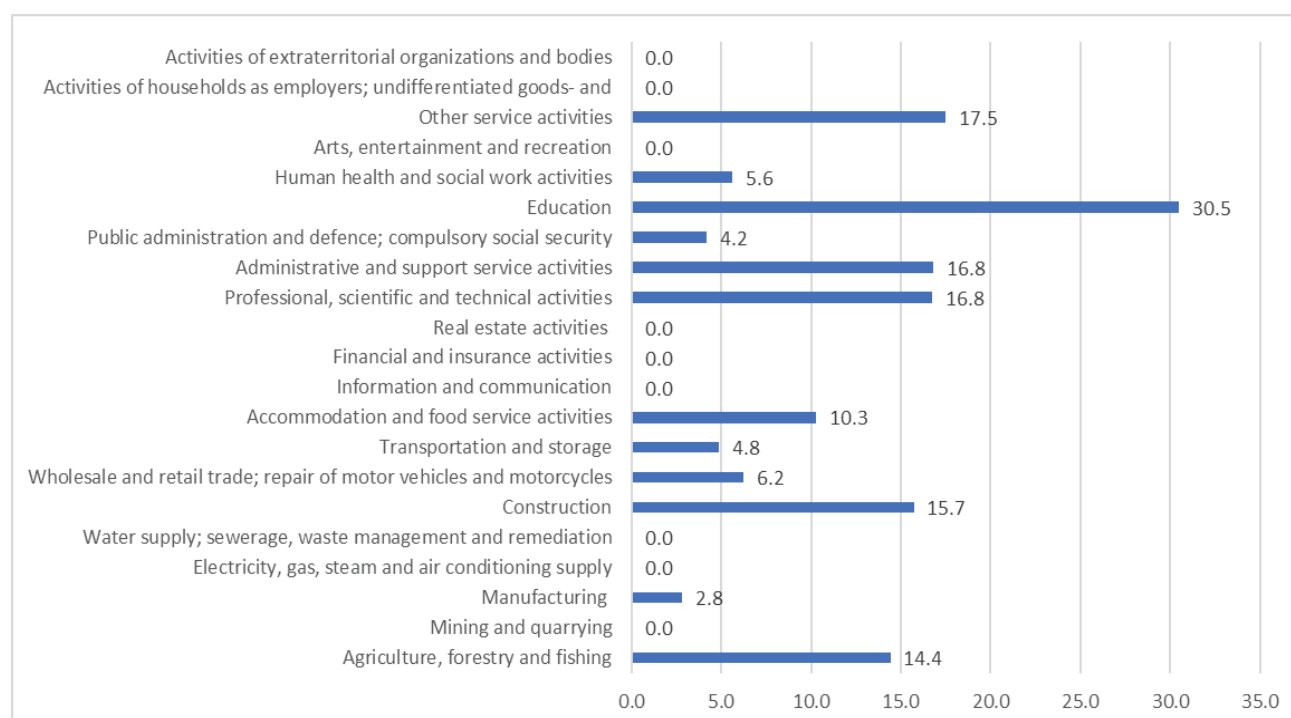
2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECT OF COVID-19

As the country was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, several other shocks hit the county as well including: Drought and Livestock Diseases.

a) Labour participation

According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey, education sector reported the highest level of loss of hours worked (30.5 hours) followed by workers in Other service activities which lost 17.5 hours (Figure 3). Workers in Administrative and support service activities and Professional, scientific and technical activities lost a total of 16.6 hours respectively. Workers in Construction and Agriculture, forestry and fishing recorded on average loss of 15.7 and 14.4 hours per week respectively.

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



Source: KNBS

Further, 37.0 per cent of workers in Wajir county recorded decreased income; 1.0 per cent reported increase in income; while 74.9 per cent recorded working as unpaid workers. The county recorded 69.9 per cent of workers in informal sector and 5.3 per cent never attended to work due to covid-19 related activities. In private sector schools, teachers and other workers lost their incomes. Some other businesses such as bars, hotels, market centres had totally closed, leading to reduced business activities. Some workers in the transport sector had also been rendered jobless due to restrictions of moving in and out of Nairobi and Mombasa counties. On average, county lost 12.1 hours worked in a week and the hours lost in economic base of the county like service sector and agriculture sector (14.4 hours) will negatively affect the county economy.



b) Agricultural sector

The May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey found that 23.4 per cent of the households in Wajir 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 (69 per cent) and movement restrictions (23.9 per cent). A key concern was the effect on nutritious food categories -fruits and vegetables -which are necessary for boosting the immune system of the population where 47 per cent households reported the two were not readily available in their locality.

Further, with restrictions affecting seamless movement of food commodities, 98.2 per cent of households in Wajir county indicated experiencing an increase in food prices. From the KIHBS 2015/16 21.9 per cent of households purchased food products from open-air markets, 73.6 per cent from kiosks, and 1.2 per cent from general shops. Additionally, 69.4 per cent of the total valued consumed was from purchases, 9.4 per cent from own production, 19.2 per cent from own stock and 1.5 per cent from gifts and other sources.

Agricultural sector in Wajir county mainly comprises of livestock keeping. Livestock trading is the main source of livelihood for pastoralists and traders in the county, and in turn their main source of disposable income. Closure of main livestock markets, movement restrictions and subsequent increased cost of transport limited the smooth movement of farm products and livestock trade to markets within and outside Wajir. In addition, the pandemic greatly affected disease surveillance efforts within the county thus exposing pastoralists and traders livelihoods to risks associated to livestock diseases. Further, receiving seedlings from other areas like Nairobi has been a challenge especially with the limited movement.

Further, was a decline in labor participation. An assessment of the Covid-19 effects on hours worked in agriculture related occupations indicates agricultural, fishery and related labourers and food processing and related trades workers recorded the highest difference of 21 hours each between the usual and actual hours worked in a week. Other affected sub categories include: - food and related products machine operators (14 hours difference); farm workers (9 hours difference); and administration middle level personnel-Lands, Agricultural and Livestock Officials (7 hours difference).

c) Services sector

The County of Wajir is endowed with plenty of wildlife spread across the county, cultural and physical attractions to leverage upon for tourism. However, the tourism sector is not organized or developed. The Covid-19 pandemic mainly disrupted local travel by domestic tourists. Full exploitation of wildlife resources is hampered by frequent human-wildlife conflict and lack of wildlife reserves and conservancies and management. There is a need to establish sanctuaries and conservancies as well as water structures.

The Covid-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on education system, mainly the loss of learning and teaching time. Due to higher proportion of digital divide in the county, remote learning process was not effectual, for some instances, only 1.4 per cent of households in Wajir county owns Desktop Computer/ Laptop/ Tablet and about 96.0 per cent of household have no access to internet connectivity (Kenya



Population and Housing Census (KPHS), 2019). In addition, the suspension of school feeding programs which had a consequence to the food security and nutritional status of many children, especially those from the marginalized area who used to depend on the programme, ultimately having adverse long-term effects on human capital in the County.

According to May 2020 KNBS COVID_19 Survey, most of county residents did not visit health facilities amidst the pandemic, this affected the revenue stream of the hospitals. Furthermore, some activities such as breast and cervical cancer screening were temporary stopped following the directives from WHO on the postponement of public screening.

The pandemic has also resulted into closure of stadiums and playgrounds; hence the county has not been actively participated in sporting activities leading to temporary stoppage of youth talent identification programmes in the county.

The instituted COVID 19 measures especially public health interventions on water, sanitation and hygiene (washing hands and sanitation). contributed to reduction in common diseases such as diarrhea and common cold.

d) Micro Small and Medium Enterprises sector

Majority of MSMEs in Wajir County operate in the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (57.5 per cent); education (25.8 per cent); construction (9.3 per cent); accommodation and food services (2.4 per cent); and manufacturing (1.5 per cent). Ideally, these are the sectors that have been affected most by the pandemic and need to be prioritised during reengineering and recovery.

The common premises used by MSMEs in the County are open market (51.3 per cent), market stall (17.7 per cent), commercial premises (15.6 per cent), building sites and road works (8.9 per cent). Since most businesses are not located in commercial premises in the County, it means most businesses in the County did not face difficulties in meeting their rental obligations due to income disruptions resulting from Covid-19 pandemic. According to the May 2020 KNBS Covid_19 survey 63.8 per cent of the non-farm businesses attributed non-payment of household rental obligations to temporary layoffs/closure of businesses, 31.9 per cent due to reduced incomes/earnings while 4.3 per cent attributed the same to temporary layoffs/closure of businesses. For those involved in farm businesses, 81.2 per cent attributed the same to temporary layoffs/closure of businesses, 9.4 per cent each were affected by permanent layoffs/closure of businesses and reduced incomes/earnings.

Further, wholesale and retail trade sector lost 6.2 hours in usual and actual hours worked while accommodation and food services lost 10.3 hours in a week. This is an indicator of the adverse effects on the service sector of Wajir County due to the pandemic which could imply loss of productivity, output and employment. Equally, the manufacturing sector lost 2.8 hours.



Regarding access to markets, none of the MSMEs in the County depend on export markets and 3.4 per cent import markets for their material inputs (KNBS 2016). Therefore, disruptions in the external markets could have adverse implications to MSMEs operations in Wajir County, and especially in sourcing for the inputs.

e) Infrastructure and housing

The transport sector measures instituted in response to the pandemic saw an increase in fares charged to cover the operating costs of service providers as well as affecting mobility options for commuters. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, passengers using public transport services saw expenditure on fares increase by 39.9 per cent. Residents responded by changing their travel patterns with 17.6 per cent of the population traveling less often, while 14.5 per cent were unable to travel due to the pandemic.

Wajir County Headquarters Wajir town is currently connected to the National Optic Fibre Backbone (NOFBI) II. Approximately 61.6 per cent of public primary schools are installed with ICT capacity under Digital Literacy Programme. Only 3.5 per cent of the conventional households in the county 'own' internet with 1.4 per cent owning a desktop, computer laptop or tablet. Further, only 1.1 per cent of the households participate in online e-commerce, with men participating more in online e-commerce (1.3 per cent) than women (0.9 per cent). Further, there is a gender divide in use of internet where 9.2 per cent male and 7.2 per cent of the women using internet.

Majority of households (94.9 per cent) own the housing units they occupy while 5.1 per cent of the households under rental tenure. Individuals are the primary providers of rental housing at 74.8 per cent, followed by private companies (6.4 per cent); National Government (10.3 per cent); County Government (6.2 per cent); Parastatals (1.6 per cent); and FBO/NGO/Church based housing at (0.7 per cent). With the advent of COVID-19 pandemic households' ability to pay rent has been affected, with 15.4 per cent of the population indicating inability to pay rent on the agreed date. The main reason that has made households unable to pay rent was attributed to reduced incomes /earnings, reported by 62.3 per cent of the population.

f) Gender and youth

In Wajir County, the May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 survey revealed that approximately 0.4 per cent of respondents had witnessed or heard of domestic violence in their communities since the National Government instituted measures to contain Covid-19. Between March-May 2020, there were a total of 776 cases of adolescents (age 10 - 19) presenting with pregnancy at health facilities based on data from the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS, 2020). Other challenges affecting the youth include unemployment, drug use and substance abuse.

g) Water and sanitation

The county government has incurred additional cost to ensure continuity in provision of water and sanitation services, this include allocation of Ksh 600 million shillings as development fund for water sector. Additionally, water companies have lost a significant amount of their revenues due to low demand of water and sanitation services mostly from hotels, schools and other institutions due to closure of operations.





3 KEY Pillars OF THE RECOVERY STRATEGY

There is need for urgent responses for addressing the social and economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in Wajir County, in order for the County to recover and be on an upward growth trajectory. In this regard, 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 leveraging metropolitan region status

3.1 Boosting Private Sector Activity

The private sector plays a critical role in the County economy in reducing poverty through income generating opportunities for the vulnerable households. The KNBS 2016 statistics shows that most of the private sector activities (57.5 per cent) are in the services sector with only 1.5 per cent in manufacturing. In terms of size, most of the enterprises in the County are in the micro category (73.1 per cent), 0.5 per cent are small, 25.9 per cent are medium, while 0.5 per cent are large enterprises. Since most firms are micro in nature, this implies that the informal sector dominates the private sector in Wajir County. Services sector activities include the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (57.5 per cent); education (25.8 per cent); construction (9.3 per cent); and accommodation and food services (2.4 per cent).

Covid-19 disrupted the operations of businesses and supply chains hence affecting demand and supply of most goods and services in the County. Overall, majority of the MSMEs (30.8 per cent) in Wajir County get their raw materials from their peer MSMEs and individual suppliers 26.7 per cent within the County and also 26.1 per cent from the government. MSMEs widely sell their products to individual consumers (66.4 per cent) within the County. This means that when some firms, suppliers or even the government is adversely affected these spreads 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 offered a platform to address Wajir County's structural issues related to private sector development and collaboration. Designing new growth models in industrial/manufacturing development and innovation as well as participation in national and global value chains are useful through:

- (i) Agro - processing for value addition with important areas of focus include livestock production, skins and hides production, and honey processing.
- (ii) The textile and wearing apparel sectors can be enhanced to provide PPEs for use within the County and potentially for the export market.
- (iii) Exploration and processing of minerals such as limestone, gypsum, alluvial sand as well as potentials in oil and gas.

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

- (i) Collaboration with the National government to ensure security is enhanced and reduce on crime and create a peaceful business environment.
- (ii) Development of appropriate road infrastructure especially the county roads while collaborating with the private sector through PPP's to get financing of the projects.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) Partnership with other institutions both from public and private spheres to facilitate development of adequate and well-equipped worksites with workshops, common user facilities, incubation centres and showrooms for artisans which is cluster informed and fully serviced.
- (v) Provision of access to affordable energy in collaboration with the national government and other stakeholders.
- (vi) Collaboration with the Anti-Counterfeit Agency (ACA) and Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) to sensitize MSEs on issues of counterfeits and dumping of goods.
- (vii) Collaboration with relevant stakeholders and institutions such as Kenya Institute of Business Training (KIBT) and National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) to provide entrepreneurial training and technical training, apprenticeship and certification programmes to MSEs.



3.2 Policy, Legislative, and Institutional Reforms

Wajir County has enacted a number of laws on finance and bursaries and has enacted the Wajir County Climate Change Fund Act, 2016 and Wajir County Disaster Management Act, 2014. However, in recognizing that the Covid-19 is an evolving public health emergency that requires legal intervention and that pandemics and public health emergencies may occur in future, the County will undertake to:

- (i) Establish a strong and effective legal framework to respond to Covid-19 and other similar infectious diseases, and other public health emergencies that may occur in future.
- (ii) Build the County's policy and legal infrastructure to respond to the needs of the County and to establish the legal mechanisms for regulation of the key devolved sectors within the County.

3.3 Strengthening County Government's Preparedness and Response to Pandemic and Disasters

Wajir County is one of the counties in Kenya to be perennially affected by drought and the adverse effects of climate change. To provide a framework to respond to these challenges, the County has enacted the Wajir County Climate Change Fund Act, 2016 and Wajir County Disaster Management Act, 2014. The County was also affected by locust invasion in 2020. Besides these disasters, Wajir County also reported cases of Covid-19 and has also suffered socioeconomic effects of Covid-19. Due to the evolving nature of Covid-19 and also the unexpected nature some of pandemics and disasters the County has resolved to implement the strategies below:

- (i) Maximise coordination efforts with neighbouring counties in developing strategies for containing the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.
- (ii) Invest in conducting research on Covid-19 together with various institutes such as the Kenya Medical Research Institute and World Health Organisation.
- (iii) Continuously update the skills and training of all medical professionals engaged within the County to respond to public health emergencies and to keep abreast with emerging public health practices.
- (iv) Sensitize county officers and key policy makers within the County including members of county assemblies and county executive members on Covid-19 as well as other similar infectious diseases.
- (v) Adopt a multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary approach by providing basic training across various departments of the County on the spread and control of Covid-19 and similar zoonotic diseases and the role each department can play.
- (vi) Utilize the media and local leaders to inform, sensitize and educate the public on measures to take in the event of occurrence of certain disasters.



- (vii) Collaborate, pool resources, consult and exchange information with other counties in the Frontier Counties Development Council bloc on Covid-19 and other similar 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 27.9 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 and lack of internet connectivity in the area are the leading reasons that the people of in the County don't have internet connection. In the new normal driven COVID-19, the County administration needs to fast track the implementation of various projects to ensure business continuity and build resilience of the County against future pandemics and disasters.

- (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 27.9 per cent to 100 per cent in line with the global agenda for Universal Access to Mobile Telephony¹
- (ii) Harness the power of technology and use innovative solutions to bridge the gender digital divide and promote technology adoption in daily socio-economic activities.
- (iii) Collaborate with the Communications Authority and telecom service providers to utilize the Universal Service Fund² as a "last resort" in providing ICT access in remote areas where market forces fail to expand access.
- (iv) The IT personnel in public primary schools can be deployed to support the development of ICT 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. Develop an ICT based document management system for appropriate records and documentation management as outlined in the CIDP.
- (vi) Make ICT a standalone sector for planning and budget allocation. This is aimed at giving strategic prominence to planning, budgeting and investment in ICT.
- (vii) Develop and implement ICT policies and procedures to manage ICT as provided in the CIDP and mitigate the cyber threats. Collaborate with the national Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT) and the Communications Authority (CA) towards managing cyber threats. This is because enhanced use of ICT is known to raise threats and risks related to cyber-crime and misinformation.

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

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



3.5 Promoting human Capital Development

The County population aged 15-64 years (labour force) was estimated at 406,760 people of whom 290,686 people were working and 116,074 were seeking work but work was not available representing an unemployment rate of 28.5 per cent (Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019).

From the May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey, 11.7 per cent of the county labour force worked at least for 1 hour for pay; 52.2 per cent had never worked; 4.5 per cent of employees did not attend to work due to COVID-19 and 88.3 per cent of employees working without pay. On average, workers in the County lost 12.1 hours per week due to COVID-19 and 37.0 per cent of county residents recorded decrease in income while 3.0 per cent recorded increase of income.

The average years of schooling was 5.7 years out of the target of at least 12 years if entire population was to attain completed basic education including primary and secondary education (KIHBS 2015/16). The human development index was 0.36 out of a maximum of 1 as compared to national average of 0.52. The HDI at county level measures extent to which the counties can mobilize the economic and professional potential of the citizens. With a rating of 0.36, it means the county lost about 64 per cent of her economic potential due to lack of adequate education and health. About 26.8 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 10.2 per cent while the number of children vaccinated was 49.5 per cent.

The county recovery strategies include the following;

- (i) Expand partnership in the livestock sector in the county which is the main source of employment. The county will partner with Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) to enhance purchase of livestock from farmers; and avert livestock losses during drought spells.
- (ii) Collaborate with Wajir South Technical Training Institute to offer trainings on emerging technologies and skills and match with the market demand; while increasing chances for the youth to secure productive economic engagement.
- (iii) Establish a livestock development program in the county which will help to resource farmers and improve their livelihoods and nutrition. Under the program, farmers will receive training in animal management.
- (iv) Collaborate with National government and establish more Institutes that train pastoralists and agro-pastoralists on different courses, ranging from livestock husbandry, agri-business skills and diseases identification. Trainings will also be used as avenues for sharing new information on animal management.
- (v) Irrigated agriculture need to be enhanced to reduce perennial hunger and create employment for county residents. The county should provide financial support for establishment of tomato processing plant and a rice husk factory since the projects will create employment to county residents.



- (vi) Promoting implementation of a stronger labour market interventions and policy reforms that drive employment creation. The County shall deepen technical education, training and skills development.
- (vii) To improve the quality of MSMEs products, Wajir County can partner with research institutions like Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI) and the Productivity Centre at the Ministry of Industry.
- (viii) To promote investment and entrepreneurship through provision of loans, Wajir county need to improve access to finance for small and medium enterprises through lending institutions.
- (ix) Building workplace resilience to public health emergencies and outbreaks of infectious diseases in all Wajir County economic sectors.

3.6 Exploiting metropolitan region status

The Kenya Vision 2030 identifies six metropolitan regions, and especially along the second corridor (LAPSSET), as critical in developing conducive towns across the country. These regions are also an attempt at ensuring balanced development across the country. The metropolis are: Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu/Kakamega, Wajir-Garissa-Mandera and Kitui-Mwingi-Meru. The presence of the Wajir International Airport also makes it an ideal location to exploit this metropolis status. The National Spatial Plan 2015-2045³ designates Wajir as a gateway town and conurbation for development due to its locational advantages to act as alternative growth area.

The Wajir County will take the following intervention measures to harness its metropolis status potential:

- (i) Enhance the County's livability to make it attractive and competitive through increased investment in social and physical infrastructure.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Provide land banks will be established to provide required land for investment in the emerging sectors.
- (iv) Expand the Wajir International Airport to enhance the functionality of Wajir County as Gateway Town.
- (v) Construct key infrastructure to support resource exploitation and urban development.
- (vi) Formulate, approve and implement Integrated Urban Development Plans for designated urban areas.

3. National Spatial Plan: <https://vision2030.go.ke/publication/kenya-national-spatial-plan-2015-2045/>



4 SUPPORT TO KEY SECTORS

4.1 Manufacturing

The manufacturing sector contributes 0.04 per cent to the Wajir Gross County Product (GCP). Manufacturing in Wajir County include: wearing apparel (50.5 per cent), fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (14.5 per cent), food products (11.1 per cent), wood and wood products (8.4 per cent), and furniture (4.1 per cent). The key products useful in value addition and driving manufacturing include; meat, dairy, livestock and honey production, and skins and hides processing. The sector is vital in supporting recovery of the economy of Wajir County from the effects of Covid-19 pandemic. This is due to its potential in revenue and employment generation.

In the recovery, the County will:

- (i) Establish an emergency rescue package for businesses and traders hard-hit by the effects of Covid-19 in the short term. The emergency Fund, supported by development partners and other stakeholders, will be used to identify and support the most vulnerable businesses and entrepreneurs affected by Covid-19. Related, the County will inject some stimulus to cushion the businesses and traders through affordable credit; waiver of some County taxes, cess, and other charges.
- (ii) Covid-19 has increased demand for locally produced goods in the County, and especially Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), sanitisers, hospital beds and ventilators. It is an opportunity to spur innovation and promote manufacturing and industry development and generation of jobs for the youth.
- (iii) Establishments in the county will adopt to the new pandemic guidelines including rearranging floor plans to allow for social distancing.
- (iv) Partner with the relevant stakeholders in rolling out Livestock Insurance Programme for ASAL areas as outlined in MTP III.
- (v) Establish technical and vocational training institutions to enhance capacity and skills required for working in industries.
- (vi) Support establishment of cottage and light industries for value addition.
- (vii) Explore the huge potential for production of limestone, juice and hides & skins tannery.



- (viii) Support and fast-track completion and operationalisation of the gum and resin factory being built in Wajir East Constituency by Ewaso Nyiro North Development Authority (ENNDA)
- (ix) Explore the huge potential in limestone production
- (x) Fastrack establishment of disease-free zones in the county
- (xi) Promote light industries through value addition, marketing and market linkages.

4.2 Agriculture and Livestock

Agriculture accounts for the largest share of economic activity in Wajir county. More than a half of county economic activity is driven by the agriculture sector. In 2017, agriculture accounted for KES 20,032 million out of the total KES 37,159 million Gross County Product (GCP) amounting to 53.9 percent of the county's GCP.

The agricultural sector in Wajir county mainly comprises of livestock keeping. Over 40 per cent of the households in Wajir county practice farming. About 1.9 per cent of the households produce crops, 49 per cent produce livestock, 1 per cent practice aquaculture and about 0.7 per cent are involved in fishing. About 0.5 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, Wajir County will adopt the following strategies:

- (i) Intensive agroprocessing and value addition capacities of the county particularly in meat, leather, horticulture (e.g. pawpawa, lemons) and bee keeping (apiculture) production in partnership with the National Government, NGOs, Research Institutions and the Private sector. Currently The county is partnering with KIRDI to train officials and locals on value addition.
- (ii) Invest in access roads to enhance linkage between farms and markets. Extensive rural road infrastructure plays a central role in provision of affordable access to both markets for agricultural outputs and modern inputs. Wajir's rural access index (RAI) fairs poorly at 16 per cent compared to the national average of 69.4 per cent. There is thus need for the county to invest in access roads to enhance linkage between farms and markets. Other crucial market infrastructure includes lighting and water services to facilitate trade activities.
- (iii) 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.



- (iv) Promote participation in high-value product markets, such as, niche markets for livestock products (e.g. organic milk and meat). This will create value for the county in several ways including: - farmers accessing premium process for the produce; rearrangement of the food chain to marketing structures that bypass exploitative middlemen; steady revenues for farmers; and increased economic incentives in adopting SLM practices.
- (v) Diverse production and livelihoods in the county through growth and development of Poultry production, bee keeping (apiculture) and fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors to fit in the diverse niche and climatic cycles of the county. Towards this, the county has set up a processing plant in Loiyangalani to boost economic development.
- (vi) Invest in abattoirs and cold storage facilities (on-site cold storage and refrigerated vehicles to transport the meat to markets in Kenya and abroad)
- (vii) 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 prepare, respond and prevent risks. There is also need for the county to mitigate disasters, such as those related to floods, through institutional capacity development, vulnerability analyses and updates, monitoring and early warning systems, and public education;
- (viii) Sustainable expansion of irrigation and water harvesting projects: - To support livestock production, food crops and horticultural farming, there is need for sustainable expansion of irrigation and water harvesting projects in the county through partnership with development partners. Current projects under development in the county include: - Burmayo water pan and Irrigation Project, Boji Garas Water Pan and Irrigation Project and Abdi Waqo Irrigation Project. To support expansion of sustainable irrigation, there is need to promote development of Irrigation Infrastructure and technologies in the county. Further, there are plans to build a dam along Isiolo river to support irrigation.
- (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

Hand washing has been identified as one on the key strategies to help in the fight against the transmission of Covid-19. This therefore places higher demand for water more so at the households, health care facilities, marketplaces, public places and among essential services provides. Majority of households (89.8 per cent) had access to water and soap during this period of COVID-19 for hand washing while 98.1 per cent of the households did not have a designated handwashing facility in their households (KNBS 2020 COVID_19 Survey; KIHBS 2015/16).



Most households in the county have low access to piped water which stands at 4.3 per cent in urban, 3.7 per cent in rural and 1.1 per cent in peri urban areas. Similarly, access to piped sewer by households stands at 6.1 per cent in urban, 3.6 per cent peri urban and less than 0.5 per cent coverage in rural households (KHBS 205/2016). Additionally, majority of rural (57.6 per cent), peri urban (15.03 per cent) and urban households (1.6 per cent) do not have access to a toilet facility. Furthermore, sharing of a toilet facility with other households is common in the county whereby 67.9 per cent of rural households, 36.6 per cent of urban households and 49.3 per cent peri urban do share a toilet facility (KHBS 205/2016).

The county 2018-2022 CIDP intended to achieve the following under WASH, irrigation, environment conservation and management. These include; Undertaking water resource assessments and mapping. Investment in underground & rainwater harvesting and adoption of proper technologies for water retention and establishment of sewerage system for all urban settlements

The recovery strategy recommends the following strategies for implementation:

- (i) Expand and rehabilitate the existing piped water connection infrastructure to help increase access to water.
- (ii) Increase water supply in households, institutions and public places through drilling of boreholes, construction of dams and construction of water pans in grazing lands.
- (iii) Integrate public private partnerships arrangements to enhance water provision in the County.
- (iv) Map out water sources and their capacity for efficient water resource management and conservation.
- (v) Upscale abstraction of water from rivers, spring protections, harvesting of rainwater from roof and other catchments to help achieve increased to water access and to reduce distance taken to water sources.
- (vi) Invest in climate resistant water storage facilities to store harvested water during rainy seasons.
- (vii) Undertake water trucking during times of prolonged drought and water shortages and emergencies to households and to pastoralists.
- (viii) Establish water testing infrastructures as well as increase staffing levels in water and sanitation sector for efficiency in water and sanitation provision.
- (ix) The county to offer capacity build to water users associations, water service provides for effective utilization and management of water resources.



- (x) Expand sewer infrastructure to accommodate more households.
- (xi) Improve access to safe and improved toilets in schools, health care facilities, workplaces and public places by building toilet facilities.
- (xii) Support households and communities by building community toilet facilities
- (xiii) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct WASH facilities to increase access at the household level.
- (xiv) Enforce the WASH regulation of having toilets in all public facilities such as supermarkets, hotels and banks.
- (xv) Gender representation at the top-level decision making of water and sanitation programs to be considered.

4.4 Urban Development and Housing

Majority of the households (84.9 per cent) did not receive a waiver or relief on payment of rent from the landlord, despite inability to pay, because of the pandemic. Approximately 20.4 per cent of houses are constructed using finished materials for walls, floor and roofing, compared to 79.6 per cent constructed using rudimentary materials. With regard to primary energy source for cooking, 95.1 per cent of households rely on unclean sources of energy such as firewood, paraffin and charcoal, which could adversely affect respiratory health of women and children. For re-engineering and recovery, the county can focus on:

- (i) Develop and implement an addressing system with complete, correct and unique address data in line with the National Addressing System. To be used pandemic and disaster surveillance and emergency response.
- (ii) Fastrack implementation of the affordable housing programme in partnership with the private sector targeting urban centers.
- (iii) Develop a policy to promote home ownership to address the problem of rent distress during times of emergency.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) Identify and designate urban centers for upgrade pursuant to provisions of the Urban Areas and Cities (amendment) Act, 2019



- (vi) Develop and implement urban planning and design instruments that support sustainable management and use of natural resources and land in line with the New Urban Agenda and as mitigative measure to future pandemics and disasters.
- (vii) Adopt programmes aimed at an increasing household access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking to mitigate against exposure to respiratory diseases.

4.5 Transport

The county has a total of 7,226.30 Kilometers of classified road network. Approximately 100 per cent of the paved road network is in good condition. While 11.1 per cent of the unpaved road network is in good condition, 45.2 per cent fair and 43.7 per cent in poor condition.

The main means of transport used in the County is Tuk Tuk 36.9 per cent followed by motor bike 26.5 per cent, walking at 15.6 per cent, private car at 11.6 percent, PSV matatus at 6.5 percent, and bicycle (boda boda) 2.4 percent. On average, residents travel 5.6 Kilometers to their workplace which is beyond the threshold for walking but within the threshold for cycling.

To enhance mobility options for residents and maintain the roads in good condition to support economic, social and subsistence activities.

- (i) Sensitize PSV and boda boda operators on COVID-19 prevention measures and assist vehicle owners in retrofitting vehicle designs for social distance, hygiene and ventilation.
- (ii) Identify a core rural road network for prioritization to improve the rural access index (RAI) from the current 16.0 per cent with a target to match the national average of 70.0 per cent.
- (iii) Expand the county capability for telecommuting and teleworking and develop relevant policies in support of the same.
- (iv) Identify county significant infrastructure projects for implementation under a stimulus programme to support economic recovery from the effects of the pandemic. For these, 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.
- (v) 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.

4. Roads 2000 programme [http://krb.go.ke/our-downloads/roadsper cent202000per cent20strategicper cent20plan.pdf](http://krb.go.ke/our-downloads/roadsper%202000per%20strategicper%20plan.pdf)

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



- (vi) Re-develop bus parks and termini to address crowding and social distancing concerns stipulated in the public health guidelines.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) 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.

4.6 Tourism

The county has rich culture, wildlife and landscape features that include Lake Yahud among others. There are no game reserves or game parks in the county. Other potential tourist attractions that can be developed include Wajir museum, Wagalla massacre site, Orahey wells, British and Italian war bunkers, old courthouse and animal sanctuaries. The county has 10 unclassified hotels and 20 bars and restaurants. The Wajir International Airport, which is currently underutilized, can be utilized for growth of the tourism sector. The county lacks the correct data for the exact number of tourists visiting the county. However, the number of visitors coming to the county for conferencing tourism has increased. This presents an opportunity to a hub for M.I.C.E in the County to cater for the northern region, especially for inter-county events.

The strategies to support tourism sector recovery include:

- (i) Mapping all the sites with tourism potential in the county; coming up with a tourism sector development master plan; protecting cultural heritage sites;
- (ii) Tourism product diversification and marketing; niche products such as annual cultural festivals, and animal sanctuaries / wildlife reserves.
- (iii) Setting up a cultural documentation centre; tourism information centre.
- (iv) Ensuring high sanitation standard in the hotel facilities to deter spread of Covid-19 in line with the national guidelines for reopening of the hospitality sector.

4.7 Health

The county has 146 health facilities with a total bed capacity of xxx. There are 115 public health facilities, 29 private health facilities and 2 facilities run by NGO/missions. There are 10 Level Four hospitals, 26 Level three centers, and 79 level two dispensaries. The doctor to population ratio is 1:29,413 against the recommended WHO standard medical officers population ratio of 1:230. According



to the 2015/2016 KIHBS, only 0.2 per cent of the population has medical insurance cover which is very low. 95.9 per cent of the population has to cover more than 5 Km to access a health facility and only 4.1 per cent access a health facility within less than 1Km. The health sector requires enhanced investment in health systems, including in the health workforce, capacity building of community health workers and the medical officers on COVID-19, upgrading of working conditions and provision of requisite health commodities and equipment, especially in relation to personal protective equipment and occupational safety. Social dialogue is essential to building resilient health systems in crisis response and in building a future that is prepared for health emergencies.

Specifically, the County will:

- (i) Revamp, expand, modernize and equip health facilities, including, its level IV hospitals.
- (ii) Recruit additional public health officers and community health workers to strengthen preventive and primary health systems.
- (iii) Promote improvement of health infrastructure in the county particularly hospitals and roads to make health care accessible. This would go a long way in increasing the number of hospital deliveries and survival of children as envisioned in CIDP 2018-2022.
- (iv) Implement targeted emergency nutrition programs and invest in community and public health by recruiting and training of community health workers to sensitize the community members on importance of vaccination and immunization as well as addressing the cases of malnutrition and Under 5 stunting in the county.
- (v) Invest in research and development to spur innovation in health sector including in the area of medicine.
- (vi) Implement a comprehensive human resource health management system including undertaking training needs assessments to ensure skilled and motivated health care workers are equitably deployed.
- (vii) Promote and support public and community health including the installation of hand washing facilities in homes and institutions such as schools, workplaces and health care facilities within Wajir county.
- (viii) Proactively address the mental health needs including those of the health workforce, mental illnesses from depression, especially in response to shutdowns and economic downturns.



4.8 Education and training

The county has 284 ECDE centres with a total of 793 teachers and enrolment of 24,085 students. The teacher pupil ratio is 1: 30 and gross enrolment rate is 29 per cent. The number of Primary schools in the county is 243 with a 1,462 teachers and total enrolment of 71,706 students. The gross enrolment rate in the county is 33.3 per cent which is still low despite the introduction of Free Primary Education programme (FPE). Secondary schools in the county total to 45 with a total of 514 teachers and total enrolment of 11,786 students. The teacher to student ratio is 1: 23 and gross enrolment rate is 14.9 per cent. In addition, the county has one Medical Training College, one Livestock Training Centre, and two Teacher training colleges. There is need to establish a constituent university. The literacy level is 23.6 per cent. The lower enrolment rates for females suggest that the literacy levels are likely to be lower for females relative to males.

To mitigate the effects of COVID-19, the County will require to partner with the National Government and private sector to enhance ECDE and vocational training through infrastructural development and equipment of all ECDE, primary, secondary and vocational training centres, and university branches in the County with adequate WASH and adequate learning spaces upon reopening. Some of the strategies once schools reopen include provision of WASH, PPEs, feeding programme in ECDE sections, ECDE capitation grants, capacity building of ECDE teachers and staff and parents on effects of COVID-19 awareness, and establishment of ECDE teacher's college. For primary and secondary education, the County needs to increase primary and secondary enrolment rates.

The recovery strategies are; the County will:

- (i) Promote construction of new ECDE classes to promote social distancing, and recruit adequate number of teachers.
- (ii) Provide adequate personal protective equipment for teachers, learners and other employees in the schools. Build communities' trust in the health and safety measures taken by schools to guarantee the well-being of returning students and to ensure that the risk of pandemic is minimized.
- (iii) Create awareness and effectively engage parents on education matters if the county is to address the low enrolment levels. The county will enhance ICT infrastructure for effective communication and online learning.
- (iv) Establish the safety of school buildings and their surroundings before reopening; and ensure adequate provision of sanitation facilities, School fumigations and enhance school feeding.
- (v) Promote monitoring and addressing psychosocial wellbeing of students, teachers and education officers as well as educating them on how to mitigate spread of coronavirus
- (vi) Promote back to school campaign when schools reopen and community outreach to ensure that no child drops out of school due to COVID-19 emergency.



4.9 Social Protection

The County has an estimated number of 3,793 PWDs and 1.5 per cent of total population are older persons (aged 65 years and above) of whom 39.2 per cent are female. To mitigate the impact of COVID-19 to vulnerable, the county will collaborate with NHIF to increase the number of vulnerable people covered and partner with well-wishers to mobilize and distribute food to the less fortunate in the society. The County will implement various social protection programmes including providing basic assistive devices to PWDs and supporting and building capacities of individuals, vulnerable groups and communities for equity and self-reliance through training. The county will align its social protection programmes with the National Government ones to avoid duplication of the activities while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the deserving beneficiaries.

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) 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.
- (iii) The county in collaboration with the national government and other development partners will address the social protection challenges including, establishment of gender-based violence recovery centres, expanding child protection centres, advocacy for more child friendly basic social services and improving data and information systems on social protection interventions.

4.10 Gender and Youth

The social and economic effects of the Covid 19 pandemic has increased households' susceptibility to Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Wajir County. Response measures taken to contain the Covid 19 pandemic, such as movement restrictions, lockdown and curfew hours, have led to loss of income, isolation, high levels of stress and anxiety exposing household members to psychological, economic, sexual violence and physical harm as couples spend more time in close contact. The county will enhance community awareness and sensitization on gender inequalities, gender-based violence reporting and prevention and reproductive health.

Further, the county will

- (iv) Bring onboard key stakeholders to actively engage and sensitize the youth on reproductive health; HIV/Aids and COVID-19 prevention measures.
- (v) Establish a multi-sectoral committee that oversees the implementation of gender policies across various cross-cutting sectors.



- (vi) Pursue inclusion and participation of women, girls, men and boys in budget making process and public consultation to make the process and outcomes gender-responsive.
- (vii) Designate gender safe spaces to provide accommodation for Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors and create space in County Referral Hospitals to serve as GBV recovery centers.
- (viii) Support 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.
- (ix) Strengthen 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 & COVID-19 information among differently able persons.

4.11 Environment and Natural Resources Management

The county has a rich vegetation and forest cover though a myriad of challenges faces conservation of natural environment in the county which include poor solid waste management, encroachment, droughts, deforestation, overgrazing, charcoal burning human wildlife conflict inadequate staff, lack of education to the residents on the importance of environmental conservation.

Additionally, most households (97.9 per cent) uses firewood as the main source of energy for cooking followed by, charcoal (1.8 per cent) liquified gas (0.6 per cent) and Kerosene (0.6 per cent). Majority of the households (17.2 per cent) in the county dispose their solid waste dump in the compound, 7.1 per cent dump in the street/ open field while 59.5 per cent burn in open air. On the other hand, 3.5 per cent of the household solid waste is collected by the county government for disposal while 1.8 per cent is collected by private companies and 1.2 per cent is collected by community associations (KHIBS 2015/2016). The county has experienced droughts and floods in the past 5 years affecting 14. 8 per cent of the households (KHIBS 2015/2016).

To mitigate these environmental risks, the County has also 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.
- (ii) The county to invest in renewable source of energy for pumping water as well as lighting and cooking.
- (iii) Promote tree planting by providing tree seedlings to communities and schools.
- (iv) Develop and implement county environmental and resource management plan.



- (v) Provide waste collection services at households for guaranteed safe disposal and recycling.
- (vi) Promote and facilitate regular waste collection, environment clean up exercises at neighborhoods and in towns.
- (vii) Cushion households from the adverse effects of droughts and floods by planting trees, building dams and dykes along riverbanks to control floods.
- (viii) The county to sensitize the community on disaster awareness, disaster and strengthen communities on disaster resilience.





5 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAMME

5.1 Economic Stimulus Package

In order to re-engineer and put the economy of Wajir County on upward growth trajectory, it is important to either enhance 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) Give waivers and concessions on cess, single business permits, parking stickers, water bills, market fees.
- (v) Invest in the Conservation of the Environment for Sustainable Development.
- (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 ic Stimulus Package

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

5.3 Implementation Framework for the Economic Stimulus Programme

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

WAJIR REGIONAL REFERRAL LABORATORY

NAL
RAL
ATORY





6 MONITORING, EVALUATING AND REPORTING

The overall purpose of monitoring and 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 implementation of the work plans while evaluation 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 impact 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 will therefore be based on the implementation framework and theory of change. A theory of change describes how an intervention can deliver desired results and explains the causal logic of how a programme modality or design innovation will reach its intended outcomes.⁶

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

6. https://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/10.1596/978-1-4648-0779-4_ch2



7 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Communication⁷, 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 Development⁸ (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 channels⁹ 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 Wajir County residents received information about coronavirus through radio (72%), television (52%) and friends and family (46%). Social media frequency was at 36 per cent while Health Care Workers and Government resources' frequency tied at 30 per cent. These were followed with another 16 per cent tie between newspaper and mobile. Nevertheless, the survey did not specify whether mobile included both written (short text messages <SMS>) and voice (calls). Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) workers frequency was ranked at 3 per cent.

Subsequently, the following channels of communication shall be utilized:

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

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

⁷ <https://books.google.co.ke/books?id=QVnnHUSAL7cC&printsec=frontcover&dq=creating+understanding+what+is+communication&hl>

⁸ https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_2017_Report_on_Communication_for_Development_C4D.pdf

⁹ <https://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/acref/9780199657681.001.0001/acref-9780199657681-e-1679?rskey=sE6ywS&result=2>



Table 2: Communication channels with target audience

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

> Most appropriate channel to be used.

NOTES:

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

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



The scheduled communication or frequency of messaging are proposed as follows:

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



ANNEX

Implementation matrix/Action plan

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020:21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
County Revenue Policy	OSR Enhancement; External grants	Lift the various waivers instituted on revenue streams; Seek for more funding from development partners inform of conditional grants; 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	5	5	10	County Government	County Government
County Expenditure Reforms; Pending Bills	Re-engineer expenditure to be growth oriented and people-centred	Increase expenditure in health sectors and other non-administrative functions such as water, trade, ICT, education, agriculture while systematically reducing expenditure on non-administrative functions	County expenditure that is people-centred and focussed on growth-creating sectors such as health, education, water, infrastructure, ICT etc			Continuous from 2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Reduce the approved budget-actual expenditure gap by fully implementing PFM recommendations and conducting annual expenditure reviews	County expenditure in line with existing National Government and County Government laws			Continuous from 2020/21				County 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		40.0	40.0	60.0	County Government	County Government

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Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
	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;		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	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		15	15	30	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		2	2	4	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		1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



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Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020:21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
	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		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Manufacturing and MSMEs	Enhance innovation	Establish a Fund/ Establish a budget line to support innovative activities in the County	Increased county revenues; Increasing levels of employment; Increasing use of new business models	New product brands in the market; Improved processes	No. of new brands in the market; No. of trainings conducted;	3 years	8	8	16	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	3	3	6	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		150	150	300	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		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

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Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020:21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
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		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
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		25	25	50	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	10	10	20	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	2.5	2.5	5	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To improve the road conditions of the road network	Improve quality of the unpaved road infrastructure using labour-based techniques	Improved accessibility and reduced vehicle operation costs	Increased proportion of roads in good and fair condition	Proportion of unpaved road network in good and fair condition		4	4	8	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Improve quality of road network using appropriate technology -Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVS) 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 LVS		2	2	4	County Government	County Government
	To mitigate the damage caused by floods on roads and bridges	Implement green roads design to protect road infrastructure while controlling storm water and harvesting flood water for domestic and commercial use	Resilient road infrastructure that can withstand floods with controlled damage	Number of green roads projects and water harvesting infrastructure	Knowledge management of green roads and quantity of water harvested in cubic meters annually		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	To enhance ICT capacity and use	Collaborate with private sector to enhance household acquisition of acquired ICT assets and technologies, e.g. smart phones and laptops	Increased use of ICT for domestic and commercial purposes	Increase in number of households owning ICT assets and technologies	Proportion of households owning ICT assets	1 year	5	5	10	County and National Governments	County Government



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

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020:21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
		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	2.5	2.5	5	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		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance prominence in County planning and budgeting	Designate ICT as a stand-alone Ministry in Wajir County Government structure and deploy requisite personnel and capability	Enhance prominence of ICT plans, programmes and projects	Increased budget for ICT	Share of ICT budget in overall county budget		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance cyber security	Formulate and implement cyber security policies and procedures and pursue ISO certification on Information Systems Security	Enhanced detection, mitigation and reporting of cyber security incidents	Reduced cyber security incidents	No. of cyber security incidents		2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Urban Development and Housing	To improve the quality of life of residents through provision of affordable and decent housing	Fastrack implementation of the affordable housing programme with a focus on improving living conditions in informal settlements	Enhanced quality in informal settlements due to improved housing conditions	Increased proportion of households provided with affordable and decent housing	No. of housing units provided		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Map flood risk settlements and implement flood disaster mitigation plans including relocation and re-settlement of households	Reduced flood risk and disaster incidents in human settlements	Increased number of households relocated from flood risk areas	No. of households relocated from flood risk areas		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To increase access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking by households	Enhanced household use of clean energy and technology for cooking: distribution of clean cookstoves and clean energy alternatives to charcoal, kerosene and firewood	Increased number of households with access to clean energy and technology for cooking	Proportion of households with access to clean energy and technology for cooking			3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

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



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020:21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
Tourism	Enhance socio-economic benefits from the tourism sector	Tourism sector development master-plan; Rehabilitate infrastructure leading to tourism attraction sites	Growth in revenue generation from tourism	Increased visitor numbers to the county; increased awareness of the diversified tourism product offering	Number of local and foreign visitors; revenue collected by county government from tourism.	3 – 5 years	2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Niche tourism product developed, marketing incorporating aspects of Covid-19.	Diversified tourism experiences / product; Sanitation standards in tourism upheld	Increased number of tourists visiting the County; increased awareness and practice of sanitation in tourist products	Number of niche tourism products developed; Number of cultural sites preserved; Number of high-altitude training camps developed,	3 – 5 years	1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Health	Improve access to quality and affordable health services	Provide appropriate antenatal care	Improved health condition of pregnant women	Number of women benefitted	2 years		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Promote additional funding to the health sector	Health infrastructure development	Number of health facilities improved and equipped as per norms	2 years		50	50	100	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruit high number of public health officers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of health officers recruited	1year		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance Medical Supplies	Increase % of availability of essential Medical products	Number health centres stocked with essential medical products.	1year		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Improve immunization coverage in the County	Reduced mortality	Number of immunization outreaches	1year		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	1year		4	4	8	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



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Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/ Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020:21 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/ Actor/ Stakeholder
	Strengthen collaboration with health-related sectors	Pollution control; Improvement in veterinary services; Construction of latrines	Improved service delivery	% change of health sector development	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Minimize exposure to health risk factor	Health promotion including health information; Micro-nutrient deficiency control; Infection prevention and control	Reduced mortality rate	Number of patients treated	2 years		2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Education	To improve service delivery in schools	Promote infrastructure development	Improved training environment	Number of school facilities renovated and constructed	2 years		10	10	20	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		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruitment of ECDE teachers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of ECDE teachers recruited	2 years		7.5	7.5	15	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Capacity building of school Board of management	Improvement in the management capacities	Number of trainings held	1 years		0.5	0.5	1	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance transition and retention rates in schools	Disbursement of bursaries	Increase of school attendance	No. students of supported with bursaries	2 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Promote school feeding programmes	Increase in number of students attending schools	% of students attending schools	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance back to school campaigns	Increase in number of students attending schools	% students attending schools	1 years		0.5	0.5	1	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To provide safety in schools	Provide surgical masks to students; Provide PPE to school employees	Reduction in cases of COVID-19	Quantities of PPE and surgical masks supplied	1 years		15	15	30	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

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	Strengthen social well-being of students	Promote guidance and counselling in schools	Increased retention and attendance in school	Number of schools where guidance & counselling	1years		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	1years		15	15	30	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	1years		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	1years		25	25	50	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	1years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Mainstream occupational safety and health into the sectors of the economy	Train workers on safety and health	Increased control of COVID-19 transmission	No. of workers trained	1years		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	1years		4	4	8	County Governments; development partners	County Government
		Grand Total					831.5	831.5	1633		



COUNTY GOVERNMENTS



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