



# **WEST POKOT COUNTY**

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

2020/21-2022/23



NOVEMBER 2020





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



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## FOREWORD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





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

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

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

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

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

*Together we prosper.*

**UHURU KENYATTA, C.G.H.,**

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



## **TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER**

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

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

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

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

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

**H.E WYCLIFFE OPARANYA**

**CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



## STATEMENT

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

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

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

A stylized black ink signature of Dr. Rose Ngugi.

**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.

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## **2) Strengthening ICT Capacity**

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

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

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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.

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### **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.

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## Support to Key Sectors

### 1) **Agriculture**

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

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





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

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## **2) Water and sanitation**

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

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

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

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

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



- (vi) 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.
  - (vii) Fast-track affordable housing in counties through provision of public land to improve housing conditions and improve the turnaround period for transactions for land and construction.
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#### 4) **Transport**

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

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

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

- (v) 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.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Develop tourism information and data centres.
- (viii) Upgrading medical facilities to promote medical tourism.
- (ix) 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.



- (x) 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.
- (xi) Developing products specifically tailored to enhancing domestic tourism which is less susceptible to shocks. Such products to be affordable, and packages designed to maximize domestic tourist utility. Leverage on regional blocs for joint marketing of tourist attractions.

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## 6) **Health**

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

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

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## 7) **Education**

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

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



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

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## 8) **Social protection**

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

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



## 9) ***Gender and youth***

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

- (vi) 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.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) 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.
- (ix) 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.
- (x) Bringing on board key stakeholders to actively engage and sensitize the youth on reproductive health; HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 prevention measures.







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1 Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 County Context.....	1
1.2 County fiscal position .....	3
1.3 County Fiscal Response, Interventions and Budget Re-allocation .....	3
<b>2 Socio-Economic Effect of COVID-19 .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3 Key Pillars of the Recovery Strategy .....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1 Boosting Private Sector Activity.....	11
3.2 Policy, Legislatives, and Institutional Reforms .....	12
3.3 Strengthening County Government's Preparedness and Response to Pandemic and Disasters.....	13
3.4 Enhancing ICT Capacity for Business Continuity .....	14
3.5 Promoting human capital development.....	15
3.6 Diversifying the Leather Value Chain .....	16
<b>4 Support to Key Sectors .....</b>	<b>19</b>
4.1 Manufacturing .....	19
4.2 Agriculture .....	19
4.3 Water and Sanitation .....	21
4.4 Urban Development and Housing.....	22
4.5 Transport.....	23
4.6 Tourism.....	24
4.7 Health .....	25
4.8 Education .....	26
4.9 Social Protection .....	27
4.10 Gender and Youth .....	27
4.11 Environment and Natural Resources Management .....	28
<b>5 Economic Stimulus Programme.....</b>	<b>31</b>
5.1 Economic Stimulus Package .....	31
5.2 Financing Economic Stimulus Package .....	31
5.3 Implementation Framework for the Economic Stimulus Programme.....	33
<b>6 Monitoring, Evaluating and Reporting.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>7 Communication Channels .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Annex .....</b>	<b>37</b>







# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 County Context

West Pokot County is one of the Counties in the North Rift Economic Bloc (NOREB). The county has a population of 781,263 of which 49.4 per cent is male and 50.5 per cent female (KNBS, 2019) as indicated in table 1. Of the population 5,220 (1.0 per cent) are persons with disability. The youth constituted 32 per cent of the population of whom 51.0 per cent were female. The county has a population density of 68 per km<sup>2</sup>. About 94.9 per cent of the population live in rural areas of whom 50.5 per cent are female. The elderly population (over 65-year-old) make up 2.9 per cent of the total population of whom 56.6 were female. The population in school going age group (4-22 years) was 53.1 per cent in 2019.

In 2015/2016, the overall poverty rate in West Pokot County was 57.0 per cent against the national poverty rate of 36.1 per cent. In addition, 58.3 per cent of the population were living in food poverty and 86.2 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, 58.1 per cent of the children were stunted as compared to the average national level at 26 per cent.

**Table 1: Development indicators in West-Pokot County**

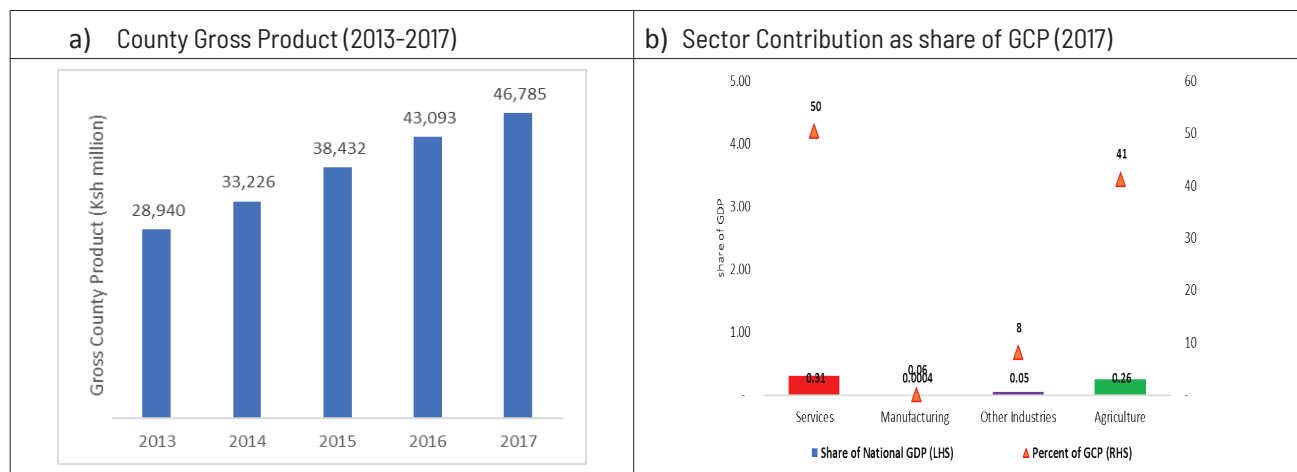
	County	National
Estimated County Population (KNBS, 2019)	781,263	1.6% of total population
Males	307,013	49.4%
Females	314,213	50.5%
Intersex	15	0.002%
Estimated Population Density (km <sup>2</sup> )	68	82
Persons with disability	1.0%	2.2
Population living in rural areas (%)	94.9%	68.8%
School going age (4-22 years)(%)	53.1%	68.7%
Youth (%)	32.0%	36.1%
Elderly population (over 65-year-old)	2.9%	3.9%
Number of covid-19 cases (11th September 2020)(MOH). National cases were 35,232 people	2	0.01% Of the national cases
Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	57.0%	36.1%
Food Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	58.3%	31.9%
Multidimensional Poverty (2015/2016)(%)	86.2%	56.1%
Stunted children (KDHS 2014)	58.1%	26%
Gross County Product (Ksh Million)	46,785(2017)	0.6 % Share to total GDP (2017)
Average growth of Nominal GCP/GDP (2013-2017)(%)	12.3%	15.3 %

Data Source: KNBS (2019)



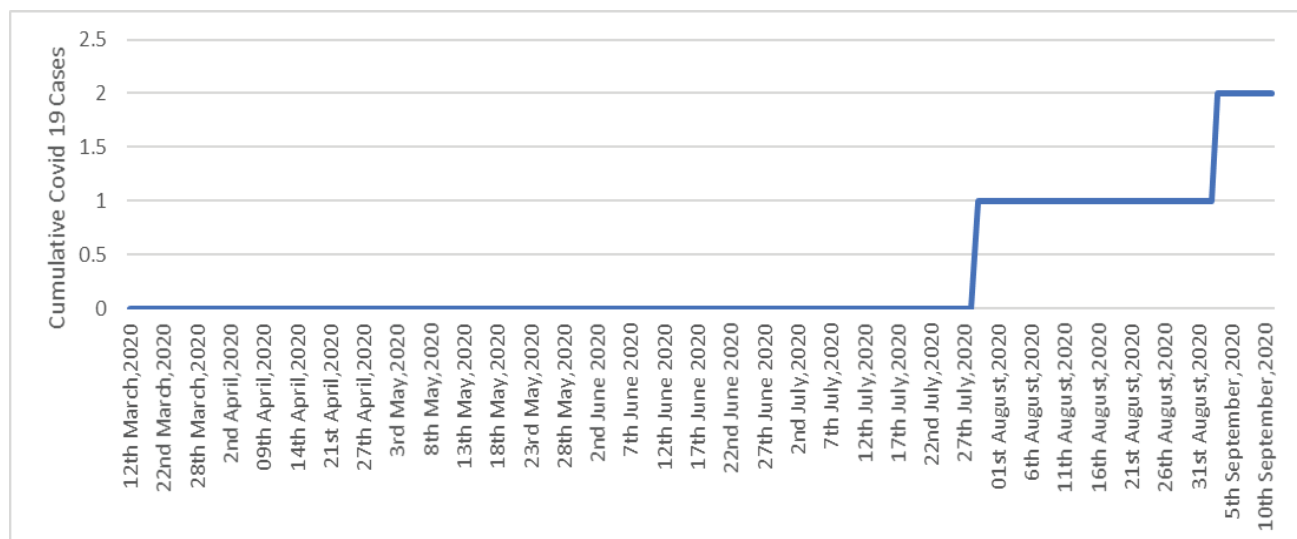
West Pokot County Gross County Product (GCP) constituted 0.6 per cent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as at 2017 (figure 1). The GCP increased from ksh. 28,940 million in 2013 to ksh. 46,785 million in 2017 representing an average growth rate of 12.3 per cent per year. The service sector contributes 50.0 per cent of GCP while agriculture, other industries share constituted 41.0 per cent and 8.0 per cent, respectively. The services sector includes such activities as wholesale and retail trade. Agriculture is mainly dominated by crop farming and pastoralism activities.

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



Data Source: KNBS (2019)

The County first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on 29th July 2020. Since then the number of confirmed cases increased to 2 in 11th September 2020 (MOH, 2020) as shown in figure 2.



Data Source: MOH





## 1.2 County fiscal position

West Pokot county expected to receive a total of Ksh. 6.4 billion in FY 2019/20 as revenue to finance its operations. This comprised mainly of Ksh. 5 billion (77.9%) as equitable share, Ksh. 799.9 million (12.5%) conditional grant, Ksh. 130.3 million (2%) generated from own source of revenue (OSR) and Ksh. 468.1 million (7.3%) as cash balance from FY 2018/19.

During FY 2019/20, the County received a total Ksh. 5.7 billion which accounted for 88.7 per cent of the expected revenue. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, various revenue streams were adversely affected. Decline in revenue was felt following the closure of open-air markets, extension of single business permits payments and extension of various waivers to support small traders. During FY 2019/20, the county generated Ksh. 107.2 million from OSR, representing 9.8 per cent decline compared to Ksh. 118.8 million generated in FY 2018/19.

At the beginning of FY 2019/20 the County budgeted to spend a total of Ksh. 6,421.8 million consisting of Ksh. 4,393.0 million allocation for recurrent expenditure and Ksh. 2,028.8 million for development expenditure. Of the recurrent expenditure, Ksh. 2,479.1 million was meant for compensation of employees while Ksh. 1,913.9 million was set aside for operations and maintenance. The County's actual total expenditure during FY 2019/20 amounted to Ksh. 5,351.2 million. Recurrent expenditures (personal emoluments and operations & maintenance) accounted for 79.4 per cent of the total spending, with development expenditure accounting for only 20.6 per cent. This translating to absorption rate of 83.3 per cent in overall budget, 96.7 per cent recurrent expenditure and 54.4 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.

## 1.3 County Fiscal Response, Interventions and Budget Re-allocation

With the outbreak of Covid-19 West Pokot county undertook varied measures.

**The county re-allocated its budget.** During the supplementary budget the county set aside Ksh. 17.3 million to finance the health sector. In addition, it was meant to help improve the infrastructure of the health sector to fight the pandemic. The county also received funding from the world bank through the National government to aid in keeping the pandemic at bay.

**County health services and preparation of covid-19 management.** Reflecting on expenditures by functional classification (priority spending), the county spending on health services accounts for the largest share of the budget at 24.2 per cent for the last five years. However, with the outbreak of Covid-19, health expenditure is poised to increase above the 24.2 per cent average. On the onset of the pandemic,



the county undertook several measures to curb its spread. These included; installing 6 operational ICU beds, establishment of the 300-bed capacity isolation center, distributed 50,000 facemasks across the county, ensured strict surveillance at the 4 entry points of the county through screening and hand washing, sensitized the people on the symptoms and preventive measures of covid-19 through radio programmes, conducted fumigation in all major towns as well as established a vocal point in the department of health.

**In addition, the county promoted COVID-19 safety guidelines.** The county government ensured that the safety guidelines outlined were observed. These included the reduction in the seating capacity for passengers per vehicle to observe social distance; hand hygiene; the dusk to dawn curfew, and the ban on social gatherings. The county also partnered with community-based organizations especially youth groups to sensitize the public on preventative measure against COVID-19.





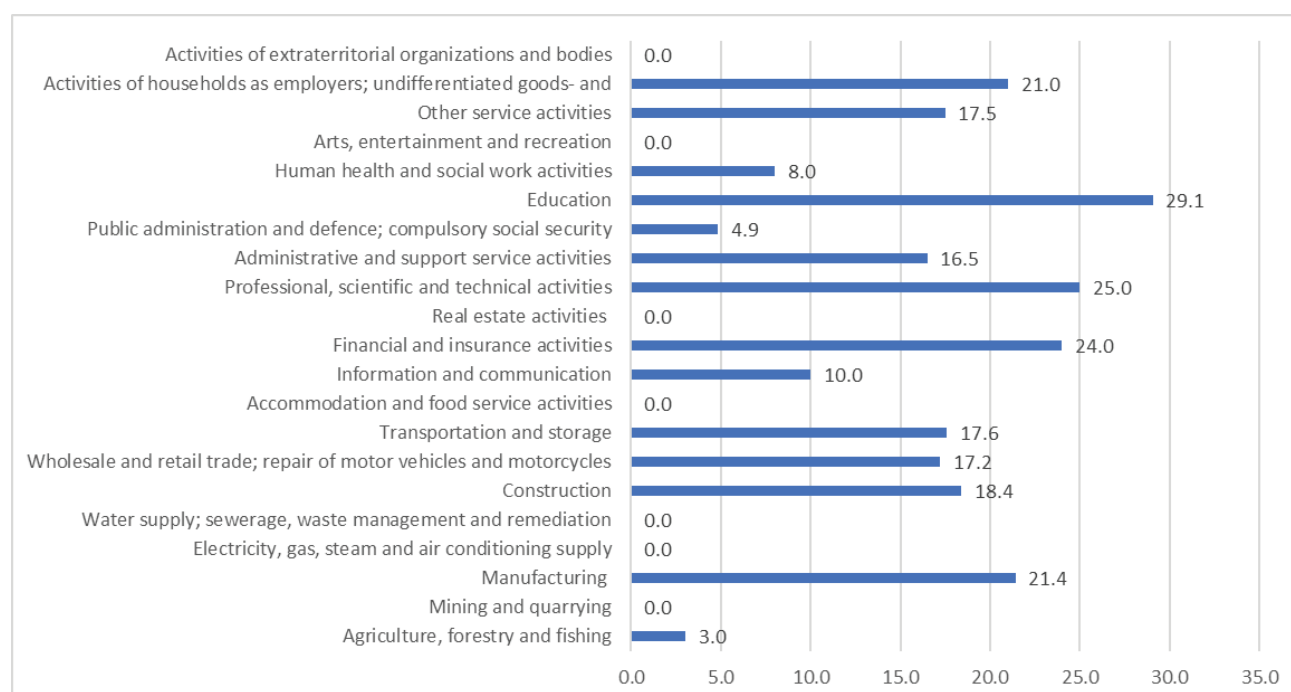
## 2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECT OF COVID-19

As the country was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, other shocks in the county included: Desert locusts; floods, mudslides, landslides;

### a) **Labour participation**

According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey, the education sector reported the highest level of loss of hours worked (29.1 hours per week) due to closure of schools followed by professional, scientific and technical activities which lost 25 hours. Workers in information and communication sector lost 10 hrs. while Financial and insurance activities, constructions and manufacturing lost 24,18.4 and 21.4 hours per week, respectively (figure 3).

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



About 4.0 per cent of employees reported to have been absent from work due to COVID 19 related issues. About 81.5 per cent of the employees worked but at no pay. Businesses such as bars, hotels, market centres had totally closed, leading to reduced business activities hence loss of time worked per week. Transportation and storage sector lost 17.6 hours per week attributed by curfew restriction and movement within Counties; and in and out of Nairobi and Mombasa counties. About 54.0 per cent of workers reported decrease in income due to the COVID-19.

### b) **Agricultural sector**

The May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 survey found that 21.1 per cent of the households in West Pokot county had instances where the household or a member of the household could not access the markets/grocery stores



to purchase food items, mainly because of closure of the markets/grocery stores (59.3 %), movement restrictions (17 %) and transport limitations (9.1%).

Further, with restrictions affecting seamless movement of food commodities, 73 per cent of households in West Pokot county indicated experiencing an increase in food prices. It is important to note that 31.5 per cent of households purchase food products from open-air markets, 37.8 per cent from kiosks, and 14 per cent from general shops (KIHBS 2015/16). Additionally, 43.4 per cent of the total valued consumed is from purchases, 39 per cent from own production, 13.2 per cent from own stock and 4.4 per cent from gifts and other sources. Thus, increases in food prices is likely to had significant implications on household budget.

As a result of COVID-19, some agricultural markets, particularly, livestock markets in West Pokot County were affected. Further, movement restrictions and subsequent increased cost of transport limited livestock trade to main markets outside West Pokot County, such as markets in Nairobi. In addition, the pandemic greatly affected cross border livestock trade, particularly livestock trade in Uganda, due to country lockdowns.

Further, the county recorded a decline in labor participation in the sector. An assessment of the Covid-19 effects on hours worked in agriculture related occupations indicates food processing and related trade workers recorded the highest difference of 28 hours between the usual and actual hours worked in a week. Other affected sub categories include: - agricultural, fishery and related labourers (5 hours difference), subsistence agricultural and fishery workers (2 hours difference) and farm workers (4 hours difference). The Covid 19 pandemic effects on the sector were worsened by floods affecting 35.3 per cent of households respectively in West Pokot County during the pandemic period.

### c) **Services sector**

Due to restrictions on travel occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic, in 2020, the famous Simar and Sintagh pokot annual cultural festivals were not held. Hence the county lost in terms of decline in number of tourists arriving, and revenue that could have been generated by households through expenditure by tourists in the local economy. Conflict and uncertainty affect growth of the tourism sector.

The entire education sector was disrupted with closure of all schools which led to loss to learning and teaching time. The county had no online learning reported during the COVID-19 period because internet coverage across the county was very poor. Further, not every household possessed ICT equipment such as android phones nor laptops/computers. E-learning was therefore on prevalent in some of the urban settings in the County Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHS) (2019). Access level of desktop or laptop was estimated at 1.4 per cent with internet access level of 3.5 Per cent. The school feeding programmes in ECDE and primary schools were discontinued after the closure of schools in March 2020. The TVET institutions in the County provided opportunities for producing local protective gears and learning and have potential of enhancing skills and incomes among the youth in the county.



According to May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 Survey, 94.0 per cent on the county population reported having not visited any health facility in 30 days. This indicates that only about 6 per cent of the county population had experienced at least one illness hence visited a health facility. Perhaps the instituted COVID 19 measures especially public health interventions on water, sanitation and hygiene (washing hands and sanitation) had contributed to reduction in common diseases such as diarrhea and common cold. The residents were further asked if they could volunteer to be tested for COVID 19 if services were available. About 2.0 per cent residents indicated they could volunteer to be tested.

According to Kenya Health Information Management System (KHIS), 2020, the month of January to May, 2020 saw an upsurge in the per centage of teen pregnancies countrywide with West Pokot county recording 3,838 cases an increase of 19.8 per cent compared to 2019 in the same period, the difference has highly been contributed by temporary closure of schools to mitigate the spread of Covid-19. According to the I-AM Responsible Foundation an organization championing against FGM and child marriage in the county, the closure of schools due to Covid-19 saw the rises on FGM cases as well as child marriages. Many cases of FGM were reported with Tambach ward leading with 300 cases.

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

MSMEs in West Pokot County largely operate in the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (66.6 per cent); accommodation and food services (7.6 per cent); and arts, entertainment and recreation (6.6 per cent). Generally, these are the sectors that have been hit most by the pandemic and need focus in achieving reengineering and recovery.

MSMEs in West Pokot County are mostly located in commercial premises (48.2 per cent), kiosks (41.2 per cent), market stalls (4.1 per cent), open ground with stand (2.4 per cent), and open market (1.7 per cent). This infers that some of the businesses in the County faced difficulties in meeting their rental obligations due to income disruptions caused by Covid-19. According to the May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 survey, all the non-farm and farm businesses interviewed attributed non-payment of household rental obligations to reduced incomes/earnings.

The May 2020 KNBS Covid\_19 survey shows that the wholesale and retail trade sector was adversely affected by the pandemic and lost 17.2 hours in usual and actual hours worked in a week implying loss of productivity, output and employment. Equally, the manufacturing sector was worst hit and lost 21.4 hours.

As pertains access to markets, the MSME 2016 survey shows that none of the MSMEs in the County depend on export and import markets for their material inputs. Hence, disruptions in the external markets may not have negative implications to MSMEs operations in West Pokot County. However, this still places a limitation on market options for the County. That said, expanding the scope of the MSMEs market is necessary for their growth.



e) **Infrastructure and housing**

The West Pokot County Government scaled down activities in the transport sector in mitigating the effects of the pandemic. 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 fare increase by 57.3 per cent. Residents responded by changing their travel patterns with 44.3 per cent of the population traveling less often, while 6.1 per cent were unable to travel due to the pandemic.

West Pokot County Headquarters Kapenguria town is currently connected to the National Optic Fibre Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) II. Approximately 66.7 per cent of public primary schools are installed with ICT capacity under Digital Literacy Programme. That said, 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 0.8 per cent of the households participate in online e-commerce, with men participating more in online e-commerce (1.1 per cent) than women (0.6 per cent). Further, there is a gender divide in use of internet where 10.3 per cent male and 6.0 per cent of the women using internet.

Majority of households (87.7 per cent) own the housing units they occupy while 12.4 per cent of the households under rental tenure. Individuals are the primary providers of rental housing at 86.4 per cent, followed by National Government (4.8 per cent); County Government (3.4 per cent); private companies (3.2 per cent); Parastatals (1.1 per cent); and FBO/NGO/Church based housing at (1.1 per cent). With the advent of COVID-19 pandemic households' ability to pay rent was affected, with 31.7 per cent of the population indicating inability to pay rent on the agreed date. The main reason that made households unable to pay rent was attributed to reduced incomes /earnings, reported by 76.3 per cent of the population.

f) **Gender and Youth**

West Pokot County has a population distribution of more female (50.6 %) than male (49.4%). The youth (15-34 years) comprise 32 per cent of the population. The Kenya Health Information System (KHIS, 2020) reported a 24.7 per cent increment in teenage pregnancies between January and May 2020 with 3,838 cases compared to a similar period in 2019 cases where 3,078 cases were reported. This could be attributed to covid-19 and the resulting measures that led to staying at home and closure of schools, among others. The May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 survey indicates that 41.3 per cent of the respondents in the County had witnessed or heard of any form of domestic violence. According to the HAK (2020), the county recorded 3 cases of GBV in April 2020.

g) **Water and sanitation**

Water companies lost a significant amount of their revenues due to low demand of water and sanitation services mostly from hotels, schools and other institutions due to closure of operations. This may affect the delivery, development and rehabilitation of WASH services. Waterpoints have been set up at all points of entry.









### 3 KEY Pillars OF THE RECOVERY STRATEGY

There is need to urgently address the social and economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in West Pokot County. This will help the County to recover and thrive after the pandemic. 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 diversifying the leather value chain.

#### 3.1 Boosting Private Sector Activity

The private sector plays a critical role in the West Pokot County economy in reducing poverty through income generating opportunities for the vulnerable households. From the KNBS 2016 survey, most of the private sector activities (66.6 per cent) are in the services sector with only 8.7 per cent in manufacturing. In terms of size, most of the enterprises in the County are in the micro category (97.4 per cent), 2.4 per cent are small-sized enterprises while 0.2 per cent are large firms. Since most firms are micro in nature, this shows that the informal sector dominates the private sector in West Pokot County.

Services sector activities include the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (66.6 per cent); accommodation and food services (7.6 per cent); arts, entertainment and recreation (6.6 per cent).

Covid-19 pandemic has 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 (87.2 per cent) in West Pokot County get their raw materials from peer MSMEs within the County and from individual suppliers (4.5 per cent). MSMEs generally sell their products to individual consumers (74.5 per cent) within the County. This means that when some firms and individual consumers are adversely affected this adversely affects the private sector.

According to KNBS survey 2016, the major constraints faced by MSMEs in West Pokot County include: poor roads/transport, stiff competition among MSMEs, procedures and bottlenecks of obtaining licenses, frequent power interruption, lack of collateral for acquiring credit, and inadequate markets for local products. The KIPPRA study on business environment for MSEs in West Pokot County in 2019 compliments these findings. It established that MSEs face challenges related to poor road infrastructure, multiple licenses and permits including cess, insecurity, fragmentation due to multiplicity of players who offer training and capacity building, lack of training and apprenticeship programme for artisans, and lack of Monitoring and Evaluation of training programmes.

The crisis offers a platform to address 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 maize, milk, coffee, tea, honey, livestock, leather, millet and sorghum production and processing.
- (ii) The textile and wearing apparel sectors can be enhanced to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) for use within the County and potentially for the domestic and export market.
- (iii) Exploration and processing of minerals, oil and gas within the County for both domestic and export markets.

In strengthening the private sector efforts prioritised at improving the business environment in the County could focus on.

- (i) Harmonizing the number of licenses and permits obtained by MSEs to streamline the operational requirements and improve the business environment.
- (ii) Collaboration with the National government to ensure security is enhanced to reduce on crime and create a peaceful business environment.
- (iii) Develop appropriate road infrastructure especially the county roads while collaborating with the private sector through PPP's to get financing of the projects.
- (iv) Initiating and strengthening self-sustaining funds dedicated and easily accessible to MSMEs in the County; promoting tailor made financial literacy programmes for MSMEs; and establishing a framework for micro-leasing for the MSMEs.
- (v) County government in partnership with other institutions both from public and private spheres to facilitate development of adequate and well-equipped worksites with workshops, common user facilities, incubation centres and showrooms for artisans which is cluster informed and fully serviced.
- (vi) Provide access to affordable renewable energy in collaboration with the national government and other stakeholders for sustainable development.

### **3.2 Policy, Legislatives, and Institutional Reforms**

The County Government of West Pokot has enacted several laws including for community service, co-operative development, finance, public participation and civic education and cash crop development. The County has also enacted the West Pokot County Disaster and Emergency Management Act (No. 3 of 2016) to provide for a more effective organization of disaster risk reduction and mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters. The County also has a number of Bills which are awaiting approval by the County Assembly. However, to strengthen the County's legal and institutional frameworks for recovery post Covid-19, the following strategies will be implemented:



- (i) Create official channels to continue conducting intensive public participation and civic education through online platforms such as the official County website, the official County social media and the official County email.
- (ii) Embrace the concepts and mechanisms of conducting digital participation and civic engagement.
- (iii) Strengthen intergovernmental relations and coordination in implementation of government policies at national and county level.

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

West Pokot County is prone to drought as the main type of disaster. Other types include; floods, landslides, mudslides (which are naturally/nature triggered), and violent community conflicts (which are human triggered). Mainly, the impact of drought and floods(witnessed by heavy rains after the end of the prolonged drought episodes)are usually felt throughout the county with severe consequences on the survival, dignity and livelihood of the indigenous communities. Disaster loss has increased the exposure of persons and assets to a number of vulnerabilities hence generating new forms of disaster risks. Though the County has a Disaster Risk Management Act, there is need to focus efforts towards disaster risk reduction, with the following strategies:

- (i) Formulate provisions to introduce emergency power into the County's health legislation to a public health emergency within the shortest time to enhance the legal preparedness for any major disease outbreak.
- (ii) Create provisions that allow more flexible and speedy amendment procedures to Acts and subsidiary legislation where they become necessary in times of emergency or pandemic.
- (iii) Strengthen the management of disaster risk and strategies in the view of reducing poverty and preventing crisis in the long run.
- (iv) Provide for public participation in subsequent decision-making processes both at the community and county levels for disaster risk reduction which will be an important ingredient for success.
- (v) Conduct capacity building and training for all relevant County officers and local communities for disaster response and mitigation including disaster preparedness and response.
- (vi) Prepare internal contingency plans to realign programmes and secure funding as needed.



### 3.4 Enhancing ICT Capacity for Business Continuity

The status of ICT access and use in the county is low, especially among households. Approximately 21.1 per cent of the population aged 3 years and above own a mobile phone which is lower than the national average of 47.3 per cent. The perception that individuals do not need to use the internet, lack of knowledge and skills on internet are the leading reasons that the people in the County do not have internet connection. In the new normal driven by COVID-19, the County will fast track the implementation of various projects to ensure business continuity and build resilience of the County against future pandemics and disasters as follows:

- (i) Support programmes in partnership with the private sector that enable households acquire ICT assets such as smart phones and laptops and increase mobile phone ownership from the low of 21.1 per cent to 100 per cent in line with the global agenda for Universal Access to Mobile Telephony<sup>1</sup>
- (ii) Speed up the construction of fiber-optic broadband networks in rural areas and collaborate with telecom companies to upgrade and improve the communication networks in remote areas.
- (iii) Adopt programmes to ensure ubiquitous access to reliable and affordable internet (internet everywhere) by applying aerial and satellite-based communication technologies.
- (iv) Harness the power of technology and use innovative solutions to bridge the gender digital divide and promote technology adoption.
- (v) The IT personnel in public primary schools will be deployed to support the development of ICT competence and skills among the public.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Establish a system for automated revenue collection and management in the County.
- (viii) Make ICT a standalone sector for planning and budget allocation. This is aimed at giving strategic prominence to planning, budgeting and investment in ICT.
- (ix) 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/itunews/manager/display.asp?lang=en&year=2007&issue=07&ipage=universal-telephony>



### 3.5 Promoting Human Capital Development

The Covid-19 had an impulse effect on human capital in the county. For instance, according to the May 2020 KNBS COVID\_19 Survey, 18.5 per cent of the workers were in formal employment and 81.5 per cent worked for no pay. However, majority of these workers (54 per cent) reported decrease in income due to COVID-19.

According to the Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHS) (2019), the County population aged 15-64 years (labour force) was estimated at 260,786 people of whom 241,125 million were working and 19,661 were seeking work representing an unemployment rate of 7.5 per cent.

According to the KIHBS 2015/16 data, the average years of schooling was 6.3 years out of the target of at least 12 years if entire population was to attain basic education up to complete secondary education. Human development index was 0.60 compared to 0.52 at national level and maximum of 1. The HDI at county level measures extent to which the counties are able to mobilize the economic and potential of professional the citizens. With rating of 0.60 it means the county lost about 40 per cent of her economic potential due to limited education and health. About 58.1 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. In addition, stunted children tend to perform poorly in school and earn less as adults compared to their well-nourished peers. As a such, this perpetuates inequality across generations.

The NHIF coverage was 10.3 per cent as compared to the average national level at 24.7 per cent while the number of children vaccinated was 31.2 per cent as compared to the average national level at 74.9 per cent. The data indicates the county had the lowest vaccination coverage in North Rift Economic Block (NOREB) with about 58.8 per cent of children at risk of contracting preventable diseases such as measles and polio. The county Government of West-Pokot will expedite skills development relevant to the main economic activities in the county such as livestock industry; whilst fostering human capital for the county. Recovery and re-engineering strategies will include:

- (i) Support the construction of more technical training institutions and funding the existing TVETs as well as engaging them for local production of face masks and PPEs and further support their capacity to expand their horizon to initiate more trainings and employment opportunities for the youth.
- (ii) Promote skills in utilization of ICT as a means of business continuity operations in the delivery of county services and the private sector. The county will invest more on the internet connection that is sustainable to meet the high demand created by the pandemic.
- (iii) Promote investment and entrepreneurship through provision of loans. The county Government of West-Pokot will improve access to finance for small and medium enterprises through lending institutions and cooperatives; and promoting investment in agriculture and livestock processing. In addition, build capacity in areas related to marketing, operations, finance, and human resource development to enhance the chances of survival of SMEs.



- (iv) Build workplace resilience to public health emergencies and outbreaks of infectious diseases as enforcing re-organization of workspaces to ensure heightened safety, and the right balance between virtual and non-virtual interactions.
- (v) Provide start up kits to TVETs graduates.

### 3.6 Diversifying the Leather Value Chain

The arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) counties are known for livestock production. Livestock sub-sector contributes immensely to the livelihoods and employment creation of residents in the ASALs region. The country relies on livestock from the ASALs for consumption and export of livestock products. As the third largest holder of livestock in Africa, Kenya needs to have an effective strategy that will enable the country to benefit from its vast livestock resources not only from meat and dairy products but also from hides and skins. Despite the large livestock population, the potential of value addition and diversification of the leather subsector remain underexploited (Onyango et. al, 2019).

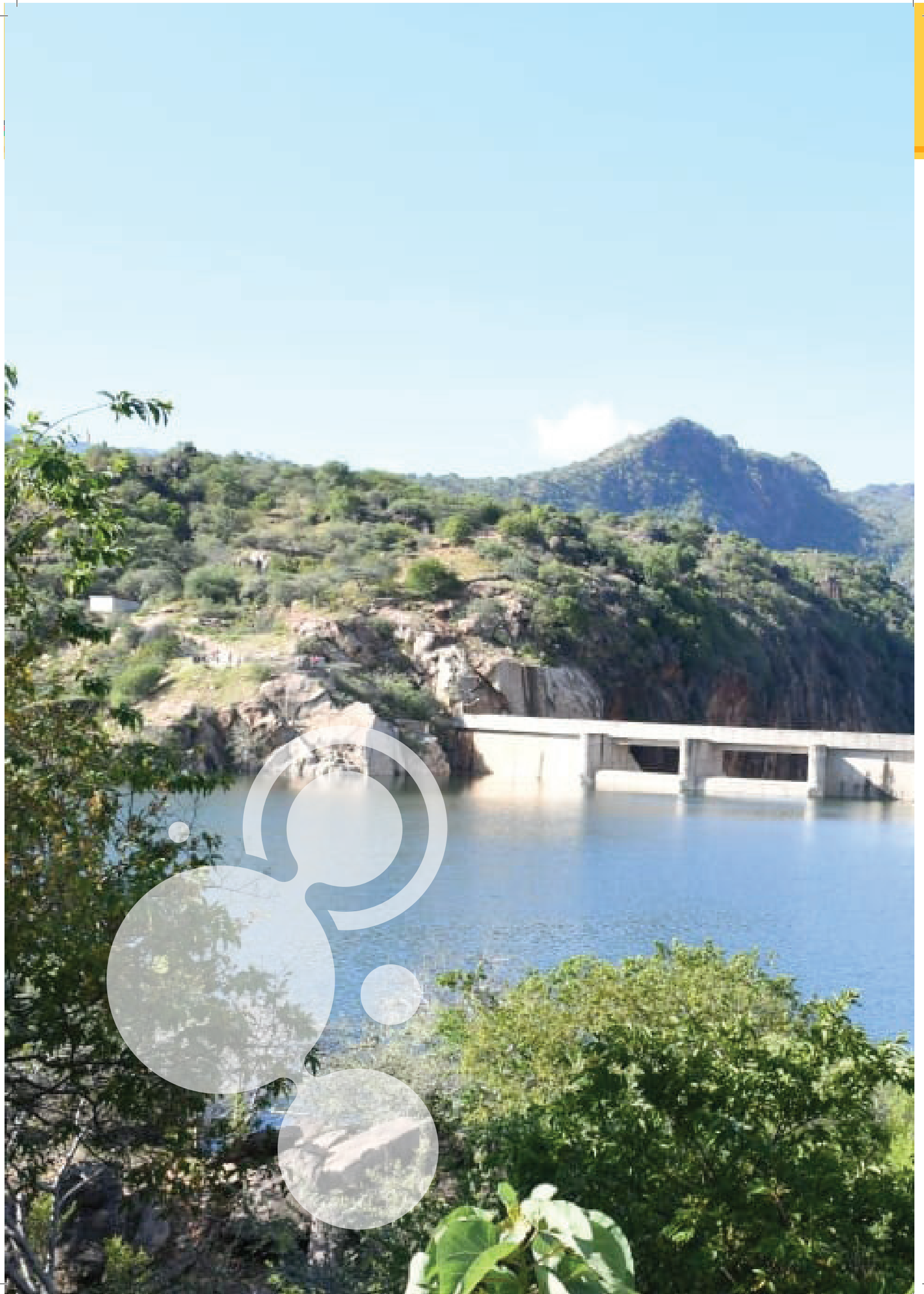
West Pokot County has an estimated 675,117 cattle; 1,156,140 goats; 609,271 sheep; 11,424 camels; and 3,853 donkeys. There are also 66,538 exotic cattle – dairy; 117,784 exotic sheep; and 2,273 dairy goats. The county has invested in livestock facilities including office blocks, cattle dips, livestock improvement centres, livestock holding grounds (e.g. Kacheliba, Pkopoch, Kabichbich, Runo, Nasukuta, Lotongot etc), hay sheds (Pkopoch, Masol, Nasukuta), metallic crushes and veterinary laboratories. There are also certain facilities that have remained dormant including livestock water pans, grazing demonstrations and group ranches. There are no commercial ranches in the county. For West Pokot County to harness the potential of hides, skins and leather value chain, the devolved government will take the following intervention measures:

- (i) Develop an integrated value chain that includes livestock production, abattoir, tannery and local light leather industry in one locality in one or two sub-counties for a start. The hides, skins, leather and value addition system could also include other livestock products such as meat and dairy products.
- (ii) Invest in high quality of livestock to improve quality of hides and skins. This will involve provision of veterinary services for household livestock farmers.
- (iii) Develop ranching system to control livestock mobility as long distances for pasture and water lead to diseases, low quality of livestock and losses.
- (iv) Invest in livestock-related technology and research to support the value chain to optimize benefits from the sub-sector.
- (v) Along rivers Turkwel, Suam, Weiwei and Muruny, the county government will invest in growing foliage for livestock. The county government could also explore growing Napier grass and other animal feeds in parts of the county with abundant rainfall.





- (vi) Since West Pokot belongs to both NOREB and FCDC blocs, it will push for common agenda to access both domestic and international markets. This could also involve working together with the national institutions and development partners for its live animals and livestock products.
- (vii) Explore introducing high yielding and drought resistant breeds to increase production in the county.
- (viii) Invest on skills and capacity building for value chain actors.
- (ix) Development measures to contain waste and losses in the leather value chain.
- (x) Improvement of transport infrastructure is critical in easing movement of value chain actors and their products.
- (xi) Create awareness about the significance on livestock insurance
- (xii) Protect the endangered livestock like donkeys is critical.





## 4 SUPPORT TO KEY SECTORS

### 4.1 Manufacturing

The manufacturing sector contributes 0.1 per cent to West Pokot County GCP. Manufacturing in West Pokot County mainly include wearing apparel (53.4 per cent), food products (28.6 per cent), and fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (19.7 per cent). The key products useful in value addition and driving manufacturing include: meat, milk, cotton, tea, coffee, pyrethrum, maize, millet, sorghum, textiles, beef, dairy, honey, leather and craft. Hence, it is essential in supporting recovery of the economy of the County from the effects of Covid-19 pandemic, and especially due to its strong forward and backward linkages. The following strategies will be implemented to re-engineer the economy of the County:

- (i) Establish an emergency rescue package for businesses and traders hard-hit by the effects of Covid-19 in the short run. The emergency Fund, supported by development partners and other stakeholders, can be used to identify and support the most vulnerable businesses and entrepreneurs affected by Covid-19. Related, the County will inject some stimulus to cushion the businesses and traders through affordable credit; waiver of some County taxes, cess, and other charges.
- (ii) Covid-19 has increased demand for locally produced goods in the County, and especially Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), sanitisers, hospital beds and ventilators. It is an opportunity to spur innovation and promote manufacturing and industry development and generation of jobs for the youth.
- (iii) Collaborate with the National government to ensure security is enhanced to reduce on crime and create a peaceful business environment.
- (iv) Leverage on Public Private Partnerships to invest in renewable energy projects.
- (v) Construction of key infrastructure to support resource exploitation including roads and water.
- (vi) Support extraction of limestone, processing of livestock meat, honey, dairy, and mango through PPPs.

### 4.2 Agriculture and Livestock

Agriculture accounts for a significant share of economic activity in West Pokot county. About 40 per cent of the county economic activity is driven by the agriculture sector. In 2017, agriculture accounted for Ksh. 19,311 million out of the total Ksh. 46,785 million Gross County Product (GCP) amounting to 41.3 per cent of the county's GCP. About 69 per cent of the households produce crops, 68 per cent produce livestock, 0.5 per cent practice aquaculture and about 0.3 per cent are involved in fishing. About 7 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, the County will adopt the following strategies aimed at building back better:



- (i) Develop partnerships with the National Government, NGOs, Research Institutions and the Private sector in enhancing agroprocessing and value addition capacities of the county in dairy, horticultural products and potatoes production as envisioned in the national Agricultural Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS).
- (ii) Maximize farm incomes through enhanced commercialization among small holder farmers in the county by strengthened market linkages beyond the county level across the agricultural value chain.
- (iii) Promote production of drought tolerant fruit trees/ crops to diversify production and provide an alternative income/livelihood for pastoralists.
- (iv) To minimize spoilage and post-harvest losses, investments in storage and cooling facilities particularly at collection points.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) Access to quality and affordable inputs including certified seeds (e.g. coffee, tea and pyrethrum seeds and seedlings) water, animal feeds, AI services, fertilizers, and livestock vaccination.
- (vii) Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions, crop pest and diseases, 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) Establish county multisectoral committees to deal with cross-cutting issues such as marketing of agricultural produce that cuts across the trade, ICT and infrastructure sectors.
- (ix) Build the capacity of farmers in adoption of modern farming technologies and practices and adopt sustainable land management practices to minimize environmental degradation. This can be done by establishing Agriculture training center (ATCs) in collaboration with development partners.
- (x) Invest in sustainable irrigation in the county through partnership with development partners. To support expansion of sustainable irrigation, there is need to promote development of Irrigation Infrastructure and technologies in the county.



### 4.3 Water and Sanitation

Clean and safe water remains essential in the fight against Covid-19, water is utilized for maintaining hygiene more so in hand washing as well as other specialized uses in households, institutions and in public places. Most households, urban rural and peri urban (13.7 per cent have low access to piped water, 13.7 per cent, 3.7 per cent and 10.8 respectively. Similarly, there is low access to improved sources of water in rural (36.0 per cent), urban (62.6 per cent) and peri urban (32.6 per cent) areas on the other hand, majority of rural households (54.5 per cent), urban (5.7 per cent) and peri urban (19 per cent) do not have access to sanitation facilities, sharing of toilet facility with other households is also common which is 16.5 per cent rural, 94.9 per cent urban and 35.8 per cent of peri urban. Additionally, According to May 2020 KNBScCOVID-19 survey, most households (75.3 per cent) have access to water and soap. Furthermore, 94.9% of the households do not have a designated handwashing facility in their households (KIHBS, 2015/2016)

The county 2018-2022 CIDP intended to achieve the following under WASH, irrigation, environment conservation and management. They include; to develop Water Supply Infrastructures by; drilling and operationalizing boreholes, upgrading boreholes to solar power, constructing /desilting Water Pans, constructing Sand/ sub-surface dams, installing New roof water catchment systems, developing Gravity Water supply schemes, protecting Springs in the county, digging Shallow wells and enhancing Water catchment protection - 3, 000 hectares of water catchments, riverbanks, swamps and fragile lands protected

In the recovery process, the following strategies will be implemented:

- (i) Increase water supply in households, institutions and public places through drilling of boreholes in all the sub-counties.
- (ii) Undertake mapping of water resources to know the existing water sources and the potential of water source.
- (iii) Upscale abstraction of water from rivers, spring protections, harvesting of rainwater from roof and other catchments to help achieve increase to water access and to reduce distance taken to water sources.
- (iv) Undertake water trucking during times of prolonged drought and water shortages and to households and more so to pastoralist community.
- (v) Separate drinking water points for households and livestock to minimize water contamination as well as conflict over water resource.
- (vi) The county to increase water storage capacity to store harvested water during rainy seasons.



- (vii) Expand and rehabilitate existing water connection infrastructure to reduce water leakages to reduce water losses.
- (viii) Introduce automated billing software to help curb the increasing value of non-revenue water.
- (ix) Establish water supply monitoring system for efficiency water supply and management.
- (x) Increase access to improved sources of water<sup>2</sup> by households, institutions and public places through drilling of boreholes in all the 7 sub-counties.
- (xi) Expand sewer infrastructure to accommodate more households.
- (xii) Build toilet facilities in communities, schools, and in public places to help increase access to safe and improved sanitation<sup>3</sup> in households, schools, health care facilities.
- (xiii) Involve both men and women in water management governance
- (xiv) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct WASH facilities to increase access at the household level.

#### 4.4 Urban Development and Housing

The county has challenges in quality of the housing stock. Approximately 25.2 per cent of houses are constructed using finished materials for walls, floor and roofing, compared to 74.8 per cent constructed using rudimentary materials. With regard to primary energy source for cooking, 96.0 per cent of households rely on unclean sources of energy such as firewood, paraffin and charcoal, which could adversely affect respiratory health of women and children. For re-engineering and recovery, the county will:

- (i) Enhance the capacity for urban planning and design and the provision of training for urban planners at all sub counties.
- (ii) Integrate the “build back better” principles into the pandemic recovery process to integrate resilience-building, environmental and spatial measures. This can be applied in the review of ADPs and CIDPs.

2 Improved sources of water included water from the following sources: Piped water - piped into dwelling, Piped water - piped into plot/yard, Piped water - public tap/stand pipe, Tubewell/borehole with pump, Dug well - protected well, Dug well - unprotected well, Water from spring - protected spring). While sources to unimproved source of water include; Water from spring - unprotected spring, Rain water collection, Vendors - tankers-truck, Vendors- cart with small tank/drum/bucket, Vendors-bicycles with bucket, Surface water river/streams/pond/dam/lake/cannal/irrigation channel Bottled water. This is according to WHO and UN classification of sources of water.

3 Improved sanitation include the following -Flush to piped sewer, flush to septic tank, flush to pit (latrine), flush to somewhere else, flush to unknown place, ventilated improved pit latrine, pit latrine with slab, pit latrine without slab) while access to unimproved sanitation include-Composting toilet, bucket toilet, hanging toilet/hanging, no facility/bush/field, others. This is according to WHO and UN classification of sources of sanitation



- (iii) Avail appropriate building technology for use by the public in house construction and improvement in every subcounty, that responds to local cultural and environmental circumstances.
- (iv) Identify and designate urban centers for upgrade pursuant to provisions of the Urban Areas and Cities (amendment) Act, 2019, as provided in the CIDP.
- (v) Formulate and seek approval of urban development plans and development control policies to support investment and development of urban areas.
- (vi) Adopt programmes aimed at an increasing household access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking to mitigate against exposure to respiratory diseases.
- (vii) Construction of market stalls to support MSMEs under the Kenya Urban Support programme, to complete a storied business complex.

#### 4.5 Transport

The county has a total of 2,558.71 Kilometers of road network. Approximately 34.6 per cent of the paved road network is in good condition, 37.9 per cent in fair condition and 11.1 per cent in poor condition. While 12.5 per cent of the unpaved road network is in good condition, 49.7 per cent in fair condition and 36.9 per cent in poor condition.

The main means of transport used in the County is Bicycle (boda boda) 55.0 per cent, Matatu-PSV 22.8 per cent and motorbike 12.2 per cent. On average, resident travel 7.9 Kilometers to their workplace which is within the threshold for Non-Motorised transport. Over 86.6 per cent of the unpaved road network is in poor and fair condition. To enhance mobility options for residents and improve road conditions to support economic, social and subsistence activities, the county will:

- (i) Re-develop bus parks and termini to address crowding and social distancing concerns stipulated in the public health guidelines.
- (ii) 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. Providing county stimulus funding to support transport sectors operators to comply with COVID-19 mitigation measures and the new normal in the transport sector.
- (iii) Identify county significant infrastructure projects, with project speed emphasis, for implementation to support economic recovery from the effects of the pandemic.
- (iv) Upgrade and maintain urban and rural access roads.





- (v) Focus on increasing the share of unpaved roads in good and fair condition to above 62 per cent which is the national average. For the unpaved road network, focus on adopting the Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVSR) technology for greater network coverage cost effectively.
- (vi) Identify a core rural road network for prioritization to improve the rural access index (RAI) from the current 56.0 per cent with a target to match the national average of 70.0 per cent.
- (vii) 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 Goals<sup>4</sup>.
- (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.

#### 4.6 Tourism

The main tourist attractions in West Pokot County include physical attractions (scenic sites, escarpments (Marich escarpment, Kaisagat viewpoint, Mtelo and Koh hills), Turkwel Dam); Wildlife tourism (Nasolot Game Reserve); Cultural and heritage tourism (the rich Pokot Culture and artefacts in Kapenguria museum, curio shop; the famous “Kapenguria Six” Cells that is found in Kapenguria Museum; Simar and Sintagh annual cultural events); and agroforestry. Despite the numerous attractions, the potential of tourism in the county remains unexploited and unmarketed. In addition, the county lacks classified hotels and has low bed occupancy meaning that it cannot accommodate high spending tourists. There are half a dozen guest houses and camp sites that can host tourists. Investment in tourist class accommodation facilities is imperative for tourism sector growth and development in the county. During the second CIDP period, the county government proposes to construct Kopoch Tourism Hotel to trigger requisite infrastructural support for aggressive marketing of a tourist circuit within the county. Revenue collected from tourism establishments accounts for only 0.6 per cent of the total county own source revenue. In terms of linkages with other sectors, the county has vast un-developed road infrastructure, including rural feeder roads which is critical for development of the tourism and agriculture. Other under-developed sectors include banking and finance, ICT and hospitality which are imperative for tourism sector growth. Investment in sanitation has emerged as a key component in ensuring business continuity in the tourism sub-sector. The recovery strategy will implement the following strategies:

- (i) Improve security in the County and the Northern Regional Economic Block in order to encourage tourism investors by addressing inter-ethnic conflicts through dialogue and trade promotion.
- (ii) Develop a county tourism sector development master plan.
- (iii) Tourism information: to market destinations sites and attractions; establish a tourist information centre; develop cultural libraries; cultural centres.

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



- (iv) Tourism-supporting infrastructure development: to develop of a dam in Turkwel gorge for sport fishing, bungee jumping, boat riding etc.; to improve transport infrastructure connecting the tourist circuit and conservancies; to establish more game reserves and ranches; develop an animal.
- (v) Hold Pokot cultural week annually; construct recreation centres.
- (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 in order to ensure business continuity.

#### 4.7 Health

To curb the spread of Covid-19, the county established isolation Centres in Kapenguria Referral Hospital with 35 isolation beds and Ortum Mission Hospital with 50 isolation beds, the county has at least 9 ICU facilities which are fully operational and isolation centers have been set up. The fight against the pandemic has been challenging due inadequate health officers. The health worker (doctor, nurses and midwives) population ratio stood at 1:1563 as compared to the 1:230 ratio recommended by the World Health Organization. This coupled with the average distance of 25Km to the nearest Health facility makes access to quality health services a challenge in the county. The recovery and re-engineering strategies include;

- (i) Revamping, expanding, modernizing and equipping of health facilities, including, Kapenguria Referral Hospital. This intervention is in line with the County's 2018-2022 CIDP of renovating and equipping Kapenguria County Referral Hospital.
- (ii) Implement a comprehensive human resource health management system including undertaking training needs assessments and information system to ensure skilled and motivated health care workers and equitable deployment across the County.
- (iii) Recruit additional public health officers and community health workers to strengthen preventive and primary health systems in the County.
- (iv) Promote and support public and community health including the installation of hand washing facilities in homes and institutions such as schools, workplaces and health care facilities within West-pokot. This intervention is in line with county's CIDP 2018-2022 of initiating Community Led total Sanitation (CLTS) project - To promote best hygiene practices in the communities.
- (v) Enhance supply of medical products and any other health care commodities to all health facilities as envisioned in County's CIDP 2018-2022.
- (vi) Proactively address the mental health needs including those of the health workforce, mental illnesses from depression, especially in response to shut-downs, economic downturns, and retrogressive cultural practices.



#### 4.8 Education and training

The county has 1,032 pre-primary schools centres with 838 ECDE teachers. ECDE enrolment currently stands at 77,679 giving teacher pupil ratio of 1:92. This enrolment represents approximately 51 per cent of the total eligible number of ECDE school age children under this age bracket. Also, there are 554 primary schools and 120 secondary schools with total enrolment of 186,708 and 156,272, respectively. Low enrolment was attributed to nomadic lifestyle, long distances to schools and lack of enough feeding program. The recovery and re-engineering strategy are;

- (i) The priority areas under early childhood development include construction of additional classrooms, recruitment of more ECDE teachers, provision of school feeding programme and installation of water tanks in all ECDE centres.
- (ii) Promote construction of new ECDE classes to promote social distancing, and recruit skilled teachers while supporting their professional development both in learning and public health support for learners. This intervention is in line with CIDP 2018-2022 of improving equitable access and providing an enabling environment for early childhood development education through ECDE Infrastructure Development.
- (iii) Promote back to school campaign when schools reopen and community outreach to ensure that no child drops out of school due to effects of COVID-19 pandemic.
- (iv) Building the capacity of all public-school teachers to provide training, guidance and quality assurance and prepare for education continuation in future outbreaks through provision of internet and ICT support among households.
- (v) Promote monitoring and addressing psychosocial wellbeing of students and teachers, also educate them on how to mitigate spread of coronavirus.
- (vi) Building the capacity of all public and private-school teachers to provide training, guidance and quality assurance to them and prepare for education continuation in future outbreaks through provision of internet and ICT support among households.
- (vii) Promote distance learning programmes by implementing measures to ensure students from low-income backgrounds have access to online education, this may be achieved through allocation of learning devices and supporting students and teachers from the poorest regions with internet connectivity.
- (viii) The county education sector in collaboration with health authorities shall establish the safety of school buildings and their surroundings before reopening; and ensure adequate provision of sanitation facilities and enhanced school feeding programme.



#### 4.9 Social Protection

According to KNBS Census 2019, 1.0 per cent of the population constitute persons with disabilities and 2.9 per cent constitute older members of society, aged 65 years and above. The county has established a kitty which provides for bursary for all eligible secondary school learner. The county has initiated a program to provide seeds and seedlings like maize, coffee, cotton, pyrethrum as a capital to farmers. In addition, farmers are given livestock like bulls and chicken to women to help improve their economic activities and livelihood. Through Public Private partnership the county government received support from Broadway Group of Companies that donated food to be distributed to various families affected by coronavirus in the county. The recovery and re-engineering strategy are;

- (i) Build linkages with other social sector Ministries, and with NGOs that work with people with disabilities to strengthen families, deliver assistive devices, reduce barriers to access and provide vocational training; also design and implement a disability grant to all those who are severely disabled, and who are above the age of eligibility for the infant grant and below the age of eligibility for the old age pension.
- (ii) Promote mainstreaming, protection and response against gender-based violence and involvement in all sectors, also Build resilience and promote affirmative action for addressing challenges facing vulnerable groups through implementation of special programs.
- (iii) The county will put enough budgetary allocation to health sector for the health workers to get enough PPE during this period. All sectors more so the informal sectors need to create an awareness to members to register on the available social protection program in the country.
- (iv) Extend social security assurance to specialists within the casual, residential division and those in casual work, also consider providing for youth.

#### 4.10 Gender and Youth

Teenage pregnancies and gender-based violence are pertinent issues that affect the youth, women and boys and girls in West Pokot County. Evidence indicates that 3,838 cases of teenage pregnancies were reported between January and May 2020 while 3 cases of GBV were recorded in April 2020. Covid-19 could have compounded the situation hence need for targeted interventions to address the same through;

- (i) Strengthen enforcement of laws related to early pregnancies especially where adults are involved.
- (ii) Prioritize elimination of gender stereotypes, transforming gender norms and revoke discriminatory practises for effective realization of the rights of women and girls.
- (iii) Community training and sensitization programmes targeting teenage boys and girls to deal with increased cases of teenage pregnancies.



- (iv) Identify and train champions (individual actors) active in combating GBV and who can carry advocacy messages and contribute strongly to changing harmful and retrogressive practices.
- (v) Creation of help lines to facilitate reporting of GBV cases; this could be through toll-free calls and SMS numbers for victims.
- (vi) Collaboration between the county, state agencies, and other partners to strengthen capacities of various stakeholders including, political leadership within the county, women's groups, religious leaders, and community leaders to combat harmful practices that breed GBV.
- (vii) Designate gender safe spaces to provide accommodation for GBV survivors and create spaces to be used as recovery centers preferably County Referral Hospitals.
- (viii) Fasttrack establishment of the County Community Service Programme, which is modeled along the National government Kazi Mtaani Programme
- (ix) Support sports and talent development among the youth.

#### **4.11 Environment and Natural Resources Management**

West Pokot County is prone to droughts, floods and landslides, these harsh realities of the environment negatively impact on livelihoods leading to loss of lives, property and livestock. The county is endowed with forest cover but the high demand for wood fuel, as well as socio-economic effect of Covid-19 is likely to widen the conflict between humans and environment and natural resources.

The major sources of energy for cooking used by households are firewood at 93.6 per cent, charcoal 4.8 per cent, liquified gas at 0.6 per cent. on the other hand, majority of the households in the county 77.9 per cent of the households dispose their solid waste in the compound, 2 per cent dispose in the streets or open field/plot, 6.4 per cent burn in the open. Only 1.6 per cent of the household solid waste is collected by the county government for disposal.

To ensure peaceful coexistence between humans and environmental, the county is promises to secure environmental sustainability through protection, promotion and conservation of the environment while addressing environmental degradation challenges resulting from population pressure, pollution, solid waste management, soil erosion, charcoal burning and logging. 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) Conserve and sustainably use lakes, rivers and forests for sustainable development.
- (iii) Involve communities, households and schools in reforestation programmes by provision of tree seedlings.
- (iv) Rehabilitate degraded sites.
- (v) Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of the environmental resources (forest, land, water).
- (vi) Provide waste collection services at households.
- (vii) Promote and facilitate regular waste collection, environment clean up exercises at neighborhoods and in towns.
- (viii) Fasttrack the development and implementation of a solid waste collection and management strategy.
- (ix) The county to develop and implement county irrigation master plan.
- (x) Provide tree seedlings to youth and women groups.





## 5 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAMME

### 5.1 Economic Stimulus Package

To re-engineer the economy of the West Pokot County, it is important to establish or deepen the existing programmes which have multiplier effects to productivity and employment creation. The following are targeted areas to be considered by the County when designing stimulus packages:

- (i) Subsidize farming inputs which include certified seeds, fertilizers and mechanized inputs (tractors).
- (ii) Provide extension services, improved breeding stock, and market creation for agriculture and livestock.
- (iii) Give waivers and concessions on cess, single business permits, parking stickers, water bills, market fees.
- (iv) Improve infrastructure targeting roads, water and electricity.
- (v) Leverage on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) which is a great enabler for business continuity during and after Covid-19.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Invest in the Conservation of the Environment for Sustainable Development.
- (viii) Invest in county community service programme.
- (ix) Settlement of pending bills.

### 5.2 Financing Economic Stimulus Package

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

As the agri-food sector gradually shifts from an emergency response to re-engineering, recovery and building resilience, we recommend that West Pokot County to adopt the following strategies aimed at building back better:



- (i) Develop partnership with development partners, such as, the National Government, NGOs, Research Institutions and the Private sector in enhancing agroprocessing and value addition capacities of the county in dairy, horticultural products and potatoes production.
- (ii) To Maximize farm incomes through enhanced commercialization among small holder farmers in the county by strengthened market farmers market linkages beyond the county level across the agricultural value chain.
- (iii) Promoting production of drought tolerant fruit trees/ crops to diversify production and provide an alternative income/livelihood for pastoralists.
- (iv) To minimize spoilage and post-harvest losses, investments in storage and cooling facilities particularly at collection points.
- (v) Digitization of 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.
- (vi) Access to quality and affordable inputs including certified seeds (e.g. coffee, tea and pyrethrum seeds and seedlings) water, animal feeds, AI services, fertilizers, and livestock vaccination.
- (vii) The county to establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions, crop pest and diseases, 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) Establish county multisectoral committees to deal with cross-cutting issues such as marketing of agricultural produce that cuts across the trade, ICT and infrastructure sectors.
- (ix) Build the capacity of farmers in adoption of modern farming technologies and practices and adopt sustainable land management practices to minimize environmental degradation. This can be done by establishing Agriculture training center (ATCs) in collaboration with development partners.
- (x) Investment in sustainable irrigation in the county through partnership with development partners. To support expansion of sustainable irrigation, there is need to promote development of Irrigation Infrastructure and technologies in the county.



### 5.3 Implementation Framework for the Economic Stimulus Programme

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



## 6 MONITORING, EVALUATING AND REPORTING

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

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

Evaluation and impact assessment of the plan will involve weighing the extent to which strategic objectives are met and impact created. Evaluation shall therefore be based on the implementation framework and theory of change. A theory of change describes how an intervention can deliver desired results and explains the causal logic of how a program modality or design innovation will reach its intended outcomes.<sup>5</sup>

The County COVID-19 re-engineering and recovery strategies reporting will be informed by annual work plans. All implementing departments will be expected to prepare M&E frameworks for each activity (see sample; Annex Table 3). The quarterly progress reports will include information on key indicators against set targets for the quarter. In addition, collection and collation of baseline data and identification of key indicators across the priority areas to monitor and inform the progress of the strategy during implementation is key.

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.

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





## 7 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Communication<sup>6</sup>, a process of creating understanding between two or more parties, is considered effective when the transmitted content is received and understood in the way it was intended. For development of County COVID-19 Socio-Economic Recovery Strategies, Communication for Development<sup>7</sup> (C4D) also referred to as Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) will be utilised. Communication for Development is evidence-based processes that involves a mix of communication channels and approaches to facilitate dialogue, participation and engagement with the target audience for positive social and behaviour change.

The communication channels<sup>8</sup> are the routes, media and techniques to be used to carry the re-engineering and recovery communication messages from the policy makers to the citizens. Based on May 2020 KNBS COVID-19 Survey, majority of West Pokot respondents received information about coronavirus through radio (85%), television (46%) and friends and family (30%). Government sources ensued closely at 29 per cent frequency rate, mobile at 26 per cent and social media 25 per cent. Nonetheless, the survey was however not specific whether mobile included both written (short text messages <SMS>) and voice (calls). Health Care workers, newspaper, and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) worker were all rated 10 per cent and below.

Therefore, the following channels of communication will be utilized:

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

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

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

7. [https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF\\_2017\\_Report\\_on\\_Communication\\_for\\_Development\\_C4D.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_2017_Report_on_Communication_for_Development_C4D.pdf)

8. <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									
TV									
SMS									
County Website & Email									
Social Media									
I.E.C-Posters, branded gear									
Outdoor-Billboards, Graffiti, Drawings									
Telephone									
Sign language									

> Most appropriate channel to be used.

**NOTE:**

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

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

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

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



## ANNEX

### Implementation matrix/Action plan

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
County Revenue Policy	OSR Enhancement; External grants	Lift the various waivers instituted on revenue streams; Seek for more funding from development partners in form of conditional grants	Increase in OSR and county revenues to enable smooth implementation of county projects.			Continuous from 2020/21	5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
County Expenditure Reforms; Pending Bills	Re-engineer expenditure to be growth oriented and people-centred	Increase expenditure in health sectors and other non-administrative functions such as water, trade, ICT, education, agriculture while systematically reducing expenditure on non-administrative functions	County expenditure that is people-centred and focussed on growth-creating sectors such as health, education, water, infrastructure, ICT etc			Continuous from 2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Reduce the approved budget-actual expenditure gap by fully implementing PFM recommendations and conducting annual expenditure reviews	County expenditure in line with existing National Government and County Government laws			Continuous from 2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Restructure county functional expenditure classification to encompass stand-alone emerging ICT functions	Fully fledged stand-alone ICT department with a budget			2020/21				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Eliminate pending bills	Systematically and in phase-out approach reduce pending bills owed to suppliers				Continuous				County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Agriculture	Diversification of production into fast-maturing vegetable crops through irrigation	Subsidies on fast-maturing vegetable seeds, expansion of area under sustainable irrigation	County residents eat more nutritious food	Increased number of farmers producing fast-maturing vegetables/ crops; Increased availability of nutritious vegetables/ crops in the county	Number of subsidized fast maturing seeds; Increased acreage under fast maturing crops; Acreage under sustainable irrigation		30.0	30.0	60.0	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		20	20	40	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



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

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
	Investments in storage and cooling facilities especially at collection centres	Construction of storage and cooling facilities in the County	Enhanced food security in the County	Increased storage and cooling facilities; reduced post harvesting losses	Number of storage and cooling facilities developed at the County level		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Digitization of the agricultural sector	Building capacities of farming households and agri-food sector labourers in modern agricultural technologies; Investment in digital infrastructure (e.g. data systems)	Digitized marketing, advisory and information, financial and agricultural government operations at the County		Number of users adopting digitized agricultural operations (marketing, financial, etc) at the County level		4	4	8	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Disaster surveillance at County level and mitigate risks associated with disasters, such as those related to floods	Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions at the County level equipped with relevant technical specialists and finances to effectively prevent, prepare, respond and prevent risks; Institutional capacity development; Carry out vulnerability analyses and updates; Invest in monitoring and early warning systems; Conduct public education	Enhanced food security in the County	Increased preparedness of households and communities to mitigate and respond to shocks; Early warning	Number of weather forecast and flood early warning disseminated to communities; Number of men and women trained to access flood warning and weather forecast/ information; Number of men and women trained on Disaster Management; Number of community level contingency and climate change adaptation plans developed		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhanced access to agricultural finance	Partner with development partners, such as, the National Government, Private Sector, DFIs and NGOs, in availing access to affordable formal agricultural finance to small holder farmers in the county	Access to agricultural finance will improve farmers access to support services and commodities e.g. access to affordable formal finance will enhance: - access to high end output markets; access to modern technologies and modern inputs; enhanced opportunities for agroprocessing and value addition; resilience to climate change etc.	Increased number of small holder farmers with access to agricultural finance.	Proportion of small-scale farmers with access to agricultural finance;		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

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



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
Manufacturing and MSMEs	Enhance innovation	Establish a Fund/ Establish a budget line to support innovative activities in the County	Increased county revenues; Increasing levels of employment; Increasing use of new business models	New product brands in the market; Improved processes	No. of new brands in the market; No. of trainings conducted;	3 years	10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Strengthening partnerships	Attract private partnerships and other stakeholders in the county;	Increased project undertaken by partners	Increased PPP arrangements	Number of county-PPPs; increasing no. of stakeholders' engagements with the County	continuous	10	10	20	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	5	5	10	National Government; County Government; Donor Agencies	County Government
Water and Sanitation	To increase access to clean water	To Develop and rehabilitate water infrastructure	No of water infrastructure developed and rehabilitated	Increased access to clean and safe water	% of the population with access to clean and safe water; % of population covered with piped water		100	100	200	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
Solid waste management	To achieve increased solid waste collection and management	To sensitive communities on importance of safe solid waste collection management and disposal	No of environment clean up exercised in major urban centres and neighbourhoods	Increased access to clean environment	% of population with increased access to safe and clean environment		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
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		70	70	100	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	15	15	30	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



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

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
	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	3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To improve the road conditions of the road network	Improve quality of the unpaved road infrastructure using labour-based techniques	Improved accessibility and reduced vehicle operation costs	Increased proportion of roads in good and fair condition	Proportion of unpaved road network in good and fair condition		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Improve quality of road network using appropriate technology -Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVSR) for rural roads	Improved accessibility and reduced vehicle operation costs	Increased proportion of roads in good and fair condition	Knowledge management of roads developed using LVSR		2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To mitigate the damage caused by floods on roads and bridges	Implement green roads design to protect road infrastructure while controlling storm water and harvesting flood water for domestic and commercial use	Resilient road infrastructure that can withstand floods with controlled damage	Number of green roads projects and water harvesting infrastructure	Knowledge management of green roads and quantity of water harvested in cubic meters annually		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	8	8	16	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Programme to ensure ubiquitous access to reliable and affordable internet (internet everywhere)	Increased use of ICT for domestic and commercial purposes	Increase in number of households connected to reliable and affordable internet	Proportion of households connected to reliable and affordable internet	1 year	4	4	8	County and National Governments; development partners	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		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance prominence in County planning and budgeting	Designate ICT as a stand-alone Ministry in West Pokot 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		2	2	4	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



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



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
Urban Development and Housing	To improve the quality of life of residents through provision of affordable and decent housing	Fastrack implementation of the affordable housing programme with a focus on improving living conditions in informal settlements	Enhanced quality in informal settlements due to improved housing conditions	Increased proportion of households provided with affordable and decent housing	No. of housing units provided		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Map flood risk settlements and implement flood disaster mitigation plans including relocation and re-settlement of households	Reduced flood risk and disaster incidents in human settlements	Increased number of households relocated from flood risk areas	No. of households relocated from flood risk areas		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To increase access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking by households	Enhanced household use of clean energy and technology for cooking; distribution of clean cookstoves and clean energy alternatives to charcoal, kerosene and firewood	Increased number of households with access to clean energy and technology for cooking	Proportion of households with access to clean energy and technology for cooking			5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Tourism	Enhance socio-economic benefits from the tourism sector	Tourism sector development master-plan; Rehabilitate infrastructure leading to tourism attraction sites	Growth in revenue generation from tourism	Increased visitor numbers to the county; increased awareness of the diversified tourism product offering	Number of local and foreign visitors; revenue collected by county government from tourism.	3 – 5 years	2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners; Kenya Tourism Fund	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	2	2	4	County and National Governments; development partners; Kenya Tourism Fund	County Government
Health	Improve access to quality and affordable health services	Provide appropriate antenatal care	Improved health condition of pregnant women	Number of women benefitted	2 years		100	100	200	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		40	40	80	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruit high number of public health officers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of health officers recruited	1 year		40	40	80	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance Medical Supplies	Increase % of availability of essential Medical products	Number health centres stocked with essential medical products.	1 year		30	30	60	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government



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

Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
		Improve immunization coverage in the County	Reduced mortality	Number of immunization outreaches	1 year		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	To improve sanitation in the County	Enhance construction of latrines	Increased latrine coverage	% of homesteads with latrines	1 year		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Drill boreholes at County health centres and public areas	Improved access to safe water in public places	Number of boreholes drilled	2 years		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Strengthen collaboration with health-related sectors	Pollution control; Improvement in veterinary services; Construction of latrines	Improved service delivery	% change of health sector development	1 years		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Minimize exposure to health risk factor	Health promotion including health information; Micro-nutrient deficiency control; Infection prevention and control	Reduced mortality rate	Number of patients treated	2 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Education	To improve service delivery in schools	Promote infrastructure development	Improved training environment	Number of school facilities renovated and constructed	2 years		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		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Recruitment of ECDE teachers	Efficient and effective service delivery	Number of ECDE teachers recruited	2 years		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Capacity building of school Board of management	Improvement in the management capacities	Number of trainings held	1 years		1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Enhance transition and retention rates in schools	Disbursement of bursaries	Increase of school attendance	No. students of supported with bursaries	2 years		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Promote school feeding programmes	Increase in number of students attending schools	% of students attending schools	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance back to school campaigns	Increase in number of students attending schools	% students attending schools	1 years		1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government

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



Sector	Strategic Objectives	Activities/Economic Stimulus	Expected Outcome /Key Result Area	Expected output	Key Performance Indicator	Time frame	2020/21: 2021/22 (Ksh. in million)	2022/23 (Ksh. in million)	Total Budget (Ksh. in million)	Source of Funds	Implementing Agency/Actor/ Stakeholder/ Department
	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		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Strengthen social well-being of students	Promote guidance and counselling in schools	Increased retention and attendance in school	Number of schools where guidance & counselling	1 years		1	1	2	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Social Protection	Promote social protection activities	Provide medical insurance coverage	Reduction in treatment cost during emergencies	Number of people covered by insurance	1 years		20	20	40	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Enhance cash transfer to vulnerable groups	Reduced poverty level	Number of people who benefitted from cash transfers	1 years		70	70	140	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
Human Resource	Provide safety in workplaces	Provide adequate personal protective equipment for employees	Reduced cases of COVID-19 in workplaces	Number of protective equipment provided	1 years		10	10	20	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Improve staff digital skills	Implement policy guidelines on skills development among the staffs; Training and capacity building of staffs on use of ICT in service delivery	Improvement in remote working	Number of staff trained on digital skills	1 years		3	3	6	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
	Mainstream occupational safety and health into the sectors of the economy	Train workers on safety and health	Increased control of COVID-19 transmission	No. of workers trained	1 years		5	5	10	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Provide adequate personal protective equipment for employees	Reduced cases of COVID-19 in workplaces	Number of protective equipment provided	1 years		4	4	8	County and National Governments; development partners	County Government
		Grand Total					912	912	1774		







## COUNTY GOVERNMENTS



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



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