



**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
STATE OF DEVOLUTION ADDRESS BY
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CHAIRMAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**

8th July 2022

Excellency Governors,

Members of the Press,

Fellow Kenyans,

On behalf of the Council of County Governors (CoG), it is my great pleasure to deliver the Ninth State of Devolution Address.

This is the last State of Devolution Address as we move closer to the exit of the second generation County Governments.

It is however a landmark address as we also move towards marking 10 years of devolution next year.

As you are all aware, over the last two (2) years, the pandemic hugely disrupted service delivery and affected various sectors of the economy. County Governments have taken significant strides to put in place measures to fast-track recovery from the shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The County Governments will continue to implement the County Socio-Economic Recovery and Re-Engineering Strategy meant to spur the economic recovery and return to normalcy.

Fellow Kenyans,

On behalf of the forty-seven (47) County Governments, I truly feel honored and at the same time humbled to present to you a report of the gains, opportunities and challenges encountered in the last one year.

1. AGRICULTURE

Within the reporting period the agriculture sector recorded a growth of **5.1%** which is a minor drop of **0.1%** as compared to previous years performance. The minor drop in performance is attributed to;

One, erratic and poorly distributed long rains

Two, inadequate short rains.

Three, Maize production decreased from **42.1 million bags** in 2020 to **36.7 million bags** in 2021.

Four, Coffee production declined by **6.0%** from **36.9 thousand tonnes** in 2019/20 to **34.5 thousand tonnes** in 2020/21 crop year.

Five, Tea production declined by **5.6%** from **569.5 thousand tonnes** in 2020 to **537.8 thousand tonnes** in 2021, due to unfavorable weather conditions.

However, regardless of the challenges, there were the following positive and progressive performance;

One, the volume of sugar cane deliveries to factories increased from **6.8 million tonnes** in 2020 to **7.8 million tonnes** in 2021. This largely contributed to improved cane availability in most of the sugar zones.

Two, The volume of horticultural exports increased by **4.5%** from **313.7 thousand tonnes** in 2020 to **405.5 thousand tonnes** in 2021.

Three, During the review period, the volume of marketed Milk increased by **26.6%** from **682.3 million litres** in 2020 to **801.9 million litres**.

Four, Overall value of marketed agricultural production increased by **4.3%** from Kshs **505.3 billion** in 2020 to Kshs **527.0 billion** in 2021.

In **FY 2021/2022**, County Governments allocated **35.5 billion** to the **agriculture sector representing 11%** of their budgets, an increase from **7.3%** in FY 2020/2021.

Fellow Kenyans, in the wake of climate change and in order to empower our farmers, County Governments have done the following;

One, distributed **643,686 assorted fruit trees**.

Two, distributed **45 metric tonnes potato vines**.

Three, distributed subsidized inputs to farmers, including **66,718, 50kg-bags of assorted fertilizers**.

Four, distributed **507,786 avocado seedlings, 401,000 coffee seedlings, 38,000 coconut seedlings, 46,400 tissue culture bananas, 2,090 irrigation kits, and 93 greenhouses**.

Five, invested in agricultural machinery with additional 10 tractors purchased over and above **350 tractors** operating in **29 Agriculture** mechanization stations in 2021.

Fellow Kenyans, the County Governments have also focused on the development and commercialization of the livestock sector as follows;

- a) Procured **10,782,369 doses of various vaccines** for livestock vaccination
- b) Conducted **369,788 subsidized AI services**,
- c) Procured **449,673 straws of semen**,

- d) Distributed 4,376 **cattle, goat, and sheep breeding stock**,
- e) Installed 68 milk coolers
- f) Introduced **commercial poultry farming** by supporting farmers with **1,608,108 improved kienyeji chicks**.

Further, the County Governments have also given support to the fisheries sector, by distributing **2,987,356 fingerlings** to farmers in addition to **746,445 fingerlings distributed in 2021**.

Not to be left behind is the extension services in 2022, County Governments reached out to **4,523,889 farmers**.

The said developments have been possible notwithstanding, several challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing input, and fuel prices, erratic weather patterns and drought.

2. ARID AND SEMI-ARID LANDS & DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Fellow Kenyans, may I at this juncture address the critical issues affecting persons living in the largest land mass of Kenya. These are Arid and Semi Arid lands and the subsequent main challenge they face that of **Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Legislation and Policy Frameworks.**

To effectively achieve the goal of preventing, responding and recovering from disasters, it is imperative for Counties to formulate and implement policies and strategies which will guide the disaster management units on a pathway to attain DRM objectives.

- ✓ **12 Counties** have enacted **Disaster Management Acts** while **10 Counties** have put in place **Disaster Management Policies.**
- ✓ **13 Counties** have developed **County Emergency Operation Plans** to provide a framework for coordinating preparedness, response, and recovery activities in the Counties.

The Council of Governors is working closely with the remaining Counties to strengthen the legal and policy environment for disaster management.

COUNTY DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT COORDINATION STRUCTURES

For the Counties to operationalize the established DRM policies and legislations, it is paramount to establish strong institutions for implementation and ensure that there is adequate funding to enable the institutions effectively implement the DRM strategies.

14 Counties have established a **Directorate of Disaster Management** and allocated a cumulative total of **Kshs 258,814,553** to the Directorate to enable it operate effectively. In addition, **8 Counties** have allocated **2%** of their annual budget to the **County Emergency Fund Kitty.**

40 Counties have established firefighting department with functional fire engines.

The Council recognizes the significance of the Disaster Management function in the Counties and shall continue to provide technical support for operationalization of the disaster management function.

DROUGHT UPDATE 2021-2022

Due to ravaging effect of droughts, households and livestock in ASAL areas are subjected to abject suffering in the absence of sufficient food and water. The health of children across the affected Counties is also negatively affected due to lack of proper nutrition.

Total number of people affected by drought in the Counties is approximately **4.1 million**. The County Governments have initiated a myriad of interventions to counter the adversity of the drought impacts. These interventions are as highlighted below;

- ✓ **2.7 million people** benefited from food relief distributed by the Counties. This has improved nutrition of the affected households who were in the verge of starvation.
- ✓ **Water tracking** benefited close to **1 million people** while **876,153** children who were under normal nutrition level were reached during the one-year period (2021-2022). Total number of vaccinated livestock during the period was over 5,280,654 which gave immunity against various livestock diseases.

In response to the drought, most of the affected County Governments had to redirect their efforts to respond with urgency to reduce the effects of droughts.

For the Counties to have resilient approach in countering the impacts of drought, the County Governments need to allocate adequate funds in their subsequent annual budgets to finance drought prevention and mitigation interventions.

and continue to present institutional, procedural, financial and regulatory weaknesses that claw back on devolution and pose a threat to health service delivery.

To sustain the gains made over the last financial year, the Council notes that County Governments scaled-up investments across all health investment areas as follows:

i. INFRASTRUCTURE

The number of health facilities in the country has increased by 6% from **13,190 in 2021 to 13,772** currently. Of this, public facilities account for **46% (6,332)**, private facilities - **44% (6,022)**, faith-based facilities **7% (1,027)** and non-governmental facilities - **3% (391)**.

Across the 47 Counties, there are;

- 1) **6 ‘Level 6’ health facilities** referred to as National Referral Hospitals, **23 ‘Level 5’** (County Referral Hospitals), **886 ‘Level 4’** (Sub-county Hospitals),
- 2) **2,180 ‘Level 3’** (Health Centers);
- 3) **10,677 ‘Level 2’ Facilities/Dispensaries**. Health care services have been brought closer to the people.

The County Governments are now targeting having facilities at a 5 km radius moving forward.

Across the 47 County Governments inclusive of private, and referral facilities, there are **1,278 functional critical care beds (ICU and HDU beds)**. The improvement in ICU infrastructure is highly attributed to County

Governments' mobilization efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic period in collaboration with partners and National Government.

Further, efforts to increase the storage capacity of blood and blood products across the 47 Counties and to ensure that there is adequate blood in cases of emergency have led to the establishment of **12 blood transfusion satellite centers** across **12 Counties**. The establishment of these centers will increase collection of blood to a tune of **67,056 pints**.

County Governments continue to strategize on reducing the burden of Non Communicable Diseases. For instance, since 2019, with support from the National Government, **14 regional cancer centers** have been established across Counties. Three of these centers (Kisumu, Nakuru, and Garissa) are comprehensive and therefore have increased screening, chemotherapy, surgery and recently radiotherapy services for the people.

ii. SERVICE DELIVERY

The Council of County Governors notes a significant reduction of maternal mortality in the country since the inception of devolution.

- ✓ In 2013/14 the facility Maternal Mortality rate per 100,000 was **116.4**, and in 2020/21 it stands at **99.6**.
- ✓ The under-five mortality rate has reduced by a margin of **7.4** from **47.78** to **40.34 per 100,000** live births.
- ✓ The **proportion of skilled deliveries** has increased gradually from 2014/2015 from **53%** to **78%**.
- ✓ The **proportion of pregnant mothers attending at least 4 ante-natal visits** has also increased from **46%** to **51%** over the same period.

iii. HEALTH CARE FINANCING

There has been improvement in the budgetary allocation to health in Counties from **32.8%** in the FY2020/21 to **34.3%** in FY2021/22, this is exclusive of funds received as conditional grants

Further, the conditional grant under the Transforming Health Services (THS) allocation increased to **Kshs 3.9 billion** from **Kshs 2.6 billion** in FY2019/20. **The overall absorption rate for the funds sent to Counties since the first financial year of disbursement FY2017/2018 was 89.5% as of 31st March 2022.**

However, no disbursement of funds has been made in the current financial year owing to inordinate delay in approval and enactment of the County Governments Additional Allocation Act.

And lastly, resources through the DANIDA PHC support program will see Counties get additional **Kshs 701 million (75%)** in this current financial year with a condition of Counties contributing **Kshs 199 million (25%)** as counterpart funding.

iv. COVID-19 Management and response

During the last financial year, County Governments made huge strides in response to the COVID-19 pandemic including strengthening of medical

1.Turkana	5. Marsabit	9. Elgeyo Marakwet	13. Kilifi
2.West Pokot	6. Kisumu	10. Nakuru	
3.Garissa	7. Migori	11. Nairobi	
4.Samburu	8. Kakamega	12. Mombasa	

There are **8,778** Community units each with about **10 Community Health Volunteers** in the country. The number of fully functional community health units are **6,191**, the Semi functional ones are currently at **2,239**, and **348** are not functional.

vii. HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH

There has been a tremendous improvement in strengthening health service delivery by increasing the number of human resources for health. In the FY 2021/2022 47 County Governments have cumulatively employed **additional 767** healthcare workers across various carders to increase the efficiency in delivery of health services.

Fellow Kenyans,

Delivering the promise of a responsive health system will require County Governments to increase the investments even further despite the limitations of the current fiscal space.

The Council will ~~work closely~~ with the National Government and the Senate to address critical issues derailing service delivery, continuously advocate for sustainable and innovative health care financing as well as provide a

4. FINANCE, PLANNING, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AND ICT

i) *Fellow Kenyans, may I now move on another very critical sector to all County Governments: Finance*

The Economic Survey 2022 report indicates that the Economy has recovered from the crippling effects of COVID-19 pandemic to expand by **7.5% in 2021** compared to **0.3% contraction in 2020**. The recovery was mainly driven by resumption of most economic activities and the lifting of containment measures instituted to curb the spread of the virus.

Regarding County finances, the total projected revenue for budget implementation in the FY 2021/2022 amounted to **Kshs 467.7 billion**, which consists of equitable share allocation of **Kshs 370 billion**, Additional Allocations from both National Government and Development Partners amounting to **Kshs. 39.9 billion** and projected Own Source Revenue of **Kshs 57.8 billion**.

Out of this allocation, a total of **Kshs. 340,400,000,000** has so far been disbursed to County Governments as Equitable share equivalent to **92%** and **Kshs. 16,614,314,580 (51%)** of the **Kshs.32.34 billion** additional allocations from development partners. As of the first nine (9) months of the FY 2021/22, County governments generated a total of **Kshs.27.09 billion** from their own source revenue (OSR), which was **46.1 per cent** of the annual target of **Kshs.57.8 billion**. This was an improvement compared to **Kshs.25.52 billion** generated in a similar period of FY 2020/21.

ii) **PENDING BILLS**

Counties continue to make commitments towards the settlement of pending bills despite the constrained fiscal space. As at the end of the Third Quarter of the FY 2021/22 **43 Counties** reported partial settlement of historical pending bills to a tune of **Kshs.15.12 billion**. Mandera County did not report any outstanding pending bills as of 31st March 2022.

Despite a slight improvement this financial year, delayed disbursement of equitable share and additional allocations to the County governments by the National Treasury continue to be the major issue putting a strain on County Governments operations and implementation of annual budgets.

This FY the situation was worsened by late approval of County Governments Additional Allocations Bill, 2022 by both the Senate and the National Assembly to unlock funds flow. The implications of the perennial delays include but not limited to:

- Delayed settlement of suppliers' eligible pending bills leading to further accumulation of pending bills.
- Negatively affected service delivery to Kenyans.
- Derailed implementation and completion of development projects heading into transition.
- Under absorption of budgets affecting Counties' work plans for the ensuing financial year.

The Council wishes to congratulate the Cabinet for approving Laikipia County's application to raise **Kshs.1.16 billion** through issuance of an infrastructure bond. This follows the approval by the Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council (IBEC) during its 15th Ordinary session on 21st November 2021. The final and the most worth of congratulations is of course our Colleague Governor H.E Muriithi Ndiritu for spearheading the whole process which let to Laikipia County and its great people be the first to qualify for infrastructure Bond!

The objective of the Infrastructure Bond is to finance implementation of projects including; Provision of water for agricultural production, and improvement of the business environment by upgrading markets and town infrastructure; which will provide additional jobs to the residents of Laikipia and improve their household income and livelihoods.

We now urge the Senate to approve the same to enable the County raise additional funds to finance the transformative projects and further unlock the huge investment opportunities from the **seven-year** bond.

5. URBAN PLANNING, HOUSING, LANDS, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ENERGY

Fellow Kenyans, may I now turn to Urban Planning, Housing, Lands, Infrastructure and Energy

County Governments and Municipalities have been able to prepare Integrated Development Plans (IDePs), integrated strategic urban development plans (ISUDP) and County spatial plans (CSPs). These have provided frameworks for urban development projects.

This year the Council reports that one extra County (Bomet County) has approved their County Spatial Plan and therefore five Counties now have their County Spatial Plans approved. **23 other County Governments** are at different stages of the preparation of the County Spatial Plans.

In terms of urban infrastructure development, County Governments through their respective municipalities have greatly invested in urban infrastructure. The achievements so far include:

- a) **202 kilometers** of roads within the municipalities.
- b) **171 kilometers** of non-motorized transport (NMT).
- c) **5,250 parking spaces** which include both parking for private and public transport.
- d) **4,533 street lights** installed with an additional **81 high mast lighting** (mainly solar).
- e) **192 kilometers** of storm water drains constructed.
- f) **31 kilometers** of sewer line constructed.
- g) **12 recreational facilities** constructed.
- h) **16 retail markets** constructed.
- i) **12 fire stations** constructed in different municipalities.

i) URBAN GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

County Governments continue to establish and strengthen urban institutions. In the last one year an additional five municipalities have been granted municipal charters and therefore making the cumulative number of municipalities to be **Sixty-Four (64)**.

ii) BUILDING URBAN RESILIENCE

Five (5) Counties have initiated the development of urban resilience strategies for five selected cities in Kenya (Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, Eldoret, and Nakuru) which will be replicated to the other municipalities and towns.

This will enhance city management, adaptation to shocks and stresses and provide the necessary resilient urban services to all, especially the urban poor.

Municipalities are also developing resilient infrastructure projects aimed at addressing some of the climate change effects. This has been achieved through the construction of disaster risk management centers (fire stations), construction of storm water drainage to address flooding and construction of sewer systems.

iii) URBAN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORT

The Counties have also seen the construction of recreational parks and innovation and training hubs. These hubs are mainly targeting the youth to build skills that are key for their growth economically as well as building the nation.

COVID-19 brought about a new shift in the management of transport systems in the Counties. We are happy to report that over this period, Counties have been involved in creating order in public transport including bus stops, parking and route allocation in collaboration with National

Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA). This has helped in the fight against COVID-19 and as well as creating order in our transport sector.

Despite these efforts County Governments continue to face the following challenges in the sector:

- a. Lack of adequate financing that impedes the implementation of an ideal accessible mass transport system that is already planned.
- b. Weak coordination of transport initiatives leading to disruptions in the provision of public transport services.
- c. Missing road markings and road signs in many of the County roads
- d. Lack of regulation/control of motor cyclists (Boda bodas).

The County Governments in collaboration with National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) have established the County Transport and Safety Committees in each County (CTSC) to oversee the management and regulation of the road transport system.

Through these Committees, County Governments have managed to improve the road transport and safety.

This has also fast-tracked the achievement of improved accessibility and safety of Kenya's road transport system for all users at devolved units and progressively at national level.

iv) ENERGY

Energy is a powerful sector that has the potential to foster economic development at the subnational level. It is important to note that, with the enactment of the Energy Act 2019, County Governments have developed strategies and policy frameworks geared toward addressing their energy needs in a specific and more concentrated manner.

Wind energy in Kenya has enormous potential, only ten (10) Counties have set up wind masts in potential regions to collect wind data to support future investment in wind technology as a source of renewable energy.

Preliminary wind resource assessments show that wind regimes in certain parts of Kenya (such as Marsabit, Ngong' and the Coastal region) can support commercial electricity generation as they enjoy wind speeds ranging from 8 to 14 meters per second (m/s).

Counties have made significant investments in renewable energy with an increase in wind projects from **6 Counties** to a total of **10 Counties**.

Additionally, a number of other large-scale wind power projects are under development, including Kipeto (100 Megawatts), Isiolo (100 Megawatts), Meru (60 Megawatts), Ngong' (51 Megawatts) and the Baharini Electra Wind Farm project in Lamu (90 Megawatts).

County Governments have also increased investments in solar energy projects with a total of **1,126 solar projects** recorded and a total of **2,729 solar lights** installed.

A majority of the boreholes found in Counties are powered by solar pumping systems, as well as other community projects such as dispensaries and local markets.

County Governments are committed to achieving the target of its population enjoying access to modern bioenergy services; including 100% access to clean cooking by 2028.

Bioenergy in Counties has not been exploited to its full potential however the following Counties have made tremendous efforts on this as follows:

County	Bio gas technology adoption in this year of review
Makueni	20,000 households using biogas
Busia	500 Digesters Installed
Kisii	630 Households using bio gas
Trans Nzoia	125 biogas demonstrated projects implemented /increased in energy saving cooking stoves
Isiolo	5 to 25% Households are using clean fuels e.g. LPG installed
Tana River	2,000 improved cooing stoves installed
Wajir	5 to 40% household using clean fuels e.g. LPG

During the implementation period, **27 Counties** have developed detailed energy plans incorporating the various energy resources, operative regulations/policies, and implementation strategies that are meant to promote energy efficiency and conservation within the Counties.

This has also been integrated into the County Spatial Plans, County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and setting the pace towards sustainable energy development.

To guide this process, the Council of Governors is in the process of **developing an energy toolkit** for County Governments to fast track the exploitation of the energy sector at the County level.

6. TRADE, INVESTMENTS, AND MANUFACTURING

Fellow Kenyans, may I now turn to Trade, Investments and Manufacturing Sector. This is the sector with a high potential for jobs and wealth creation.

In this reporting year, County Governments made significant strides to revitalize trade and manufacturing sector after the COVID-19 pandemic's shocks.

i) TRADE AND MANUFACTURING

Counties have continued to play a critical role in supporting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through various initiatives to enable them navigate the recovery from the pandemic.

Cumulatively, County Governments have registered **124,420** micro enterprises, **87,153** small enterprises, **34,727** medium enterprises, and **8,191** large enterprises.

To support the MSMEs, **19 Counties** have established the County Business Enterprise Funds to provide affordable loans, with a cumulative allocation of **Kshs 334.5 million** and a total of **7,058** MSMEs benefitting.

Further, to provide an enabling business environment, **24 Counties** have automated the business registration services for easier business license registration and renewal.

County Governments have also continued to rehabilitate and build markets, with **27 Counties** having constructed **127 new markets** within the past one-year while **25 Counties** having rehabilitated **118 old markets**.

Other incentives that the County Governments have provided to MSMEs include:

- i. Establishing training and sensitization programmes for traders/entrepreneurs with finance institutions.

- ii. Affordable credit to address the financial needs of SMEs through engagements with financial institutions including Kenya Development Corporation.
- iii. Waiver of agricultural produce cess.
- iv. Waiver of market entry fees.
- v. Waiver single business permit late payment penalty.
- vi. Waiver of rates penalty for 60 days.
- vii. Reduced Single Business Permit fees.
- viii. Land rate waivers.

In the legislative and policy front, **14 Counties** have domesticated the Kenya Investment Policy whose aim is to create an enabling investment climate, and promote investment for inclusive growth and sustainable development. I wish to commend these 14 Counties for their initiative.

20 Counties have established the **County Investment Units** as required in the Kenya Investment Policy to act as a focal point and deliver investment promotion services to both prospective and already established investors.

Regarding **promotion of local manufacturing**, Counties have mapped out the different opportunities in the manufacturing sector to spur industrialization in the country to achieve Vision 2030.

Among the initiatives include:

- ✓ Tax holidays,
- ✓ Value addition initiatives,
- ✓ Market linkages,
- ✓ Trade fairs,
- ✓ Promoting local products, and
- ✓ Providing financial and technical support, among others.

The Council is proud to report County Governments' commitment to **creating job opportunities and increasing our local manufacturing**. Among the notable achievements include:

- Plant*
- a. The setting up **Kshs 150 million Milk** and **Kshs 50 million Mango, Processing Plants in West Pokot County.**
 - b. **Promoting value addition** like in the potato value chains and Yoghurt making by local cooperatives in **Nyandarua County.**
 - c. Construction and operationalization of: Maoi Abattoir, Milk processing plant in Ravine, Honey processing initiatives, Mogotio Tannery, Cotton revival, and sisal manufacturing in **Baringo County.**
 - d. Construction and operationalization of Fish Processing Plant, tea and dairy factory in **Kakamega County.**

The Council of Governors will continue working with different stakeholders to make Counties become desirable investment destinations.

7. TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Fellow Kenyans, may I at this juncture address the Tourism and Natural Resources Sectors.

i) TOURISM

The tourism sector suffered more than any other sector due to COVID-19 and the resulting global economic recession. However, the measures taken by the National and County Governments in the last one year to contain COVID-19 and return to normalcy have resulted in favorable short-term and long-term impacts on the tourism industry.

To revive the industry after the devastating impacts witnessed due to COVID-19 pandemic, **21 Counties** developed **Tourism and Wildlife Recovery Strategies**. The number of visits recorded in County-owned tourism facilities (FY2021/22) was **249,050**, a sign that the tourism industry is recovering.

Legal structures and sound policy measures are enablers in the sector. Over the last one year, **19 County Governments** have enacted **tourism-related Acts, Policies and Regulations** while **7 County Governments** have enacted wildlife-related **Acts, Policies and Regulations**.

15 County Governments and **8 County Governments** have domesticated the **National Tourism Blueprint 2030** and the **National Wildlife Strategy 2030** respectively.

To increase domestic tourism, **29 County Governments** have this far gazetted **196** tourist sites. Further, **27 Counties** have established **at least one public recreational facility** as summarized below:

- **5 Counties** (Mombasa, Turkana, Migori, Kwale, and Baringo) have designated **public beaches**.
- **2 Counties** (Mombasa and Nyeri) have **public theatres**.
- **18 Counties** have **Public parks**.

- **16 Counties** have **Cultural Sites**.
- **9 Counties** have **Public Libraries**.
- **11 Counties** have **Museums**.
- **1 County** (Mombasa) has a **Cinema**.

Cumulatively, the Counties have **25 public beaches, 2 Public Theaters, 51 Parks, 95 Cultural Sites, 15 Public Libraries, 18 Museums, and 1 Cinema**. This demonstrates the concerted efforts by the County Governments to boost domestic and international tourism in the country.

We call upon the tourism stakeholders to continue supporting the tourism recovery strategies in the Counties to ensure that Kenya reaps from the economic potential of the sector.

ii) WATER AND SANITATION

According Article 43 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, every Kenyan has a right to clean and safe water in adequate quantities and reasonable standards of sanitation. In this regard, County Governments have instituted several measures towards water service provision one being allocation of resources to the water and sanitation sector of approximately **32,360,071,357 billion across the 47 Counties**.

28 Counties have domesticated the **National Water Policy and Regulations**, **35 Counties** have Water related Acts and Policies and **21 have County Water Mater Plans**.

Availability of better water quality and sanitation is significant as it is the base for healthy populations. A total of **2,509,012** households in Kenya are connected to piped water systems and a total of **828,927** households connected to piped sewer systems.

Many parts of Kenya, especially the rural population rely on groundwater from communal boreholes. Groundwater exploitation has considerable potential for boosting water supplies in Kenya. County Governments have explored this potential with a total of **11,163** functional boreholes drilled in various Counties. Some of the notable examples are **Turkana, Nairobi, and Siaya** with the highest number of **above 1,000** boreholes each.

There have been numerous interventions towards increasing access to water through harvesting and storage done by County Governments with a total of **1,661** small dams constructed, **Bomet** County leading with a total of **600 small dams** constructed.

Counties have constructed a total of **3,184 water pans** with **Nyeri** County leading with a total of **1,000** water pans. The construction of water pans has seen a decrease in the distance trekked to access water for the communities and their livestock as well as cushioning the severe effects of climate change being experienced in ASAL areas.

The drought situation in the **23 ASAL Counties** continues to be severe with unpredictable patterns of climate change. In this regard, the Counties have made deliberate efforts to cushion these challenges through construction of water pans and small dams. For example, on construction of water pans (**Garissa - 273, Mandera - 290 and Marsabit - 215** among others) and on construction small dams (**Wajir - 110, Laikipia - 183, and Turkana - 56**).

iii) ENVIRONMENT

34 County governments have gazetted County Environment Committees while **13** Counties are in the process of gazettelement. This was occasioned by the fact that terms of some of the County Environment Committees have lapsed and Counties are in the process of renewing the same. **20** out of the **34** have allocated budgets towards operations of the Committees to enable proper management of the environment within their jurisdiction.

County Governments in collaboration with NEMA have made deliberate efforts to strengthen enforcement units by training a total **225** environmental officers an increase from **177** trained officers recorded last year. **152** of these **225** are **male** while **75** are **female**, highlighting major strides in gender mainstreaming.

iv) SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

With rapid population growth and urbanization, annual waste generation is expected to increase rapidly. Residents, especially the urban poor, are more severely impacted by unsustainably managed waste. To respond to

waste pollution challenges, the County Governments have taken a leading role in delivering sustainable waste management through budget allocations of approximately **84 Million among the 47 Counties** to solid waste management with **Nairobi County** having the highest budgetary allocations of **2.4 billion**.

Legal structures and sound policy measures are enablers in the sector. Towards this, **28 Counties** have enacted acts, policies and regulations on waste management while **19 Counties** have domesticated the **National Waste Management Strategy** with a majority being at advanced stages of finalizing the same.

County Governments have ventured into recycling as a way of managing the generated waste. There has been an establishment of **95** waste recycling centres, **36** material recovery sites, and **55** e-waste collection centres so far.

16 Counties so far have designated landfills in **Bungoma, Embu, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kisii, Kwale, Machakos, Makueni, Meru, Migori, Murang'a, Nakuru, Taita Taveta, Tharaka Nithi, and Wajir**. **Turkana** has the highest bringing it to a total of **35 landfills** in the country.

Waste collection and transportation is majorly through Private-Public Partnerships. The County Governments have a total of **328** waste transportation trucks with a majority of them collecting the waste **daily**.

All these initiatives will enable Kenya to transition from a linear “take-make-dispose” development model to a circular economy in line with Kenya’s and international aspirations of reducing plastic waste and sustainable waste management.

v) FORESTRY

Counties have continued to promote afforestation programmes and restoration activities to increase forest cover towards fulfillment of Kenya’s commitments to **10% tree cover**. It is in this context that County Governments allocated a cumulative total of **Kshs 440,756,123** in FY2021/22 towards forestry.

22 Counties have Forestry related Acts, Policies, and Regulations some examples are **Kwale County Forest Management and Conservation Act 2017**, **Nakuru County Sustainable Forest Management and Tree Growing Policy** and the **Tana River Forest Restoration Policy** among others.

A total of **16,427,691** trees have been planted in the current financial year contributing to the overall tree cover to **12.13% based on National Forest Resources Assessment Report 2021**. One notable example is **Kilifi** County having planted a total of **4,800,000** trees in the last one year.

In an effort to conserve water towers and increase forest cover, County Governments have gazetted a total of **362** County forests with **Embu** County having gazetted **200** forests.

41 Counties have so far signed Forest Transition Implementation Plans (TIPs) with **17** of the **41 Counties** having signed and implemented TIPs. **20** Counties have signed awaiting implementation.

vi) CLIMATE CHANGE

County Governments have established various policies, legislations and strategies that set out priority actions to help the country transition to a low carbon, resource efficient, equitable and inclusive socio-economic transformation.

39 Counties have so far enacted climate change related acts, policies, regulations and **action plans**.

County Governments have developed County Climate Change Funds that promote mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into local planning and budget systems. **39 Counties** so far have established County Climate Change Funds.

To date, **45** Counties have established Climate Change Units. **39** of the **45** have designated officers, **30** have designated offices and **7** Counties with fully equipped Climate Change Units.

Counties have also established **26 sub-County** climate change planning committees. **30 Counties** have ward climate change planning committees. These County Climate Change Planning Committees are responsible for

identification and prioritization of investment that build their resilience to climate change.

vii) MINING

7 Counties have established Mining related acts, policies and regulations for example the **Kakamega County Natural Resource Act, Machakos Sand Harvesting Act** and the **Uasin Gishu Quarrying Management Act**.

9 Counties (**Kakamega, Taita Taveta, Kisii, Tana River, Siaya, Makueni, Kitui, Migori and Turkana**) have so far established and gazetted Artisanal Mining Committees, an increase from an initial **6 Counties**.

The Counties have also embarked on Training and Capacity building for Artisanal and small scale Miners and associations in the Counties through on occupational health and safety issues and provision of protective gear and equipment.

Various Counties have also mapped out existing and potential mineral areas in the Counties for example:

- ✓ **Siaya County** did a study and mapped out all Natural Resources in the County including sites for occurrence of **Quartz Stones, Sand harvesting areas and Gold potential areas**.
- ✓ **Kisii County** has mapped **Kisii soap stone and granite**.
- ✓ **Kajiado County** mapped and gazetted all **Marble quarries** in the County.
- ✓ **Taita Taveta County** through the mining division has been collecting mineral information data and mining inventory with the aim of developing County Mineral and mining geo-database through aerial geophysical surveys.

8. BLUE ECONOMY

Fellow Kenyans let now briefly address our newest Economic Sector: Blue Economy

The establishment and development of effective legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks for the Blue Economy sector are crucial steps toward structuring and building its growth. Towards this, **7 Counties** have enacted various legislations on Blue Economy while the rest are in various stages of developing the relevant legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks.

In a bid to enhance the sustainable waste management agenda, **16 Counties** have enacted the **National Waste Management Policy** to ensure healthy waters by effectively addressing waste management challenges.

Counties have also established integrated approaches to aquatic ecosystems and spatial-temporal management tools that will enhance awareness and sustainability of the Blue Economy Sector. For example, **Tana River** has established monitoring, control and surveillance units to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal unreported and unregulated fishing.

Further, County Governments have put in place innovative ways to conserve blue economy, with some notable examples being:

- ✓ **Bomet County** has established fish hatcheries to produce high quality fingerlings.
- ✓ **Kakamega County** uses GPS/GIS to map out aquaculture and fisheries resources.
- ✓ **Busia County** has introduced cage aquaculture to reduce pressure on captured fisheries and supported **428 fishermen's children** from 20 beaches with scholarships for secondary school.
- ✓ **Migori County** has licensed fishing vessels, fishermen and fish traders.
- ✓ **Makueni County** has undertaken perimeter fencing of dams and training of dam management committees.

There are a total of 4 County gazetted recreational water bodies namely **Gatamaiyu River fishing camp in Kiambu County, Thompson falls site in Laikipia, Kesses Dam in Uasin Gishu, and Lake Nkunga and Lake Ellis in Meru County.**

County Governments have licensed approximately **53,000 fishers** and **19,000 fishing vessels** across **38 County Governments**. Counties have also licensed **2,277 transport vessels, 1,521 helmsmen, and 1,012 skippers.**

Fish markets provide a basis to monetize fisheries and act as a means of livelihood to the local fishermen. County Governments have cumulatively constructed **20 fish markets** and registered **561 Beach Management Units.**

9. GENDER, EDUCATION YOUTH, SPORTS, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Fellow Kenyans, in spite of this long speech, am finally re-energised to address the sector of Gender, Education, Youth, Sports, Culture and Social Services. This sector covers the majority of Kenyans interests. The majority of Kenyans must be supported

Each County allocated an average of **Kshs 189,120,455** towards the Gender, Youth, Sports, Culture and Social services sectors in FY 2021/22. Some of the key direct interventions in the sectors during the last FY included:

i) GENDER AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Trainings and community awareness creation on key Gender issues, GBV prevention and response programmes, policy development, Income generating activities for the men and women including purchase of assorted equipment e.g. sewing machines, marking of international UN days pertinent to the sector, women empowerment funds, grants etc.

There were a total of **657,314 beneficiaries** of key gender interventions in **36 Counties**, with **289,146 men**, **314,419 women** and **53,749 PWDs** benefitting. **15 Counties** have operational gender policies while 20 are in different stages of policy development. Additionally, **11 Counties** have operational Gender-Based Violence policies and Acts.

ii) YOUTH

Interventions included establishment of innovation centers (Isiolo and Tana River Counties), issuing grants to active youth groups, establishment of talent centers and film hubs (Kwale, Embu and Bomet), income generating activities for the youth, youth trainings and civic empowerment, development of youth policies and purchase of assorted equipment for youth graduating from TVETs.

A total of **192,154 youth** benefitted from the various interventions in **32 Counties**, with **99,056 men**, **82,687 women**, and **10,411 PWDs** benefitting.

20 Counties have operational youth policies, bills and acts while another 16 are in various stages of development.

iii) SPORTS

Counties utilized allocations to purchase assorted sports equipment, sponsoring youth to participate in tournaments, participating in inter-county games e.g. KYISA and KIKOSCA, development of sports policies and acts, establishment and management of sports facilities e.g. stadia, fitness centers; Kisumu county for instance has initiated a PWD wellness gym for rehabilitation and physical fitness for PWDs.

A total of **38 sports facilities** were constructed and **56 rehabilitated** in **29 Counties** in FY2021/22. **828,754 men, 806,259 women, and 23,873 PWDs** benefitted from the various sport initiatives during the financial year.

19 Counties have enacted sports-related policies, Acts, guidelines and regulations.

iv) SOCIAL SERVICES

Counties also utilized their allocations to purchase assorted PWD devices, marking of International days on disability, social development grants, tracing and reunification of street children, corrective surgeries for PWDs, development of social protection policies, provision of bursaries to PWD learners, support to the elderly and resettling the vulnerable. For example, Mandera County resettled the vulnerable through identifying and constructing better housing units and latrines for them.

A total of **143,223 people** benefitted from various social services programmes in **32 Counties** with **47,430 men, 63,178 women and 32,165 PWDs** benefitting. **18 Counties** have operational Social protection/PWD acts and policies; 15 in different stages of development.

8 Counties have operational children's Acts and Policies and **12 counties** are in different stages of development.

v) CULTURE

Counties utilized the allocations on establishment of cultural centers, observance of cultural events, facilitating youth to participate in drama and music festivals, development of culture and heritage policies.

There are **414 Historical sites** across the 47 Counties. Additionally, **15 Counties** have **World Heritage Sites (UNESCO recognized)** with a cumulative 78 UNESCO recognized sites.

11 Counties have culture-related Policies, Acts, Guidelines, and Regulations.

vi) VOCATIONAL TRAINING

County Governments cumulatively allocated **Kshs 2.818 billion** towards improving access and quality of training offered by the County Vocational Training Centers, a **13% increase** from last year's **Kshs 2.477 billion**.

There was an **8% increase** in the enrolment at Vocational training centers, from **150,460** in School Year 2020 to **163,005** in School Year 2021. The above growth is as a result of targeted interventions by County Governments to enhance the relevance of education and training in the Vocational Training Centers.

The current registered and operational vocational training centers are **1,244 (1,156 public and 88 privately-owned)**. County Governments are making strides to register more Vocational Training Centers to bridge the access gap.

vii) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

In the FY 2021/2022, County Governments earnestly worked towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4, target 4.2, that requires **all countries to ensure all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education by 2030.**

Regarding **Access and Equity** in Pre-Primary education, data for the School Year 2021 shows that the:

- Enrolment in Pre-Primary 1 and 2 went up by **0.4%**, from **2,832,897** in 2020 school year to **2,845,265** in 2021 school year. The increase in enrollment is attributed to increased incentives and investments such as the school feeding programs in the institutions by the County Governments.
- In the year, **4,164** public and **533** private pre-primary centres enrolled Special Needs Education learners. The total Special Needs Education learners' enrolment was **26,542**.
- The number of registered pre-primary schools increased from **46,652** in 2020 to **46,671** in 2021.
- The total ECDE teachers employed currently stands at **71,804** (**50,964** employed by County Governments while **20,840** employed by private centers). Based on the pupil enrollment data, this translates to a teacher pupil ratio of **1:37**.
- The total cumulative expenditure for Pre-Primary education across the 47 County governments for the Financial Year 2021/2022 was approximately **Kshs. 5,754,462,814**.

viii) BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

To enhance access to education at both pre-primary and vocational training levels, County Governments allocated and disbursed **Kshs. 3,586,138,061** in full and partial scholarships and bursaries for deserving learners in pre-primary, secondary schools, and tertiary institutions.

The bursaries and scholarships disbursed by County Governments have gone a long way to ensure that the learners in the country access secondary and tertiary training with very minimal disruptions.

together with the Council filed a case seeking to challenge the impeachment process. The court held that the process of impeachment of the respondent violated the requirement of public participation, and was therefore, null and void.

- iii. **Constitutional Petition 059 Of 2021- Dr. Magare Gikenyi V the SRC, COG and Others:** The petitioner filed the petition against the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC), Council of Governors and all County Assemblies on the implementation of the car grant. The court dismissed the petition while holding that the petitioner failed to demonstrate that the SRC did not consult stakeholder in reaching the impugned decision. There was no sufficient evidence presented to prove his allegation that SRC's decision was not independent.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation through town hall meetings is one of the principal mechanisms for facilitating conversations. However, at a time where social distancing was still being experienced, the period under review saw innovation in deepening county public participation in the wake of COVID-19.

The Project Management Committees (PMC) approach being implemented in twelve (12) counties, where the citizenry decides up to 70% of the development budget with the PMCs overseeing the implementation of projects in conjunction with the County Assembly emerged as a best practice during the COVID-19 pandemic period in 2020/21. This has spurred the development of the Project Management Guidelines by the Council of Governors and World Bank which are in the process of finalization.

12. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

County Governments have continued to champion the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

SDGs have remained integral component of the Performance Management Framework in Counties and continue to be measured as one of the key components of performance contracting.

The County SDGs champions have undergone continuous capacity building to facilitate mainstreaming, tracking and reporting on the progress of SDGs implementation.

The Counties have embraced **Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)** to support reporting on localization, building on their communities' experiences and practices and involving their population in the achievement of the SDGs. The VLRs have become instrumental in pushing for policy change at all levels.

Together with the State Department for Planning, UNDP and other stakeholders, the Council of Governors coordinated the **annual SDGs stakeholders' forum and awards ceremony** held in December 2021 which recognized **Makueni, Kakamega and Narok** Counties for their exemplary efforts in implementation of SDGs.

In this period the Council of Governors has continued to deepen engagement with private sector and civil society organizations through the County SDGs dialogues platform and the People's Dialogue Festival to enhance collective action in SDGs implementation.

The County Governments have also developed **SDGs Accelerations Action Plans** to fast-track the SDGs implementation in line with the Decade of Action for accelerating the implementation of SDGs.

13. KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND LEARNING

Fellow Kenyans

Through our Maarifa Centre, we have continued to document the success stories and innovations that emerge from the Counties in the course of performing their functions. Knowledge Management is slowly becoming a critical aspect of governance all over the world.

Maarifa Centre continues to be the platform that promotes best practice sharing and peer to peer to peer learning amongst County Governments.

The Centre has established itself as the only subnational e-repository for devolution knowledge, attracting close to six thousand visits per month.

In the 2021-2022 financial year, Maarifa Centre documented and uploaded **52 County initiatives** from all sectors, growth from **26 initiatives** covered last year. Some of the initiatives that were identified from Counties include:

- i. Kakamega County gives free legal services to Sexual and Gender Based Violence survivors to ensure timely access to justice.
- ii. Nairobi County improves quality of Early Childhood Education by narrowing the teacher pupil ratio
- iii. Nyamira County provides free medical insurance to vulnerable families

Currently, the Centre is developing tools that can enable it track the uptake of knowledge assets uploaded on the platform and the impact of peer-to-peer learning at the County level.

In collaboration with the Education, Youth, Sports, Gender and Culture Committee and the Citizen Engagement Unit, Maarifa Centre successfully held two peer-to-peer learning sessions.

One on **Youth Best Practices in the Counties** and the second on **How Adopting Good Practices Can Institutionalize Access to Information within Counties**. Peer to peer learning engagements are important as they trigger exchange of ideas and information amongst Counties.

On 28th February 2022, Maarifa Centre launched the **Compendium of County Innovations and Best Practices on COVID-19 response**. The inaugural edition focused on County-level success stories in efforts towards prevention, response and management of the COVID-19 pandemic. **13 Counties** were featured in the Compendium.

The Maarifa Centre has also developed the Second Edition of the Compendium on County Best Practices and Innovations, covering sectors such as health, gender, climate change, agriculture and lands.

These Compendiums continue to act as reference points for Counties and devolution practitioners interested in learning about good practices that are being adopted in service delivery in the Counties. **Copies of the latest edition can be picked at our secretariat.**

All this information can be found at <https://maarifa.cog.go.ke/>.

14. PARTNERSHIPS AND CHALLENGES

Excellency Governors and fellow Citizens,

Devolution's success story cannot be drawn without mentioning the contribution of critical stakeholders whose support resulted in the milestones realized. To our state and non-state partners, your immense contributions in different measures are highly appreciated. The equitable share on its own would not have been enough for Counties to deliver on their mandates. The media has continued to tell our story and keep us in check. To the citizens of the Republic of Kenya who belong to different Counties, thank you for allowing us to serve you. Your continuous engagements, expertise, experiences, and positive criticism played a key role in supporting County Governments to deliver the so-needed services.

Challenges experienced:

While we have witnessed significant strides by the County Governments to make devolution work for the citizens, there are still **challenges** that are slowing down the progress towards the realization of the devolution agenda. Among the notable challenges include:

- a. Continued delayed disbursement of funds by the National Treasury which has significantly affected service delivery in the Counties;
- b. Establishment of national institutions through policy and legislation that undermine the functional integrity of County Governments;
- c. Corruption at both levels of government;
- d. Slow implementation of intergovernmental decisions;
- e. Existing state agencies and parastatals that continue to receive colossal budgets and also continue to perform County functions nine (9) years later; and
- f. Poor generation of own source revenue by County Governments.

CLOSING REMARKS

Fellow Kenyans,

As I conclude, I want to reaffirm to you that devolution is indeed a game-changer in this country.

The gains of devolution are immense, and as we look forward to the next elections, I urge the citizens to ensure that all aspirants are defenders of devolution.

I now call upon my Fellow Excellency Governors to proceed and deliver the State of County Addresses in their respective Counties.

Long Live the 48 Governments and One United Kenya Nation!

May God bless All Kenyans.

May God bless KENYA.

Thank you for listening to me.

Asanteni Sana.



H.E. Hon. Martin Wambora, EGH
Chairman Council of Governors