

**TALKING NOTES FOR MR. SAITOTI TOROME, CBS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,  
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING, THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND  
PLANNING DURING THE LAUNCH OF LAIKIPIA COUNTY STATISTICAL  
ABSTRACT ON 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020.**

- Devolution is about taking services closer to the people.
- For effective and efficient devolution you need accurate and timely information for decision making by various development stakeholders in the county.
- The Laikipia County Statistical Abstract 2020 gives detailed information on:-

- ✓ The people
  - ✓ Representation (political units)
  - ✓ Resources available
  - ✓ Delivery of Public Services
  - ✓ State of infrastructure
  - ✓ Educational facilities
  - ✓ Health facilities
  - ✓ Commercial activities
  - ✓ Business opportunities
  - ✓ Food security
  - ✓ Group dynamics (co-operatives)
- The Statistical Abstract will empower communities more in:
    - i. Participatory county planning, budgeting and expenditure reviews.

- ii. Sensitization and mobilization in development activities.
  - iii. Project proposal development, monitoring and evaluation.
  - iv. Community score cards in terms of participation, demand for transparency and accountability.
- The Abstract will be a crucial reference material for investors (both local and international) and visitors to the Laikipia County.
- The Statistical Abstract will Empower the County Government in:-
  - i. Evidence based planning and project implementation,

- ii. Prioritization of critical/crucial sectors that will spur development,
  - iii. Identifying areas for private sector investments,
  - iv. Analysis of potentials that can be exploited.
- As a State Department we ensure international data comparability through:-
  - Maintenance of international definition of statistical terms,
  - Methodology of data collection,
  - Standards and norms,

- Development of national and regional databases,
- Capacity building of staff at both National and County Governments levels,
- Integrated planning ensures optimal/effective:-
  - a) Sectoral demand for spaces in beef, tourism, mineral horticulture sectors,
  - b) Spread and diversity of economic activities,
  - c) Investment mapping,
  - d) Settlement patterns,
  - e) Location of facilities and infrastructures,

- Finally, Let me congratulate the Governor and the people of Laikipia County for pioneering the development of County Statistical Abstracts in Kenya. Let other counties emulate your good work for the benefit of all Kenyans.