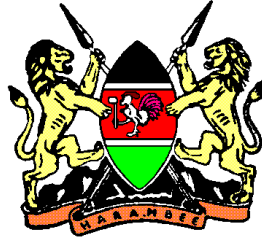


REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING

FOURTH MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2023- 2027
BUSIA COUNTY CONSULTATION FORUM REPORT



MAY, 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Kenya Vision 2030 is the country's long term development blue-print that aims to transform Kenya into a newly-industrializing, middle income country providing high quality of life to its citizens. The Vision is being implemented through five-year successive Medium Term Plans.

The National Treasury and Planning through the State Department for Planning is preparing the Fourth MTP 2023-2027 of Kenya Vision 2030. The Fourth MTP will succeed the Third MTP 2018-2022 and outlines policies, programmes and projects for implementation over the Plan period. The Fourth MTP will implement the fourth and second-last phase of Kenya Vision 2030 and will set the momentum for transition to the next long-term development agenda for the country. It will be guided by Kenya Vision 2030 and lessons learnt in implementation of previous MTPs (MTPI, MTPII and MTPIII). It will also be guided by the Constitution and will incorporate the priorities outlined in the Manifesto of the Political Party forming the Government after the next general election scheduled for August, 2022.

The Fourth MTP is being prepared through wide consultations in line with several Articles of the Constitution that calls for the involvement of the public in the formulation of public policies and plans. In line with the Constitution Article 10 2 (a), 2 (c), Article 174 (c) and the Fourth Schedule, the Fourth MTP consultations and consensus building will be undertaken through National Stakeholders Forum (NSF); MTP Sector Working Groups (MTPSWGs); County Consultation Forums; and National Stakeholders Validation Forum.

1.2 Fourth MTP County Consultation Forums

The National Treasury and Planning through the State Department for Planning held MTP County Consultation Forums in all counties between 28th March and 5th April, 2022. The Consultation Forums provided opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide views that will form basis for the design of sector policies, programmes and projects in the Fourth MTP.

1.3 Objective of the County Consultation Forums

The objectives of the County Consultation Forums were:

- i. To apprise stakeholders and the public on progress made in implementation of MTP 2018-2022, and preparatory process of Fourth MTP;
- ii. To provide a forum for consultation with stakeholders and the public to propose priority programmes and projects for incorporation in the Fourth MTP; and
- iii. To provide a platform for consultation between the national government and county government on development and implementation of MTP and CIDPs.

1.4 Participants/Target Group

The County Consultation Forums targeted representatives from the National Government in the counties, County Governments, Non-Government Institutions and the public. The Participants from non-government institutions included representatives from Religious organizations, Private Sector, Development Partners, Civil society, Media, Academia, Persons with Disabilities, Youth and Women. A total of 150 participants were invited in each County Forum with strict adherence to gender balance and sub-county representations. A total of 159 participants attended the Busia County Consultation Forum.

1.5 County Consultation Process

The Consultation Team was led by Amb. Simon Nabukwesi, Principal Secretary, State Department for University Education and Research. The team made courtesy call to the County Commissioner and briefed him on the Fourth MTP preparatory process and the programme of activities and logistics for the forums. The Consultation Forums programme was as follows:

- i. Welcoming remarks by County Commissioners and County Executive Committee (CEC) in charge of Finance and Planning;
- ii. Remarks by the County Governor;
- iii. Statement by Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning read on his behalf by Principal Secretaries (Team Leader);
- iv. Presentations on:
 - a) Objective of the Consultation forums;
 - b) County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) Guidelines;
 - c) Achievements of Third MTP and preparatory process of Fourth MTP;
 - d) Key achievements on implementation of County Integrated Development Plans 2018-2022; and
- v. Group Discussions based on the three pillars & Enablers. Participants were divided into four groups to discuss Emerging Issues & Challenges, and proposed County sector priority programmes and projects.

1.6 County Consultation Forums Output

The Consultation Team prepared county specific Consultation Forum reports. The report contains highlights of the remarks made during the opening sessions, emerging issues and challenges, and proposed priority programmes and projects for Fourth MTP.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF REMARKS MADE DURING THE OPENING SESSION

2.1 Remarks by the County Commissioner

The County Commissioner welcomed participants to the forum and invited them to have a full, free and fair participatory process. He emphasized that the county consultative forums provide a platform for the public to deliberate on county developmental issues. This is aimed

at ensuring proper accountability of resources by both the National and County Governments. The County Commissioner welcomed the Principal Secretary to read the statement by the Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning and officially open the forum.

2.2 Remarks by the Principal Secretary

The PS started by reminding the participants at all levels the need for proper planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects. This should be done in collaboration with the National and County Planning offices for improved coordination at both levels of Government.

The Principal Secretary noted the importance of inviting the political aspirants in the County to the County Consultative Forums, to provide a platform for engagement with the public on identification and prioritization of Government projects and programmes. This will ensure the programs and projects are well prioritized to ease their implementation.

He emphasized on the importance of the forum in ensuring the Country progresses as one towards achievement of the Kenya Vision 2030 goals. He noted that counties are at different stages of development thus the need to benchmark with other counties to enable them learn good practices for enhanced implementation of the County projects and programmes.

He challenged the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Planning to ensure involvement of all the Directors from the County Departments during such public forums. This will ensure adequate response, provision of accurate and up to date information and data to the concerns raised by the public to promote transparency and accountability.

2.3 Remarks by the County Committee Member Finance and planning

The Acting CECM responsible for Finance and Planning, Ms. Phaustine Barasa introduced the technical team from the County Government. She reiterated the importance of the forum and urged all county directors to fully participate during the group work sessions. This would enable the public to get the right feedback from the County Government on the status of implementation of the various programmes and projects.

3. PLENARY DISCUSSION

Two presentations were made. The first was on the Achievements of Third Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018 - 2022 and the preparatory process of the Fourth MTP 2023 - 2027 and the second one was on the Highlights of Achievements on Implementation of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018-2022. A plenary discussion was conducted after the presentations and the following issues were raised:

- It was noted that in as much as Health is a devolved function, money allocated for the health sector had not been fully devolved to counties as envisaged. In this regard, more resources need to be allocated to cater for the health needs of the people of Busia. If this is done it will enable the County to hire more doctors and increase provision of drugs;

- Stakeholders alluded to the fact that there was minimal community participation in the formulation of policies and identification of priorities in the County. There is need for the County Government to convene public participation forums. This would also ensure that elected leaders are aware of the community priority needs and are held accountable for the development of the County;
- The sewerage system needs to be revamped so as to reduce ailments arising from poor water and sanitation;
- Programmes to provide free agricultural input such as seed provisions have not been well designed to accrue the intended benefit of food security in the County. In addition, most stakeholders were not aware of the programme. There is need for feasibility studies to be conducted before introducing future programmes to ensure sustainability;
- Mundika County stadium and the construction of a trailer park have stalled for a long period of time. There is need for interventions to revamp the projects;
- There have been many cases of Gender Based Violence in Busia County. Further, the County had not allocated adequate resources to conduct GBV sensitization forums. There is need for the County to prioritize GBV interventions including the establishment of a safe house for survivors;
- The County should establish more special schools for persons with disabilities;
- Malnutrition has affected many children in Busia County. Stunted growth has been reported in approximately 36% of children born in the County. In this regard, there is need for urgent interventions to change the situation;
- Changes in training and recruitment policies have negatively affected the training of teachers. This is in regard to the entry qualifications and continuous professional development;
- There is need to establish a cemetery in Busia County. In addition, the existing mortuary at the Alupe Sub-County Hospital needs to be rehabilitated.
- There is need to establish a library in Busia County to encourage the reading culture for the populace.

4. GROUP DISCUSSIONS

The participants were divided into the following four (4) groups namely: economic Pillar, Social Pillar; Political Pillar; and Enablers/Foundations.

Emerging issues, Challenges and Priority Programmes/Projects

Busia County emerging issues, challenges and priority programmes/projects as presented by Chairs of respective groups is as shown below:

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
ECONOMIC PILLAR	
Tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate funding for the sector • Low road and rail network that discourages tourists • Low awareness of tourist destinations/sites in the County • Low Local tourism due to high poverty levels • Adverse Climate change • Encroachment of wildlife corridors has adversely affected tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement of Busia County destinations • Fully fund gazetted tourist attraction centres • Establishment of a training college for tourism • Conservancies to be established by communities and counties • Increased road Infrastructure to enable access to the tourist attraction sites • Local hotels to subsidize the costs to attract local Tourists
Agriculture, Livestock And Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low of value addition facilities • High cost of farm inputs • Adverse climate change • Lack of coordinated market structure • Antibiotic resistance because of misuse • Low uptake of climate change mitigation measures e.g. irrigation • Land fragmentation • Soil erosion • Use of fertilizer instead of manure thus the land is getting more acidic • Youths have a poor attitude towards agriculture due to the perceived low returns • Youths have a poor attitude towards agriculture due to the perceived low returns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of aggregated production systems • Establish and implement irrigation schemes • Solar power for pumping water from water pans and dams • Develop livestock feed policy • Capacity building of field officers • Allocation of more funds to extension services • Establishment of crash pens

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land ownership issues • Use of traditional ways of farming 	
<p>Trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High cost of doing business • High taxes • Poor infrastructure • Inadequate of business information centres • Inadequate of modern markets • Lack of a digitized tax collection system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility in license payment • Establishment of business training centres
<p>Manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Production costs • Inadequate raw materials • Low marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in mass production plants • Embrace modern processing
<p>Business Processing Outsourcing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unawareness of business hubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of business hubs
SOCIAL PILLAR	
<p>Education and Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teacher- student ratio in schools is high • There is inadequate information on implementation of Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) • There is lack of basic sanitation facilities in schools leading to health issues • There is weak implementation of the Intergovernmental Framework for Cooperation and Coordination • There is high entry qualifications for teachers to training institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of additional STEM schools • Expansion of education infrastructure • Enhanced quality assurance and compliance in the education sector • Provision of training materials • Establishment of special school for the visually impaired.
<p>Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non- meaningful youth engagement in youth based programmes • Lack of clear plans to surmount youth unemployment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement of youth in development programmes • Development of clear plans and programmes to create employment • Public education and training programmes on environment conservation related issues • Increased establishment of youth training

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
	centres
Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate equipment in the County referral hospital Inadequate support supervision by the public health officers Inadequate modern mortuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipping of the referral hospital with the requisite equipment and medicines Enhancing public health inspection in the County Establishment of a modern mortuary
Environment, Water and Sanitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of awareness on environmental programmes lack of policy on climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness creation Development of policies on climate change Establishment of Climate Change Fund to benefit youth innovativeness and creativity.
Population, Urbanization and Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate affordable housing Lack of physical planning on land use Inadequate parking slots for transit vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct More affordable houses to be built Proper panning framework to be established Trailer Park Project to be completed.
Gender, Youth and Vulnerable Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender based violence occurrence is high in the County Lack of socio-economic programmes for youth and women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity building on GBV within the County Funding of Socio-economic and empowerment programmes in the County
Sports, Culture And Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate sports infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of sports infrastructure and facilities
POLITICALPILLAR	
Devolution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low of public participation in key issues Unsatisfactory provision of services to the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous civic education/sensitization of the voters in Busia County Strengthened Public participation in identification of the priority projects and programmes Improved synergy, coordination and collaboration between county, National Governments and MDAs CEC Members should be appointed based on merit
Governance and Rule of Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misappropriation of public funds Uncoordinated planning and low accountability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop legislations to improve governance and accountability

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient oversight role 	
ENABLERS/FOUNDATIONS	
<p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate road networks hindering movement from rural areas There is no parking for private vehicles in town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building of a modern market in Busia County Building of designated sheds for motorcycles National Construction Authority to move in, regulate and enhance surveillance of construction sites to ensure standards compliance Construction of the Kisumu- Busia road Revamp the Busia airstrip Revamp the trailer park Rural electricity to be enhanced Songololo Multipurpose project in Teso North to be extended to Busia Town Construction of fish landing ports/piers
<p>ICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cyber phobia among teachers hence students have not adopted to the use of new technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fibre connectivity in the County Construction of more ICT centres Laptops to be provided for students
<p>Land Reforms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncoordinated urban planning in Busia County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Spatial Plan (2015-2045) to be used in the planning of Busia County.
<p>Science, Technology and Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low focus on Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses especially in Universities in Busia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More Focus on Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses especially in Universities in Busia
<p>Drought and Disaster Risk Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back flow of water from floods from Lake Victoria has led to displacement of people Collapsing of buildings in the town due to poor construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire engines to be procured for each sub county to prevent fires Use flood water to irrigate the land
<p>National Values and Ethics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unawareness of National Values and Ethics to students in schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous sensitization of National Values and Ethics to students in schools
<p>Security</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance issue based politics to address

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insecurity during the political season • The security solar powered lights are vandalized • There are porous borders hence loss of revenue 	<p>issues and ethnic divisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of CCTVs in major urban centers in each sub-county
<p>Labour and Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate supervision of Public Service workers especially city sweepers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of County-based industries to aid employment • Human resource appraisals and supervision • Regular compensation of Community Health Volunteers

5. CONCLUSION

The Economic Planning Secretary in her remarks during the closing session noted that there is need for more sensitization to the stakeholders on the roles and responsibilities of the two levels of government according to schedule 4 of the constitution. This will bring more understanding on the implementation of National and County Projects and programmes.

The County Commissioner in his closing remarks assured the participants that their inputs will be incorporated into the Fourth MTP. In addition, the County Consultation Forum's Reports will be shared with all the MTP Sector Working Groups to inform formulation of Sector policies, programmes and projects. He also noted that the information will be useful in the development of the County Integrated Plan.

The commissioner also noted that the security is paramount for the development of the county and assured participants that measures have been put in place to secure the county especially during the election period.