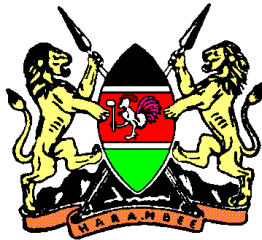


**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



**THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING**

**STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING**

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**FOURTH MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2023- 2027  
KIRINYAGA COUNTY CONSULTATION FORUM REPORT**

**MAY, 2022**



## **1.0 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 (MTPSWG); 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 28<sup>th</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> 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 County Consultation Forums**

The objectives of the County Consultation Forums were:

- i. To appraise 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 153 participants attended the Kirinyaga County Consultation Forum.

### **1.5 County Consultation Process**

The Consultation Team was led by James Maina, Director, Macroeconomic Planning and International Economic Partnerships Directorate. The team made courtesy calls 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.

## **2.0 Highlights of Remarks Made During Opening Session**

### **Remarks from Regional County Commissioner**

Ms. Esther Maina, the Regional Commissioner (RC) for Central Region, represented the Principal Secretary, State Department for Interior, Dr. Karanja Kibicho. She welcomed the participants to the Kirinyaga Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) County Consultation Forum, being the second Forum in the Central Region. She thanked the State Department for Planning for organizing the forum and the County Commissioner for mobilizing participants from various sectors in the County.

The RC encouraged the participants to freely express their development priorities and views

for consideration in the planning process. She acknowledged the role of devolution in bringing services and development close to its citizens as evidenced by the many tarmacked roads among others infrastructure in Kirinyaga County.

She further underscored the need for collaboration between the National and County government to ensure there is sustainable development. In conclusion, the RC reminded the participants that one of the objectives of the forum was to present them an opportunity to review the progress made in implementation of the MTP III and propose necessary development solutions for consideration in the next planning phase.

### **Remarks by the County Commissioner**

The County Commissioner, Mr. Moses Ivuto welcomed the participants to the Forum. He thanked the State Department for Planning for their continued collaboration with the County commissioner's office in organizing for County Consultation Forums. The CC noted that the public participation in the development planning process was a fulfillment of the Constitutional requirement as provided for in article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya. He asked for active participation and commitment throughout the Forum sessions.

### **3.0 Plenary Discussion**

The participants were taken through the achievements on implementation of MTP 2018-2022, preparatory process of Fourth MTP, and highlight on achievement of the CIDP 2018-2022.

The Participants raised issues as summarized below:

- i) Limited resources hinder implementation of development programmes/projects. The County should undertake the following:
  - a. Mobilize resources from the development partners;
  - b. Enhance collection of own source revenue; and
  - c. Lobby for increase in allocation of equitable share of the revenue raised by the National Government.
- ii) The County should rationalize its recurrent expenditure to ensure that more resources are allocated to capital projects/programmes; and
- iii) The potential of Business Processing Outsourcing, a key sector under the economic pillar, is yet to be fully exploited in the County.

### **4.0 Group Discussions**

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

## Emerging issues, Challenges and Priority Programmes/Projects

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

	EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS
<b>1.0</b>	<b>ECONOMIC PILLAR</b>	
	<b>Tourism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is high potential for both international and local tourism.</li> <li>Low level of awareness creation. People do not know of tourist sites e.g. <i>Ndarasa ya Ngai</i>, caves, waterfalls, rice schemes, eco and agro-tourism, salty water, Mt. Kenya Forest.</li> <li>Accessibility network to the various tourist sites is poor.</li> <li>Poor marketing and promotion of hotels in Kirinyaga County.</li> <li>Occasional insecurity may sabotage the prosperity of the sector.</li> <li>Inadequate tour guides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of tourist sites</li> <li>Create an access trail to Mt. Kenya through Kirinyaga</li> <li>Develop Kirinyaga County Tourism Marketing/Promotion Programme</li> </ul>
	<b>Trade</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost of renting business premises is high</li> <li>High cost of starting businesses</li> <li>Poor infrastructure to facilitate access to the market of products</li> <li>Many middlemen between producers and consumers thus negatively affecting the profits of the farmers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a vibrant marketing system</li> <li>Consider amalgamation of required business licences</li> <li>Create inter-county agreement on levies/cess</li> </ul>
	<b>Agriculture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of market for agricultural produce e.g. tomatoes.</li> <li>Post-harvest losses due to lack of cold storage facilities and market.</li> <li>High cost of farm inputs e.g. fertilizer, seeds</li> <li>Over-reliance on rain-fed agriculture.</li> <li>Pests and insects hence need agricultural extension services.</li> <li>Poor infrastructure hampering access to markets.</li> <li>Unregulated agricultural sector e.g.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory framework to control agrochemicals, importation of products etc</li> <li>Standardization especially in packaging of farm products e.g. 50kgs crate of tomatoes</li> <li>Improvement of the livestock breeds through A.I.</li> <li>Farmers to be sensitized to the need to treat their livestock and adherence to abstinence periods</li> <li>Construction of irrigation dams for horticultural agriculture</li> </ul>

	EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS
	<p>exploitation of farmers by agrochemical dealers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Penetration of the local market by other regional countries. Kenya sources agricultural products such as rice and onions from other countries.</li> <li>▪ Incomplete/Lack of agricultural value chains. Coffee for instance is sold raw thus fetching poor prices.</li> <li>▪ Veterinary services are unavailable hence farmers must individually source and engage the vets.</li> <li>▪ The cost of animal feeds <i>viz a viz</i> price of milk is not commensurate.</li> <li>▪ Poor quality breeds within the county.</li> <li>▪ Quality of meat for consumption is wanting whereby uninspected meat access the market</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Financial Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High cost of credit</li> <li>▪ Poor financial knowledge on access to competitive funding</li> <li>▪ Fear of accessing loans due to associated interests</li> <li>▪ Cost of group lending</li> <li>▪ Lack of control in lending especially in the tea sector</li> <li>▪ Information asymmetry within a cooperative society – tedious regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Source for grants to enable interest-free loans</li> <li>▪ Make financial education accessible to farmers to enable wise decision making</li> <li>▪ Lower excise duty on finances</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Manufacturing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inadequate value addition e.g. milk, bananas, coffee, rice etc.</li> <li>▪ The cost of machinery is high.</li> <li>▪ Inadequate technical skills within the country.</li> <li>▪ No cottage industries within Kirinyaga County</li> <li>▪ Inadequate incubation centres.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support and link the entrepreneurs/ farmers organizations to grants</li> <li>▪ Link with MSEA to support incubation centres</li> <li>▪ Set up agricultural value addition plants e.g. agro based</li> <li>▪ Set up a manufacturing plant for animal feeds</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Blue Economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organized groups have put up fishponds but lack market for their produce.</li> </ul>	

	<b>EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES</b>	<b>PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor storage facilities for fish preservation.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Oil, Gas and Minerals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inflation due to the high cost of consumable goods.</li> </ul>	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>SOCIAL PILLAR</b>	
	<b>Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Teachers Training Institutes on Competence Based Curriculum in the County</li> <li>Child labour</li> <li>Drugs and Substance abuse</li> <li>Poor remuneration of ECDE teachers</li> <li>Non- uniformity in the renovation of learning institutions (County vs. CDF)</li> <li>Shortage and inaccessibility of classrooms for PWDs</li> <li>Overcrowding of pupils in public schools</li> <li>Inadequate capitation of FPE</li> <li>Understaffing</li> <li>Low enrollment in TIVET</li> <li>Overlapping in bursary allocation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a training institute for teachers;</li> <li>Establish devolved Street families rehabilitation fund; Prosecute those employing children; and create awareness to parents who neglect children;</li> <li>Establish rehabilitation centres at the sub-county level</li> <li>Implement PWDs policy and create awareness</li> <li>Increase teacher-pupil ratio</li> <li>Government to increase capitation</li> </ul>
	<b>Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate resources in the production unit for PWDs devices</li> <li>The time frame between testing and getting the results e.g. Covid 19 Pandemic</li> <li>The low disease surveillance system</li> <li>No government medical training college to the level five hospital</li> <li>Inadequate well-equipped labs and diagnostic centres</li> <li>Inadequate drugs for chronic diseases like cancer and Mental cases</li> </ul>	<b>Potential solution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equip and subsidise the production unit</li> <li>Have more community health workers</li> <li>Free screening of chronic diseases</li> <li>Equip health facilities with drugs</li> <li>Build modern Lab and diagnostic centres; and employ adequate human resource</li> </ul>
	<b>Environment, Water and Sanitation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Inadequate water supply</li> <li>Poor drainage and sewer system</li> <li>Poor location of dumping sites</li> <li>Air and water pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afforestation and maintenance of existing forests</li> <li>Increase budgetary allocation for afforestation</li> <li>Control spread of invasive plants (<i>Thina</i>)</li> <li>Build dams, harvest water and protect</li> </ul>

	EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS
		<p>water sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proper distribution and control of water intakes</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Population, urbanization, and housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subdivision of agricultural land to uneconomic sizes for farming</li> <li>▪ Sprouting of small urban centres</li> <li>▪ Encroachment of access roads</li> <li>▪ Uncontrolled dumping sites lead to contamination of water sources</li> <li>▪ Poor sewerage systems in towns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Have a county-specific land policy on land size and land use</li> <li>▪ Proper demarcation of access roads</li> <li>▪ Construct garbage recycling units</li> <li>▪ Form Public Private Partnerships to construct affordable houses</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Gender, Youth, and Vulnerable Groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inadequate funds targeting affirmative action</li> <li>▪ Failure to implement the 1/3 gender rule and 30% procurement rule</li> <li>▪ No programmes targeting male gender</li> <li>▪ Poor parenting</li> <li>▪ Online child abuse</li> <li>▪ Increased number of street families</li> <li>▪ Drug and substance abuse</li> <li>▪ Boda Boda menace</li> <li>▪ Mental health issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase funds for affirmative action</li> <li>▪ Implementation of PWDs policy</li> <li>▪ Formalize the Boda Boda sector</li> <li>▪ Come up with a Child Rescue Centre</li> <li>▪ Increase budgetary allocation for social protection</li> <li>▪ Establish a <i>WezeshaWazee</i> Fund</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Sports Culture and Arts.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inadequate sports funds</li> <li>▪ No talent academies and recreation centres</li> <li>▪ Inadequate support for community clubs</li> <li>▪ Absence of an organized systems to hand over culture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ County Cultural Centre and cultural festivals</li> <li>▪ Establish County talent academy</li> <li>▪ Increase budgetary allocation</li> <li>▪ Create a talent incubation centre</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>POLITICAL PILLAR</b>	
	<p><b>Governance Justice and Rule of Law</b></p> <p><i>County government</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Long bureaucracy</li> <li>▪ Lack of clear communication structure</li> <li>▪ Lack of professionalism while offering services</li> <li>▪ Absenteeism from office</li> <li>▪ Poor customer service</li> <li>▪ No one-stop-shop of service</li> </ul> <p><i>National government</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Remove the bottlenecks</li> <li>▪ Lessen the process of digitization.</li> <li>▪ Establishment of capacity building and training of county staff on professionalism</li> <li>▪ Disciplining actions to the rude staff</li> <li>▪ Awarding the best performers</li> <li>▪ Sensitization programs on public participation</li> </ul>



	EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Low uptake of technology</li> <li>▪ Insufficient sensitization on rights of <i>mwananchi</i></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Devolution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Insufficient resources</li> <li>▪ Delayed disbursement of allocated funds</li> <li>▪ Misplaced priorities in expending county funds (non-adherence to the budget).</li> <li>▪ Inadequate public participation.</li> <li>▪ Inadequate transparency and accountability of resources.</li> <li>▪ Stalling of projects due to changes in the political regime.</li> <li>▪ The conflict between the executive arm (governor) and the legislature (MCA).</li> <li>▪ Delayed salaries and unpaid pending bills</li> <li>▪ Poor commitment to implement all the devolved county functions (ECD classes, lack of clean water, lack of tourist sites.</li> <li>▪ Political interference in distribution of projects; only friendly MCAs to the executive are given projects in their wards.</li> <li>▪ No harmonization of county staff (the staff that were seconded to the county are not assigned duties).</li> <li>▪ Interference by the county executive in the execution of duties of the county staff (dictating the County Public Service Board on who hires and fires.</li> <li>▪ Bias/ skewed /unfairness in the distribution of resources (wards that did not vote for the governor are undeveloped)</li> <li>▪ Centralization of funds and functions (all functions of the county being concentrated at the county headquarters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regular auditing of funds</li> <li>▪ Have an independent audit firm</li> <li>▪ Transparent and fair distribution of projects</li> <li>▪ Priority to be given to the projects which were uncompleted in the previous financial year</li> <li>▪ Adherence to the rule of law</li> <li>▪ Establishment of a regulatory framework to guide the county Public Service Board</li> <li>▪ Increase the county government allocation of resources from the treasury</li> <li>▪ Have an act of parliament to regulate the timeline of the disbursement of funds</li> <li>▪ Full implementation of the programmes recommended in the MTP</li> <li>▪ Human resource capacity building programmes</li> <li>▪ County public participation programs on budgetary allocations for both county and national level</li> <li>▪ Public sensitization programmes on human rights</li> <li>▪ Establishment of a one-stop shop program for county government services</li> <li>▪ Decentralization programme for county services up to the village level</li> </ul>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>ENABLERS/FOUNDATIONS</b>	

	<b>EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES</b>	<b>PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS</b>
	<b>Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Water- canals aren't enough they need to be expanded.</li> <li>▪ Roads – inaccessible roads during the rainy season due to non-maintenance.</li> <li>▪ Difficulty in land acquisition especially way-leave on marked roads areas. Some members of the public aren't willing to give up their land</li> <li>▪ Electricity –frequent poor outages and low connectivity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expansion programs on canals for farming and domestic purposes</li> <li>▪ Road network to be increased and equal in all sub-counties</li> <li>▪ Building of boreholes</li> <li>▪ Reduction of water charges by the water regulatory body e.g. the payment of Kshs. 15,000 per acre as water fee for farmers</li> <li>▪ Line of the canals</li> <li>▪ Bridges need to be added to enable movement</li> </ul>
	<b>Information Communication and Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Network coverage –some parts have no network available</li> <li>▪ Low internet connectivity</li> <li>▪ Expansion of broadband because of low internet speeds</li> <li>▪ Internet charges by telecoms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A digital hub for youth per constituency</li> <li>▪ Mobile phone players should expand their connectivity</li> <li>▪ Expansion of the broadband cable</li> </ul>
	<b>Science Technology and Innovation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inadequate technical institutes i.e. TVETs</li> <li>▪ Youth don't prioritize science subjects</li> <li>▪ Low innovation and value addition of raw products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promotion of science subjects among the youth</li> <li>▪ Capacity building for “<i>Juakali</i>”</li> <li>▪ The motivation of students in science subjects</li> </ul>
	<b>Land Reforms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tenancy systems in irrigation schemes</li> <li>▪ Limitation of land sub-division for land ownership</li> <li>▪ Boundary issues e.g. Embu –Kirinyaga on land</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enhance land disputes resolution mechanism</li> <li>▪ Digitize land registry</li> </ul>
	<b>Public Sector Reforms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Corruption in public offices</li> <li>▪ Too many demands for first-time employees</li> <li>▪ Inadequate budgets –services don't reach the ground due to a lack of funds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction of the number of documents required for employment</li> <li>▪ Rule of law to combat corruption</li> <li>▪ Budget to be adequate for services to trickle down to villages</li> </ul>

	<b>EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES</b>	<b>PRIORITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS</b>
	<b>Labor and Employment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Few industries for employment especially in science subjects</li> <li>▪ The unemployment rate is very high</li> <li>▪ Poor salaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Investments in manufacturing and value addition e.g. rice husk industry to create employment opportunities</li> <li>▪ Minimum wage to be promoted</li> <li>▪ Promote strategic board management in co-operatives</li> <li>▪ Encourage and promote sports, games and recreation which can employ youth.</li> </ul>
	<b>National Values and Ethics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in crime</li> <li>▪ Drug abuse</li> <li>▪ Corruption</li> <li>▪ Nepotism and favoritism</li> <li>▪ Unemployment and idleness of the youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Religious organizations are encouraged to preach values.</li> <li>▪ Youth rehabilitation</li> <li>▪ Anti-corruption authorities be decentralized and the budget increased</li> <li>▪ Empower ‘<i>nyumba kumi</i>’ leaders</li> <li>▪ Transparent and accountable systems</li> </ul>
	<b>Disaster Risk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inadequate firefighting equipment</li> <li>▪ No disaster management program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training of various people in disaster management</li> <li>▪ Food reserves be activated like national cereals and produce board takes the role of establishing food reserves</li> <li>▪ Increase police posts</li> <li>▪ Establish village elders</li> <li>▪ Employ own county youth service</li> </ul>

