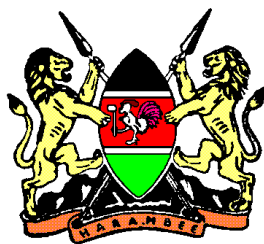


REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING

FOURTH MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2023- 2027

KITUI 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 through the State Department 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 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 160 participants attended the Kitui County Consultation Forum.

1.5 County Consultation Process

The Consultation Team was led by Mr. Solomon Kitungu, CBS, Principal Secretary, State Department for Public Works. The Consultation Teams made courtesy calls to the County Commissioner Mr. Rioba Mbogai 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 Sessions

County Commissioner's Remarks

He thanked members for attending the forum and encouraged them to freely contribute in the day's agenda. He stressed more on the prioritization of projects that will enable the county to grow in all the three pillars of Vision 2030 i.e. Economic, Political and Social Pillars.

CECM for County Treasury

In his speech read by the Acting Chief Officer Economic Planning Mr. Paul Kimwele, the CECM cited Articles 10(2) (a & c), 174 (c & d)) as well as the Fourth Schedule of our Constitution call for wide consultations in matters relating to the governance of our people. He reported that the process of preparing the 3rd generation County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP III) is set to begin in due course. The Kitui CIDP III will be linked to MTP IV. The implementation of the CIDP 2018 - 2022 is firmly on course and is guided by the principles of civic engagement and participation. He noted that the County consultation forum provided an excellent opportunity to interrogate the programmes proposed in MTP IV with a view of creating linkages with our next generation CIDP. He expressed his wish that the meeting will exhaustively highlight various areas of collaborations and cooperation between the two levels of government as we embark on the next medium term planning cycle.

PS State Department for Public Works

The PS read the CS speech and reminded members on the importance of observing Covid 19 measures even when the numbers are decreasing. He emphasized on the importance of county consultative forum on MTPIV and the need for extensive and comprehensive contribution by the participants.

3.0 Plenary Discussions

- Development of sports infrastructure still not achieved in the county
- Kitui County to work with the Ministry of Education, Tourism and Culture & Heritage to develop sports programs and centres of excellence
- Establish peace initiatives
- Ensure stakeholders engagements in the Education sector
- Challenges with food security due to over-reliance on rain
- Increasing cases of mental health
- Revive the mining industry in the county to create employment

- High level of poverty leading to more cases of drug abuse

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

Kitui 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
1.0	ECONOMIC PILLAR	
	Trade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No market for farm produce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish market for farm produce • Establish a fully operational credit scheme to support SMEs and small traders • Collaboration between both governments and local industry players
	Agriculture and Livestock and Forest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costly farm inputs • Mistrust among cooperatives societies hindering tapping of opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drilling enough boreholes to support tree planting • Financial support for seedlings • Promote and sensitize farmers on Agro forestry, Intercropping • Construction of a Mega dam to enhance water storage • Subsidize farmers to partake cotton farming • Domesticate trees facing extinction e.g. sandalwood through collaboration between the two levels of Government. • Strengthen extension officers to fully support local farmers on crop and animal breeds suitable locally. • Establish at least one dairy processing plant in Kitui. • Planting of drought resistant crops • Boreholes and construction of dams.
	Manufacturing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Few Industries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Industrial park/ agro processing park to enhance manufacturing • Worthy mapping of mineral resources in county

		<p>for further exploitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an assembly plant in Kitui of either motor cycle or motor vehicles • Support/ promote Kitui Industries to EPZ cadre • Revival of the cotton industry especially Kitui Ginnery • Support cooperatives societies to fully undertake their income generating activities • Establish a unique product/ service in each village of Kitui County for promotion or production for wealth generation • Expedite creation of Biashara Centres in Kitui.
	Tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmapped and unadvertised tourist attraction sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Nzambani Rock, Ikoo Valley, Mutomo Reptile Park and conservancies within Kitui County. • Construction mega dams with hotels and restaurants in the local game parks and tourist sites.
2.0	SOCIAL PILLAR	
	Gender, Youth and Persons With Disabilities (PWD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate resources: Understaffing at National Council for Persons with Disabilities (1 Disability officer and 1 PSC intern with no vehicle amongst others) • Challenge of access to E-governance for persons with disabilities (e-citizen) • Inadequate medical personnel and facilities to assess disability hence low disability registration • Inadequate cash transfer for Persons with Severe Disabilities(PWSD) and assistive devices • Lack of funds to facilitate fresh registration of PWDs in the newly launched disability registration system • Increased GBV • Inadequate budget allocation for gender department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWD support program. (Formulate PWD policy, PWD fund) • Employ more staff for National Council for Persons with disability office preferably in every ward of Kitui • Train more assessment doctors preferably in every ward • Construct sound proof room in Mwingi to enable assessment of hearing disabilities • Establish a firm for assistive devices fabrication and repair • Registration of Persons with Disabilities for NCPWD and County Ministry of Health and waive the medical assessment fees for disability registration. • Drugs and substance abuse rehabilitation centre • Rescue centre for GBV Survivors • Mainstreaming GBV in government budget and planning • Civic education programs for gender and mental health • Counseling services to address GBV. • Talent academy for youth.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inadequate County Gender offices ● Untapped talents for youth ● Poor coordination between national and county governments youth departments. ● Increased cases of drug abuse by the youth ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drug and substance abuse program to tackle the issue of drug and substance abuse among the youth.
	<p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inadequate TIVET and KMTC institutions ● The technological infrastructure in tertiary institutions is not commensurate with the current trends of technology ● Underpayment of ECDE teachers ● Low enrolment of boys in ECDE ● Few special needs secondary schools and colleges in Kitui ● Misplacement of KMTC in the ministry of health instead of Ministry of education ● Inadequate special learning materials for Special Needs Education in special schools e.g. distribution of a mathematics text book to a deaf blind learner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health training e.g. KMTC which is under Health ministry. ● Human resource for health training. ● Civic education program on importance of basic education for all gender. ● Program to support basic education for PWD children.
3.0	POLITICAL PILLAR	
	<p>Devolution, Governance & Judiciary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good governance brought down the services to the grassroots, improved infrastructure; Funds have been brought to the grassroots and development of policies in the county. ● Corruption - Mismanagement of funds and tenders issuance ● Limited resources ● Transition process of devolution not well articulated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Civic education on court processes and devolution processes ● Advocacy on good governance, scorecards, human rights ● Community empowerment-Equity (especially Men) ● Building more courts ● Implementation of policies ● Digitize systems

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Delay of court cases ● Loss of documents 	
4.0	ENABLERS/FOUNDATION	
	<p>ICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knowledge – The public has not been educated on ICT hardware and software. ● Infrastructure – The infrastructure needed for the providence of ICT are not present in Kitui. ● Capital – The capital needed for buying the infrastructure isn't provided. ● Interruptions due to developmental activities ● Cyber bulling and cyber crime ● Topography- Brings about the challenge of putting the needed infrastructure. ● Weather - Rainfall and strong winds damage the infrastructure 	
	<p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Typography – The depressions on land make it hard for any of the projects discussed to be done. ● Leadership change - This brings about White elephant projects hence stalled infrastructure such as the Kitui referral hospital. ● Bureaucratic regulations – This delay the approvals which delay infrastructure developments. ● Limited capital – Both land and the financial sector. ● High cost of compensation and delays leading to stalling of projects. ● Climate change – This has introduced an aspect of the cost on the various projects which requires climate proofing the various projects such as 	

	<p>the roads to prevent them from failing in the long term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Misplaced priorities – The infrastructures introduced or done are not hand in hand with the specific area, what it needs and what is done is parallel to each other. 	
	<p>Security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● High rates of suicide. ● Emerging issues of drug abuse. ● Human wildlife conflict. ● Resource based conflict. ● Empowerment and training of the security. ● Food and water insecurity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Empowerment and training of the security.
	<p>Science and Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Competitive needs as a challenge – Resources on the same is pulled to other areas. ● High cost related to science and technology. ● Technological advancements – Advancements are all through which makes it hard to adapt to them particularly if the previous models aren't known. ● Reliance on imported human capital, hardware and software. 	
	<p>Labor and Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● High unemployment rates. ● Low diversification of labor. ● Corruption and nepotism. ● Lack of 1/3 gender rule. 	
	<p>Disaster and risk management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Late or delayed response to disaster. ● Attitude change to disasters – Overreliance on relief 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ward participatory risk assessment – Coming up with long term contingency plans and action plan from the communities. ● Programs for capacity building. ● Enhancement of patrols on the borders.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock and human diseases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower the <i>nyumba kumi</i> initiative/ strengthening community programs. • Kitui to be designated as a hardship area. • Civic education.
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5.0 Conclusion

Closing Remarks

The County Commissioner thanked the participants for giving their views and assured them that all will be captured for MTPIV and CIDPIII.

The PS acknowledged the participants for taking part in the session and asked them to forward any more views even after sessions through an email that was provided. He advised the County leaders to mechanize agricultural activities to have viable economic growth in the County.