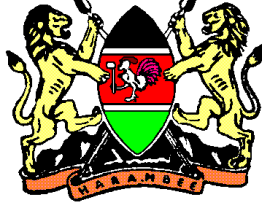


REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING

FOURTH MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2023- 2027

TAITA TAVETA COUNTY CONSULTATION FORUM REPORT



MAY, 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Kenya Vision 2030 is the country's long-term development blueprint that aims to transform Kenya into a newly-industrializing, middle-income country providing a 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 the transition to the next long-term development agenda for the country. It will be guided by Kenya Vision 2030 and lessons learned in the 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 call 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 28th March and 5th April 2022. The Consultation Forums provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide views that will form the 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 the implementation of MTP 2018-2022, and the preparatory process of the 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 the 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, the Private Sector, Development Partners, Civil society, Media, Academia, Persons with Disabilities, Youth, and Women. A total of 150 participants were invited to each County Forum with strict adherence to gender balance and sub-county representations. A total of 156 participants attended the Taita Taveta County Consultation Forum.

1.5 County Consultation Process

The Consultation Team was led by Dr. Margaret Mwakima, Principal Secretary, Vocational and Technical Training. The team made courtesy calls to the County Commissioner and Office of the County Governor and briefed them 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

2.1. Remarks by the CEC Finance and Planning

Ms. Evelyne Shigi, the Chief Officer of Education welcomed the participants to Taita Taveta County on behalf of the CEC Finance and Planning. She informed the forum that the CEC was held up with other exigencies of duty but would join in course of the meeting.

2.2. Remarks by the County Governor

The County Chief Officer, Water, Climate Change, Natural Resources and Sanitation, Rev. Sylvanus Mwakoma, welcomed participants to the Forum on behalf of the Governor. He appreciated the National Government for convening the forum and assured the meeting of the Governor's full support.

2.3. Remarks by the County Commissioner

The Deputy County Commissioner (DCC), Ms. Margaret Mwaniki, on behalf of the County Commissioner, highlighted the country's planning process since independence. She also provided a brief introduction to the vision 2030 and its importance in Kenya's socio-economic and political transformation. She informed participants of the critical role they play in the planning process and requested them to ensure that their issues are well captured and articulated in the County Integrated Development Plans and the Fourth Medium-Term Plan.

2.4. Statement by the CS, The National Treasury, and Planning

The statement by the Cabinet Secretary was to be read by Dr. Margaret Mwakima, Principal Secretary, Vocational and Technical Training. However, the PS was not able to attend the forum due to other official engagements. Consequently, the CS Statement was delivered by Mrs. Margaret Mwaniki, the Deputy County Commissioner.

In summary, the Statement indicated that the county consultative forums were organized to provide an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to discuss and propose county development priorities that will form the basis for the Fourth MTP policies, programmes, and projects. This is against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic which has negatively affected the performance of the global and domestic economy leading to a contraction of Kenya's GDP by 0.3 percent in 2020. The Fourth MTP will build on gains made so far in key sectors of the economy including completing projects initiated during the previous development plans as well as focusing on implementing strategic interventions aimed at driving our economy towards a sustainable growth trajectory as envisaged in the Kenya Vision 2030.

3.0. PRESENTATIONS

3.1. Objectives of the Forum

The presentation on the objectives of the County Consultative Forum was made by the Team Leader, Mr. Stephen Macharia, Director of Planning, and the Ministry of Health. The objectives were to:

- Appraise stakeholders and the public on progress made in the implementation of MTP 2018-2022, and the preparatory process of the Fourth MTP;

- Provide an opportunity for county stakeholders to identify and prioritize development programmes & Projects for incorporation into the Fourth MTP. The prioritized projects and programmes will also inform the preparation of CIDPs 2023-2027; and
- Provide a platform for consultation between the national government and county government on the development and implementation of MTP and CIDPs

3.2 Presentation on Achievements of Third MTP and preparatory process of Fourth MTP

The Presentation on the Achievements of the Third MTP and the preparatory process of the Fourth MTP was made by Ms. Victoria Wanjala, Senior Economist, State Department for Planning. The presentation highlighted the following: an overview of Kenya Vision 2030; Implementation of Kenya Vision 2030 and Medium Term Plans (MTP); Achievements of Third MTP 2018-2022; Challenges in implementation of Third MTP 2018-2022; and Preparatory process of Fourth MTP 2023-2027.

3.3. Highlights of Achievements on Implementation of County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP-2) 2018-2022

The presentation was done by Mr. Jimmy, Economist at Taita Taveta County. He informed the forum that the County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022) addressed the many underlying challenges facing the residents. It set a road map that directed the future course of Taita Taveta County in a bid to solve the diverse needs of its citizens. The presentation highlighted the achievements made in implementing the CIDP over the last five years.

3.4. Plenary Discussion

The following issues were raised during the preliminary discussions:

- The presentation did not capture any county-specific achievements from the national government as stipulated in MTP III;
- There were concerns about the minimal decline in mortality rate, especially for children under 5 years;
- The County expressed concern that the proposed Inland Container depot at Ndii had not materialized;
- 62% of the Taita Taveta land is occupied by the Tsavo East and West National Parks, 24% is Arid and Semi-Arid Lands, while 14% constitutes hills and mountains. Despite the fact that a minimal share of land is available for the Taita Taveta populace to settle and farm, there is a challenge of human-wildlife conflict with lots of the agricultural produce getting destroyed by wild animals;
- Low share of equitable revenue due to low county population size;
- Projects under the equalization funds during the MTP III were stopped. The residents wanted to understand why and how they can be reinstated
- Issues of non-compensation of affected households due to destructions caused by wildlife were raised;

- The elders were concerned about their remuneration yet they play a critical role in administration;
- The residents raised concerns about Inua Jamii Initiative. They stated that many deserving elderly were left out due to a lack of updating of the register;
- Lack of Male wards in Mwatate Sub-county hospital forces residents to travel to Voi to seek medical attention;
- The forum emphasized the need for enhanced investment in mineral exploration, extraction, and processing in the county. This would boost county revenue and help with job creation;
- There was a strong case for reintroduction and expansion of the school feeding programme to keep children in school;
- The residents wanted to understand the criteria used for distribution of the 10,000 Kms of Tarmac Road in the county as outlined in the MTP III presentation.

3.5 Emerging Issues, Challenges and Key Priority Programmes and Projects

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS
ECONOMIC PILLAR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human-wildlife conflict. • Lack of Compensation for human deaths and crop damages Caused by Wildlife. • Zero shares of revenue to the county government and its citizens from the national parks and game reserves. • Minimum protection of the heritage/tourism sites; • Lack of technology and knowledge in making a living/generating revenue out of carbon credits; • Drought in the county; • Difficulty in accessing funds from the Youth fund; • Inadequate Mining Equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a water reservoir for the animals during the dry season; • KWS to identify the animal corridors and advise the Wananchi appropriately, and fencing of the parks and Reserves; • Wildlife Compensation Fund as well as a reduction in compensation waiting time ; • Demarcation should be done to ensure the land is not grabbed; • The proportion of the revenue realized from the parks should be recouped back to the community to benefit its residents; • Residents to be involved by KWS officials when making decisions about the parks and reserves ; • Tapping of Lake Challa, Njoro springs or Mzima springs to help supply water to the residents; and building dams for harvesting storm water ; • Creation of Livestock Export Economic zone in Bachuma; • County government-protected areas to receive

	<p>more carbon credits;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the Ikanga Air Strip; • Fish Processing industries to be set up in Taita Taveta; • Establishment of an Inland Container Depot in the county; • Construction of Leather processing industry in the county; • Completion of Banana Processing Industry by National Government; • Setting up of BPO centers and training of staff; • Setting up of a business center in Taita Taveta Border Point or in the market area; • Increased Budgetary allocation to MSME; • Completion and equipping of Value Addition Centre in Voi; • Upgrading of Electricity voltage to support extraction of Steel. The residents suggested that this would lead to the creation of Steel Mill Factories; • Setting up of Mining zones for miners; • Creation of Industries in Ndii area since the Land has been set aside ; • Conduct exploration and Research on mining and the minerals domiciled in the county; • Development of an Investment policy on mining to protect interested investors; • Setting up of Minerals and metal exchange factories in Voi; • Setting up of Fish processing and packaging industry in Taveta; • Creation of channels for consumption of locally harvested fish; • Setting up of Livestock Ranches; • Capacity-building programmes on financial management for the Miners.
EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

SOCIAL PILLAR

- Limited school feeding programs
- There is double-dipping in bursary allocation in the county.
- Limited institutions for cerebral palsy students in the county (affirmative action for the disabled)
- Limited awareness of the importance of Vocational Training Colleges i.e. TVET
- Health officers have not been trained in sign languages;
- Some health Infrastructures are old
- Deforestation.
- Grabbing of Community land e.g. Vuria Hill;
- Mining areas have not been rehabilitated after excavation;
- No affordable and good standard houses in Taita Taveta county;
- Drug and substance abuse particularly by youth;
- Limited gender sensitization awareness programmes;
- Limited drug rehabilitation centers for the affected population;
- Limited safe spaces/rescue centers for GBV survivors; and
- Limited innovation and technology empowerment hubs.

- The residents requested for Rollout of school feeding programs in all schools, particularly those in ASAL; Creation of a database to ensure there is equity in bursary allocation ;
- Upgrading /replacement i.e. CT SCANS AND MRI;
- Initiation of afforestation and reforestation programs in the county;
- New level 6 hospital;
- War Memorial Hospital to be built as part of the battlefield ground;
- Social Health protection programs ;
- Upgrading Mzima and Njore springs to increase water supply;
- Youth programs such as food for work, cash for Asset (Kazi Kwa Vijana)
- Protection of water catchment areas;
- Construction of Affordable housing projects;
- Scale-up of Kenya Social Inclusion program in Voi and Wundanyi Sub Counties for vulnerable households;
- Create awareness and Safe Spaces for GBV survivors;
- Decentralization of Music Copyright Society to Counties;
- Development of Heritage Centres;
- Set up drug and substance abuse rehabilitation centre in Taita Taveta county;
- Set up innovation and technology empowerment hub;
- Set up of mothers lactation centres (crèche) in the offices and in the market places for mama mbogas;
- Sustainable sanitary pads program for the school going girls and vulnerable groups; and

EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

PRIORITY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

POLITICAL PILLAR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of continuity in the implementation of previous programmes and projects once new leadership takes over the county; • Limited devolved unit at the village level; • Operational conflicts between County and National Government officials and duplication of functions; • Late disbursement of government funds; • Delayed Justice due to inadequate judicial staff; • Inadequate civic education on devolution; • Inadequate implementation of devolved functions; • Mismanagement of public funds, corruption; • Disputes between county governments over common boundaries e.g. Makueni and Taita Taveta. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulation of a transition policy to safeguard programmes and projects from previous regimes; • Establishment of village administrators • Strengthening inter-governmental relations; • Timely disbursement from The National treasury; • Deployment of more judicial staff; • Prioritize civic education and public participation; • Adequate funding of devolved functions; • Strengthening of Anti-corruption units; • Mediations between the two counties;
EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PRIORITY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS
ENABLERS/FOUNDATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor road network. Most roads were transferred to the county government without corresponding funding; • Limited water storage. • For the Mkuru dam, enough funding is needed for distribution; • The airstrip in Ikanga should be completed; • Minimal access to electricity; • Revival of Voi Taveta railway line; • Limited fiber optic connectivity to public institutions, areas, and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water harvesting using dams, pipelines • Completion and operationalization of Ikanga Airstrip; • Upgrading of Rombo-Taveta, Maungu- Taveta, Cess point- Jipe, Mwakitau-Ndii, Mwatate-Kasighau-Lungalunga, Dembwa-Ngerenyi, Ndii-Ghazi, Ndii-Ronge-Msau, Maungu-Kasighau, Voi-Saghalla-Talio roads to betterment standards; • Setting up of solar and wind power farms; • Construction of water harvesting dams. Along Voi and Bura rivers; • Rehabilitation of Kighombo dam;

<p>amenities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roaming charges around Taveta-Mwakitau area; • Inadequate support for technology and innovations; • Limited modern equipment to support TVET, Science, Technology, and Innovation. • Limited ICT facilities in 29 running VTCs ; • Inadequate trainers for TVET Centres; • Inadequate stakeholders engagement during project identification in the county; • Lack of land tenure documents; • Encroachment of community land and squatter menace; • Limited support in development of urban and spatial plans; • Lack of digitization of land records; • Poor coordination of land-related functions between the national and county government workers; • The County has only one Huduma Centre hence residents travel far to access government services; • Inadequate industries to offer employment to the youth; • Inequity in revenue sharing between the County and National government. The revenue is generated from the games reserves and national parks • Lack of consideration of the county residents in the recruitment of KWS employees. • Historical injustice in the categorization of wildlife habitats. For example, Taita Taveta parks are classified under national parks; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of Mkuru dam; • Expansion of fiber-optic network throughout the county; • Improving telecommunication network along the Kenya- Tanzania border; • Equipping and staffing of TVETs across the county; • Construction of boarding facilities for TVETs; • Support of issuance of land tenure documents; • Support in preparation of urban development and spatial plans; • Digitization of land records; • Decentralization of Huduma Centre services to Voi, Mwatate, and Taveta sub-counties; • Establishment of an EPZ at Ndii; • Construction of an Inland Container Depot at Voi; • Rolling out the Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Programme in the county; • Operationalization of a gemstone Centre; • Capacity building and support with equipping of small scale miners; • Construction of a modern abattoir; • Implementation of benefit-sharing formulas per Wildlife Conservation Management Act; • Establishment of a disaster and rescue management Centre in Taveta and Wundanyi; • Setting up of a proper drainage system to convey water from the SGR; • Erection of KWS electric fences along the park boundaries; • Residents to have a bargaining power in the income sharing from parks since the parks and game reserves are in their county
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inequity in sharing of natural resources. Example national parks revenues, mineral royalties, water resources, the allocation for roads maintenance; • Inadequate capacity for response mitigation and lack of disaster response center; • Poor storm water management for water harvested from SGR; • Poor water harvesting in the urban areas and their environment; • Human-wildlife conflict; 	
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5.0 Conclusion

The Taita Taveta County Consultative Forum was well attended and achieved the set objective. As a way forward, the participants were reminded of the timelines in the preparatory process of MTP IV and urged to remain engaged with the process to the end. The Secretariat thanked the participants for their inputs and assured them that the contributions would inform the MTP IV and CIDP.

On behalf of the County Governor, the CCO Water, Climate Change and Sanitation, Rev Mwakoma, thanked the participants for their participation. He emphasized that the priority programmes and projects identified by the Forum should be delivered to the National Treasury without any alterations. In addition, he requested the National Treasury and Planning to ensure that some of the people who participated in the consultative forum are invited to the National Validation Forum to confirm that indeed the issues raised were considered.

In her closing remarks, the Deputy County Commissioner commended the participants for their active involvement throughout the forum. She also thanked the national government team led by Mr. Stephen Macharia for their coordination and facilitation of the programme. The DCC added that the forum was for the good of all citizens of the county and challenged the participants to think of ways through which they could contribute to transformation of the county. The DCC then officially closed the Forum at 18.00 hours