Policy Monitor

Sustaining Development Momentum in the Electioneering Year and Beyond:

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PERSPECTIVES ON TRADE, NATIONAL UNITY AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

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Editorial

Welcome to the KIPPRA Policy Monitor, the April-June 2022 edition. The theme of this edition is "Sustaining Development Momentum in the Electioneering Year and Beyond: Perspectives on Trade, National Unity and Youth Employment". This edition comes at a time when Kenya is gearing up for the general elections in August 2022 and maintaining national unity is critical for the country. The articles are, therefore, focused on measures to promote growth during and after the electioneering period.

The main articles in this edition focus on the following: Recent economic developments; Implications of DR Congo joining the East African Community; Economic sectors with greatest potential for creating decent work for the youth; and promoting national unity in the electioneering period and beyond.

The Policy Monitor also highlights KIPPRA's demand-driven and collaborative projects, such as the development of a Local Economic Development Plan for Kisumu County along other key activities such as the 3rd Kenya Think Tanks Symposium, Courtesy Call on CBK Governor by KIPPRA Executive Director, Induction of KIPPRA Board Chair and members, and KIPPRA Executive Director taking reins at Southern Voice. It concludes with the 5th KIPPRA Annual Regional Conference and KIPPRA Silver Jubilee Celebrations that were held in June 2022.

In fulfillment of its mandate on sharing research findings, the Institute undertook various activities including participating in the 9th edition of Africities held in Kisumu from 17th to 22nd May 2022 where preliminary findings were presented for the study on Urban Economic Growth: A Case for Nairobi City County being undertaken in collaboration with AGI-Brookings Institution.

Finally, the Policy Monitor highlights key policy news at domestic, regional, and international levels, and legislative developments at the National Assembly and the Senate.

On behalf of the KIPPRA fraternity, we hope you will be informed as you read this edition.

Recent Economic Developments in Kenya

By Jacob Nato

This article analyses the country's recent economic growth considering the upcoming general elections with a focus on four key areas: the growth of economic activities, monetary and financial policy, fiscal developments, and the external sector.

Economic Growth

The growth of the economy in the first quarter of 2022 was 6.8 per cent compared to a growth of 2.7 per cent in the first quarter of 2021 (KNBS Quarterly GDP Report, 2022), reflecting an economic rebound. Sustaining the recovery is, however, susceptible to global shocks such as the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war; resurgence of COVID-19 infections; and rising prices of food, fertilizer, and energy. This is also an electioneering period, with general elections in August 2022. The government has put in place measures to ensure a peaceful election process and continued economic growth.

The Russia-Ukraine war is expected to have a spill-over effect on Kenya's economy. The effects are likely to be felt through higher commodity and food prices given the nature of commodities that Kenya trades with the two countries. For instance, Kenya has been importing oils and fats, cereals, and seeds from Ukraine. Further, Kenya relies on Russia for importation of steel, iron, fertilizers, wheat, and paper. Kenya then exports fruits and vegetables, tea, and cut flowers to Russia and Ukraine. If the war is protracted, this will mean lower export earnings for Kenya and the need to find new source and destination markets for these commodities.

On the upside, Kenya has done well in containing the spread of COVID-19 and uptake of the vaccination. However, the recent increases in confirmed cases of the virus are a source of concern.

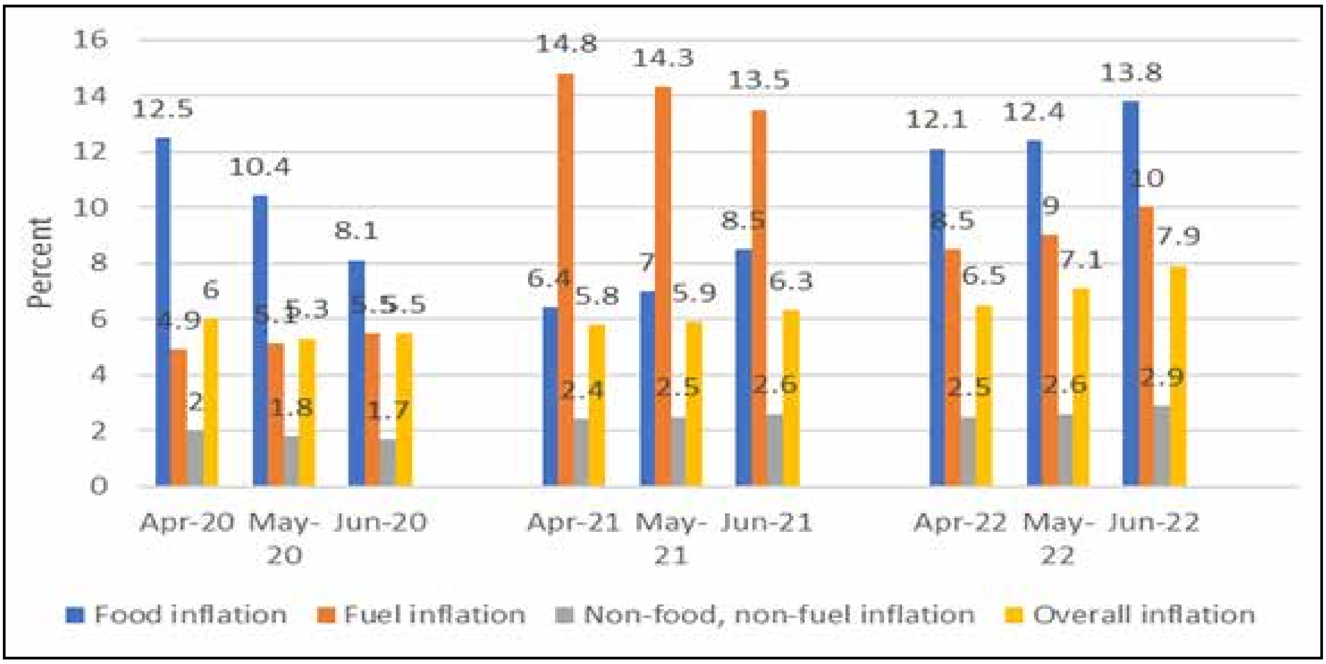
The economic growth is projected at 6.0 per cent in 2022 (Budget Statement for 2022/23). The Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) for Kenya (Stanbic Bank PMI Report, 2022) showed an improvement in business conditions up to December 2021, when the PMI rose to a high of 53.7 points. This was, however, followed by a deterioration in January 2022 with a PMI of 47.6. February and March 2022 had scores above 50 of 52.9 and 50.5, respectively. However, Kenya's business conditions deteriorated between April, May and June 2022 given the PMI scores of 49.5, 48.2 and 46.8, respectively. These have been attributed largely to rising inflation and the decline in what is spent by clients of goods and services.

In the tourism sector, the number of tourist arrivals to Kenya has seen a gradual recovery between January and April 2022. The arrivals through Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) and Mombasa International Airport (MIA) for the first four months of 2022 were 69,236; 73,950; 81,409 and 81,328, respectively, indicating a gradual recovery from January to April 2021 where the total arrivals, respectively, were 59,687; 45,964; 52,051 and 40,183 (Annual Tourism Sector Performance Report, 2021). Of these arrivals between January and April 2022, 283,860 were through Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, while 22,063 visitors were through Moi International Airport, Mombasa. If the global recovery from COVID-19 is sustained, it is expected to result in a better performance of the tourism sector.

The overall inflation rate for April, May and June 2022 was 6.5 per cent, 7.1 per cent and 7.9 per cent, respectively, compared to the same period in 2021 when the overall inflation rate was 5.8 per cent, 5.9 per cent and 6.3 per cent, respectively. The average inflation rates for April to June 2022 was 7.2 per cent, which was higher than the 6.0 per cent average recorded in the same period for 2021, and even higher than the 5.6 per cent average for April to June 2020 (Figure 1). The rise is largely driven by increase in prices of commodities, especially food and beverages, household equipment and furniture, and transport. Fuel inflation rose sharply from an average of 5.2 per cent in April to June 2020, to an average 14.2 per cent for 2021, but eased to 9.2 per cent for the same period in 2022. For food inflation, the average for April to June 2020 was 10.3 per cent, and this declined to an average of 7.3 per cent in 2021, before rising to 12.8 per cent for 2022. However, non-food-non-fuel inflation has been on an upward trend for the period, rising gradually from an average of 1.8 per cent to 2.5 per cent between 2020 and 2021, and further to average 2.7 per cent in April-June 2022. The rise in food inflation may be attributed partly to the drought situation that has engulfed the north-eastern parts of Kenya that are largely arid and semi-arid areas. The government has, however, been responding by offering relief supplies to the affected areas. In addition, a waiver on maize imports is expected to be in force from July 2022, a measure that would help to bring down food inflation. Prospects of good weather are also expected to improve the outlook on inflation.

Fuel pump prices increased between April and June 2022. Pump prices for super petrol, diesel, and kerosene increased by an average of Ksh 9.90 per litre between 15th April to 14th May 2022, and further by Ksh 5.50 per litre from 15th May to 14th June 2022 (EPRA Press Release, 14th May 2022). This is attributed to the upward price revision to the increase in landed cost of imported fuel. The ongoing geo-political tension in Europe has also had implications on the global oil prices. The government has sealed a deal for cheaper oil from Saudi Arabia to be operationalized from August 2022. Furthermore, the government aims at eliminating the fuel subsidy, which was increasingly becoming unsustainable, and instead replace it with a gradual adjustment of fuel prices.

Figure 1: Inflation rates (April-June 2022, vis-à-vis 2021 and 2020)



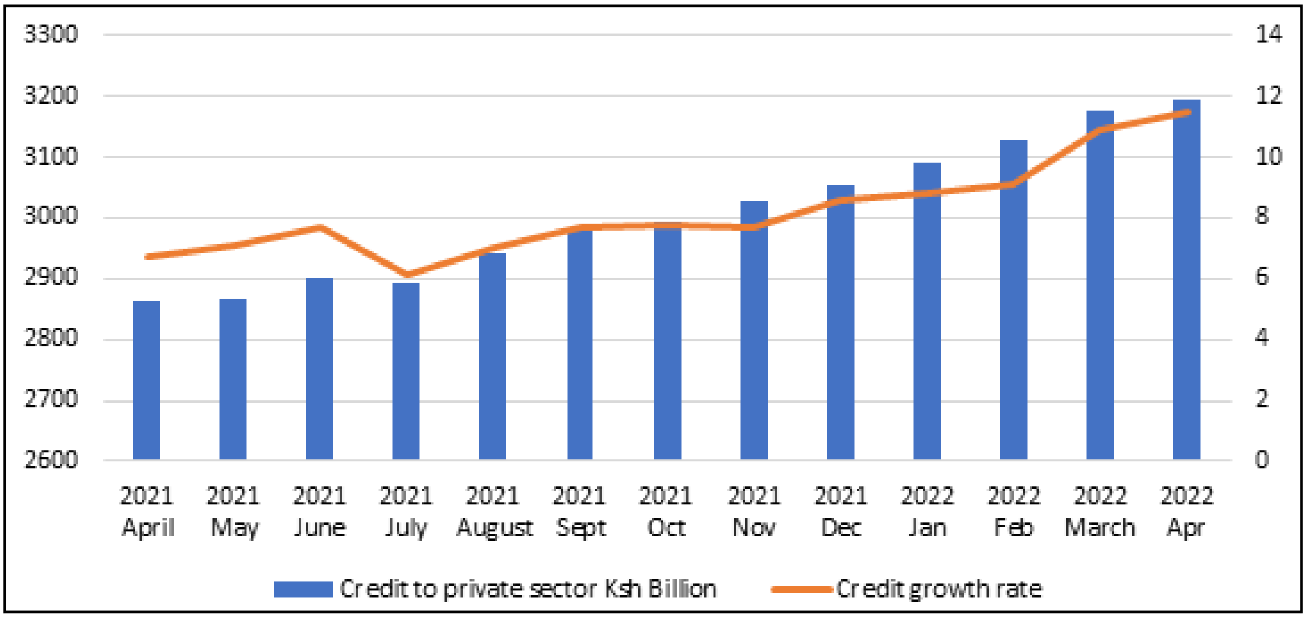
Data Source: CBK Weekly Bulletin (various issues)

Monetary and Financial Policy

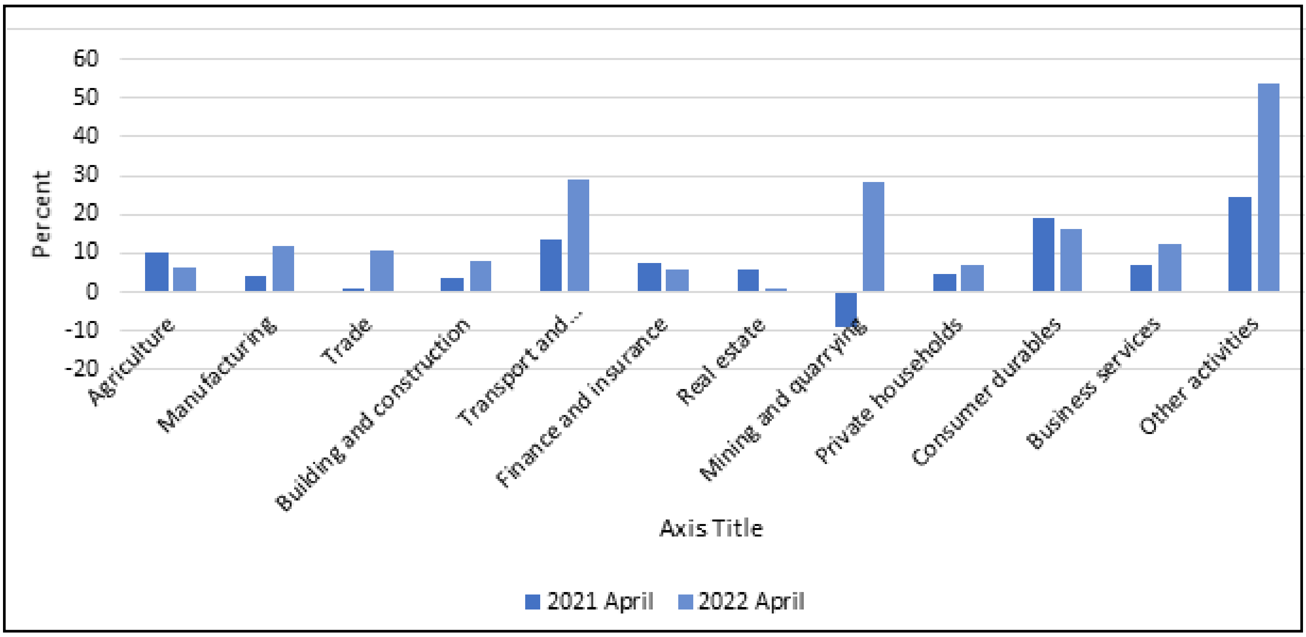
The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), during its meeting on 27th July 2022, maintained the Central Bank Rate (CBR) at 7.50 per cent, a rate it first adopted during its meeting of 30th May 2022. The MPC attributed its decision to the expected easing of domestic inflationary pressures in the near term based on the observation that international commodity prices had begun to moderate. Additionally, the MPC noted that the fiscal measures instituted by the Government had also moderated prices of specific items, and the sustained optimism about business activity from the surveys conducted ahead of the MPC meeting.

Credit to the private sector stood at Ksh 3,193.1 billion in April 2022 compared to Ksh 2,864.2 billion reported in April 2021. This performance reflected a significant growth from 6.7 per cent in April 2021 to 11.5 per cent in April 2022 (Figure 2). This growth in credit in April 2022 was broad-based with strong credit growth in transport and communications (28.9%), mining and quarrying (28.3%), consumer durables (16.1%), business services (12.2%), manufacturing (12.0%), trade (10.7%), building and construction (8.2%), agriculture (6.4%), private households (6.7%), and finance and insurance (5.8%). The robust performance reflecting increased demand for credit with increased economic activities (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Credit to the private sector



Data Source: CBK Weekly Bulletin (various issues)



Data Source: CBK (2022), Monthly Economic Indicators, April 2022

The ratio of non-performing loans (NPLs) to gross loans declined marginally to 14.10 per cent in April 2022 from 14.24 per cent in April 2021. Nevertheless, the volume of NPLs increased from Ksh 438.3 billion to Ksh 482.6 billion over the same period. The increase in the volume of NPLs was on account of specific challenges in the respective businesses, coupled with credit impairments in specific economic sectors. Sectors such as tourism, restaurants, and hotels, building and construction and manufacturing were noted for the increase in NPLs. Nevertheless, the banking sector remained resilient and stable, supported by strong capital adequacy and liquidity ratios. The total capital adequacy ratio stood at 18.8 per cent in April 2022, which is above the statutory requirement of at least 14.5 per cent. The strong capital adequacy ratio was supported by a faster growth in total capital relative to total risk-weighted assets. The average liquidity ratio for the banking sector was 54.3 per cent in April 2022, which is also above the minimum statutory limit of 20 per cent. The total liquidity ratio in April 2022 was 54.3 per cent, which was lower than 56.5 per cent recorded in April 2021, but higher than 51.2 per cent registered in April 2020.

The interbank rate averaged 4.62 per cent between January and April 2022, which was a decline from an average of 4.99 per cent over a similar period in 2021. Furthermore, the interbank rate declined from 4.72 per cent to 4.67 per cent between March and April 2022. The decline in the interbank rate reflects a higher availability of credit by banks that are lending to the economy. Yields on government securities in April 2022 stood at 7.4, 8.3 and 9.7 per cent for the 91-day, 182-day, and 364-day treasury bill, respectively. These yields represent higher values when compared to average rates of 7.3, 8.1 and 9.6 per cent for the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day Treasury Bill for the first quarter 2022.

Fiscal Developments

The economy in the first five months of 2022 showed a strong recovery, with the cumulative tax revenue amounting to Ksh 1,638 billion against a revised estimate of Ksh 1,741 billion (Kenya Gazette, 17th June 2022). The improved revenue collection was on account of increased economic activity following the easing of COVID-19 containment measures, tax policy measures, and enhanced tax collection efforts. Similarly, non-tax revenue collection cumulatively amounted to Ksh 59.5 billion against a revised estimate of Ksh 67.1 billion.

The actual receipts from domestic borrowing cumulatively amounted to Ksh 783.5 billion from a revised estimate of Ksh 1,007.9 billion, while that of external loans and grants totaled an actual of Ksh 172.1 billion from a revised estimate of Ksh 433.1 billion. Overall, the actual receipts for total revenue cumulatively amounted to Ksh 2,666.3 billion from a revised estimate of Ksh 3,279.8 billion, which represents an underperformance in all the receipt sources for revenue.

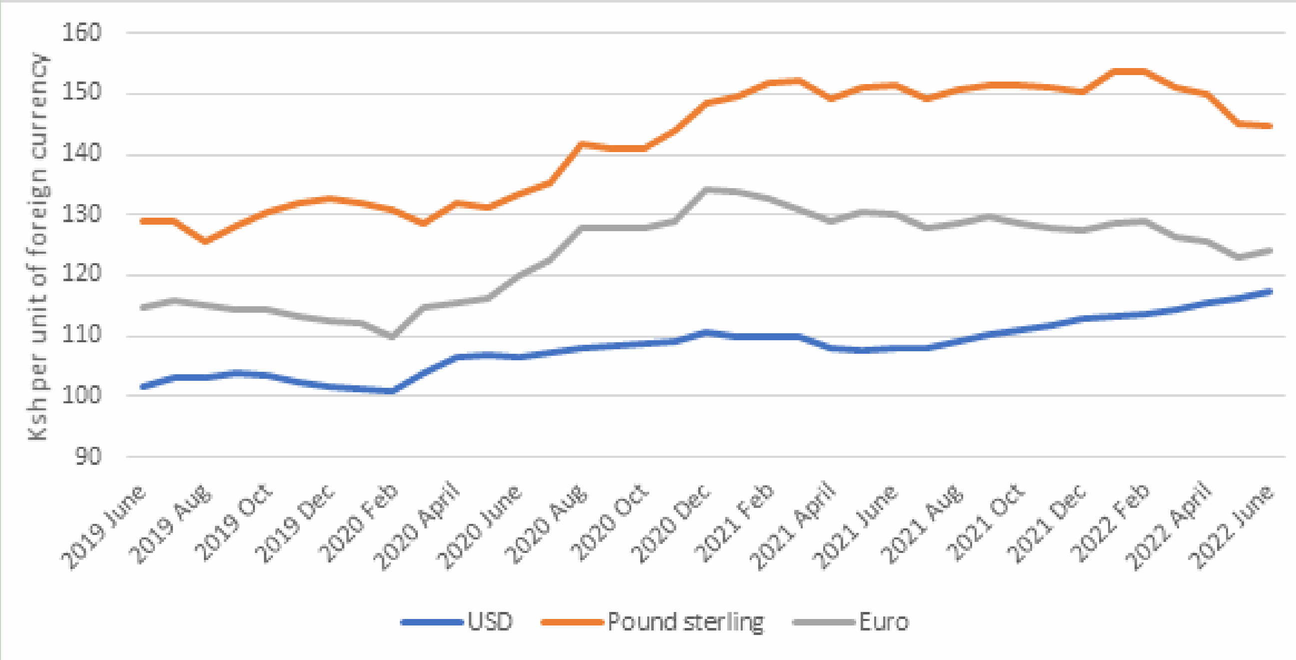
The total recurrent exchequer issues amounted to Ksh 1,020.4 billion, the total CFS exchequer issues amounting to Ksh 1,046.6 billion, while total development exchequer issues amounted to a cumulative of Ksh 283.1 billion, which all translated to a total of Ksh 2,350.1 billion in issues to the national government, excluding appropriation-in-aid. In terms of the county governments equitable share, the actual cumulative equitable share issues amounted to Ksh 286.5 billion. The exchequer balances improved for the period under review from Ksh 30.2 billion as at 31st March 2022 to Ksh 51.0 billion as at 31st May 2022. Going forward, the government aims to maintain tight spending control while simultaneously protecting social security spending. On their part, counties are expected to raise Ksh 56.7 billion as own source revenue (Kenya Economic Survey, 2022).

On public debt, the National Treasury proposed to raise the limit on the debt ceiling from Ksh 9 trillion to Ksh 10 trillion to enable the government to finance the Ksh 3.3 trillion budget for 2022/23. This was approved by Parliament on 7th June 2022. The National Treasury also proposed a replacement of the debt ceiling with a debt anchor set at 55 per cent of debt to GDP in present value terms (Budget Statement for 2022/23).

External Sector Developments

The Kenya Shilling depreciated slightly against the US Dollar, but slightly improved against the Sterling Pound and the Euro for the April to June 2022 period. The Kenya Shilling recorded an average exchange rate of Ksh 116.32, Ksh 146.67 and Ksh 124.21 against the US Dollar, Sterling Pound, and the Euro, respectively, in April to June 2022 compared to average exchange rates of Ksh 107.73, Ksh 150.60 and Ksh 129.87 against the US Dollar, Sterling Pound and the Euro, respectively, in the same period of 2021. The depreciation of the Kenya shilling against the US Dollar emanated from growing demand for foreign currencies in the face of rising import prices, rising global fuel prices, geo-political tensions in Europe with Russia-Ukraine war, rising cost of external debt repayments, rising inflation expectations, and other uncertainties in the global scene. The CBK maintained sufficient foreign exchange reserves where the stock of official reserves stood at US$ 8,028 million (4.77 months of import cover) as at end June 2022. This though was a 1.7 per cent decrease from US$ 8,144 (4.95 months of import cover) reported in June 2021. The reserves are within the statutory requirement of at least 4 months of import cover and the East African Community's (EAC) convergence criteria of 4.5 months of import cover, and hence continue to provide an adequate buffer against short-term shocks in the foreign exchange market.

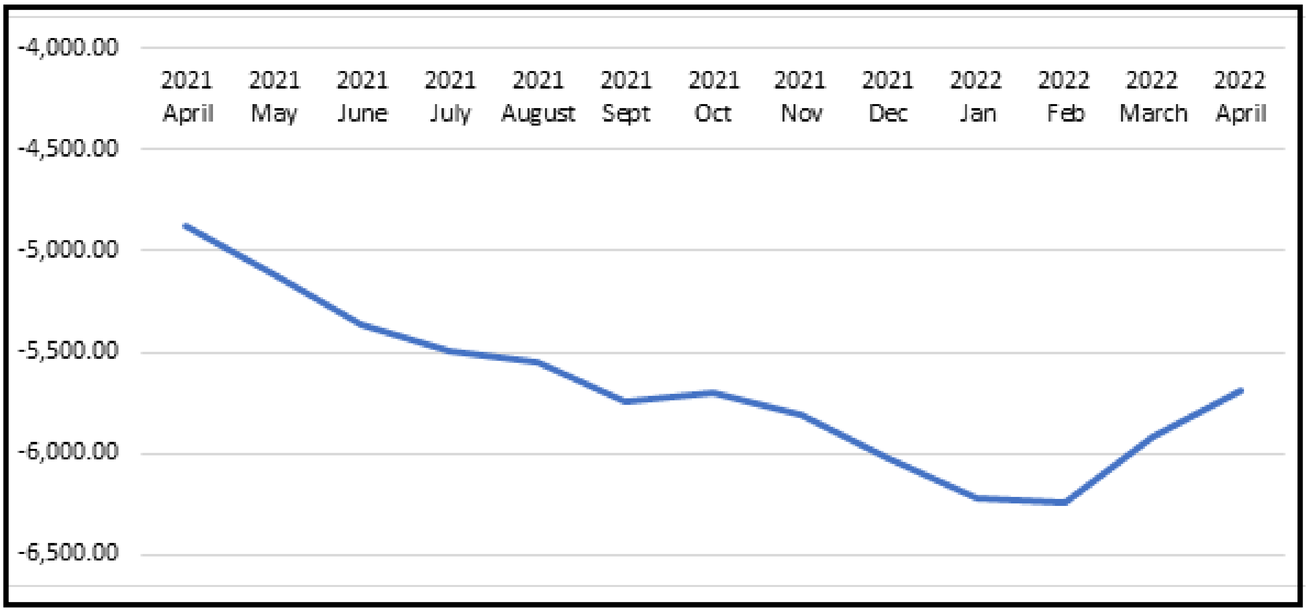
Figure 3: Exchange rate against major currencies



Data Source: Central Bank of Kenya

The value of export of goods increased from US$ 6,178.4 million to US$ 6,871.1 million between April 2021 and April 2022, registering a growth of 11.21 per cent. This growth in exports was due to a growth in demand for Kenya's exports mainly food and beverages, which accounted for 42.77 per cent of domestic export, followed by non-food industrial supplies accounting for 27.97 per cent. Similarly, the value of imports increased from US$ 15,231.1 million to US$ 18,698.3 million between April 2021 and April 2022, registering a growth of 22.76 per cent. This growth was because of importation of non-food industrial supplies, fuel and lubricants and machinery and other capital equipment which accounted for 39.61 per cent, 23.14 per cent, and 11.45 per cent, respectively, of the total import value. Consequently, the volume of trade grew by 19.43 per cent from US$ 21,409.5 million to US$ 25,569.4 million between April 2021 and April 2022. Furthermore, the current account balance widened from a deficit of US$ 4,877.7 million in April 2021 to a deficit of US$ 5,686.6 million in April 2022 (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Current account balance



Data Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Total diaspora remittances registered a modest growth of 7.53 per cent to stand at US$ 339.6 million in May 2022 compared to US$ 315.8 million received in May 2021. The growth from diaspora remittances was mainly from North America (6.65%), and the rest of the world (34.36%), with a decline experienced in Europe (-11.82%). The decline registered in Europe could be due to the geo-political tensions in Eastern Europe. The remittances by source in May 2021 were US$ 203.3 million from America, US$ 59.7 million from Europe, US$ 49.2 million from Asia, US$ 15.2 million from Africa, US$ 11.0 million from Australia and Oceania, and US$ 1.3 million from other countries (Central Bank of Kenya, 2022).

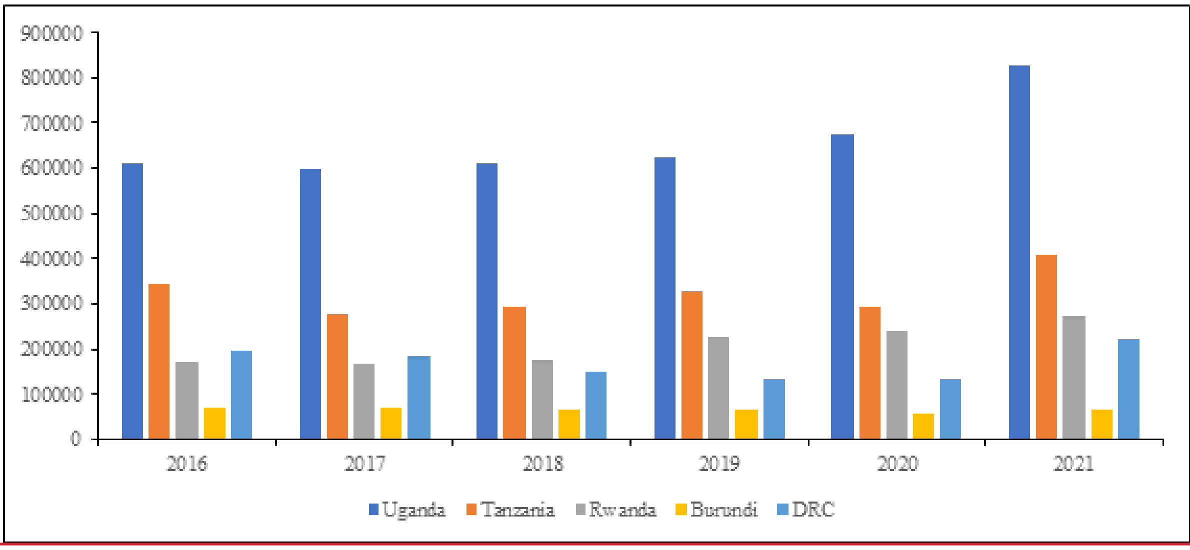
Implications of DR Congo Joining the East African Community

By Martin Nandelenga and Kenneth Malot

Introduction

On 8th April 2022, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) signed the Treaty of Accession, effectively becoming the 7th member of the East African Community (EAC), bringing on board a population of 93.7 million people. The signing of the agreement connected seven countries with a combined population of 270 million people and a GDP of US Dollars 243 billion (IMF, 2022). With DRC joining EAC, the territorial trade bloc now extends from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean in the west, presenting an opportunity to potentially open the East, Central and North Africa trade corridor. The expansion of the EAC with the entry of DRC, therefore, presents a larger market for increased trade activities among member states and improved regional integration. DRC borders five members of EAC (Burundi, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and South Sudan), thus providing opportunities to leverage on already developed trade among the neighbouring states including Kenya. Even before signing the Treaty of Accession, DRC remained a key trading partner with EAC member states. For example, Kenyan export performance to the DRC ranked fourth on average between 2016 and 2021 as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Kenyan exports to the East Africa Community, 2016-2021



Source: Central Bank of Kenya (2022)

The DRC has been a member of several trading blocs such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). This multiple membership to different trading blocs is a common phenomenon among the EAC member states. For example, Kenya is a member of EAC and the COMESA while Tanzania is a member of EAC and SADC. This multiple membership within the EAC region member states has complicated the implementation of the full EAC customs union protocol, as Tanzania was allowed to grant trade preference to her counter parts in the SADC region. Furthermore, three trading blocs of EAC, COMESA and SADC are working towards forming a one Free Trade Area to allow for harmonization of tariffs across borders while promoting integration of markets and economies. This trade integration is in line with the broader AU objective of accelerating economic integration within the continent.

The entry to the EAC allows member countries to benefit from the larger market of 270 million people and increased returns on reduced trade tariffs for goods originating within the community. Relatedly, the member states benefit from the four pillars that anchor the EAC objectives. The EAC is based on custom union, common market, monetary union and political federation pillars that help to advance growth of the member states. The first two pillars of customs union and common market have so far been achieved and this has increased trade volumes among member states. For example, for over five years, Uganda has been the largest export market for Kenyan products due to enhanced customs union among EAC member states. Among the top exports to EAC are pharmaceutical products, salt and cement with an average of US$ 1.44 billion between 2019 and 2021 (Economic Survey, 2022).

The entry to EAC membership follows a rigorous process to ensure countries permitted membership meet the EAC Treaty requirements. Article 3 (2) stipulates that a country approach a member state expressing interest to join the community. The member state will then forward the request to the EAC Partner States for consideration considering acceptance by the Partner States, geographical proximity of the requesting country and social and economic policies being aligned to those of the EAC, among other things. The period of joining is determined by the requesting country to meet the EAC Treaty requirements. For example, DRC made the application in 2019 and the process was completed on 8th April 2022, with the signing of the EAC Treaty. South Sudan applied for membership to EAC in 2011 immediately after its independence and acceded the Treaty on 15th April 2016.

The entry of countries to EAC as Partner States have previously been refused or delayed due to failure to meet the Community's membership requirements. Somalia made the application to join the EAC in 2013 and since then the process has been delayed due to continuing insecurity in the country. In 2016, the EAC Partner States rejected Somalia's request due to long-standing insecurity in the country.

A Resourceful Country with Potential to Enhance EAC Regional Growth

The DRC is well endowed given its natural resources base and a huge consumer market of 93.7 million people, numerous water bodies, vast farmland, rich biodiversity, and the world's second-largest rain forest. The resource portfolio of the Democratic Republic of Congo is impressive and unmatched in the region.

Currently, DRC is the world leading producer and exporter of cobalt used in battery manufacture. It is also the fourth largest producer and exporter of copper used in assembly of electric motor vehicles and renewable energy sources. It is also a major producer of gold, diamonds, uranium, coltan, oil and other precious metals. The lithium deposits, found in the southeast part of the country, are estimated at over 130 million tonnes. China is the major importer of this mineral products produced by DRC, accounting for about 48.4 per cent in 2020. This is followed by United Republic of Tanzania 17.2 per cent, Singapore 8.0 per cent, Switzerland 7.8 per cent, United Arab Emirates 6.0 per cent and South Africa 3.4 per cent.

As noted earlier, DRC is a major exporter of copper. To meet its demand for copper, however, Kenya imports a significant proportion of this mineral from the United Arab Emirates (37.6%), the Russian Federation (27.3%), and Zambia (17.7%). Similarly for Uganda, this mineral is majorly imported from United Arab Emirate (56.4%), China (18.3%) and Zambia (12%).

The economic benefits of the resource base in DRC cannot be over emphasized. The EAC countries can largely benefit from the numerous resources found in the DRC and promote the industrial and manufacturing capabilities. DRC entry will see a reduction in tariff for these mineral commodities and the governments need to focus more on processing the mineral themselves and promote industrialization.

The availability of these resources accompanied by improvement in infrastructure ¬– road, rail and air – can boost EAC's and Africa Union (AU) Agenda 2063 on promoting industrialization within the region through reduction of cost of production and shifting to high productive activities. This would further contribute towards economic transformation in the region, which is imperative in contributing to economy-wide productivity translating to job creation and poverty reduction.

The entry of the DRC is set to benefit the already integrated EAC trade bloc by expanding the market and access opportunities for commodities produced within the region. In addition, trade facilitation effects will be enhanced through tariff elimination as provided for by the EAC customs Union protocol, including the free movement of persons, goods and services. The agricultural value chains are expected to be enhanced in the region with a more liberalized and expanded market.

The Structure of EAC Trade Bloc with DR Congo (2012-2020)

The EAC enjoys a favourable trade balance with the DRC, which stands at US$ 658.5 million in 2021. However, the trade balance is heterogeneous among the EAC member States, with Tanzania and Kenya having the highest trade balance in 2021 of US$ 204.6 million and US$ 197.2 million, respectively. Table 1 presents the data on merchandise export trade flows between the EAC countries and Democratic Republic of Congo from 2012 to 2020. Generally, all the EAC partner States are net exporters to the Democratic Republic of Congo, with Rwanda and Uganda being the largest traders followed by Kenya while Burundi has the lowest export values. Notably, EAC exports to Democratic Republic of Congo have grown by about 66 per cent from US$ 564,040 in 2012 to US$ 936,309 in 2019, before declining to US$ 575,609 in 2020 because of COVID-19 pandemic. Imports have grown marginally from 49.3 million to 49.9 million over the same period, respectively. In terms of average exports for the review period, Uganda and Rwanda are leading with the value of exports averaging US$ 205 million and US$ 200 million with an export growth of 35 per cent and 705 per cent, respectively, for the period 2012 and 2021. Burundi has been the lowest exporter to Democratic Republic of Congo, despite registering an export growth of 90 per cent in the last nine years. This can be attributed to under-developed manufacturing sector coupled with the aftermath of civil unrest in the country in 2015 that could have hindered trade and production.

The share of EAC exports to Democratic Republic of Congo is about 10 per cent and majorly composed of agricultural commodities, while the major imports by DRC from the world include machinery, electrical equipment, vehicles and articles of iron and steel. EAC partner States may not satisfactorily supply these products due to limited technological capacity hence the need to invest in these sectors.

In 2020, EAC partner States accounted for about 9 per cent of the Democratic Republic of Congo import demand and 6 per cent per cent of their total exports to the world. The major export products from EAC to DRC are composed of salt, sulphur, earths and stone, plastering materials, lime and cement (US$ 91.2 million); iron and steel (US$ 50 million); tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes (US$ 39.1 million); beverages, spirits and vinegar (US$ 34.4 million); animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats (US$ 31.6 million); products of the milling industry; malt; starches; insulin; and wheat gluten (US$ 31.4 million) while the major imports are composed of wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal (US$ 21.8 million); oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal (US$ 4.9 million); iron and steel (US$ 3.9 million); salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement (US$ 3.04 million); cocoa and cocoa preparations (US$ 2.6 million); plastics and articles (US$ 1.5 million).

Generally, EAC partner States trade export structure with Democratic Republic of Congo reveals that exports are predominantly primary products characterized by limited value addition and low trade on manufactured commodities. From a sectoral standpoint, trade in primary commodities such as coffee and tea are likely to increase compared to manufactured/processed products.

Table 1: Trade flows between EAC and the Democratic Republic of Congo for the period 2012-2020 (million US$)

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Panel (a) Exports										
Kenya	218.2	214.1	239.4	211.1	197.5	182.6	149.8	132.0	134.4	223.1
Uganda	240.9	268.2	181.7	152.6	176.9	189.6	204.3	249.1	267.2	267.2
Tanzania	187.4	237.6	281.5	198.3	157.4	114.3	144.9	162.6	142.2	207.2
Rwanda	18.2	161.6	189.6	193.6	202.9	280.8	337.4	372.6		-
Burundi	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	-
Total exports	**664.8**	**893.5**	**920.6**	**755.6**	**763.0**	**794.1**	**855.4**	**936.3**	**575.6**	**697.5**

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Panel (b) Imports										
Kenya	10.5	6.5	2.9	1.3	2.1	4.9	12.7	19.1	25.9	25.9
Uganda	12.2	6.8	5.9	3.6	2.5	4.9	34.5	10.1	10.4	10.5
Tanzania	0.9	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.3	1.0	0.6	1.3	2.1	2.6
Rwanda	4.1	7.9	8.8	11.0	9.1	12.7	14.3	16.7		-
Burundi	6.3	3.9	3.7	0.5	3.8	0.9	3.9	2.8	8.5	-
Total exports	**34.0**	**25.1**	**22.2**	**16.6**	**17.8**	**24.4**	**65.9**	**49.9**	**46.9**	**39.0**

Source: ITC Trademap 2022.

A Resourceful Country with Potential to Enhance EAC Regional Growth

EAC partner State stands to benefit following the Democratic Republic of Congo membership in the region. The DRC tariff classification uses a four-tariff band revised in 2011 (see Table 2) with the aim of reducing duties on raw materials and other inputs to stimulate economic growth. Majority of the product lines (36.3%) entering DRC attract a duty rate of 10 per cent while 33.6 per cent attracted 5 per cent rate. With DRC joining the East African Community trade bloc, it is assumed that all the imports and exports will be exempted from paying the duty at the ports of entry and exit and the DRC will adopt the existing EAC Common External Tariff (CET) on imports outside the region who are not members of the bloc. With the tariff elimination on goods and removal of trading restrictions among the partner States, the exports and imports are likely to witness a tremendous growth. The benefits will be felt across all sectors of the economies in the region, with enhanced value chains and access to a wider market. This will see the manufacturers in the EAC benefiting from economies of scale, and thus increasing efficiency and competitiveness in the region.

Table 2: DRC Most Favoured Nation (MFN) rates

Tariff rates (%)	Number of tariff lines	Share of the tariff lines (%)
0	23	0.39
5	1,963	33.70
10	2,121	36.41
20%	1,718	29.49

Source: ITC Trademap 2022.

Challenges on the Gains of DRC Joining EAC

As noted earlier, the DRC brings on board a large mass of consumers and several products such as minerals and agricultural produce important for driving industrial and service sector development in the EAC. Trade with DRC under EAC is, however, expected to face some implementation challenges.

First, the under-developed infrastructure (roads, rail and air transport) in DRC presents a challenge in trade with other EAC member States.

The country has one of the lowest infrastructure developments globally, ranked 127 out of 137 countries in the Global Competitive Report of 2020. This in effect leads to delay in movement of goods and services to other parts of DRC, thus increasing transactional costs. This low infrastructure development has reduced the pace of movement of goods to other EAC partner States, thus hampering the DRC trade revenue potential.

Second, the increasing insecurity in parts of DRC presents a challenge to enhancement of trade with other EAC member States. The continued political fragility especially in mineral rich areas makes it difficult for trade to take place. This is because the mineral rich areas are also agriculturally endowed with good weather conditions. However, the existing poor infrastructure hinders access and delivery of the produce to other EAC member States. Furthermore, the existing insecurity in DRC has hampered agricultural productivity, thus limiting the country's potential, leading to over-reliance on EAC member States for imports.

Third, the existing legal framework in DRC and other EAC member States on investment requires convergence with a clear framework to attract investor confidence. While this is a requirement for joining the EAC, DRC is still struggling with pockets of insecurity that hampers investment.

Challenges on the Gains of DRC Joining EAC

It is evident that the EAC trade bloc stands to benefit from the entry of the Democratic Republic of Congo into the region. The elimination of tariffs for trade in goods and free movement of persons will translate to increased export volumes by the EAC partner States, majorly driven by Uganda and Rwanda. Additionally, admission of the DRC into the East African Community is likely to increase the share of cargo movements from the northern corridor

Northern corridor covers 1,700km long commencing from the Port of Mombasa and serves Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

to the central corridor.

The central corridor covers 1,300km long, begins at the Port of Dar es Salaam and serves Tanzania, Zambia, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

Focus will shift to use of the ports of Mombasa and Dar es Salaam as an entry point of cargo from the Indian ocean to Central African countries, thus creating more employment opportunities and increase in cargo through-put. The increased cargo movement will scale up logistic services and create employment in areas such as transport, warehouse and retail sub-sectors.

To realize trade gains with the DRC, there is need to eliminate NTBs that limit trade between the two parties, such as development of transport infrastructure and to promote peace and stability. Literature has shown that with tariff liberalization/elimination, NTBs tend to emerge, which inhibit the flow of goods and services across borders. This calls for the EAC countries and DRC to not only focus on tariff elimination as there are additional factors that emerge following tariff reduction. Effective and efficient NTB resolution mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure timely resolution of the challenges that come with tariff reduction.

The EAC partners States need to develop a strategy towards development of high technology products such as machinery, electrical equipment, and motor vehicles, which are Democratic Republic of Congo's leading imports from the world and take advantage of existing market potential and address the supply-side constraints. This can be done through promoting the assembly of motor vehicles in the region and exporting to the new market.

Economic Sectors with Greatest Potential for Creating Decent Work for the Youth in Kenya (2019-2025)

By Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga and Violet Nyabaro

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO) guidelines, decent work is anchored in four pillars or strategic objectives, namely: productive full employment, rights at work, social protection, and the promotion of social dialogue. These four themes correspond to ten substantive themes or elements that enable the identification of diverse decent work indicators, as summarized in Table 1.

It is evident that some of these indicators, such as those that correspond to the strategic objective on employment opportunities, are often tracked (such as the unemployment rate and the employment-to-population ratio), while most other indicators, such as those that correspond to adequate earnings and productive (e.g., the working poverty rate and low pay rate) are rarely monitored. In addition, most of the indicators are measurable only after long periods due to the long duration between surveys. Examples of this include child labour and wage and income inequalities.

Table 1: Trade flows between EAC and the Democratic Republic of Congo for the period 2012-2020 (million US$)

Elements of the strategic objectives	Main decent work indicators
Employment opportunities	• Employment to population ratio • Unemployment rate • Youth not in education and not in employment, 15 to 24 years • Informal employment
Adequate earnings and productive work	• Working poverty rate • Low pay rate (below 2/3 of median hourly earnings)
Decent Working Time	• Excessive working time (more than 48 hours per week; 'usual' hours)
Combining work, family and personal life	• Unusual hours of work (work that limits social interaction) • Maternity protection
Work that should be abolished	• Child labour as defined by International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) resolution • Other worst forms of child labour
Stability and security of work	• Precarious employment rate
Equal opportunity and treatment in employment	• Occupational segregation by sex • Female share of employment in senior and middle management
Safe work environment	• Occupational injury rate, fatal
Social security	• Share of population aged 65 and above benefiting from a pension • Public social security expenditure (% of GDP)
Social dialogue, workers' and employers' representation	• Union density rate • Enterprises belonging to employer organization • Collective bargaining coverage rate • Days not worked due to strikes and lockouts
Economic and social context for decent work	• Children not in school (% by age) • Labour productivity (GDP per employed person, level and growth rate) • Income inequality (percentile ratio P90/P10, income or consumption) • Inflation rate (Consumer Price Index) • Employment by branch of economic activity • Education of adult population (adult literacy rate, adult secondary-school graduation rate) • Labour share in GDP • Real GDP per capita in Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)$ (level and growth rate) • Female share of employment by industry (ISIC tabulation category) • Wage / earnings inequality (percentile ratio P90/P10)

Information source: ILO (2013), Decent work indicators: Guidelines for producers and users of statistical and legal framework indicators. Geneva: International Labour Office

In Kenya, the most salient deficits are in adequate earning and productive work, employment opportunities, security of work and child labour. A study by ILO in Kenya's tea sector reports presence of child labour, low and below national average earnings, and deficits in employment opportunities due to high levels of informality.

Decent work deficits among rural workers: Key findings and recommendations for trade unions https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---actrav/documents/publication/wcms_850582.pdf

Moreover, employment opportunities as measured by its indicators are inadequate and many individuals are unemployed or if employed are involved in informal employment. Although the open unemployment rate seems modest at 9.4 per cent in 2015/16, the employment to population ratio of 63.2 per cent for the working age group in 2019 suggests that a large share of the population is not involved directly in labour market-related activities either because they are outside the labour force or are unemployed.

Empirical evidence shows low adherence to minimum wage in the informal sector. According to the MSME survey of 2016, the monthly wage in the informal sector is below the minimum wage. The monthly minimum wage for employees in micro, small and medium enterprises is an equivalent of monthly wage of Ksh 3,525, Ksh 4,975 and Ksh 2,082 per worker, respectively. This is despite the statutory recommended minimum wage of Ksh 13,572.88, Ksh 12,522.72 and Ksh 7, 240.96 for cities, former municipalities, and other areas (KNBS, 2020). Income security is a key pillar of decent work, which is critically lacking in the informal sector.

Persisting and emerging issues to provision of decent work include low levels of unionization, low social security, and child labour. According to the KIHBS 2015/2016, over 90 per cent of respondents in the informal sector have no membership to any trade union, which negates the fundamental principle of employee rights at the workplace. Low social security coverage is indicative of a deficit in decent work in the informal sector and vulnerability of employees. In 2019, 27.7 per cent of the total membership of the NHIF were in the informal sector. Casualization of the informal sector also poses a challenge of child labour. Findings from KIHBS 2015/16 show that the informal sector relies on labour from workers both within and outside the working age population. As a result, an estimated 8 per cent of employees in the informal sector were between the age of 5 and 14 years.

Decent work deficit is characterized by gender inequality and violence, and weak framework for inclusion of persons living with disability (PWDs). The labour market is also characterized by increased casualization of work and other forms of non-standard employment such as part-time, piece-rate, outsourcing and subcontracting, which have intensified due to COVID-19. Despite these challenges, Kenya has made progress towards employment creation, protection of dignity of its workforce, and rights at work, social dialogue and tripartism through numerous policies and interventions.

The Sustainable Development Goal No. 8 is aimed at promoting decent work and economic growth through productive employment. At the regional level, the African Union's Agenda 2063 Goals 1, 2, 4, 17 and 18 provides for decent work and economic growth through provision of a high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens. Provision of decent work in Kenya is embedded in the Kenya Constitution, 2010. Chapter Four of the Bill of Rights provides for economic and social rights, including social security; freedom of association; labour relations; equality and freedom from discrimination; and specific application of rights for youth, children and PWDs.

There is a strong association between formal or wage employment and decent work. Although Kenya's economy has had relatively high growth for the last two decades, expansion of employment in the formal sector has been slow over this period. The share of the informal sector (which is one of the indicators of decent work deficits) remained at nearly 83 per cent of total employment in the last two decades. Open unemployment and under-employment rates were estimated at 7.4 and 20.4 per cent, respectively, in 2015/2016. In 2019, the NEET rate for youth aged 15-34 years averaged 13 per cent, but there was an upward shift to 16 per cent in the first quarter of 2020 and further to 18.2 per cent in the second quarter of 2020. Inclusion of persons living with disability is also low. For instance, in 2012, only 10.3 per cent of PWDs were in formal employment and 14.7 per cent in informal employment.

On creation of decent jobs, the government with support from various stakeholders has put in place short, medium, and long-term measures. The interventions included the Youth Employment Scheme Abroad (YESA), Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) and Kenya Youth Empowerment Opportunities Programme (KYEOP). These programmes have expanded the employment opportunities set especially for young people. In addition to this, the Kenya government has been implementing the Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) between 2007 and 2016. The first phase of DWCP was implemented between 2007 and 2011 and the second phase took place between 2013 and 2016. The third generation DWCP (2021-2024) launched in 2021 is also aimed at ensuring provision of decent work in line with Kenya's MTP III and subsequent medium terms plans.

"ILO through the DCW programmes offer technical support to the government to ensure that overall development objectives are anchored on decent work pillars."

The recent introduction of payments of statutory contributions to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) through daily or weekly contributions using ICT platforms is a good example of what can be done to enhance formalization. Other measures the government has put in place include streamlining business registration and licensing through the Micro and Small Enterprises Authority (MSEA), establishment of the Huduma Centres as one-stop-shop for business registration at county level, supported with effective online registration platforms that have reduced the number of steps to register businesses, increased access to public procurement opportunities for formal micro and small enterprises, capacity building to support involvement of micro and small enterprises in public works, and enhanced financial inclusion such as through M-Pesa innovations.

These measures have not fully tackled the challenges associated with creation of more decent jobs as the country continues to have a high share of informal employment. Kenya continues to experience changes in the forms of employment. Workers on casual contracts of service constituted 23.4 per cent of total wage employment in 2019 up from 20.9 per cent in 2013. Part-time workers made up 28.5 per cent of the 17.9 million working population in the labour force in 2016, and majority (61.9%) were females. Further, the ability of MSMEs to create quality and decent jobs is hindered by an unfavourable policy environment, inhibitive legal and regulatory framework, limited access to financial services and markets, inadequate access to skills and technology, insecurity of tenure, poor access to infrastructure, inadequate business skills and linkages with large enterprises, gender inequality and unfavourable taxation regime. However, part of what is missing is the ability of the economy to generate even higher economic growth rates, which is a necessary condition for employment creation. The economy also faces binding constraints affecting competitiveness, investments and employment growth. These constraints relate to the investment climate, which includes supportive infrastructure, regulatory environment and skills. As an example, the agricultural sector faces inadequate quality of feeder roads, cold chain facilities and non-tariff barriers. Other sectors in the economy such as tourism are constrained by multiple taxation and levies.

Sectors with Potential for Creation of More Decent Jobs (2019-2025)

The analyses focus on forecasts of both total employment (formal and informal) and wage employment for Kenya's economy between 2023 and 2025. In the forecasts, the underlying assumptions include:

i) Firstly, that output and employment growth trajectory between 2012 to 2019 is maintained into the future with 2019 used as the base year.

ii) Secondly, the structure of the economy will not change and that no major shocks will occur.

Under these assumptions, the total employment (formal and informal) is expected to grow from 18.0 million in 2019 to 20.9 million in 2025.

Consequently, in 2025, the leading sectors with respect to the share of total employment will be agriculture, forestry and fishing (46.7%), wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (16.4%), construction (7.4%), other service activities (5.7%) and manufacturing (5.7%) **(Figure 1)**.

Figure 1: Share of total employment by sector, 2019 to 2025 (%)

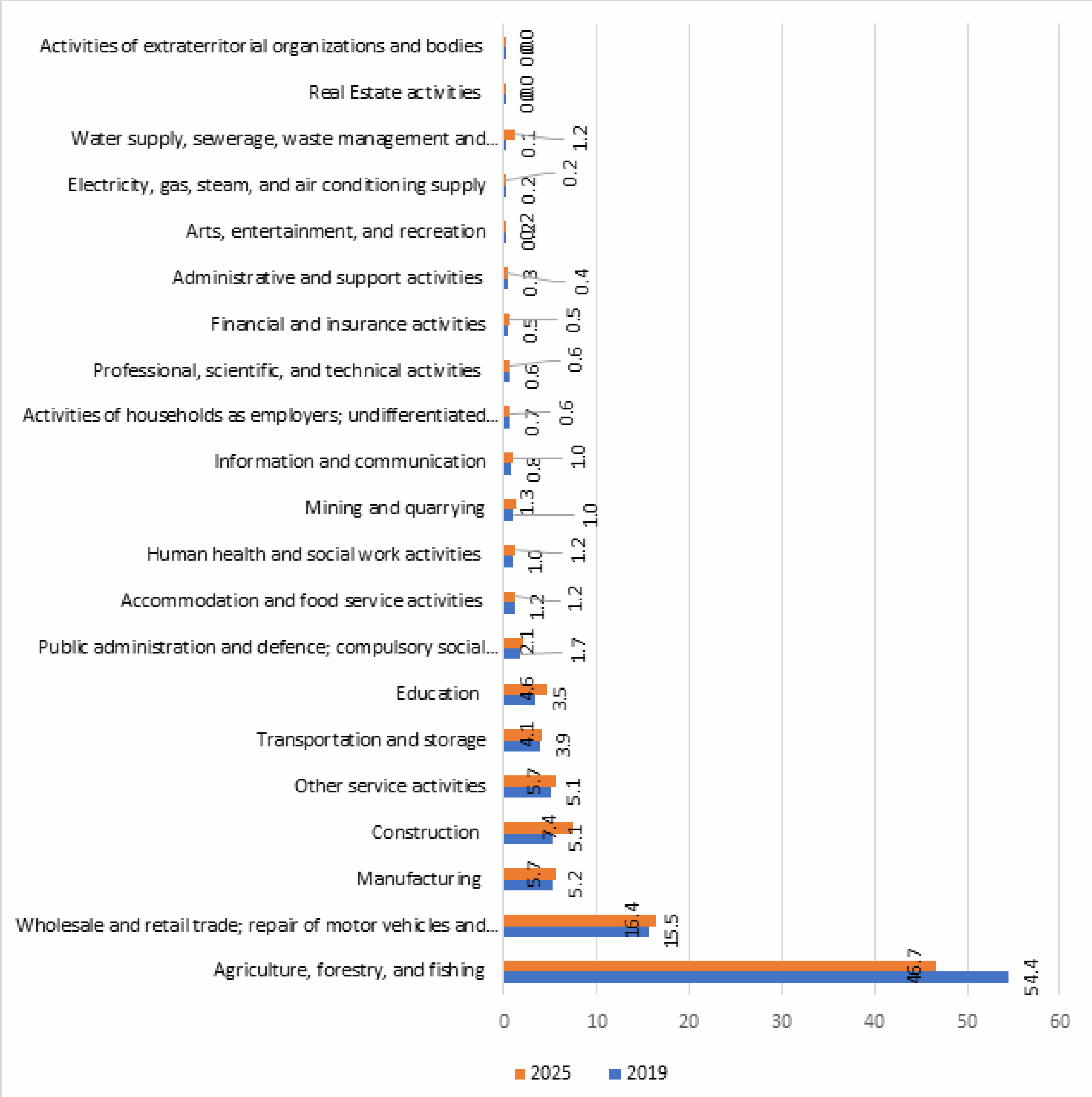
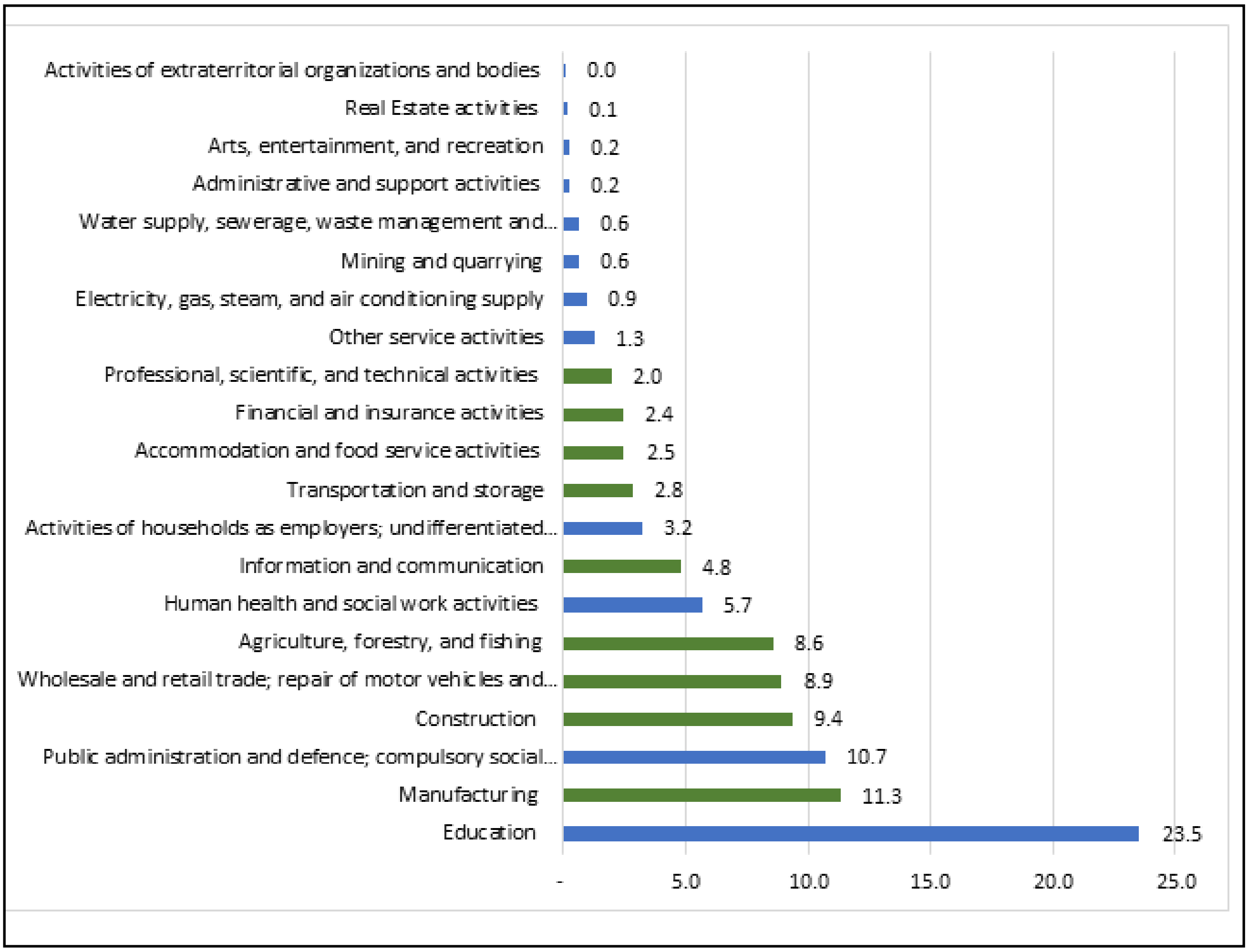


Figure 2 represents the 2019 wage employment levels and projected wage employment for 2025. Wage employment is projected to grow from 2.9 million in 2019 to 3.9 million in 2025. The leading productive sectors of the economy with respect to wage employment in 2025 are projected to be manufacturing with a share of 11.3 per cent, construction (9.7%), wholesale trade (8.9%) and agriculture (including forestry and fishing) at 8.6 per cent (Figure 2). These sectors can be supported to enhance further wage jobs.

Figure 2: Share of wage employment by sector 2025 (%)



Source: Author's computations

Besides nudging growth in formal employment, it will be important to transform the large and growing number of informal jobs into more decent work. There are notable sectors with good potential that reported rapid growth in informal employment, including ICT and agriculture. In other countries' experiences, incentives such as lower taxes for smaller firms helps in the transition to better quality jobs.

Several challenges inhibit job creation for the youth. These include inadequate infrastructure across sectors, weak regulatory frameworks, and skills mismatch. Going forward, and to promote job creation in the agriculture sector, there is need to ameliorate the adverse effects of the dynamic non-tariff trade barriers (NTTBs) by supporting continuous skills transfer and extension services support to local producers, including the small-scale farmers; enhance further investments in supportive infrastructure – the feeder roads and cold chain infrastructure such as "cold" collection centres and pack houses; and diversify agricultural support products to include support for small scale agriculture, sustainable marketing structures, linking producers to markets and institutionalizing agricultural insurance. For some sectors, such as the thriving financial services sub-sector (outside of formal operations), there may be need to incentivise formalization of operations and jobs.

Finally, whereas the government and private sector have initiated various programmes aimed at creating employment, most of the jobs will be created in the informal sector. Existence of forward and backward linkages across the various sectors shows that there is need to adopt a comprehensive multisectoral approach in job creation strategy for the country and early investments in areas such as training, technology, education, and infrastructure development; supported with strong institutions and regulatory frameworks.

Promoting National Unity in Kenya Beyond Elections

Paul Lutta, Judith Nguli, Janeth Chebwogen and Jimmy Mercy

Introduction

National unity can be defined as a state of oneness that results from shared values, vision, purpose, and aspirations irrespective of the ethnic, cultural, economic, religious, or any other superficial status, while recognizing diversity. National unity has been one of the fundamental themes for building Kenya since independence. The Kenya Vision 2030 espouses national cohesiveness and unity in diversity as pillars that promote inclusivism, pro-poor oriented improvements, improved resource distribution, and strengthened social institutions, consequently enabling upward social mobility and positive economic growth. Indeed, national unity provides a favorable business climate, which is essential for growth in economic activity. With an inclusive and progressive 2010 Constitution, Kenya has attained various democratic milestones, including a decentralized governance structure, which has brought power to the people and invites the participation of all stakeholders in decisions making thus building national unity.

There are various commonly documented factors that define the existence of national unity including ethnicity and divisive politics, weak institutional quality, socio-economic disparities, and marginalization. The advent of multi-party democracy in 1992 has seen ethnicization of politics as political parties coalesce around tribal powerbrokers. Political campaigns tend to take an ethnic angle characterized by promises aligned to community interests should their tribal kingpins be voted in, and this creates tensions among communities. Furthermore, the 2010 Constitution requires presidential candidates to garner 50 percent plus one vote to win the election and encourages pre-election ethnic coalitions. As a result, political support and mobilization targeting certain ethnic groupings to achieve the required vote.

Weak institutional structures also remain a hindrance to the achievement of national unity. For example, when institutions are unable to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of vices committed by public servants while in office, this damages the fabric that holds the society together threatening national unity. Before the 2010 Constitution of Kenya, regional socio-economic disparities and marginalization were defined by the presence or lack of natural resource endowments, political patronage, policy choices, and cultural norms. Even though devolution has attempted to promote shared prosperity, the persistently high level of inequality across the regions robs the disadvantaged population of a sense of national belonging.

Government Initiatives Towards Achievement of National Unity

a. Redistributive Policies

The Kenya government had made deliberate attempts to promote the achievement of national unity through various initiatives, programmes, and distributive policies. An example is the Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1965 on African Socialism and its Application to Planning in Kenya, which sought to address inequality and the devolved system of governance that aims to promote democracy and foster equitable sharing of national resources thus promoting national unity. Such policies curb historical marginalization and promote national unity.

Further, the Kenya Vision 2030 aspires for long-term development through a collective aspiration of all Kenyans towards a better society by the year 2030. Organized into three pillars, economic, political, and social pillars; the political pillar envisages a democratic political system that is issue-based, people-centered, result-oriented, and accountable to the public. Key areas for transformation include rule of law; electoral and political processes; democracy and improved public service delivery; transparency and accountability; public administration reforms; and security, peace building, and conflict management.

The Medium-Term Plan II (2013-2017), which implements the Vision 2030, recognized national unity as a prerequisite tool to socio-economic development and thus prioritized civic education and a public awareness programme aimed at inculcating change of behavior towards more positive values and national reconciliation. MTP II also provided for the enactment and operationalization of policies and legal frameworks toward National Cohesion and Integration and the establishment of a National Cohesion and Integration Research and Memorial Centre. Further, the Medium–Term III (2018-2022) identifies the role of national values and ethics in the realization of a cohesive, values-driven, and prosperous nation.

b. Healing and Reconciliation

Various commissions have been set up to address historical injustices and bring perpetrators to book. National Unity is achieved by ensuring access to justice for all the population groups. For instance, the establishment of the Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) whose key recommendations included the emphasis on socio-economic and infrastructure development of historically marginalized regions has promoted restorative justice and healing. The Independent Review Commission (IREC) established to analyze gaps in the constitutional and legal framework that contributed to the 2007/2008 post-election violence recommended the for review and consolidation of all laws relating to the operational management of elections in Kenya towards solving perennial election-related problems and strengthening national unity, peace, and stability. Overall, the commissions support National healing and reconciliation as key to developing national unity.

c. National Cohesion and Integration

The exclusive establishment of the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) is a key milestone toward the achievement of national unity. NCIC is mandated to facilitate and promote equal opportunity, good relations, harmony, and peaceful co-existence of persons of different ethnic and racial communities. Sessional Paper No.9 of 2013 on National Cohesion and Integration outlines guidelines fostering understanding and implementation of national cohesion and integration framework aimed at equal opportunity, peaceful, prosperous, and united nation. The role of the commission also monitors incidents of hate speech and has been able to bring to book perpetrators. NCIC is also credited for spearheading, national cohesion and integration, which have been mainstreamed within all the government agencies through strict compliance with national values and principles of governance.

e. The Constitution of Kenya 2010

The promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya in 2010 can be considered one of the greatest achievements toward the building of national unity. The Constitution in Article 174 introduced a devolved system of governance to promote democracy and accountability in the exercise of power as well as foster national unity by recognizing diversity. Devolution ensures equal distribution of resources and brings services closer to the people thus promoting national unity. Article 10(2) of the Constitution recognizes the importance of National Values and Principles of Governance for strengthening national unity. Additionally, the Constitution under Article 1 (2), Article 10 (2)a b c) Article 27, 33, 69, 118, and 119 provides for public participation and two-thirds gender. Public participation brings a sense of belonging and ownership of the governance process by the public with respect to all genders and marginalized groups thus promoting national unity. The Constitution has provided for frameworks and procedures such as the judiciary and electoral management body, responsible for managing elections and dispute resolutions to ensure election credibility.

f. Other Government Affirmative Actions

The government also put in place affirmative action programmes and policies to promote equitable access to socio-economic development, and correct cultural and historical gender imbalance, physical segregation, and regional disparities to promote national unity. Affirmative funds such as Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO), Youth Enterprises Development Fund, and Women development Fund support the growth of enterprises for wealth and employment creation for the marginalized, a precursor to national unity.

Conclusion and Recommendations

National unity remains a critical key to the achievement of Kenya's development goal and for the existence of the nation. To strengthen national unity, there is a need for a strong political will to implement the available policies which foster national unity. This includes the re-distributive policies which enhance development for all the citizens through the reduction of inequalities. The increased uptake of recommendations from various commissions such as the Ndung'u Land Commission, and the Independent Review Commission among others are key towards promoting national unity. Further, there is a need to eliminate all forms of gender inequalities including harmful cultural practices that continue to derail active engagement in economic activity.

Legislative Developments and Policy News

Legislative Developments

A) ACTS OF PARLIAMENT

1. **The Division of Revenue Act, 2022 was gazetted on 8th April 2022.** It is an Act of Parliament to provide for the equitable division of revenue raised nationally between the national and county governments in 2022/23 financial year, and for connected purposes.

2. **The Industrial training (Amendment) Act, 2022** was gazetted on 8th April 2022. It is an Act of Parliament to amend the Industrial Training Act. The key amendments are;

   a) Deleting paragraph (b) under section 3A.

   b) Deleting section 5B and substituting with a new section on training levies.

   c) Deleting the marginal note and substituting it with a new marginal note on distribution of training levies. Subsection 1A and 2 were subsequently deleted under section 5C.

   d) Part II of the First Schedule to the Kenya Revenue Authority Act is amended by inserting section 10A immediately after section 10 to include- The Industrial Training Act (Cap. 237.)

3. **The Copyright (Amendment) Act, 2022** was gazetted on 8th April, 2022. It is an Act of Parliament to amend the Copyright Act, and for connected purposes. The key amendments are;

   a) Inserting the definitions of artiste, premium rate service provider, registry, ring back tune and telecommunication operator in the proper alphabetical sequence under section 2.

   b) Inserting section 30C which provides for payment of ring back tune revenue immediately after section 30B.

   c) Inserting section 22B which provides for National Rights registry immediately after section 22A.

   d) The principal Act is amended in section 49 (2) in paragraph (a) by inserting the following subparagraphs (iva), (ivb), (ivc) and (ivd) immediately after subparagraph (iv)—

iva) The fees for accessing the National Rights Registry;

ivb) The format for registrations of the respective copyright works;

ivc) The type of copyright works that are registrable with the National Rights Registry;

ivd) Anything necessary for the performance of the functions of the National Rights Registry;"

4. **The Employment (Amendment) Act, 2022 was gazetted on 8th April, 2022.** It is an Act of parliament to amend the Employment Act. Section 9 of the Employment Act is amended by inserting new subsection 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 immediately after subsection 4 as below:

    (5) In respect of recruitment, an employer shall not require an employee to submit any clearance or compliance certificate unless such employer intends to enter into a contract of service with the employee: Provided that an applicant for a state office shall provide compliance or clearance certificates at such times in the recruitment or approval process as they may be required.

    (6) An employer who intends to enter into a written contract of service may, in compliance with chapter six of the Constitution, request an employee to submit mandatory clearance certificates from the relevant entities.

    (7) Notwithstanding subsection (6), an employer may, where an employee does not satisfy the requirements under subsection (6), withdraw an offer of contract of service. (8) A relevant public entity shall— (a) not charge a fee for the issuance of a clearance or compliance certificate under this section or any other written law; (b) issue an applicant with the clearance or compliance certificate or reject the application within seven days of receipt of the application.

5. **The Kenya Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Act, 2022** was gazetted on 8th April, 2022. It is an Act of parliament to amend the Kenya Deposit Insurance Act, 2012 and for connected purposes . The key amendments are;

    a) Section 28 of the Kenya Deposit Insurance Act, 2012 is amended in subsection (1) by deleting the words "one hundred thousand shillings" and substituting therefor the words "five hundred thousand shillings" and deleting subsection 2.

    b) Inserting a new subsection 3 immediately after subsection 2 providing for consequences of contravention of the said subsection.

B) NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS

1. **Parliamentary Pensions (Amendment) Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 5th April 2022. The principal object of the Bill is to amend the Parliamentary Pensions Act, Cap. 196. It proposes to raise the amount of pension due to former Members of Parliament who served between 1st July 1984 and 1st January 2001 to a minimum sum of Ksh 100,000. This is in light of the fact that despite serving the nation, some former Members of Parliament are languishing in poverty and there is need to take care of their welfare.

2. **The Supreme Court (Amendment) Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 5th April, 2022. It is a Bill for an act of parliament to amend the Supreme Court Act and for connected purposes. The key amendments include;

    a) Section 3 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (d) by deleting the words "including matters relating to the transition from the former to the present constitutional dispensation" appearing immediately after the words "legal matters".

    b) Inserting section 3A on inherent powers of the court immediately after section 3.

    c) Repealing section 4 and substituting therefor with new section 4 which states that Subject to Article 163 (2) of the Constitution, a vacancy in the Supreme Court shall not affect the jurisdiction of the Court.

    d) Inserting section 11A providing for case management immediately after section 11.

e) Repealing section 13 and substituting therefor with a new section providing for advisory opinion.

f) Inserting a section 13A that provides for determination in a state of emergency immediately after section 13.

g) Inserting sections 15A (appeal as of right), section 15B (appeal upon certification) and section 15C (direct appeals from tribunals).

h) Repealing section 18, 19 and 20.

i) Repealing and substituting with a section on further evidence in appeals.

j) Inserting section 21A which provides for review of own decision.

k) Inserting section 23A on stay of proceedings immediately after section 23.

l) Repealing section 24 and substituting with a section on interlocutory directions.

m) Inserting section 29A providing for nomination of court representatives, 29B on Committees of the court, 29C on Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism, 29D on court sittings and recess and 29E on ethics and integrity immediately after section 29.

3. **The Public Finance Management (Amendment) Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 5th April 2022. It is an act of Parliament to amend the Public Finance Management Act, and for connected purposes. The key amendments are;

   a) Deleting section 192 and substituting with a new section that provides for establishment of the board.

   b) The principal Act is amended in section 193 by deleting subsection (5).

   c) Inserting subsections 195A on Chief Executive Officer, 195B on Staff of the Board, 195C on Common seal, 195D on Funds of the Board, 195E on financial year, 195F on annual estimates and 195G on accounts and audits.

   d) Inserting paragraph 13 and 14 after section 12 under Schedule 2.

4. **The Valuers Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 5th April 2022. It is a Bill for an Act of Parliament to establish the Valuers Board of Kenya; to provide for the registration and licensing of valuers; and for connected purposes.

5. **The Kenya School of Law (Amendment) Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 5th April, 2022. It is a Bill for an Act of Parliament to amend the Kenya School of Law Act, 2012; and for connected purposes. **The key amendments are;**

   a) Section 16 of the Kenya School of Law Act, 2012, is amended by deleting the words "set out in the Second Schedule for that course" and substituting therefor the words "prescribed by the Council of Legal Education under section 8(3)(a) of the Legal Education Act, 2012 for that course"

   b) Repealing the Second Schedule.

6. **The Finance Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 8th April 2022. It is a Bill for an Act of parliament to amend the laws relating to various taxes and duties; and for matters incidental thereto. **The key amendments are;**

   a) Section 3 of the Income Tax Act is amended in subsection (2) by adding a new paragraph on gains from financial derivatives immediately after paragraph (h)

   b) Section 4A of the Income Tax Act is amended in subsection (1) by deleting subparagraph (ii)(a) of the proviso and substituting therefor the following new subparagraph— (a) where the foreign exchange loss is realized by a company whose gross interest paid or payable to related persons and third parties exceeds thirty per cent of the company's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization in any financial year.

   c) Section 5 of the Income Tax Act is amended in subsection (5) and (6), by deleting paragraph (a) of the proviso and substituting with (a) in the case of an employee share ownership plan, the value of the benefit shall be the difference between the offer price, per share, at the date the option is granted by the employer, and the market value, per share on the date when the employee exercises the option; and in subsection (6), by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting with (a) the benefits chargeable shall be deemed to have accrued on the date the employee exercises the option.

d) Section 9 of the Income Tax Act is amended by adding subsections 3 and 4 after subsection 2.

e) Section 12E of the Income Tax Act is amended by adding the following proviso to subsection (1)— Provided that this section shall not apply to a nonresident person with a permanent establishment in Kenya.

f) Section 16 of the Income Tax Act is amended in the proviso to subsection (2)(j) by adding a new subparagraph immediately after subparagraph (iii)(B)— (C) microfinance institutions licensed under the Microfinance Act, 2006.

g) Repealing section 18A and replacing it with subsection on ascertainment of gains and profits of business in a preferential tax regime.

h) Repealing section 18B of the Act and substituting it with a section on application of sections 18C(notifications to the commissioner), 18D(filing of country-by-country report, master file and local file), 18E(offences and penalties) and 18F(definitions).

i) Section 35 of the Income Tax Act is amended in subsection (1) by adding new paragraph on gains from financial derivatives immediately after paragraph (o).

j) Section 35 of the Income Tax Act is amended in subsection (1) by adding new paragraph on gains from financial derivatives immediately after paragraph (o).

k) The First Schedule to the Income Tax Act is amended by deleting paragraph 57, 58 and 61.

i) The Second schedule is amended by adding section 1B immediately after section 1A.

m) Section 5 of the Value Added Tax Act, 2013 is amended in subsection (9) by deleting the words "sell or provide services, goods or other property" and substituting therefor the words "sell goods or provide services".

n) Section 10 of the Value Added Tax Act, 2013 is amended by inserting a new subsection 1A immediately after section 1.

o) The Value Added Tax Act, 2013 is amended by repealing section 30.

p) Section -34 of the Value Added Tax Act, 2013 is amended in subsection 1 by adding the following proviso Provided that this section shall not apply to persons supplying imported, digital services over the internet or an electronic network or through a digital marketplace.

q) The Tax Appeals Tribunal Act, 2013 is amended by repealing section 32 and replacing it with a new section on appeal to the high court against decisions of the tribunal.

r) Section 10 of the Excise Duty Act, 2015 is amended by adding the following proviso to subsection (1) — Provided that the Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette and with the approval of the Cabinet Secretary, exempt specified products from inflation adjustment after considering the circumstances prevailing in the economy in that year in respect of such products.

s) The Second Schedule to the Excise Duty Act, 2015 is amended in Part A by adding new paragraphs 15, 16 and 17 after paragraph 14.

t) Section 31 of the Tax Procedures Act, 2015 is amended by adding subsection 5 immediately after subsection (4) — (5) In the case of value added tax, the input tax shall be allowable for a deduction within six months after the end of the tax period in which the supply or importation occurred.

u) The Tax Procedures Act, 2015, is amended by repealing section 47 and replacing it with a new section on offset of refund or overpaid tax.

v) The act is amended by adding section 48A (refund of tax paid in error) and 49B (refund of tax paid on exempted or zero-rated supply) immediately after section 4.

w) The First Schedule to the Tax Procedures Act, 2015 is amended by adding paragraph 15 on registration of trust immediately after paragraph (14).

7. **The Kenya Revenue Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into the National Assembly on 13th April 2022. It is a Bill for an Act of parliament to amend the Kenya Revenue Authority Act, 1995; to make consequential amendments to other statutes; and for connected purposes.

The key amendments are:

a) The long title of the Kenya Revenue Authority Act, 1995 (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act") is amended by deleting the word "Authority" and substituting therefor the word "Service".

b) Deleting the word "Authority" in section 1 and substituting therefor the word "Service".

c) Deleting the definition of "Authority" in section 2 and substituting therefor with new definition in proper alphabetical sequence — "Service" means the Kenya Revenue Service established by section 3;

d) By deleting the definition of "Minister" and substituting therefor the following new definition in proper alphabetical sequence — "Cabinet Secretary" means the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters relating to finance.

e) Repealing section 3 and replacing it with a new section on establishment of service.

C) SENATE BILLS

1. **The County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2022** was gazetted for introduction into Senate on 8th April 2022. The principal object of this Bill is to make provision for the allocation of revenue raised nationally among the county governments for the financial year 2022/23.

The County Governments Additional Allocations Bill, 2022 was gazetted for introduction into Senate on 10th May 2022. The principal object of this Bill is to make provision for the transfer of conditional allocations from national governments share of revenue and from development partners to the county governments for the financial year 2021/22.

Policy News

A. Bilateral Relations

Kenya-Greece Bilateral Relations

Kenya and Greece signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Diplomatic Training Cooperation on May 9, 2022, in Athens, Greece, witnessed by a delegation of the two countries led by Kenya's Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Ambassador Raychelle Omamo and the Greek Foreign Minister H.E. Nikos Dendias. The framework under the MoU signifies commitment by both countries to cooperate in the training of diplomatic personnel by the exchange of diplomatic experts, researchers, and specialists in the areas of mutual interests and the exchange of information and publication. The two foreign ministers agreed to strengthen the longstanding relations between Kenya and Greece by exploring new areas of cooperation, including the blue economy, energy, agriculture, green transition, tourism, culture, information communication and technology (ICT), health, peace and security, research and development. The two sides agreed to fast track the conclusion of pending agreements and host a Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC). The two ministers also reaffirmed the continued cooperation under the Kenya-European Union Strategic Dialogue with three main pillars, namely peace and security, trade and investment, and sustainable development. During the visit, the CS Ambassador, Omamo, delivered a message of goodwill from President Uhuru Kenyatta to H.E. Katerina Sakellaropoullou, President of Greece, who acknowledged the warm and cordial relations between the two countries.

Kenya-Japan Bilateral Relations

Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Ambassador Raychelle Omamo met with the state minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Suzuki Takako on 4 May 2022 during the second Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum in Nairobi. The two ministers reviewed bilateral relations of the two countries founded on shared values. Ambassador Omamo not only praised Japan's generous support towards Kenya national development agenda but also donation of COVID-19 vaccines to contain the pandemic. The Cabinet Secretary also held a bilateral meeting with the Chairman of the Board of Toyota Tsusho Corporation Mr. Juan Karube on 5 May 2022. As he briefed the CS on the operation of Toyota Tsusho, Mr. Karube highlighted some of the proposed areas of cooperation in the MoU that will be signed by the Kenya Investment Authority and Toyota Tsusho Corporation during the TICAD VIII to be held in Tunisia in August 2022. Ambassador Omamo welcomed the proposals in the MoU and thanked Toyota Tsusho for partnering with the Government of Kenya in various sectors including Manufacturing and Industrialization; Circular Economy and Carbon Neutrality; Digitalization; Infrastructure Development, Universal Health Care and Food Security. The Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum is held once every three years, with participation of senior public and private sector officials from Japan and Africa. During the Nairobi meeting, eighteen (18) MOUs between Japanese entities and their African counterparts were presented, with some finalized and signed. The sectors covered in the MOUs include green energy, health, technology, human resource development, motor vehicle assembling, manufacturing and logistics.

Kenya-Comoros Bilateral Relations

Cabinet Secretary Ambassador Raychelle Omamo held a bilateral meeting with the Foreign Affairs minister of Comoros H.E. Dhoihir Dhoukamal on 3 May 2022 on the sidelines of the second Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum in Nairobi. The two ministers appreciated the friendly relations that exist between Kenya and Comoros. The ministers noted that there was a need to expand the relations especially in the business sector. Other areas of possible cooperation discussed include geothermal exploration in which Comoros could learn from Kenya's experience and technical expertise. Kenya was the first African country to build geothermal energy sources. By 2019, the country had 690 MW of installed geothermal capacity. The two countries could also explore exchange of technical expertise in the training of nurses, teachers, and agricultural extension officers.

B. Regional and Continental News

A new deal to end Non-Tariff Barriers between Kenya and Uganda

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 20 April 2022 between Kenya and Uganda traders is expected to end continual tiffs on non-tariff regulations. Effective implementation of the signed MOU will enhance agricultural trade between Kenya and Uganda, improve interdependence of agro-based industries in the two countries. The two sides pledged to harmonize policies on agriculture to reduce delays and to cut down on bureaucracies in doing business. The business associations from the two countries noted that the establishment of common standards of safety, sanitation and the list of documentations would help reduce unnecessary delays. The two countries have come up with recommendations for priority improvement in the management of export quality standards for agro-products. During the signing of the MOU, Uganda's Consulate General to Mombasa said that Uganda will benefit as the country has a surplus of agricultural produce. The Consul General added that the signing of the MOU will strengthen cooperation as stakeholders seek to gain a better understanding of the vital role of agriculture and trade within the region. The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mombasa Chairman urged Uganda to take advantage of the streamlined transport system in the country such as the Standard Gauge Railway and the Inland Container Depot in Naivasha to transport their produce.

Prospects of digitization of Mombasa Tea Auction

The establishment of the Integrated Tea Trading System (iTTS) by the East African Tea Trade Association (EATTA) is expected to end the manual system at the Mombasa tea auction. The weekly Mombasa tea auction serves Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Malawi, Burundi, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, and Uganda. The digital platform will increase the profits of farmers and other stakeholders by cutting operation costs. Further, the digitization seeks to fill gaps in the current procedures that are done manually. The new development is expected to reduce cost and time as traders will not have to travel physically to trade their tea products. Farmers will be able to trace the movement of their tea across factories and shipping companies through their mobile phones. The dealers will also be able to analyze market trends across the globe. While the manual system has disadvantaged farmers since they have had little say on the price of their tea, the digital platform is inclusive hence will benefit farmers immensely. The iTTS is expected to reduce the tea trading cycle by 65 per cent from the current 45 to 65 days to less than a month.

C. Global Affairs

Implications of China's new Zero-Covid Strategy on trade

The resurgence of COVID-19 cases in key Chinese cities and regions in late March 2022 prompted the government to reintroduce lockdowns and other stringent measures including zero COVID-19 strategy to curb community transmission. The goal of Zero COVID-19 Strategy is to reduce the virus transmission to near zero levels and ultimately eliminate the virus within a specified geographical region. The strict measures have disrupted supply chains due to delays at Chinese vital ports including Shanghai even though Chinese authorities are introducing measures to facilitate major industrial operations and transport without undermining the zero COVID-19 strategy. The Kenya Ship Agents Association has raised concerns that the new measures in China have contributed to temporary closure of factories, leaving warehouses idle and slowing truck deliveries. As shipping lines opt to other destinations such as Europe, shipment of goods to and from Africa will be adversely affected. Due to the lockdown measures, imported containers wait for estimated 12.1 days at the Shanghai port before they are picked up by trucks and delivered to inland destinations. Since China is one of Africa's market sources of key products, the delays are expected to undermine Africa-China trade due to supply chain disruptions.

KIPPRA Demand-Driven and Collaborative Research Projects

A) Demand-Driven Projects:

Kisumu Local Economic Development Plan

KIPPRA is currently supporting the County Government of Kisumu to develop a Kisumu Local Economic Development Plan. The Local Economic Development Plan will bring together all pre-existing visions and plans to attain the SDGs while considering Kisumu's strengths and assets. Among other developmental aspects, the Local Economic Development Plan aims to analyze the major trends and opportunities of an integrated local economic development, considering the significant impact of COVID 19 and consolidating all opportunities for private sector investment for city development.

A Cost-Benefit Analysis of a Research Reactor Project in Kenya

KIPPRA is supporting the Nuclear Power and Energy Agency in conducting a Cost-Benefit Analysis of a research reactor project in Kenya. The objective of the study is to provide information that will be useful for determining the economic and financial feasibility of the project. The analysis will inform budgetary considerations for the project, considering overall lifetime costs and expected revenue based on the planned utilization of the research reactor.

B) Collaborative Projects:

The Domestic Savings Shortfall in Sub-Saharan Africa: What Can Be Done About It?

KIPPRA, in collaboration with UNU-WIDER, is working on a book on savings titled "The Domestic Savings Shortfall in Sub-Saharan Africa: What Can Be Done About It?" This is motivated by the need to increase domestic savings rates in Sub-Saharan Africa for economic growth to be realized. The book intends to close the gap in knowledge about drivers of domestic saving rates in Sub-Saharan Africa; whether alternative approaches, such as pension funds or fintech, could provide new solutions to increase domestic savings; and lessons learnt from the experiences so far in different countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and other regions which have been successful in raising savings rates. The findings of the research will be in tandem with the Addis Ababa action agenda of the United Nations on financing for development, which provides a new global framework for financing sustainable development by aligning all financing flows and policies with economic, social and environmental priorities. Preliminary findings of the project were shared in a hybrid domestic savings workshop held on 16th -17th March 2022, organized by KIPPRA in collaboration with UNU-WIDER. A total of 11 papers were presented with KIPPRA presenting three of them.

KIPPRA-AERC Institutional Partnership Grant

KIPPRA has received an Institutional Partnership Grant from Africa Economic Research Consortium (AERC) towards building capacity to conduct research and support human capital development in Africa (HCA) through institutional partnership. The grant aims to build capacity that involves systematic mentoring of young researchers by international resource persons who are experts in their fields of research. This project presents an opportunity from a research perspective to establish priority research and investment areas for the government, aimed at ensuring that fundamental rights, including right to highest attainable standard of health; quality education, training, and skills development; and freedom from hunger and access to safe clean water are attained. The institutional support will cover the following components: Thematic research on provision and financing human capital investment in Kenya; capacity building of researchers, strengthening KIPPRA ICT institutional systems, including KIPPRA policy virtual center; strengthening partnerships and collaborations in human capital; capacity building (internal and external); and knowledge management, dissemination, holding joint workshops and policy uptake of recommendation emanating from Human Capital Country Case studies. Under this grant, KIPPRA will also implement studies on human capital development. These include: i) The contribution of school and non-school environment on pupil performance: A case for teacher development; ii) Do social assistance interventions foster education attainment in Kenya? An empirical perspective; among others.

Implications of COVID-19 on Essential Health Services in Kenya

KIPPRA, in collaboration with Africa Economic Research Consortium (AERC), is conducting research on understanding the short and long-term effects of COVID 19 on Kenya's health system. KIPPRA is developing a research paper addressing the following objectives: Assess the implications of the COVID 19 on the delivery of healthcare services, including availability and distribution; the level of preparedness with essential equipment, health workers, medicines; and information in the crisis period. The impact of COVID 19 on the provision of public health services amidst the pandemic will be tackled while identifying strategies of adequately and appropriately providing public health services amidst the pandemic.

Children Sensitive Planning and Budgeting, Public Finance for Children (PF4C): From Evidence to Policy Project

KIPPRA, in collaboration with UNICEF, is providing technical assistance to county governments to implement recommendations of the county budget briefs, Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) and poverty profiles for improved service delivery. The institute is also supporting transitioning UNICEF county level support to be fully reflected on plans and budgets (including UN Women and UNDP support). The Institute is planning to develop the seven (7) National Budget Briefs (2017/18-2021/22) as well as set up a virtual policy centre platform for supporting county governments. The seven national budget briefs will focus on macro public finance management; education and training; health; child protection; nutrition; water, sanitation, and hygiene; and social protection. The programme is being implemented in partnership with CoG, CAF, UNICEF, Un-Women and UNDP.

Youth and Children Dashboard

KIPPRA and Executive Office of the President Advisory and Strategy Unit (PASU) are working on the migration of the employment initiative mapping tool, the Youth and Children Dashboard, to be hosted at KIPPRA. KIPPRA will develop, update and host the portal on youth and children indicators and support its utilization by the public, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), counties, researchers, policymakers, private sector, non-state actors (NSAs) and other stakeholders.

What works for youth employment in Africa: A review of existing policies and empirical analysis project

KIPPRA, in collaboration with the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) and the Mastercard Foundation, are conducting a comprehensive review of youth employment policies and initiatives in Kenya; and of empirical studies on their impact, while identifying and promoting best practices. The project will also involve the understanding of the functioning of formal and informal employment institutions in Kenya and to a large extent the Global South. Other participating countries are Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Niger and South Africa. The Kenya research team was drawn from KIPPRA, National Youth Council, Ministry of Labour and Ministry of ICT Innovation, and Youth Affairs. The project will also involve capacity building and mentorship by senior researchers and policymakers on labour market issues. The project objectives were also highlighted by the PEP Executive Director, Prof. Jane Mariara during the youth employment workshop held on 18th March 2022 at Utalii Hotel.

Urban economic growth in Africa: A case study for Nairobi city

KIPPRA, in collaboration with Africa Growth Initiative at Brookings, is conducting research on urban economic growth in Africa: a case study of Nairobi city. The study aims at addressing challenges faced by the urban population in Nairobi, including lack of productive jobs, inadequate housing, low levels of accessibility, and high costs relative to development. The study will develop a framework detailing the primary constraints to Nairobi city's ability to benefit from agglomeration and generate productive jobs-accessibility, business environment, and public sector governance. The official launch of the study took place on 30th September 2021 and a preliminary analysis is currently being conducted. The report is set to be officially launched during the Africities Conference in Kisumu in May 2022.

Making agri-tourism markets work for sustainable food systems in Sub-Saharan Africa

KIPPRA, in collaboration with Agriluxe Marketing (ALM) plc South Africa, are undertaking research on "Driving food systems transformation in Kenya via agritourism markets" that aims to explore the synergy between the agriculture and tourism sectors (with inputs from other sectors) and how they will contribute to transforming Africa's food systems on all the three dimensions/ measures of food systems sustainability: economic, social, and environmental. The project will provide insights on linkages of the sector with sustainable food systems and agritourism value chains. The second Roundtable on post consultation discussions was held on 6th May 2022. Consultations are going on with the State department for Tourism in preparation for the mapping of Agri-tourism activities and institutions in Kenya.

Food Systems Research Network for Africa (FSNET Africa) - ARUA-UKRI GCRF research excellence project

KIPPRA, which is the Kenya Node hosting institution for Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN), is supporting the implementation of FSNet-Africa ARUA-UKRI GCRF Research Excellence Project, which is a collaborative initiative between University of Pretoria (UP), the University of Leeds (UK), and the Food, Agriculture, and FANRPAN. It is a research excellence project funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) through the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) – United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) partnership.

The overarching goal of FSNet-Africa is to strengthen food systems research and the translation of evidence into interventions using systems analytical research designed and implemented in partnership with a diverse set of food systems stakeholders. The Food Systems Research Networks for Africa (FSNet-Africa) project seeks to strengthen food systems research capabilities and translate evidence into implementable policy solutions and practical interventions in support of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets for Africa. This will be achieved through leading systems analysis research on climate-smart, nutrition-sensitive and poverty-reducing food system solutions designed and implemented in partnership with relevant food systems stakeholders. FSNet Africa held a research symposium from 28th March to 1st April 2022. The symposium provided an opportunity for strengthening research capabilities, collaborating with stakeholders, and building networks. The 20 fellows in the programme presented their research proposals, which they have been developing since the commencement of the fellowship in July 2021.

Green Economy Coalition (GEC)-East Africa hub project on the status of the transition to a natural capital based green economy in East Africa

The Kenyan Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA) in Tanzania, and Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR) Rwanda are collaborating in the research. The project is aimed at understanding the various stages of transition to a green economy in each country. The research generated will be useful in stimulating debate on the national Natural Capital based Green Economies in the region. The project is being coordinated by the Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) based in Uganda.

Kenya's transition to an inclusive green economy: An economy-wide analysis

The world Resource Institute (WRI) and the New Climate Economy (NCE) are partnering with KIPPRA to conduct an initial cross-economy analysis scoping exercise to identify opportunities for enhanced climate impact through mitigation and adaptation action at the energy-agriculture nexus, which will help Kenya move towards a strong, transformative, and inclusive green recovery from COVID-19.

The project will focus on the agricultural and energy sectors, being the two sectors that contribute the highest total greenhouse gas emissions in the country but are also highly vulnerable to climate change and contribute significantly to the country's total GDP and employment.

The cross-economy analysis will focus on mapping out existing modelling and analytical capacities in the agri-energy nexus in Kenya and identify key gaps that will need to be filled to inform policy decisions. The analysis will also provide a brief overview of existing and proposed policies and interventions that can be used to foster a more inclusive green transition and economic recovery for Kenya. The cross-economy analysis will lay the groundwork for future economic modelling and analysis that would aim to identify, quantify, and select sound economic evidence that will form the basis for formulation of green transition policies and advise on appropriate investments decisions at both national and county levels under energy and agricultural programmes.

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi gives her opening remarks at the 5th KIPPRA Annual Regional Conference

KIPPRA Hosts a Successful 5th Annual Regional Conference 15th -17th June 2022

KIPPRA held its 5th KIPPRA Annual Regional Conference (KARC) from 15th to 17th June 2022 at the Kenya School of Government in Nairobi. The theme of the conference this year was "Foundations for a Sustainable Economic Transformation in Kenya". The conference, which brought together state and non-state actors to discuss progress made, challenges faced and the way forward in forging a common front to accelerate the gains in economic transformation, was graced by CS The National Treasury and Planning Hon Amb. Ukur Yatani represented by CAS The National Treasury and Planning Hon. Eric Wafukho; PS Planning, Mr Saitoti Torome; Amb. Dr Amina Mohammed represented by Mr. Henry Obino; KIPPRA Board Chair Dr Benson Ateng' and Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi. The conference provided delegates with an opportunity to deliberate on how Kenya can best build robust foundations to accelerate economic transformation.

The key areas of discussion at the conference were categorized into eight sub-themes, namely: creative economy, green economy, trade competitiveness and frontier products, gig economy and digital transformation, financial inclusion, values and economic transformation, human capital and making markets work. The conference also included a youth side event which discussed emerging issues to support economic transformation through youth entrepreneurship, skills development, and employment.

Speaking at the conference CAS Hon. Eric Wafukho noted that the conference was well put together and the recommendations from the conference will go a long way in influencing government's development agenda, PS Planning Mr. Saitoti Torome stated that the conference is timely as it comes at a time the government is developing its fourth medium term plan that is crucial in the development process of our country, KIPPRA Board Chair noted that the choice of the theme of the conference is intentional as the country is in transitional process at the moment and KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi on her part welcomed delegates and guests to the conference and urged them to fully participate in the discussions at the conference.

KIPPRA and other partner institutions got a chance to interact with delegates and display their products and services in the exhibition booths set outside the conference hall.

The conference was well attended with diverse representation and witnessed an average of over 400 participants each day, including about 40 presenters and 40 panelists covering the eight themes of the conference. The youth side event attracted 199 students from different universities, there was also exhibitions by several organizations at the conference and KIPPRA choir was in hand to entertain the delegates.

PS, State Department for Planning, Mr Saitoti Torome, addresses delegates at the conference

CAS Hon. Eric Wafukho gives remarks on behalf of CS, The National Treasury and Planning Hon. Amb. Ukur Yatani at the conference

A panel discussion on gig economy and digital innovation at the 5th KIPPRA Annual Regional Conference

Delegates sample items at the National Museum of Kenya's exhibition booth at the conference

KIPPRA Marks its Silver Jubilee

KIPPRA celebrated its 25th anniversary during a colourful dinner held at the Kenya School of Government on Thursday 16th June 2022. Themed "25 years of Thinking Policy Together", the event provided an opportunity to reflect on the journey towards KIPPRA's establishment and the progress made so far.

In early 1990s, the Government embarked on public sector reform and a key agenda was to strengthen the public policy making process. The need to build human and institutional capacity in government to support the policy formulation process was identified. The Presidential Commission on Employment in 1991 observed that in the new industrialied economies, mechanisms such as national research institutes, think tanks and advisory councils were established to promote public policy research and analysis and to generate evidence to help the Government anticipate emerging policy problems.

KIPPRA was established in 1997 through a Legal Notice No.56 and it officially opened its doors in June 1999. In January 2007, the President signed the KIPPRA Bill into law. The KIPPRA Act No.15 of 2006 became effective in February 2007. The Act itemizes twelve function that the Institute is expected to perform and they can be summaried into three broad functions:

1. Capacity building.
2. Public policy research and analysis
3. Networking and engagement.

The silver jubilee celebration event included speeches from the chief guest, the National Treasury and Planning Cabinet Secretary Hon. Ukur Yattani, who was represented by the Chief Administrative Secretary Mr Eric Wafukho. Other speakers included representatives from the EU and UNICEF, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Director General Mr MacDonald G. Obudho; Economic Planning Secretary Ms Katherine Muoki who represented the Planning PS Mr Saitoti Torome; the KIPPRA Board Chair Dr Benson Ateng' and the Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi.

Guests also enjoyed an elaborate dinner, cake, drinks and entertainment from the KIPPRA choir and a jazz band.

NIPFN Launches Portal to Centralize Food and Nutrition Information

KIPPRA Board Chairperson Dr Benson Ateng' gives his remarks at the launch

The National Information Platform for Food Security and Nutrition (NIPFN) web portal was launched by the CAS National Treasury and Planning Mr Eric Wafukho on 16th June 2022 during the KIPPRA@25 silver jubilee celebratory dinner. In his remarks, he acknowledged with thanks the financial support from the European Union together with Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to the NIPFN project. "The country still welcomes such support to ensure that food and nutrition security issues are adequately addressed".

KNBS Director General Mr Macdonald Obudho addresses participants at the launch

Through the NIPFN portal, nutrition information will continuously be consolidated, summarized, and visualized at a central place. Thus, one can determine whether the nutrition information in Kenya is improving or not. The platform will enhance the dissemination and use of information, to better inform strategic decisions and thereby advance achievement of optimal nutrition. Furthermore, through the NIPFN portal, KIPPRA and KNBS are identifying areas to advise Government priorities to accelerate progress of preventing malnutrition and mitigate food security.

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi addresses participants at the launch

The web portal has summarized statistics on food and nutrition, visualized data information and central repository of data in a ready to use format, to guide on Government policies and strategies.

Participants follow the proceedings of the launch

KIPPRA holds Dissemination Workshop on "COVID-19; Livelihoods in Africa, Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa (CCEDA)" and Towards UHC in Kenya Studies

Participants follow the proceedings of the workshop

KIPPRA, in collaboration with Africa Economic Research Consortium (AERC), held a workshop to disseminate findings from the studies on " COVID-19; Livelihoods in Africa", Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa (CCEDA)" and Towards UHC in Kenya.

The workshop, which took place at Utalii Hotel in Nairobi on 24th June 2022, was graced by KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi, AERC Executive Director Prof Njuguna Ndung'u and representatives from state and non-state organizations.

AERC Executive Director Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u addresses participants at the workshop

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi gives her remarks at the workshop

Addressing the workshop participants, Dr Ngugi noted that one of the objectives of the research project is to evaluate the impact of macroeconomic policies to mitigate negative consequences and promote a gender-equitable economic recovery, Prof Ndung'u, on his part, noted that the project assesses the consequences of a social and economic lockdown on targeted economies of Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Zambia.

The workshop gave participants an opportunity to discuss key areas of policy and research interest on the country's labour market, employment, and job creation. The participants also gave their views on the findings from the studies.

KIPPRA Showcases its Products and Services at Africa Public Service Week Celebrations, 21st to 25th June 2022

Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi (left) moderates a session on "fostering innovation to deliver inclusive and equitable services" during the event

KIPPRA joined other government institutions in marking the Africa Public Service Week and celebrating 10 years of Kenya's transformation of public service delivery that has created an efficient and effective public sector. The celebrations took place at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre on 21st to 25th June 2022. KIPPRA staff got a chance to showcase the Institute's products and services and interact with many guests at the Institute's stand.

Head of Public Service Mr Joseph Kinyua, CS, Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes Prof. Margaret Kobia, Youth and Gender Affairs Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS), Hon. Rachel Shebesh and Mrs Mary Kimonye Principal

Among the guests who visited the KIPPRA stand include Head of Public Service Mr Joseph Kinyua, CS, Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes Prof Margaret Kobia, Youth and Gender Affairs Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) Hon. Rachel Shebesh, Mrs Mary Kimonye Principal Secretary for the State Department for Public Service and Mr Kennedy Kihara, the Principal Administrative Secretary, Office of the President. The guests were impressed by the Institute's work, especially the innovation of the Public Policy Repository.

Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi moderated a session on "fostering innovation to deliver inclusive and equitable services" during the event. The key areas of focus during the session included innovation in enhancing public service delivery, the place of innovation in delivery of inclusive and equitable services, innovation in public service management for enhancing employee productivity and the role of research and innovation in enhancing public service delivery. The participants in the sessions were: the Director General of the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), Prof Walter Oyoo, CEO of the Kenya Innovation Agency Dr ToTny Omwansa, the Secretary of Youth Affairs Mr Raymond Ochieng and the National Youth Council CEO Mr Roy Sasaka who was represented by Ms Viridiana Wasike.

KIPPRA participates in the 9th Africities Summit, 17th-21st May 2022

KIPPRA participated in and played a key role at the 9th Africities Summit held in Kisumu County on 17th to 21st of May 2022. The theme of the summit was "the role of intermediary cities of Africa in the Implementation of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and the African Union Agenda 2063.

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi (second right) poses for a photo with Dr Aloysius Ordu of Africa Growth Initiative (left) and Former Auditor-General Dr Edward Ouko at the summit

The summit, which is organized every three years by the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLGA), saw more than 8,000 delegates from over 40 countries attend. They comprised international and regional leaders, African ministers, leaders and officials of local and regional governments, civil society organizations, development partners and other stakeholders. Among key guess who addressed the forum include Kenya's President Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta and the Chairperson of the African Union is H.E. President Felix-Antoine Tshisekedi. US Special Presidential Envoy on Climate Change, Mr John Kerry, addressed the summit virtually.

Visitors at KIPPRA stand at Africities Summit

KIPPRA participated in several sessions, including making a presentation in one of the breakaway sessions on preliminary findings of a study on Urban Economic Growth: A Case for Nairobi City County, which is being undertaken in collaboration with AGI-Brookings Institution. A number of KIPPRA policy analysist also participated in panel discussions during the session.

The KIPPRA Executive Director (ED), Dr Rose Ngugi, was part of panel discussions in relation to the summit and the urban cities agenda, including one organized by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on the launch of a book titled "Africa's Urbanisation Dynamics 2022: The Economic Power of Africa's Cities," which was authored by OECD and African Development Bank (AfDB).
Dr Ngugi was also a panelist in a session on "economic power of Africa's cities - Africities The most important democratic gathering in Africa." The session focussed on policy priorities to enable cities to play their role of economic drivers.

Another forum that the ED participated in was on "integrated frameworks to achieve all-inclusive intermediary cities; policy and legislation." The session discussed how the implementation of well-defined core functions and policy priorities as well as utilization of resources to increase productively play a pivotal role in the counties' economic development.

The Institute also had an exhibition booth where staff distributed books and promotional materials and created awareness of KIPPRA's products and services. KIPPRA also took advantage of the robust social media promotions and posts to highlight the Institute's participation at the summit and create awareness of its products and services.

The 9th Africities Summit was unique as it was held by an intermediary city – Kisumu City. Previous summits have been held in capital cities. This was the second time Kenya was hosting the summit. The next Africities Summit will be held in Egypt.

KIPPRA Convenes the 3rd Kenya Think Tanks Symposium, 28th April 2022

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi addresses participants at the symposium

The annual symposium establishes a collective multisectoral platform for Kenyan think tanks and policymakers to engage on policy issues to develop policy-oriented solutions. The event brought together Kenyan Think Tanks, representatives from ministries, parastatals, county governments and non-governmental organizations.

The KIPPRA team was led by Board Chair Dr Benson Ateng', KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi, KIPPRA Board members and representative of PS State Department for Planning Mr Zachary Mwangi who is also KIPPRA Board member.

KIPPRA Board Chair Dr Benson Ateng' gives his closing remarks at the symposium.

Speaking at the symposium Dr Ngugi underscored the important role the Think Tanks Symposium plays in policy formulation as it provides an opportunity to convene stakeholders in the policy arena to discuss policy issues and contribute to the solutions to be adopted by the government.
Discussions at the symposium centered on restoring Africa's food security in the wake of climate change, climate change financing for Africa's future, impact of climate change on Africa's public health, balancing the burden and benefits of climate action and mitigating the impact of climate change on peace, security and development.

A panel discussion at the symposium

In his closing remarks, the Dr Ateng' thanked all participants who attended the symposium and noted that the practical solutions discussed at the symposium once adopted will strengthen Africa's response to climate change. The symposium came to a close with panel discussions.

KIPPRA Executive Director takes the reins at Southern Voices, 10th April 2022

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi

Welcoming the appointment Southern Voice Director Ms Andrea Ordóñez said that the Southern Voice fraternity is delighted to welcome Dr Ngugi as its chair and will greatly benefit from her guidance in preparing the second edition of our State of the SDGs report and engaging in a strategic global policy process on sustainable development.

KIPPRA Inducts New Board Chair and Members, 25th April 2022

KIPPRA Board Chair Dr Benson Ateng' (centre) and management staff keenly follow the proceedings of the induction workshop

KIPPRA Management Staff led by Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi conducted induction of Board Chair Dr Benson Ateng' and Board members Mr Samuel Wambugu and Ms Caroline Saroni. The Board Chair and members were taken through the Institute's mandate, strategic direction, workplan activities, performance contract obligations, research and capacity building programmes, partnership engagements, key products and services as well as challenges.

KIPPRA Executive Director Meets CBK Governor Over Conference Partnership, 19th April 2022

Dr Ngugi and Dr Njoroge discussed the possible areas of collaboration with regards to 5th KIPPRA Annual Regional Conference which will be held from 15th-17th June 2022.

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi poses for a photo with CBK Governor, Dr Patrick Njoroge, after the courtesy call

Dr Ngugi provided an overview of the conference, including the theme and the overall objectives. She noted that the Institute organizes the annual conferences in fulfillment of its mandate to provide a platform for policy dialogue among stakeholders in the public policy space to explore and discuss potential areas and opportunities to exploit in forging a common front to accelerate achievement of a sustainable and inclusive development.

Dr Njoroge, on his part, hailed KIPPRA for initiating the conference, saying the forum provides an important platform to discuss pertinent policy issues and find solutions to promote inclusive growth.

KIPPRA Executive Director Dr Rose Ngugi (third right) and CBK Governor Dr Patrick Njoroge (third left) pose for a group photo with KIPPRA and CBK staff

The Governor said there was need to take a close and honest look at issues of youth unemployment and how to harness the youth demographic dividend to propel growth. He also urged KIPPRA to consider discussions on income inequalities and how to bridge them, especially for the vulnerable in society.

The Governor pledged to support KIPPRA in the conference, including attending and providing technical staff to make presentations and participate in panel discussions on various issues, including fintech and financial inclusion. Dr Njoroge also congratulated KIPPRA on the celebration of its silver jubilee

Upcoming Events

Launch of Kenya Economic Report 2022

KIPPRA will in September launch the Kenya Economic Report (KER) 2022. The KER is a statutory flagship report prepared pursuant to Section 23(3) of the KIPPRA Act No. 15 of 2006. The report provides analysis on performance of the economy during the preceding financial year and economic prospects for the next three financial years. The KER 2022 themed "Building Resilience and Sustainable Economic Development in Kenya" provides analysis of various shocks to which the economy has exposure at both macroeconomic and sectoral levels. On building resilience for sustainable development, the KER 2022 makes recommendations to: nurture the potential of the digital economy, creative economy and science, technology and innovation sectors; protect the trade interests of the country; mitigate geopolitical risks; support the manufacturing sector to maximize on its potential; promote and cushion the livestock industry in supporting the economies in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs); and entrench values and good governance within the society.

KIPPRA to Host Symposium for Youth in Climate Action

KIPPRA, in conjunction with youth-led organizations working on climate change, is organizing a youth symposium themed "Building Momentum for COP27 with Youth in Climate Change". The one-day symposium seeks to identify the key issues of interest pertaining to climate change as well as develop policy briefs on the issues arising. A communique with a summary of key issues raised will be developed and presented to the Brookings Institution as they pull together youth voices for COP27 in Egypt.

KIPPRA Works with Partners to Develop the Third Generation of CIDPs

KIPPRA, the Council of Governors and the State Department for planning, The National Treasury and Planning are working with counties to review the current generation of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and to develop the next generation of CIDPs. The CIDPs are plans prepared by all counties to guide development over a five-year period. They are meant to guide counties in medium-term planning and investments. The upcoming CIDPs will cover the period between 2023 and 2027.

KIPPRA to Hold CSR Event and Issue PWD Cards to Learners with Disabilities

KIPPRA will hold a Corporate Social Responsibility event at Kipsaina Integrated Primary School in Elgeyo Marakwet County. The CSR is part of the Institute's sensitization of students on national values and government programmes; and empowerment of persons with disabilities (PWDs).

The event is a follow up of a previous visit to the school in 2020 where KIPPRA partnered with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) to identify and assess learners with disabilities. The Institute then worked with NCPWD to register the identified learners and provide PWD cards. The CSR event will, therefore, provide a chance to issue the cards and donate various items, including food stuff, electronics and clothes.

Board to Train on Audit and Risk Oversight

The KIPPRA Board will in July 2022 undergo a three-day training on audit and risk oversight. The State Corporations Advisory Committee (SCAC) training, which is being facilitated by the Kenya School of Government, will focus resource stewardship and role of board; audit committee and audit framework; internal controls and environment; overseeing risk management; value for money audits; and governance: ethics and emerging trends.

Upcoming Corporate Social Responsibility Activities

Among the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities KIPPRA is considering for this financial year include a tree planting exercise, participation in the Standard Chartered Marathon; participation in the East African Wildlife Society Forest challenge to support environmental conservation; and donation of assistive devices and assorted items to learners with disabilities.

Upcoming policy Seminars, Roundtables and Workshops

KIPPRA will hold policy seminars and roundtables where stakeholders are invited to discuss and give input towards various topical and ongoing policy research issues. The policy seminars scheduled for the next quarter include policy initiatives for safe, resilient and sustainable cities in Kenya; supplementary budget highlights; an analysis if the winning party's manifesto; circular economy of major processed agricultural produce in Kenya; socio-economic implications of the Russia-Ukraine crisis in Kenya; structure and trends in agriculture public spending in Kenya; and competition indicators.

The roundtables planned for the next quarter include Kenya-USFTA; stakeholder roundtable on promoting basic education equity and inclusion in context of Competency-Based Curriculum; stakeholder roundtable on exploiting the potential of Kenya's creative economy; stakeholder Roundtable on Building inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities in Kenya; roundtable on the concept note on adopting green economy to counter effects of climate change; attitudes, knowledge and practices of food hygiene and safety among hotel and restaurant workers in Nairobi; stakeholder roundtable on trade agreements and trade competitiveness; shocks and stressors for cities; and discussion on criminal gangs/ organized crime and security.

The upcoming workshops are: IFPRI (inflation, commodities, crisis; an overview of food systems in Kenya; what works for youth employment (PEP-MCF); AGI validation workshop; and assessment of men and women participation in trade.

KIPPRA will also hold two consultative forums in September for the Kenya Economic Report 2023.

ABOUT KIPPRA

The Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) is an autonomous institute whose primary mission is to conduct public policy research leading to policy advice. KIPPRA's mission is to produce consistently high-quality analysis of key issues of public policy and to contribute to the achievement of national long-term development objectives by positively influencing the decision making
process. These goals are met through effective dissemination of recommendations resulting from analysis and by training policy analysts in the public and private sectors. KIPPRA therefore produces a body of well-researched and documented information on public policy, and in the process assists in formulating long-term strategic perspectives. KIPPRA serves as a centralized source from which the Government and the private sector may obtain information and advice on public policy issues.

Send to us your comments on the articles published in this newsletter and any other aspects that may help to make the KIPPRA Policy Monitor useful to you. This may include policy issues you would like KIPPRA to prioritize.

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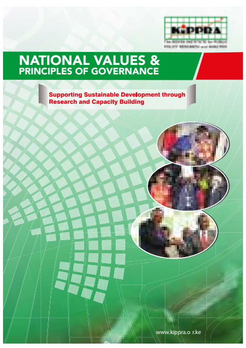

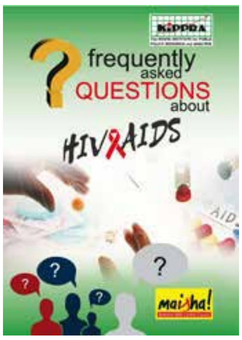

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