



Kitui Vision 2025

Vision for Economic and Social Transformation



KIVEST MISSION

To be an attractive and prosperous County providing a clean, secure and safe environment for all citizens as well as local, regional and international investors

A universally attractive and prosperous County where people enjoy a high quality of life in a clean and safe environment in both rural and urban areas

KIVEST VISION 2025

Operationalization of the mission

This mission will be implemented through two five year successive medium term plans and shall clearly highlight the resource base, economic and social potential of each zone. The plan is premised on economic, social and governance pillars that will anchor and drive social economic initiatives of the County.

Economic: To maintain a sustained economic growth of 10% per annum over the next 10 years.

Social: A just and cohesive society enjoying equitable social development in a clean and secure environment.

Governance: An issue-based, people-centered, result-oriented, and accountable democratic political.

FOREWORD

The **Kitui Vision for Economic and Social Development (2025)** is a development blue print which presents a pathway to economic and social transformation across the County. Tapping the enormous potential presented by the County presents an enormous opportunity for the people of Kitui and potential investors alike. The County has large Coal deposits in The Mui Basin which will be used to fuel power plants and supply reliable energy to the National grid. Coal mining is expected to attract auxiliary industries which will provide employment and services in addition to benefiting from power supply from the coal powered plants. Other significant minerals of commercial value include Limestone in Mutomo / Kanziku location and Iron Ore in Timboni. Kitui County has great irrigation and agricultural potential given the existence of permanent rivers such as Tana and Athi. The availability of large tracts of fertile underutilised land and the water resources, presents an opportunity for commercial farming. The County expects to be the food basket for the region in the coming years.

To implement the Vision plan, the County Government of Kitui proposes to group the County into unique **Economic and Investment units / zones** which are based on the natural resources and main land use characteristics. In November 2013, the County assembly approved the establishment of six (6) zones namely; **Kyuso-Muumoni-Tseikuru Economic & Investment Zone, The Mui Basin Economic and Investment Zone, Mutomo-Ikutha-Kanziko Economic and Investment Zone, Kanyangi-Kwa Vonza-Kanyonyoo Economic & Investment Zone, Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic and Investment Zone, Mwingi town and its Environs Economic and Investment Zone.** The Mwingi and Kitui town zones not only have an urban character but also a rural hinterland defined by agricultural and primary production activities.

The vision 2025 is based on the concept of flagship projects which are to be implemented across the County. Most of the projects are large scale in nature

and their implementation will lead to significant economic and social impact on the lives of the people of Kitui County. These projects fall under the three main development pillars (**Economic Pillar, Social Pillar and Governance Pillar**).

Realizing the projects under the economic pillar will provide impetus to drive the social and governance agenda. Key projects under the economic pillar include Tourism Development in the Mwingi North National Reserve, Limestone Mining, Irrigation Scheme Development along Tana River in Kyuso zone; Coal Fueled Power Generation, Seed Production and Propagation Program, Solar Energy Production Farm in The Mui Basin; Industrial Park, Milk Cooling and Agro-Processing Facilities, Honey Production and Processing, Bulk Fuel Storage Facility at Mwingi Town Environs in Mwingi Town zone; International Trade Center Complex, Kitui - Mutomo and Kitui - Kanyangi Road Construction, Nzambani Eco-Tourism Centre, Kitui Town Road Network in Kitui Town Zone; Irrigation Projects along Athi River, Ballast Crusher and Pre-Cast Concrete Plant, Thwake Dam in Lower Athi River, Kanyonyoo -Kwa Vonza-Kanyangi-Ikutha Road Link in Kanyangi Zone; Limestone Mining and Value Addition, Tourism Promotion and Heritage Development, Mutomo – Kitui Road Infrastructure Development, Iron and Steel Production in the Mutomo zone.

The programmes and projects under the Social Pillar are geared to ensuring that the people of Kitui County prosper in a just and cohesive society that enjoys equitable social development in a clean, safe and secure environment. Key social pillar flagship projects include; Equipping Schools with ICT and Science Infrastructure, Stadium Complex, Land Titling Conservation of Water Catchment Areas, establishing Referral Hospitals in Mwingi and Kitui, Multi-Purpose Institute for Community Empowerment and Improved water supply.

The flagships proposed in the vision 2025 are a reflection of what the people of **Kitui County** felt

were appropriate to generate economic and social transformation in the short and long term. The key flagships for each pillar and each zone will be implemented by the County Government of Kitui in partnership with development partners, private sector investors and the citizens of Kitui County.

While the future of the County and its six zones is bright, the County is faced with challenges such as poor infrastructure and climate change problems. There is need therefore to ensure that the population has access to clean water, education, energy and economic or income generating activities to realize its full potential. Through the vision plan, it is expected that most of these perennial challenges will be addressed to ensure Economic and Social Transformation.

Proper medium to long term planning including the setting of clear priorities and strategies have been hailed as critical to the realisation of development objectives. The vision plan is therefore intended to provide a development roadmap for Kitui county for the next ten years from 2015 to 2025. An implementation and governance framework has been provided to guide the development and ensure resources are channeled appropriately to meet the vision goals.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
ASDP	Agriculture Livestock Support Program
BTS	Base Transmission stations
CAATs	Computer Aided Audit tools
CFAs	Community Forest Associations
CHEWs	Community Extension health workers
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plans
CLMB	County Land Management Boards
DFIs	Development finance institutions
DFZ	Disease Free Zones
ECDE	Early Childhood Development Education
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographical Information System
HQ	Head Quarter
ICT	Information Communication Technology
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
LAIFOMS	Local Authority Information Management Systems
LAPSSET	Lamu Port and Lamu-Southern Sudan – Ethiopia Transport Corridor
MSE's	Micro and Small Enterprises
MSE's	Micro and Small Enterprises
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MW	Megawatts
NGOs	Non-Governmental organisations
NLC	National Land Commission
ODF	Open defecation free
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PFM	Public Financial Management
PLWDs	People living with disabilities
REA	Rural Electrification Authority
SACCOs	Savings and credit cooperative organizations
SEKU	South Eastern Kenya University
SEMASSE	Science and mathematics in secondary schools
SGR	Standard Gauge Railway
STI	Science Technology and Innovation
TVET	Tertiary and Vocational Education and Training
VARS	Voo Agricultural Research Station
WHO	World Health Organisation

Executive Summary

The County Government of Kitui has developed this Vision 2025 plan to guide implementation of various programmes and projects over the next ten to achieve the desired transformation in the economic and social sectors across the County.

The Vision Formulation Process

Three main guiding principles were adopted during the vision planning and formulation process. The first is that in-depth research and analysis was carried out to gain a better understanding of local and international practices in developing vision plans. The Kenya Vision 2030 for example was a source of knowledge on how to formulate a long-term vision. Development of the Kitui County Vision was inspired to a large extent by the National Vision. Other long-term Visions that were used to benchmark the development of this document were drawn from African, Asian and Latin American countries.

The second principle was that of consultation and engagement of stakeholders including the public. The public was engaged throughout the entire process in order to ensure all stakeholders across the county got an opportunity to speak to the vision and express their expectations.

The third principal is that the Vision integrated key proposals from all stakeholders across the different zones within the County. These proposals by the stakeholders represented what they felt would lead to economic and social transformations once implemented. The proposals were later translated into flagship projects to be implemented over the Vision period 2015 – 2025.

The Kitui Vision 2025 has been developed through a highly consultative and participatory process involving stakeholders from the whole County as well as Kitui County professional who reside outside the County. The Vision making process started in November 2013 following commissioning by the Governor and the subsequent approval by the County Assembly. The Vision received a lot of input during the stakeholder's consultative forum held in May, 2015 at the County headquarters.

The approach used to obtain information from the different stakeholders was intended to achieve the following goals;

- To provide opportunities for interested parties to identify economic zone concerns and priorities;
- To encourage public involvement among our various audiences, including traditionally underserved groups such as women and youth;
- To increase the public's awareness of opportunities and activities to actively participate in the production of the KIVEST plans and programs;
- To obtain meaningful public input to inform the County Executive and consultant team including the decision-making process; and
- To inform and educate Kitui County stakeholders, share information, and increase overall awareness of vision development and planning related issues and activities.

The Kitui Vision for Economic and Social Transformation

Following its mandate as a County, The County Government of Kitui developed this long-term development blue print, "Kitui Vision for economic and social transformation" aimed at guiding its economic and social development for the next ten years up to the year 2025.

The envisaged County long-term development blue print covers the economic and investment zones which were endorsed by stakeholders in November 2013. These economic and investment zones include:

- i) EIZ 001 Kyuso- Mumoni -Tseikuru economic and investment zone
- ii) EIZ 002 Mui basin economic and investment zone
- iii) EIZ 003 Mwingi town and environs economic and investment zone
- iv) EIZ 004 Kitui County Headquarters and environs economic and investment zone

- v) EIZ 005 Kyangi-kwa Vonza-Kanyonyoo economic and investment zone
- vi) EIZ 006 Mutomo - Ikutha-Kanziko economic and investment zone

The Kitui Vision 2025 is based on three interlinked “pillars” namely; the economic pillar, the social pillar and the governance pillar. **The Economic Pillar** aims at transforming Kitui County into “A dynamic economic region where a high quantum of GDP is generated to enhance wealth and employment creation for its people and the country at large” **The Social Pillar** seeks to build Kitui County “as a place where people enjoy a high quality of life in a clean, safe and secure environment in both rural and urban areas”. **The Governance Pillar** aims to transform the political governance of the County into “A County Government that is people centered, issued based and result oriented and accountable to its citizens”.

The realization of the desired Economic and social transformation envisaged in the Kitui Vision 2025 requires that the **Economic Pillar**, the **Social Pillar** and the **Governance Pillar** be firmly anchored on the following eight foundations: infrastructure development, information and communication technology, Land reforms and management, Security and peace building, Equity, ethics and community cohesion, Human resources development, Science, technology and innovation and County Public service delivery. The County Government of Kitui working with its partners will invest substantial resources in the development of these foundations to facilitate achievement of the goals and aspirations of this vision.

The Vision Pillars

The Economic Pillar: The economic Pillar for economic and social transformation takes into account the productive sectors that have the attractiveness and potential to accelerate the County’s economic growth and transformation. These include tourism and hospitality industry, service, agriculture and irrigation, industrial development, mining and

mineral investments, financial services, trade, industry and commerce and business process outsourcing.

The Social Pillar : This is composed of the following sectors; Education, Training and skills development, Health and sanitation, Environment and natural resources, Water development and supply, Urbanization and Housing and Gender, Youth, sports, social services and Vulnerable Groups. The programmes and projects in each of these sectors are geared towards ensuring that they contribute towards prosperity and building a just and cohesive society that enjoys equitable social development in a clean and secure environment

The Governance Pillar: County Government of Kitui acknowledges that good governance is a pre-requisite for sustainable development. Efficient and effective governance is needed to support and sustain the County’s partnerships to accomplish economic and social transformation. The Governance Pillar lays a solid foundation for inclusive growth, increased equitable access to quality social services, strengthening democratic institutions and public service.

The Pillar is informed by the Constitution of Kenya and lays strong emphasis on promotion of governance, integrity and ethics as well national values and ethics. Under this vision, the County Government will advocate for a community driven development approach, which supports local governance in service delivery and inclusive growth across the sectors. This is in an effort to enhance employment opportunities for all the citizens of Kitui County. .

Additionally, the County leadership will promote public participation and representation in its processes particularly policy formulation and implementation. Through the Governance pillar, the County will build an enabling environment through development and implementation of relevant legislative and policy frameworks, which provide a solid foundation for achieving the vision goals and objectives.

Kitui Vision Implementation Framework

To achieve the desired outcomes, an implementation framework has been prepared. The framework describes the key steps to be followed to achieve the vision goals and objectives through the flagship projects and associated programmes and projects. The vision implementation is not an event but a process of carefully considered organizational adjustments and deliberate steps that will take place in the next 10 years. Changing economic, social and political dynamics will also influence the implementation of the vision.

In the implementation of this Vision 2025 Plan, it is important to point out that, significant changes in economic and social conditions, funding, leadership, staff turnover, or other events may require the County Government to re-engineer some of its processes and activities in the early stages of implementation.

The County will put in place policy, legal and institutional reforms to manage and sustain the development process. To achieve this, the vision is premised on the need to put in place mechanisms and strategies to allow stakeholders to make contributions towards in an inclusive and participatory manner.

CHAPTER ONE:

INTRODUCTION

1.0: Background Information

This chapter presents the geographical location of the county, population, long term planning in the county, the macroeconomic framework, overview for the economic and investment zones, the county situation analysis and the investment opportunities.

Geographical location

Kitui County is one of the forty-seven Counties in the Kenya, with an area of 30,496.4 km². It located at the Centre of Kenya, and borders Machakos and Makueni counties to the West, Tana River County to the East, Taita-Taveta County to the South, Embu and Tharaka-Nithi Counties to the North.

Population

Kitui County had a population of 1,012,709 according to the Population and Household Census Report of 2009. This comprises 531,427 females and 481,282 male. The population growth rate for the County is at

2.1% which is slightly lower than the national average rate of 2.6%. Population patterns are greatly influenced by landholding, availability of water and soil fertility with a high number of people concentrating on foot hills and plateaus where agriculture is possible. Employment opportunities and access to social amenities also tend to influence population patterns where some settlements concentrate near towns.

1.1: Setting the Context for Long Term Planning In Kitui County

The National Level

The promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 led to the creation of a new two tier governance structure, one National Government and 47 County Governments. Under Article 6 (2) of the Constitution, the National and County are meant to be distinct and inter-dependent and the same time are expected to consult and cooperate on development issues.

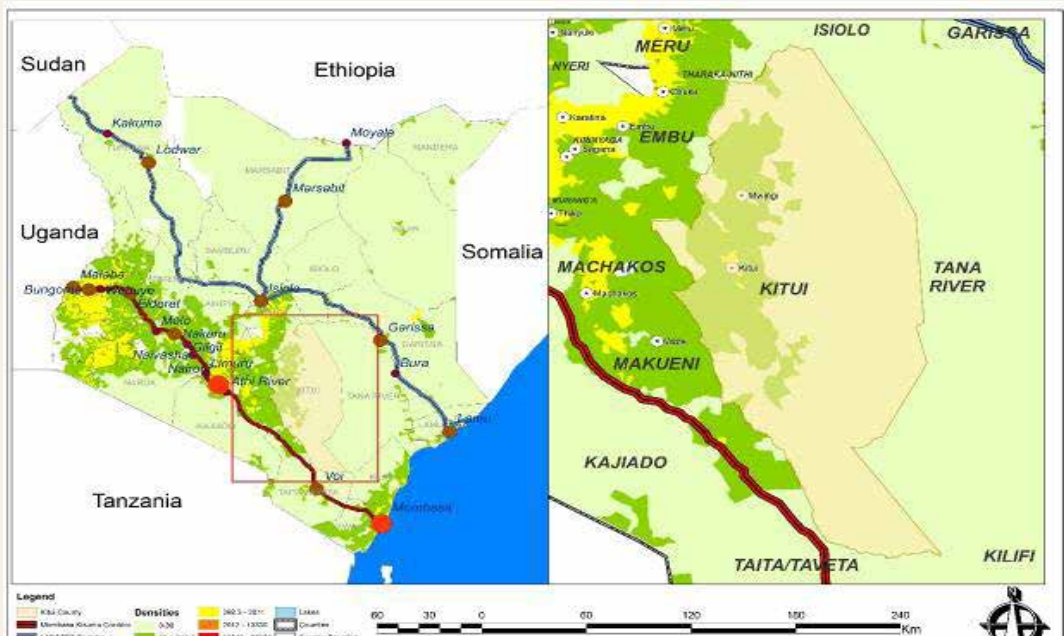


Figure 1: National and Regional Setting Context Map

The County Governments in particular are expected to among other obligations promote social and economic development, foster national unity and enhance service accessibility of services by all citizens in addition to ensuring the equitable sharing of national and local resources.

The Government of Kenya's Vision 2030, which is a long-term development blueprint for the country sets the platform for economic and social transformation in Kenya through the implementation of key flagship projects. The Vision is motivated by collective aspiration for a much better society than the one we have today, by the year 2030. The overarching is to see Kenya turn in to a "globally competitive and prosperous country with a high quality of life by 2030." It aims at transforming Kenya into "a newly industrialized, middle income country providing a high quality of life to all its citizens in a clean and secure environment".

Vision 2030 is being implemented through five year successive medium term plans, with such being the first and second medium term plans. The first medium term plan was meant to realize a higher and sustainable growth of the economy in a more equitable environment, accompanied by increased employment opportunities. The second medium term plan which is currently under implementation recognizes the new two-tier governorship structure that comprises of one National Government and 47 County Governments.

Overarching Vision of the Kitui Vision for Economic and Social Transformation

The Kitui Vision 2025 has been developed through a highly consultative and participatory process involving stakeholders from the whole County as well as Kitui County professionals who reside outside the County. The Vision making process started in November 2013 following commissioning by the Governor and the subsequent approval by the County Assembly. The Vision received a lot of input during the stakeholder's consultative forum held in May, 2015 at the County headquarters.

The Kitui Vision 2025 is based on three interlinked "pillars" namely; the economic pillar, the social pillar and the governance pillar. **The Economic Pillar** aims at transforming Kitui County into "A dynamic economic region where a high quantum of GDP is generated to enhance wealth and employment creation for its people and the country at large" **The Social Pillar** seeks to build Kitui County "as place where people enjoy a high quality of life in a clean, safe and secure environment in both rural and urban areas". **The Governance Pillar** aims to transform the political governance of the County into "A County Government that is people centered, issued based and result oriented and accountable to its citizens".

The Vision 2025 is to be implemented through successive five-year Medium Term plans with the first such plan covering the period 2015 – 2020. The Vision will also be mainstreamed into the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and the County three-year rolling Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) Budgets.

1.2: Macroeconomic Framework

Overview

The Kenya Vision 2030 envisages Kenya's economy to achieve and sustain an average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 10% annually in order for the country to achieve a middle-income status by the year 2030. Since the launch of the Kenya Vision 2030 in 2008, Kenya has undertaken major political, social and economic reforms leading to remarkable transformation. Kenya's economy has registered impressive performance with the GDP growing from a low of 0.6% in 2002 to 5.3% in 2014 following rebasing of the economy. The 47 County Governments are expected to contribute to the achievement of the vision 2030 through implementation of sound policies and programmes. It is therefore important that Kitui County pursues a sound macroeconomic framework to ensure that it either matches or surpasses the national target while at the same time implementing policies aimed at improving business environment, creating employment, and promoting transparent

use of public resources with the overall objective of tackling poverty and income inequality. In this regard, the County targets to achieve an average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 10% annually within the vision period.

Situation Analysis of Economic Performance

The economy of Kitui County is characterized by incidences of high poverty levels. According to statistics provided by Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), persons living below the poverty line stands at 63.5% compared to a national level index of 45.9%. The high incidences of poverty are reflected in the County unemployment level statistics.

The estimated labour force in the year 2013 stood at 514,133 persons out of whom only 12,228 persons were classified as wage earners meaning the rest were either unemployed or employed in the informal sectors. Financial inequality in Kitui is higher than the national average with the household expenditure per adult per month standing at 2,300 against a national average of 3,340. The situation therefore requires far reaching and effective policy interventions if real growth is to be felt by all citizens of Kitui County.

Economic Growth

Implementation of devolution as provided for in the Constitution of Kenya brings with it great opportunities for growth and economic and social transformation of the County. Devolution of financial resources to the Counties from the National Government as well as improved governance and accountability of resources within the framework of the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act, 2012 presents a great opportunity to propel Counties' transformation.

The National and County Governments are also implementing major policy, legal and institutional reforms aimed at providing a conducive environment for sustained macroeconomic stability and improved management and accountability of public resources. The County Assembly of Kitui will play a major role in formulating and enacting laws that will ensure the above objectives are realized.

The growth and transformation agenda envisaged in this vision will benefit from the discovery of coal in Mui basin, limestone in Kitui south and other minerals which are expected to bring Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the County. The County is also strategically placed to benefit from the major projects being implemented by the National Government such as the LAPPSET and Standard Gauge Railway (SGR). As such the County will be on the right growth trajectory to ensure it contributing immensely to the national GDP and at the same time growing its own by at least 10%.

To achieve this ambitious growth target the County Government will implement bold policy reforms in the following key sectors, which have been identified due to their attractiveness and huge potential for growth:

Agriculture, Water and Irrigation Sector

The agricultural sector is expected to contribute immensely to the growth strategy and as such the County Government aims to create supportive policy, legal and institutional reforms for agricultural development. Priority will be given to input cost reduction strategy, expansion of land under irrigation through the Athi Kilawa irrigation project and other irrigation projects in the County, scaling up of extension services and training of farmers, enhancing farm mechanization, value addition and exploring of new markets. The agricultural sector is major contributor to the County's GDP and this is evident by the large proportion of the population in the County engaging in agricultural activities. According to the Economic Survey, 2015, Agriculture sector output value increased by 15.8% from Kshs 1,459.7bn in 2013 to Kshs 1,690.3 billion in 2014.

Industrial and Mining Sector

The County Government of Kitui has identified and designated areas as special economic zones in order to attract investment and facilitate industrial transformation. These zones will be the engines to economic prosperity in the County given their unique and specific set of endowments that if fully exploited

will propel the County to prosperity. The County being mineral resource rich is set to benefit from exploration and mining of minerals such as coal, limestone and many other minerals whose huge potential is yet to be established.

1. **Employment Creation**

Unemployment in Kitui County is one of the factors that have led to high incidences of poverty. The majority of people in the County are mainly engaged in subsistence agriculture which offers little or no income to the residents. The informal sector has employed the highest number of people with the formal sector only employing a total of 12,228 persons out of a labor force of about 514,133 persons. The youth unemployment rate in the County is over 65% meaning that most of the youth are unemployed. The challenge for the County Government is therefore to create decent jobs and to ensure an equitable sharing of available opportunities among all the resident in the County. The strategies for employment creation that the County will pursue include:

- Community level infrastructure program that provides contracts to the local contractors to undertake community- lead projects;
- Implementation of the 30% policy on Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) for the youth, women, the marginalized and person with disability;
- Youth infrastructure saving and investment program;
- Provision of support to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE's);
- Facilitating establishment of economic zones to spur economic growth; and
- Creating a conducive environment for private sector investment.

2. **Structural Reforms**

The County Government will implement structural reforms with the aim of improving efficiency in the allocation and utilization of resources as well as effective service delivery. Priority areas will include: financing priority areas that will promote sustainable

development, addressing corruption, simplifying business licensing and providing better and adequate infrastructure.

3. **Monetary Policy measures**

Maintaining low and stable inflation is critical for long-term economic and social prosperity. High and variable inflation leads to inefficient allocation of resources and makes planning for the future much more difficult. Costs are also incurred as people seek to protect themselves from the effects of inflation rather than concentrating on the creation of new wealth. This damages productivity and growth. Moreover, high and variable inflation involves social costs that are likely to fall particularly hard on those people on lower incomes. The County Government will closely monitor national government's monetary policies to ensure that plans are made to cushion citizens from the adverse effects of inflation.

4. **Fiscal measures**

The County will pursue prudent policies to ensure fiscal and debt sustainability. To finance its budget deficit, the County Government will source funds from donors or financial institutions in form of grants or loans. Article 212 of the Constitution of Kenya prescribes how a County Government may borrow to fund its budget. The borrowing will however be governed by the PFM Act and any other regulations issued by the National Government from time to time. The County Government will seek to explore this strategy of financing its budget while at the same time maintaining a sound debt management strategy. The County Government will also undertake a comprehensive assessment of grants and analyze how best to tap into the opportunities presented by these financing sources. The County budgeting will also reflect the policy on ensuring at least 30% of the total County expenditure is directed to capital expenditures.

The County Government will employ specific strategies to broaden the revenue base and increase revenue from the traditional sources under the revenue enhancement plan. These strategies

will include:-automation of revenue collection, employment and training of finance and revenue collection officers, instituting a debt and arrears recovery strategy, offering incentives such as penalties waiver and establishing a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system for revenue collection.

5. Exchange Rates

The County Government will continue to closely monitor the country's exchange rate system to ensure that it positions itself to reap maximum benefits especially when it embarks on export of its products in future. The county Government will advise the business community especially the exporters and importers to actively participate in business organizations such as the National Chamber of Commerce so as to be well informed on the possible risks arising from external shocks and to ensure they maintain external competitiveness. To ensure that external competitiveness is maintained the County will strive to become a more open economy, continue to monitor closely developments in the real exchange rate and continue to take actions to enhancing productivity.

6. Saving and Investment

To achieve the County's growth targets, the County will put in place measures and strategies aimed maintaining a strong revenue position, restructure outlays toward development expenditures, lobby for increased financing for capital projects from development partners, and judicious recourse to domestic and foreign borrowing to build infrastructure. Measures will also be put in place to increase both public and private investments. In this regard, the County will work towards improvement of the investment climate and continued good economic performance to attract direct private investment. Achieving this level of private investment will require interventions on several fronts including:

- Restoration and expansion of the infrastructure stock;
- Improving the regulatory and licensing framework to reduce bureaucratic costs;
- Corruption control; and

- Ensuring human resource quality is upgraded to enable human capital to play a larger role in raising productivity.
- Facilitating the penetration and widest application of information technology in the county.

To achieve the required level of private sector savings, significant reforms will be undertaken to increase mobilization of resources. Key elements of the financial sector strategy include:

- Deepening penetration of banking services, especially to rural areas to help drive increased domestic savings. The County Government will play a facilitating role in this area to enable the private sector players reach the unbanked but bankable population;
- Implementing a comprehensive pension scheme model; and
- Facilitating establishment of Saccos and cooperatives.

1.3 Overview for the Economic and Investment Zones

One of the key objectives of devolution is to promote economic and social development and the provision of, easily accessible and efficient services in all the Counties. In order to reap the benefits accruing from devolution, the County of Kitui made a strategic decision to develop a long-term development blue print, "**Kitui Vision for Economic and Social Transformation**" aimed at guiding the economic and social development of Kitui County for the period 2015 to 2025.

In December 2013, a team appointed by the County Executive was tasked with the responsibility of establishing economic and investment zones in Kitui County to shape economic growth of the County. The task force came up with a proposal on establishment of economic and investment zones. To consolidate and strengthen this proposal, the Taskforce undertook comparative studies which further informed and refined the concept of the economic and investment zones to attract investment to the County. The County

Government endorsed the proposal and the 6 (six) economic and investment zones, which form the basis for planning and identification of broad sector priorities on which this vision is built upon were adopted.

The six economic zones are established to leverage on the comparative advantage and inherent development potential of each of them with a view of contributing to planned transformation agenda through attracting industrial investment and business ventures, maximizing resource utilization, creating employment opportunities, wealth creation and enhancing the quality of life in a clean and safe environment. The following are the six economic and investment zones:-

EIZ 001: The Kyuso-Tseikuru-Mumoni Economic and Investment Zone

The Kyuso-Tseikuru-Mumoni zone covers the areas of Ngomeni, Kyuso, Mumoni, Tseikuru and Tharaka wards. The economic and natural endowments include; River Tana for irrigation based farming, its resource rich nature with limestone, expansive land mass for potential livestock management, Mwingi National Reserve for tourism and proximity to LAPSET corridor. The zone will be transformed into an **extensive agricultural zone**. The County Government, working with all the stakeholders will seek to facilitate development of infrastructure, energy, science technology and innovation, deepen land reforms and management, strengthen cooperatives, human resource management, improve security and rule of law and undertake policy, legal and institutional reforms to spur growth.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic and Investment Zone

The Mui Basin zone covers the areas of Nguni, Kivou, Mui, Nu, Mutitu/ Kaliku, Endau/ Malalani, Zombe/ Mwitika as well as Voo/ Kyamatu County Wards. The area is endowed with huge natural resources in form of commercially viable reserves, resource rich with precious stones and sand, expansive land mass away from city centers with potential for commercial

ranching, readily available labour for coal industry, and availability of construction raw materials. Mui Basin will be transformed into an **extensive industrial and mining zone**. The County Government in partnership with key stakeholders will seek to improve infrastructure, land reforms and management, promote science technology and innovation, strengthen human resource management, enhance natural resource exploitation and management and undertake policy, legal and institutional reforms for positive growth. This zone is expected to spur economic growth across the County by leveraging on the coal resources to attract energy intensive industry, create employment opportunities, encourage direct investment, revitalize infrastructure and ultimately drive the County's social agenda.

EIZ 003: The Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic and Investment zone

The areas covered by this zone include; Mwingi Central, Waita, Migwani, Kyome/Thaana, Nguutani and Kiomo/Kyethani. The economic endowment for this zone include; proximity to LAPSET along Garissa-Mwingi-Thika highway, agricultural products for value addition, and wide coverage of power connections (electricity). Mwingi and its environs will be transformed into an **extensive industrial zone**. The County Government in collaboration with all stakeholders will seek to improve infrastructure, strengthen cooperatives, human resource management, deepen land reforms and management and undertake policy, legal and institutional reforms with an aim of spurring economic growth. The County will work towards operationalizing the 24-hour economy system in Mwingi Town.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic and Investment Zone

This zone includes Kitui Township, Mulango, Kyangwithya East, Kyangwithya West, Nzambani, Chuluni, Kisasi, Mbitini, Miambani, Matinyani, Mutonguni, Kauwi and Kwa Mutonga/Kithumula County Wards. The economic endowments for this zone include; administrative hub, tourism potential, existing urban infrastructure, inter-connectivity

to Northern corridor, key beneficiary of industrial growth, and on the ground presence of financial service providers. Kitui and its environs will be transformed into **a thriving mid-sized, well planned world class urban centre**. The County Government will seek to improve infrastructure, strengthen human resource management, promote science technology and innovation, strengthen cooperatives, land reforms and management and undertake policy, legal and institutional reforms for economic and social transformation.

EIZ 005: The Kanyangi -Kanyonyoo-Kwa Vonza Economic and Investment

The areas covered are Kanyangi and Yatta/ Kwa Vonza County Wards. The economic endowment of this zone include; clustering of universities, strategic location of junction of Embu/ Isiolo Machakos Mwingi/ Garissa, huge tracts of land for solar energy development, ballast potential in the Yatta plateau, market hub for wholesale produce, honey production, and availability of building construction raw materials. This zone will ultimately be transformed into a **dynamic education hub**. The County Government will seek to improve infrastructure, land reforms and management,

strengthen human resource management, promote science technology and innovation and undertake policy, legal and institutional reforms as well as offer incentives to private investors with an aim of encouraging investment.

EIZ 006: The Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic and Investment Zone

The Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko zone covers the areas of Ikanga/Kyatune, Mutomo, Ikutha, Kanziko, Mutha, Athi County Wards. The area is home to the “Limestone Belt” and is well endowed with natural resources in form of minerals such as limestone and iron ore, Tsavo East national park, and potential for livestock development. The zone will contribute to the County’s growth strategy in the crucial sectors of mining, tourism and agriculture. The zone will be transformed into an **extensive mining zone**. The County Government will seek to improve infrastructure, ensure political goodwill, enhance peace, and promote inter-County trade and other interventions to encourage investments.

Summary of key potential areas per economic zone:

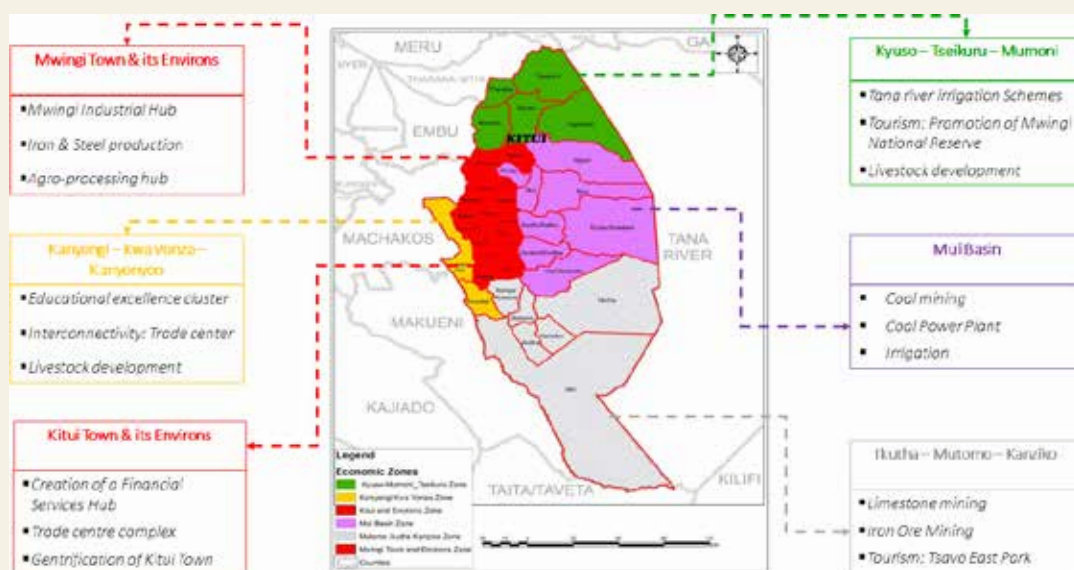


Figure 2: Economic and Investment Zones Map

1.4: County Situation Analysis

Situation Analysis: Economic and Social Sectors

Agriculture and Irrigation: Agriculture is currently the backbone of the economy of Kitui with 83% of the residents deriving their livelihood from this sector. The sector comprises of four sub-sectors namely; food crops, horticulture, livestock, fisheries and bee keeping. Given the huge reliance on agriculture in the County, measures will be put in place for increased involvement of the youth in income generating ventures in Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries sector with emphasises on value addition. The agricultural sector is major contributor to the County's GDP and this is evident by the large number of population in the County engaging in agricultural activities.

According to the Economic Survey, 2015, Agriculture sector output value increased by 15.8% from Kshs 1,459.7bn in 2013 to Kshs 1,690.3 billion in 2014. This is a clear demonstration of the sectors potential. However, the value of marketed production in the sector declined by 5% from Kshs 10.1 billion in 2013 to Kshs 9.6 billion in 2014 mainly on account of lower marketed volumes compared to the previous year. This is a clear demonstration of the huge potential that remains untapped in this sector.

Crop farming in the County is mainly subsistence with the main crops produced being maize, green grams, beans, cow peas, millet and sorghum. As a result of promotion of high value crop production by the National Government, more farmers are venturing into horticultural farming hence boosting income from agriculture. Programs like Agriculture Livestock Support Program (ASDP) continue to turn the sector into an innovative, commercial oriented, competitive and modern industry. It's estimated that in a good season approximately 500,000 hectares of land are put under food crop and 706 hectares put under cash crop. The County has a huge potential for livestock rearing especially if incidences of water scarcity and disease outbreak are adequately curbed. This is also an

area where the County will emphasize value addition. The availability of Tana and Athi Rivers in the County provides a good opportunity to leverage the rivers for irrigation schemes. Such irrigation schemes would ensure food security for the region as well as allow for successful cultivation of cash crops that can be exported to markets across Kenya including export production.

The County has enormous potential for honey production and processing. This potential will be exploited to provide an alternative source of livelihood to farmers and ensure increased income. The current honey production in the zone is 469,806 Kg per annum.

Education, Training and Skills Development: Kitui County has low literacy levels due to high levels of poverty resulting in high school dropout rates, inadequate education facilities, low enrolment and low transition rates. The percentage of population with ability to read and write is 63.2% compared to the national level of 71.4%. The County Government will in close partnership with key stakeholders in this sector intensify the literacy campaign in an effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on universal primary education.

Most of the ECDE centres in the County were inherited from the National Government in a bad state and therefore the County has gone a long way in refurbishing these centres and construction new ones to be able to provide conducive learning environment to learners in the County. Most of the County Wards schools have a teacher pupil ratio of 1:40 compared to the National ratio of 1:57, which is the standard set by the Ministry of Education. This has resulted to pupils getting better learning since teachers have a manageable number of pupils. In addition, the quality of teaching in the County has increased significantly. Provision of the necessary learning materials to the centres has also improved with most ECDE centres being fully equipped and construction of outdoor play equipment's in most of them being done.

Health and Sanitation: Kitui County has 281 health facilities spread across the entire County. A number of these facilities are in deplorable condition and lack adequate equipment, personnel and essential drugs. The doctor population ratio in the County stands at 1:28,130 against WHO recommended ratio of 1:10,000 and a nurse population ratio of 1:2,652 against a recommended ratio of 1:500. The County Government is committed to the expansion and provision of modern health care services in all its health facilities. During the vision period, the County referral hospitals will be equipped with ultra-modern CT scans and dialysis machines. An Intensive care unit, Hospice, Psychiatric unit and Maternity theatres will also be established in the 40 wards.

The five main common diseases in the County are malaria, diarrhoea, Flu and Upper respiratory tract infection. The main causes of morbidity for children under 5 years in the County are: URTI, diarrhoea, skin diseases, intestinal worms, confirmed malaria, and pneumonia. Patients over 5 years of age die due to URTI, skin diseases, confirmed malaria, diarrhoea, URTI, rheumatism and hypertension.

Some of the child indicators such as malnutrition and low immunization coverage in the County are prevalent due to high poverty levels, deep-rooted religious beliefs and ignorance among the people. The infant and child mortality rates in the County are attributed to inaccessible health facilities, inadequate maternity services in the County and high number of deliveries by unskilled birth attendants. Measures will be taken to ensure that maternity services in the County are improved and have functional and well equipped health facilities in the entire County to ensure reduced infant and child mortality rates. Maternal health care services will also be improved in the County to ensure that mothers deliver their babies through skilled birth attendants and in fully functional maternities.

Kitui County latrine coverage is at 55.1% with about 1.6% using VIP toilets. However, some wards in the County have less than 50% latrine coverage. The

County has initiated measures to ensure that the whole County will achieve 100% open defecation free (ODF) status by the end of the plan period.

Water Development and Supply: Kitui County is classified as arid and semi-arid area and receives unreliable rainfall. Similarly surface water sources are very scarce. The major sources of surface water are seasonal rivers that form during the rainy seasons and dry up immediately after the rains. The Athi and Tana Rivers are the only perennial rivers in the County, and form the borders with neighbouring Counties. The seasonal rivers within the County flow in a general north, north-west direction and drain into Tana River. Seasonal rivers include Rivers Nzeeu, Tiva, Mwita Syano and Thua in Kitui while in Mwingi there is Tyaa, Enziu, Kamuwongo, Katse, and Muoo.

The County has several dams and water pans that play a significant role in providing water, such as Kalundu Dam. Most of the dams dry up during the dry season due to the high evaporation. Spring water is generally found on the hilly areas of the County namely: Mutitu, Endau and Mutha hills. There are environmental and water conservation efforts for Mumaki sub-catchment and Matinga dam.

The majority of the population rely on surface and sub-surface dams which often do not hold sufficient water due to low rainfall and high evaporation rates during the dry seasons. The main sources of water in the County include 263 dams, 153 water pans/earth dams, 683 shallow wells, 297 boreholes, 33 protected springs, two permanent rivers namely Tana River and Athi River and 5 unprotected springs. The mean distance to a water source is 4.5 Km and a total of 4,774 households have roof catchment systems to harvest rainwater and the potential to increase this is high. A total of 21,183 households have access to piped water while a total of 92,498 household are able to access portable water.

Transport infrastructure: Transport improvements facilitate the free movement of goods and services as well as access to markets thereby alleviating poverty.

The development and improvement of rural roads raises the profitability of both farm and non-farm activities especially in areas where communities have limited access to transport means. Rural access roads are instrumental and key drivers in improving connectivity and opening up the County to other parts of the Country and facilitating easy movement of goods and people. Improved infrastructure is also a catalyst for other sectors to prosper including enhancing security.

Some of the major roads in the County include the Kibwezi – Kitui – Mwingi – Isiolo road, Kitui – Machakos road and Kitui – Embu road. These are considered critical in improving inter-and intra-county transport and overall connectivity. Kibwezi – Kitui – Mwingi – Isiolo Road provides the link between Mombasa road and the LAPSET Corridor through Kitui County opening the region for businesses and economic opportunities. To improve on road infrastructure including the rural access roads, the County will reach out to key partners including private sector, development partners and the National Government. This will also entail upgrading majority of the rural access roads to all-weather roads status and opening up more feeder roads in the County.

Mining and Mineral Investments: Kitui County is endowed with large deposits of coal in the Mui Coal Basin, which traverses Mwingi Central and Kitui East Sub-Counties. This coal basin is divided into four main blocks, A, B, C and D. Currently there are two prospective investors namely Fenix mining company in block C and D who have already signed concession with the National Government to mine the coal and HCIG energy investment and Liketh investment Kenya Limited in Block A and B. The potential of coal deposits in block C is estimated at 400,000 million metric tonnes of coal that can be exploited for nearly 50 years. These deposits alone have an estimated value of Sh3.4 trillion at current market rates, while the value of the reserves in Blocks A, B and D have yet to be determined.

Limestone has been discovered in large quantities

in the County specifically in Ngaaie, Kanziku and Mathima in Mwingi North, and Kitui South Sub-Counties respectively. The commercial viability of this mineral is expected to spur development and also trigger economic and social changes due to associated activities in this zone.

Iron ore deposits have also been discovered in the zone in Tharaka ward and Ngaaie area Mwingi North Sub County and in Ikutha in Kitui South Sub-County. The County Government in partnership with National Government and other development partners will undertake a feasibility study to ascertain its commercial viability.

The Yatta plateau is characterized by volcanic rock deposits that are suitable for extracting raw materials to be used in the construction industry. Presently, Ballast crushing in the zone is done by small scale miners who lack the capacity to fully utilize the resource abundance in the zone. Most of the ballast used for construction in Kitui town and other towns comes from this zone even though this resource is much underutilized. Other minerals such as gem stone, vermilulite, granite and phonolite, siliminate, gypsum, copper, carbonate and zinc have also been discovered in the County. The commercial viability of these minerals has not yet been ascertained. The County Government will partner with other development partners to undertake a feasibility studies in this area.

Tourism and Hospitality Industry Services: Kitui County is endowed with a number of tourist's attraction sites which are either under exploited or totally unexploited. In order to fully exploit this potential, appropriate strategies including rehabilitation of the tourist sites will be put in place while at the same time rehabilitate the underutilized. Some of these sites include Nzambani rock; Ikoo valley; Ngomeni rock catchment and conservancy parks. Tourism has the potential to contribute heavily to the Economy of the County if appropriate measures are taken to develop this vital sector. Despite the availability of a number of niche products that can be developed and marketed to attract tourists in the County, Tourism remains fairly

underdeveloped. While there have been attempts to fully exploit the County's tourist attraction sites, there still remains a lot to be done if the County is to benefit from its niche products. Some of the niche products will be developed and marketed over the vision period with the aim of spurring growth this vital sector. Some of the underutilized niche products in the zone include; Mwingi North game reserve, South Kitui game reserve, water tourism in the permanent rivers and cultural tourism, among others.

The County has several tourist facilities in the towns of Kitui and Mwingi. Furthermore, the development and promotion of Tsavo and Mwingi North Reserves will encourage investors to develop facilities to cater for the visitors. A tourist circuit featuring these attractions and others such as the Museve Shrines will be developed and promoted to encourage the growth of the tourism sector.

Gender, Youth, Sports, Social Services and Vulnerable Groups: Gender equality is guaranteed by the Constitution of Kenya. However there are still challenges in the County as evidenced in the access to formal employment, credit and financial services, land ownership, education, access to health services, sexual harassment cases, gender based violence, harmful cultural practices and general discrimination.

The County Government is working to promote gender equality and empower women at different levels. In the education sector, the County is providing support to the girl child to access basic pre-primary education and addressing adult literacy rates. In the Finance sector, a number of funds and programmes have been setup to provide additional financial support to uplift the standards of women.

In the Health sector, strategies will be put in place to improve maternal health care and access to skilled health personnel and family planning. Measures will also be put in place to eradicate gender-based violence, reduce the rate of high-risk sex through increased access to safe sex, and rehabilitate, manage and control of commercial sex workers. The County

Administration is also striving to comply with the constitutional requirement on gender balance that women should constitute at least a third of the persons employed in the public sector.

The social services department has put in place mechanisms to respond and address issues of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, children in distress and Gender Based Violence among other issues. The County will therefore facilitate development of a County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy and a County Gender Based Violence Policy and mainstream them to its projects, programmes and activities.

Sporting and cultural activities will be exploited as a vehicle for social integration and economic development. This will include rehabilitation of sports stadia across the County. The County will also facilitate rehabilitation and re-integration of people in conflict prone zones into the society.

The County places attention to people with special needs such as the aged, people living with disabilities (PLWDs) and people living with HIV / AIDS, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), under age mothers and persons living below the poverty line. Strategies will be put in place to address these groups.

Trade, Industry and Commerce: Kitui County has 987 trading centres spread across the County. These centres consist of mainly small-scale retail traders and a few wholesale traders. A total of 8,007 retail traders had been registered by the County Government by 2015. Other forms of trade in the County include open market days that allow trading on specific market days. Trade in the County is promoted through improvement in infrastructure and capacity building of Micro and small enterprises

The industrial base of the County is weak because of the small number of manufacturing industries. Some of the industries include, Kitui flour mill, Kitui cotton Ginnery, Neema multipurpose, Grit industries, Kitui development centre, Chuluni Food Processor, Mwingi tiles industries, Saab Enterprises Ltd, Mwingi Flour

Mill, Mwingi Eco Honey and Mwingi Multipurpose among others. Most of these industries are located in the two urban centres of Kitui and Mwingi.

Information and Communication Technology: The County Government recognizes ICT as a foundation for economic transformation. The County aims to achieve industrial development through innovation where creation, adoption, adaptation and use of knowledge remain the key source of economic growth. ICT is a critical tool for expanding human skills and rests largely on a system of producing, distributing and utilizing information and knowledge that in turn plays a great role in driving productivity and economic prosperity. Currently, the County has more than 70% mobile phone connectivity owing to the lack of base stations in remote locations.

Energy and Electricity reticulation infrastructure: Energy is one of the infrastructural foundations of the three “pillars” of KIVEST. The level and intensity of commercial energy use in a County is a key indicator of the degree of economic growth and development. Kitui is therefore expected to use more energy in the commercial sector in order to achieve her vision. Commercial energy in Kitui is dominated by petroleum and electricity as the prime movers of the modern sector of the economy, while wood fuel provides energy needs of the traditional sector including rural communities and the urban poor. Electricity remains the most sought after energy source by Kitui people and access to electricity is normally associated with rising or high quality of life. Coal from the Mui Basin will mainly be used to support the industrial sector, particularly in the cement industry.

Environment and Natural Resources: To achieve long term and sustainable development in Kitui County, the preservation and conservation of the environment is important. There are two unique dimensions to this aspect namely; conservation of water catchment areas defined by hill tops or ranges and rivers, and secondly, the rehabilitation of mining areas. Some of the hills have forests and vegetation of

medicinal and ornamental value whose preservation will attract interest from local and international partners. Tree species of medicinal and timber value can be harvested and marketed for economic gains. The conservation of hill top areas will prevent soil erosion and improve on the recharging of underground aquifers. The County has several gazetted and un-gazetted forests key among them being; Mutitu, Nthoani, Mumoni, Kakuyu, Kabonge, Imba, and Kwa Vonza among others.

The County has placed emphasis on the conservation of natural resources through the establishment of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) to manage and control use of natural resources in the protected areas. Communities are therefore empowered to take charge of their natural resources for the benefit of all. These benefits are both social and economic.

1.5: Opportunities

Minerals: Kitui County is endowed with over 400 million tons of commercially viable **Coal reserves** with potential for more to be discovered. There exists huge opportunity to exploit the coal through mining, power generation and securitization of coal proceeds. **Limestone and Iron Ore Deposits** have also been discovered in the County especially in Kitui south and Kyuso.

Natural Resource Richness: The availability of precious stones and vast amount of sand in the County will be leveraged to spur economic growth in various sectors. Sand is a key ingredient in the building and construction sector with its demand directly correlated with that of cement. The demand for sand exploitation has increased significantly with the current building boom and infrastructure growth not only in Kitui, but in the region.

Expansive Land Mass: Kitui County is the sixth largest County in Kenya with large tracts of land across the County. This vast land provides a suitable opportunity for commercial ranching.

Water Sources: The County has two permanent rivers, Athi and Tana Rivers which can be harnessed for irrigation. There are several other seasonal rivers in the County that can also be harnessed for small scale irrigation programmes.

Abundant Labour Force: Readily available human resource through a young, educated and vibrant population that can provide both skilled and semi-skilled labour force available for employment opportunities in both formal and informal employment.

Tourism Potential: The County has an abundant array of unutilized and underutilized tourism attraction sites that if tapped have the ability to transform Kitui County into an attractive tourist destination. Conference tourism can also be exploited by investing in conference facilities within the County to make Kitui County a top conference tourism destination for

national and international conferences.

Commercial and financial hub: Kitui County will leverage on Kitui and Mwingi towns to become commercial and financial services hub that will support the other economic zones. The towns are expected to grow into commercial and financial services hubs that will promote business and entrepreneurship. This will ultimately create jobs as well as facilitate economic growth and development in the zone and the County at large.

Transit city: The County is well positioned to develop into a transit city given its location near the LAPSET corridor as well as its position along the Garissa – Mwingi – Thika highway. The County is also strategically located to serve as a link to the other regions of the country.

CHAPTER TWO:

FOUNDATIONS FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

2.0 Introduction

The realization of the desired Economic and social transformation envisaged in the Kitui Vision 2025 requires that the Economic pillar, the Social pillar and the Governance pillar be firmly anchored on the following eight (8) foundations: infrastructure development, information and communication technology, Land reforms and management, Security and peace building, Equity, ethics and community cohesion, Human resources development, Science, technology and innovation and County Public service delivery.

2.1 Infrastructure Development

Transport infrastructure

Introduction

Transport improvements facilitate the free movement of goods and services as well as access to markets thereby alleviating poverty. The development and improvement of rural roads raises the profitability of both farm and non-farm activities especially in areas where communities have limited access to transport means. Rural access roads are instrumental and key drivers in improving connectivity and opening up the County to other parts of the Country and facilitating easy movement of goods and people. Improved infrastructure is also a catalyst for other sectors to prosper.

Situation analysis

Effective modes of transport, including quality roads, railroads, ports, and air transport, enable entrepreneurs to get their goods and services to market in a secure and timely manner and facilitate the movement of people. For the County to realize its goal of ensuring a high quality of life for all the citizens by 2025 there will be heavy investments directed towards development of an effective transport system.

With a road network that has been neglected over the years, there is dire need to improve accessibility and connectivity across the County. This will involve

upgrading of the rural access roads to all-weather roads status and opening up of more feeder roads in the County. Some of the major roads to be upgraded and which link the County with its neighbours are; Kibwezi – Kitui – Mwingi – Isiolo highway, Kitui – Machakos road and Kitui – Embu road which are critical in improving inter- and intra-county transport and connectivity. Kibwezi – Kitui – Mwingi – Isiolo Road will link Mombasa road to LAPSSET Corridor through Kitui County, thereby opening the region for businesses and economic opportunities.

The LAPSSET is the first single gigantic, integrated, transformative and game-changer infrastructure Project the Government has initiated and prepared as a Vision 2030 flagship project. This project has seven components namely: Lamu port, Railway line, Highway, Crude Oil Pipeline, Product Oil Refinery, Resort Cities and Airports. Project studies that were completed in 2011 on the LAPSSET Corridor project components showed great economic viability with most of the project components registering High Economic Internal Rates of Return of between 17% and 23.4% compared to acceptable industry minimum standard of 10% for infrastructure project. The project therefore presents a great opportunity to connect the County to the rest of the Country and the world at large and an avenue for easing movement of goods and people to the national and global markets.

A well-developed transport systems that is efficient, will provide economic and social opportunities and benefits that impact throughout the economy of Kitui County.

▪ Roads infrastructure

The County has a total of 250.28 km of bitumen roads, 5,585.98 km of gravel/earth surface roads. It has one Class A road passing through the County, the A3 Thika-Garissa-Somalia border (Liboi) 556km road. Most of the

County roads are in poor condition and are impassable during the rainy season. An efficient and reliable transport system is therefore vital for the growth of the economy of the County. The poor road network hinders development of market centres, schools, health facilities and hinders delivery of agricultural produce to the markets. Poorly developed and inadequately maintained road network hampers economic activity especially during the rainy season. A number of these roads in the County pass through rivers and have no permanent bridges and drifts, thereby restricting free movement and transportation of goods and people to their destination. The economic and social costs arising from this poor state of the roads are quite high and a big burden to the economy of the County due to the spiral effects to the other sectors and especially the agricultural sector.

▪ **Rail infrastructure**

Though the County currently has no railway line, the County will in future benefit from this form of transportation when the standard gauge railway is complete. This will be due to the proposed T-Junction from Kibwezi to Mui basin.

▪ **Air infrastructure**

Kitui County has three airstrips namely; Ithookwe, Tseikuru and Mutomo airstrips. The main challenge with these airstrips has been lack of maintenance and encroachment that has left them in deplorable conditions and unused since they pose a danger to landing aircrafts. Additionally, the small sized runways cannot accommodate large aircrafts and thus no capacity to accommodate commercial planes. Plans are underway to re-develop Ithookwe airstrip to accommodate medium size commercial planes. It is envisioned that the airstrip will play a crucial role once mining of mineral resources in the County starts. Another similar airstrip is proposed to be constructed in Mwingi town because of the coal mining activities set to begin in Mui basin.

Goal for 2025

- Upgrade approximately 500km of County roads to all-weather standards in addition to rehabilitating of rural access roads in the County.

Strategies to achieve the goals

- Develop and implement road sector specific investment plans;
- Purchase Machinery and Equipment (graders, rollers) instead of contracting the projects to contractors. This will cut cost and improve efficiency;
- Partner with the private sector, National Government, NGOs and other stakeholders in road development, maintenance and rehabilitation including drifts, culverts, Bridges and road furniture; and
- Post construction monitoring and evaluation including non-destructive testing.
- Re-develop and expand the capacity of existing airstrips and build a new one

Energy and Electricity reticulation infrastructure Introduction

Energy is one of the foundations of the three “pillars” of KIVEST. The level and intensity of commercial energy use in a County is a key indicator of the degree of economic growth and development. Kitui is therefore expected to use more energy in the commercial sector in order to achieve her vision. As incomes increase and urbanization intensifies, household demand for energy will also rise. Commercial energy in Kitui is dominated by petroleum and electricity as the prime movers of the modern sector of the economy, while wood fuel provides energy needs of the traditional sector including rural communities and the urban poor. Electricity remains the most sought after energy source by Kitui people and access to electricity is normally associated with rising or high quality of life.

Coal is mainly used in the industrial sector, particularly in the cement industry for process heat. The Mui Coal deposits will be used in the generation of energy for industrial and domestic use. The following Table shows the power connectivity percentages across the County:

Table 1: Kitui County Power Connectivity

Electricity Connectivity across the County				
Public facilities	with electricity	without electricity	total	% coverage
Trading centres	390	597	987	39.51
Secondary schools	162	183	345	46.96
Health facilities	93	188	281	33.10
Total	645	968	1,613	39.99

Goals for 2025

- Accelerate on going energy infrastructure development, and improving connectivity by raising the County Connectivity to above 75% by 2025.
- Support the investment in renewable energy production such as solar and wind energy

Strategies to achieve the goals

- Partnership with REA to ensure many of the locations and institutions are connected to the national grid.
- Partner with private sector and investors to tap renewable energy sources in the County.

Transport Sector Flagship projects

Transport infrastructure is expected to play a pivotal role in the growth of the County, especially in opening up the area for investments. The County Government in collaboration with the relevant partners is keen to implement the following flagship projects geared towards improving transport infrastructure.

EIZ 001: Kyuso -Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Roads Expansion Programme:the programme aims at enhancing intra and inter-County trade as well as trade with other Counties. The target is to construct and rehabilitate major access roads within the zone to enhance connectivity and improve accessibility. To achieve this goal, the following projects will be implemented;

Rehabilitation and upgrading of Kandwia-Katse-Irira-Mbeere road: The road will connect the zone to the neighbouring Embu County and present the zone with alternative markets.

*Rehabilitation and upgrading of Kamuongo-Kandwia-Kyuso-Tseikuru-Tharaka road:*The road will connect the zone to the neighbouring Tharaka and Meru Counties and present the zone with alternative markets

Rehabilitation, maintenance and upgrading of Tseikuru airstrip:The improvement and upgrading of the Tseikuru airstrip will offer travellers to and from the zone with fast travel arrangements using light aircraft. The airstrip is expected to boost tourism in the area which is home to the Mwingi North Game Reserve. Furthermore, Air travel offers an alternative transport mode and potentially reduces exposure to safety issues on roads. Managing the airstrip facilities will create employment opportunities to the local population and many economic benefits arising from the demand of local goods and services.

Road and bridge construction: Transportation infrastructure is essential to promoting the growth and development of the economic zone and County. The construction to all-weather standards of the Tharaka – Kyuso – Mwingi road linking the zone to the A3 Thika – Garissa highway will open up the region and offer farmers access to markets in Mwingi, Thika, Garissa and Nairobi. Other important link road is the Tseikuru-Mumoni-Mwingi road. Better access to markets through road improvement will spur agricultural development along the Tana River irrigated areas and other designated irrigation development zones in the economic zone. The all-weather road will be

important infrastructure for the limestone mining and processing venture at Mimindi area. The development of a bridge over Tana River linking Kitui County with the neighbouring Meru and Embu will create new markets and trading opportunities between the areas which have unique comparative advantages.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Roads Expansion Programme: The programme aims at enhancing intra- and inter County trade as well as trade with other Counties. The target is to construct and rehabilitate major access roads within the zone to enhance connectivity. To achieve this goal, the following projects will be implemented;

Rehabilitation and upgrading of Ikutha-Mutha-Voo-Nzombe-Mui road: This is a loop road connecting the Zone to the neighbouring Mutomo-Ikutha Kanziko zone. The road will be extended to Kanyangi - Kanyonyo - Kwa Vonza zone and onward to Kitui town headquarter zone to complete the loop. The road is expected to play a major role in enhancing connectivity, security and promoting trade linkages.

Rehabilitation, maintenance and upgrading of Mui Basin airstrip: During the plan period, the Mui basin airstrip will be rehabilitated and eventually upgraded to facilitate air travel to and from the zone especially of expatriates and other investors. A long runway will also attract commercial flights to the regions given the large number of persons employed in the mining industry. Air travel will enable quick evacuation of injured or sick personnel involved in mining.

Rail transport: the zone is set to benefit from the ongoing construction of the standard gauge railway (SGR) by the National Government. The transportation of coal to be mined from the zone will only be economically transported via rail and this sits well with the proposed T-Junction of the SGR at Kibwezi town via Mutomo and onwards to Mui.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Construction, expansion, rehabilitation and maintenance of town roads: As Mwingi town is growing there is need to expand the existing town roads. In this regard, the roads in the town will be expanded and tarmacked to accommodate more traffic while the town roads linking to the estates will be rehabilitated and where none exists, new ones will be constructed. The following projects will be implemented during the vision period:-

Mwingi town Bus and Lorry Park: Mwingi town is a major commercial and transport hub serving Kitui and neighbouring Counties in North Eastern Province. The town has a vibrant commercial and service sector which is expected to grow with increased trade and mining in the Mui basin. Part of the economic zone has coal deposits which are of commercial value. The construction of a modern bus and lorry park will benefit passengers and vehicle operators in addition to providing a secure and regulated transportation environment.

Construction, expansion, rehabilitation and maintenance of Intra County link roads: Kitui County being the sixth largest County in the Country will be crucial to ensure that roads links within the County are accessible. Therefore the intra County link roads that link the Mwingi town economic and investment zone to the other economic and investment zones will be rehabilitated and expanded. These roads include: Mwingi-Kabati-Kitui road, Mwingi, Mui-Voo-Mutha-kanziko-Ikutha road and Mwingi-Mui-Mutito

Road and bridges construction: To enhance trade, communication and connectivity with other Counties, Kitui County Government in partnership with Embu County Government will construct a bridge across Kiromboko river connecting to Embu County

Rehabilitation and expansion of Mwingi airstrip: This airstrip will be rehabilitated and expanded to be

able to accommodate medium sized airplanes and ultimately enhance connectivity.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Construction, expansion, rehabilitation and maintenance of town roads: The construction of link roads, loop roads and by-passes within the Kitui town and environs will ensure efficient traffic movement in this area with high commercial and service industry activities. The development of the road network is a key attraction to investors eyeing opportunities in the County. The following projects will be implemented during the vision period:-

Kitui town Bus and Lorry Park: The County Government will develop a bus and lorry park in Kitui town that will benefit passengers and vehicle operators in addition to providing a secure and regulated transportation environment

Construction, expansion, rehabilitation and maintenance of intra County link roads: The County will rehabilitate and expand the intra County link to link Kitui County headquarter and its environs economic and investment zone to the other economic and investment zones. These roads include:

- Kitui-Miambani-Mwingi road,
- Kalundu-kasyala-Migwani-Mwingi road
- Kiongwe-Miambani-Mwingi
- Kitui Nzambani Mui basin road
- Kitui- Museve-Miambani-Mikuyuni road
- Katutu-SEKU-Kwa Vonza road
- Syongila-Matinyani-Kyaani-Muthale Kwa Siku-Mwingi road

Rehabilitation and expansion of Ithookwe airstrip:

The airstrip will be rehabilitated and expanded to be able to accommodate medium sized airplanes and to improve connectivity in the region.

EIZ 005 : Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Kanyoonyo-Kwa Vonza-Kanyangi-Ikutha road:

This part of the loop road connecting the Zone to the neighbouring Mutomo-Ikutha Kanziko zone. The road will be extended to Mui basin zone and onward to Kitui town headquarter zone to complete the loop. The road is expected to play a major role in enhancing connectivity and security.

Roads Expansion Programme:The programme will aim at primarily enhancing intra-County trade, inter-County trade as well as trade with other Counties. The target is to construct and rehabilitate major and access roads within the zone to ensure connectivity within the zone is enhanced.

EIZ 006 : Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Roads Expansion Programme:The programme aim at primarily enhancing intra and inter-County trade as well as trade with other Counties. The target is to construct and rehabilitate major access roads within the zone to enhance connectivity within the zone. To achieve this goal, the following projects will be implemented;

Kibwezi- Kitui-Mwingi-Isiolo Highway

Development:The improvement to all weather standards of the Kibwezi-Kitui-Mwingi-Isiolo highway will specifically support the proposed agricultural and mining activities in the area. The highway will open the area and provide markets both in and outside the Country. The highway is also part of the proposed network of roads aimed at serving the entire County to improve communication and development.

Ikutha-Kanziko-Mutha-Voo-Zombe-Mui and Ikutha-Kanyangi-kwa Vonza roads: The roads are part of the loop road connecting the Zone to the

neighbouring Mui basin Zone and the Kyangi-Kwa Vonza Kanyoonyo zone. The road will be extended to Kitui town headquarter zone and connect to Mui basin Zone to complete the loop. The road is expected to play a major role in enhancing connectivity.

Rehabilitation and upgrading of Mutomo airstrip:

The improvement and upgrading of the Mutomo airstrip will offer investors to and from the zone with fast travel arrangements using light aircraft. The airstrip is likely to boost the tourism in the area, which is close to the Tsavo East National Park. Air travel offers an alternative transport mode and potentially reduces exposure to safety issues on roads.

Managing the airstrip facilities will create employment opportunities to the local population and many economic benefits arising from the demand of local goods and services. Air travel will be important for the growth of the agricultural sectors especially concerning logistics for highly perishable goods.

Rail transport: The zone is set to benefit from the ongoing construction of the standard gauge railway (SGR) by the national government. The transportation of Limestone and Iron ore to be mined from the zone will only be economically transported via rail and this sits well with the proposed T-Junction of the SGR at Kibwezi town via Mutomo and onwards to Mui.

Other projects to be implemented over the plan period

Construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of roads: The County Government will over the plan period partner with key stakeholders to continue with the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of access roads targeting 100km per ward every financial year.

Construction of bridges and drifts: Road bridges and drifts will be constructed over all seasonal rivers across the six zones by the end of the vision period.

Roads safety intervention: The County Government will ensure well placed safety measures along the major roads targeting 52 major roads by 2018 and all the remaining major roads by the end of the vision period

ENERGY SECTOR FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

The County Government of Kitui is keen to expand the energy infrastructure network in the County. Over the plan period, the Government will expand the energy network while at the same time promoting development and use of renewable energy sources to create a reliable, adequate and cost effective energy supply to support the envisaged industrial take off in the County. The following flagship projects will be implemented in the County in different zones;

EIZ 001: Kyuso-Tseikuru-Mumoni Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Increasing Electricity Access: Over the Vision period, measures will be put in place to increase electricity access and connections in the zone by extending power transmission lines. This will be achieved mainly through the Rural Electrification Authority (REA). The programme will target public facilities such as trading centres, schools and health facilities among others and the coal mining zone. The target for the Vision period is to achieve at least 75% connectivity in the zone.

Renewable energy: Partnership to utilize large tracts of land in the Zone to create solar farms, generating clean energy for the industrial zone as well as to be sold into the national grid. During the vision period, the targeted areas include Ngomeni and Mumoni for wind energy and Tharaka and Tseikuru for solar energy

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Increasing Electricity Access: Over the plan period, measures will be put in place to increase electricity access and connectivity in the zone by extending power transmission lines. This will be achieved mainly through working in partnership with the REA. The

programme will target public facilities such as trading centres, schools and health facilities among others and the coal mining zone. The target for the Vision period is to achieve at least 75% connectivity in the zone.

Coal powered power plant: Coal is globally recognized as a reliable and affordable source of energy. The National Government has embarked on an ambitious programme of increasing Kenya's existing power generation capacity from 1,664 MW to 5,000+ MW by 2017 to accelerate growth, which is expected to push Kenya's power demand up to 15,000 MW by 2030. As part of this grand plan, the Ministry of Energy is seeking private investors to build a second coal-fired power plant Mui Basin to generate 960 megawatts (MW), whose construction is expected to commence in December 2016. Coal is a low-cost source of energy, and will produce electricity at four times cheaper than the country's current power generation sources. This project presents a big opportunity to the County to enhance its competitiveness and attracting private firms to relocate to the basin.

Renewable energy: The County will enter into partnerships to utilize large tracts of land in Mui Basin Zone to create solar farms, generate clean energy for the industrial zone as well as sell any excess to the national grid. As part of the rehabilitation efforts solar farms will be established in areas where coal has been fully mined. This is one way of putting formerly mined areas into constructive use which will benefit the communities and County through revenue earning and supply of green renewable energy.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Increasing electricity Access: The County Government in partnership with REA targets to increase electricity connection within the Vision period in all market centres, schools and health facilities within the zone. The target for the Vision period is to achieve at least 75% connectivity in the zone.

Renewable energy: With the rising cost of hydroelectric power, the use of cheaper, clean and reliable sources of energy will be promoted. The County will therefore develop strategies to harness the potential of the zone through generation of solar and wind power.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Increasing electricity Access: The County Government in partnership with REA targets to increase electricity connection within the vision period in all market centres, schools and health facilities within the zone. The target for the Vision period is to achieve at least 75% connectivity in the zone.

Renewable energy: Coal will offer a cheaper and reliable source of energy. The County will Strategies will therefore be developed to harness the potential of the zone through generation of solar and wind power. The County Government will enter into partnership with stakeholders to utilize large tracts of land in the zone to establish solar and wind farms, generating clean energy for the industrial zone as well as to be sold into the national grid.

Upgrading of Kenya power sub-stations to curb power outages: Electric power is one of the key drivers of growth as it supports industrial and commercial development. Due to the frequent power outages experienced within the zone the County Government will partner with the Kenya Power to upgrade its power station to ensure that the outages are the minimal. This will make the zone attractive for investments.

EIZ 005: Kanyangi -Kanyonyoo-Kwa Vonza Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Increasing Electricity Access: Over the Vision period, measures will be put in place to increase electricity

access in the zone by extending power transmission lines. This will be achieved mainly through partnership with the REA. The programme will target public facilities such as Universities, trading centres, schools and health facilities among others. The target for the Vision period is to achieve at least 75% connectivity in the zone.

Renewable energy: The zone harbours enormous potential for both Wind and solar energy. Over the Vision period, the County Government will be seeking investors in the renewable energy sector. In this regard, the County will develop an incentive framework to facilitate private sector participation in the sector. Renewable energy will prove vital when the uptake of energy increases due to increased mining

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Increasing Electricity Access: Over the Vision period, measures will be put in place to increase electricity access and connectivity in the zone by extending power transmission lines. This will be achieved mainly through partnership with REA. The programme will target public facilities namely: trading centres, schools and health facilities among others and the limestone and iron ore Mining areas. The target for the Vision period is to achieve at least 75% connectivity in the zone.

Renewable energy: The zone harbours enormous potential for both Wind and solar energy. In this regard, the County will develop an incentive framework to facilitate private sector participation in the sector. Renewable energy will prove vital when the uptake of energy increases due to increased mining activities and influx of people

2.3 Information and Communication Technology Introduction

The County Government recognizes ICT as a foundation for economic and social transformation. The County aims to achieve industrial development through innovation where creation, adoption,

adaptation and use of knowledge remain the key source of economic growth. ICT is a critical tool for expanding human skills and rests largely on a system of producing, distributing and utilizing information and knowledge that in turn plays a great role in driving productivity and economic prosperity.

Goal for 2025

- Integrate ICT tools in County Government functions and enhance communication network to above 75% coverage through erection of Base Transmission Stations (BTS) in all six (6) economic and investment zones.

Strategiesto achieve the goal

The County Government will use the following strategies in order to achieve the goal for the ICT Sector;

- Development of a County ICT master plan;
- Develop adequate human capacity for research and development in ICT and the film industry;
- Enhance legislation for better exploitation of ICT in commerce and entertainment with adequate safeguards against crime and ICT media abuse;
- Decentralize ICT coordination structures leading to faster implementation of automated systems, duplication and implementation of ICT innovations;
- Quicken adoption of ICT services by learning, social and Government institutions;
- Incorporation of ICT cabling in new building designs;
- Harmonize data management system;
- Construct adequate information resource centers in the all the sub counties;
- Promote ICT skills; and
- Adequate supply of affordable and uninterrupted power supply.

ICT Sector Flagship projects

The County Government recognizes ICT as a key foundation and enabler of Economic transformation. To ensure that the use of ICT is well spread in the County, the following flagship projects will be implemented.

EIZ 001: Kyuso-Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Automation of County Government services: The County Government will improve delivery of services through adoption and deployment of cutting edge technology and ICT infrastructure. In this regard, the systems will be developed and implemented. These are; land information systems, County Government data centres, e-revenue, LAIFOMs and Computer Aided Audit tools (CAATs).

Establishment of an ICT hub in the zone: During the Vision period an ICT hub will be developed in the zone to promote innovation. This will be realised through empowering the youths with the necessary training and work experience to develop market-ready ICT services and products.

Enhancing mobile connectivity: mobile connectivity will be crucial if the zone is going to take off as an industrial zone. The County Government will continue to lobby mobile providers to partnership and to ensure that by 2025 the zone boasts between at least 75% mobile network coverage.

ICT Master Plan: An ICT master plan will be developed for the zone to facilitate creation of an enabling environment that provides e-Government services that are convenient for citizens and business.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Automation of County Government services: The delivery of services will be improved through adoption and deployment of cutting edge technology and ICT infrastructure. In this regard, the systems will be developed and implemented. These are; land information systems, County Government data centres, e-revenue, LAIFOMs and Computer Aided Audit tools (CAATs).

Establishment of an ICT hub in Mui basin zone: The County Government will in the Vision period develop an ICT hub in the zone to encourage innovation. This will be realised through empowering the youths with the necessary training and work experience to develop market-ready ICT services and products;

Enhancing mobile connectivity: Mobile connectivity will be crucial if the zone is going to take off as an industrial zone. The County Government will establish sustainable partnerships with mobile providers to increase mobile network coverage to at least 75% by 2025.

Upgrading Zombe polytechnic to a middle level tertiary institute offering ICT courses: The Zombe polytechnic will be rehabilitated and upgraded to offer ICT related courses while at the same time other polytechnics and secondary schools will be equipped with ICT equipment.

ICT Master Plan: An ICT master plan will be developed for the zone to facilitate creation of an enabling environment that provides e-Government services that are convenient for citizens and business.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Laying of Fibre optic cable: As the Mwingi town transforms into a commercial hub there is need to deploy fast, reliable and efficient internet connectivity. To ensure a reliable connection the town will be connected to the fibre optic cable.

Automation of County services: To have an efficient and effective County public service the County Government will automate its services to ensure its citizens are able to access their service in a fast, easy and in a convenient way. This will be achieved through development and implementation of E- Government systems and initiatives such as e-revenue, LAIFOMS (local authority information management systems),

Computer aided audit tools (CAAT), land information systems and County Government data centres.

Enhancing mobile connectivity: Mobile connectivity will be crucial if the zone is going to take off as an industrial zone. The County Government will establish sustainable partnerships with mobile providers to increase mobile network coverage to at least 75% by 2025.

Establishment of ICT hubs in Mwingi town: To promote the development of ICT in the County ICT incubation hubs with high speed internet connectivity will be established as Centres for innovation of ICT market- ready services and products.

EIZ 004: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

ICT Master Plan: An ICT master plan will be developed for the County to facilitate creation of an enabling environment that provides e-Government services that are convenient for citizens and business. The Master plan will provide a solid foundation and an enabling environment to increase the productivity, efficiency and effectiveness of critical economic sectors that will stimulate the growth of ICT related business to enhance employment creation, enable and scale up ICT innovation.

Laying of Fibre optic cable: The town will be connected to a reliable fibre optic cable to support the commercial and financial services provision.

Automation of County services: To have an efficient and effective County public service the County Government will automate its services to ensure its citizens are able to access their service in a fast, easy and in a convenient way. This will be achieved through implementation of E- Government systems and initiatives such as e-revenue, LAIFOMS (local authority information management systems), Computer aided audit tools (CAAT), land information systems and County Government data centres.

Establishment of ICT hubs in Kitui County HQ and its environs: To promote the development of ICT in the County ICT incubation hubs with high-speed Internet connectivity will be established as Centres for innovation of ICT market- ready services and products.

Enhancing mobile connectivity: Mobile connectivity will be crucial if the zone is going to take off as an industrial zone. The County Government will establish sustainable partnerships with mobile providers to increase mobile network coverage to at least 75% by 2025.

ICT Master Plan: An ICT master plan will be developed for the zone to facilitate creation of an enabling environment that provides e-Government services that are convenient for citizens and business.

EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Automation of County Government services: The County Government will improve delivery of services through adoption and deployment of cutting edge technology and ICT infrastructure. In this regard, the following systems will be implemented; land information systems, County Government data centres, e-revenue, LAIFOMS and Computer Aided Audit tools (CAATs).

Establishment of an ICT hub in Kwa Vonza zone: An ICT hub will be established in the zone to encourage innovation. This will be realised through empowering the youths with the necessary training and work experience to develop market-ready ICT services and products;

Enhancing mobile connectivity: Mobile connectivity will be crucial if the zone is going to take off as an industrial zone. The County Government will establish sustainable partnerships with mobile providers to increase mobile network coverage to at least 75% by 2025.

Fibre optic cable infrastructure: Extending of the fibre optic cable infrastructure to the zone will ensure high speed internet availability to the ICT hub, Universities and other public institutions.

ICT Master Plan: An ICT master plan will be developed for the zone to facilitate creation of an enabling environment that provides e-Government services that are convenient for citizens and business.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Automation of County Government services: The County Government will improve delivery of services through adoption and deployment of cutting edge technology and ICT infrastructure. In this regard, the systems will be implemented: land information systems, County Government data centres, e-revenue, LAIFOMs and Computer Aided Audit tools (CAATs).

Establishment of an ICT hub in Mutomo basin zone: An ICT hub will be developed in the zone to encourage innovation. This will be possible realised empowering the youths with the necessary training and work experience to develop market-ready ICT services and products;

Enhancing mobile connectivity: Mobile connectivity will be crucial if the zone is going to take off as an industrial zone. The County Government will establish sustainable partnerships with mobile providers to increase mobile network coverage to at least 75% by 2025.

Fibre optic cable infrastructure: Extending of the fibre optic cable infrastructure to the zone will ensure high speed internet availability to the businesses and public institutions.

ICT Master Plan: An ICT master plan will be developed for the County to facilitate creation of an enabling environment for e-Government services that are convenient for citizens and business.

Other projects and programmes to be implemented over the plan period

Establishment of County radio station: The County Government will facilitate setting up of a County radio station to increase awareness to the residents across the six zones

2.4 Land Reforms and Management Introduction

Kitui County has a total land area of 30,496.5 km² of which 14,137.2 km² is arable agricultural land while 6,364.4km² is non-arable land. The County is predominantly a rural area. There are six major towns/ emerging urban centres in the County namely Kitui, Mwingi, Kabati, Mutomo, Kwa Vonza and Migwani. Many of the residents in the County lack land ownership documents. Without titles, land owners are constrained with regards to securing investment loans from banks and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs). Only about 17% of land owners in the County have title deeds.

Goal for 2025

- To provide security of land tenure through issuance of land title deeds to more than 50% of land owners in the County.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Facilitate issuance of title deeds to all land owners;
- Prepare the Kitui County spatial plan as well as Urban development plans to regulate land-use and resources across the County;
- Land adjudication and titling program; and
- Establishment of county lands management boards.

LAND SECTOR FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

Land is an important factor of production. The Constitution of Kenya and the National Land Commission Act No 5 of 2012 provides for establishment of County Land Management Boards to facilitate Management and Administration of land on behalf of the National Land Commission. To provide

adequate support for the realization of the Vision, the following flagship programmes will be implemented.

EIZ OO1: Kyuso- Mumoni -Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Land adjudication and titling programme: Many land owners in the economic zone lack ownership documents for their land. The facilitation of secure tenure through titling and registration through the National Government structures is an important economic and social development dynamic. It is important that the County and National Governments ensure that land owners within the economic zone are provided with land ownership documents which they can use to secure loans for development. Title ownership will spur economic growth as residents will be able to freely invest in agribusiness as well as access credit with land as collateral. As a factor of production, land provides the foundation for all other economic activities such as agriculture and mining. The County Government will provide adequate facilitation to the County Land Management Board, fast track surveying of land and support the adjudication process of land by the National Lands Commission.

Land information systems: To speed up land transactions, increase land revenue and discourage corruption, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Land Information System will be put in place. County Spatial Data Infrastructure will also be put in place to facilitate the management of geo-spatial information relating to land.

Land and boundary disputes resolution programme: land dispute especially along the border disrupts economic activity and contribute to poverty especially for those affected. The County Government will engage communities, neighbouring Tana River County Government and the National Government agencies to ensure these disputes are resolved amicably.

EIZ OO2: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Land adjudication and titling programme: Many land owners in the economic zone lack ownership documents for their land. The facilitation of secure tenure through titling and registration through the National Government structures is an important economic and social development dynamic. It is important that the County and National Governments ensure that land owners within the economic zone are provided with land ownership documents which they can use to secure loans for development. Title ownership will spur economic growth as residents will be able to freely invest in agribusiness as well as access credit with land as collateral. As a factor of production, land provides the foundation for all other economic activities such as agriculture and mining. The County Government will provide adequate facilitation to the County Land Management Board, fast track surveying of land and support the adjudication process of land by the national lands commission.

Community resettlement scheme: Land to resettle communities displaced by the coal mining activity will offer the recipients an opportunity to formally own and utilize the land effectively. The County will therefore provide cost effective social and physical infrastructure services to planned settlements.

Land information systems: To speed up land transactions, increase land revenue and discourage corruption, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Land Information System will be put in place. County Spatial Data Infrastructure will also be put in place to facilitate the management of geo-spatial information relating to land.

Land and boundary disputes resolution programme: Land dispute especially along the border disrupts economic activity and contribute to poverty especially for those affected. The County Government will engage communities, neighbouring Tana River County

Government and the National Government agencies to ensure these disputes are resolved amicably

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Land adjudication and titling: The County Government will ensure that proper land adjudication and titling of land within the zone is done. The County and National Governments will ensure that land owners within the economic zone are provided with land ownership documents which they can use to secure loans for development. Title ownership will spur economic growth as residents will be able to freely invest in agribusiness as well as access credit with land as collateral.

Land information systems: Proper lands record shall be kept in a safe and convenient environment. To speed up land transactions, increase land revenue and discourage corruption, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Land Information System will be developed and implemented.

Resettlement programme: As Mwingi town grows into an industrial and commercial hub the town will expand into people homesteads. The County Government will have a resettlement program in the zone to ensure that those people who will be affected by the town's growth will be resettled.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Land adjudication and titling: The County Government will ensure that proper land adjudication and titling of land within the zone is done. The County and National Governments will ensure that land owners within the economic zone are provided with land ownership documents which they can use to secure loans for development. Title ownership will spur economic growth as residents will be able to freely invest in agribusiness as well as access credit with land as collateral.

Land information systems: Proper lands record should be kept in a safe and convenient environment. To speed up land transactions, increase land revenue and discourage corruption, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Land Information System will be developed and implemented.

Resettlement programme: As Kitui town grows into a financial and commercial hub the town will expand into people homesteads. The County Government will develop a resettlement program in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders in the zone to ensure that those people who will be affected by the town's growth will be resettled.

EIZ 005: Kanyangi --Kwa Vonza- Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Land adjudication and titling programme: Many land owners in the Kanyangi-Kanyonyoo-Kwa Vonza Zone lack ownership documents for their land. The facilitation of secure tenure through titling and registration through the National Government structures is an important economic and social development dynamic. It is important that the County and National Governments ensure that land owners within the economic zone are provided with land ownership documents which they can use to secure loans for development.

Title ownership will spur economic growth as residents will be able to freely invest in agribusiness as well as access credit with land as collateral. As a factor of production, land provides the foundation for all other economic activities such as agriculture and mining. The County Government will provide adequate facilitation to the County Land Management Board, fast track surveying of land and support the adjudication process of land by the National Land Commission.

Land information systems: To speed up land transactions, increase land revenue and discourage corruption, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-

based Land Information System will be developed and fully operationalised. County Spatial Data Infrastructure will also be put in place to facilitate the management of geo-spatial information relating to land.

Land disputes resolution programme: Land dispute especially among the community members disrupts economic activity and contribute to poverty especially for those affected. The County Government will engage the local community and the National Government agencies to ensure these disputes are resolved amicably.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Land adjudication and titling programme: Many land owners in the Mutomo-Ikutha-Kanziko Economic and Investment zone lack ownership documents for their land. The facilitation of secure tenure through titling and registration through the National Government structures is an important economic and social development dynamic. It is important that the County and National Governments ensure that land owners within the economic zone are provided with land ownership documents which they can use to secure loans for development. Title ownership will spur economic growth as residents will be able to freely invest in agribusiness as well as access credit with land as collateral. As a factor of production, land provides the foundation for all other economic activities such as agriculture and mining. The County Government will provide adequate facilitation to the County Land Management Board, fast track surveying of land and support the adjudication process of land by the National Lands Commission.

Community resettlement scheme: Land to resettle communities displaced by the Limestone and Iron ore mining activities will offer the recipients a chance to formally own and utilize the land effectively. It is cost effective to provide social and physical infrastructure services to planned settlements.

Land information systems: To speed up land transactions, increase land revenue and discourage corruption, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Land Information System will be developed and implemented. County Spatial Data Infrastructure will also be put in place to facilitate the management of geo-spatial information relating to land.

Land and boundary disputes resolution programme: land dispute especially along the border disrupts economic activity and contribute to poverty especially for those affected. The County Government will engage communities, neighbouring Tana River County Government and the National Government agencies to ensure these disputes are resolved amicably.

2.5 Security and Peace Building

Introduction

Kitui County has in recent past experienced resource-based conflicts along the grazing corridors of the border side of Tana River Counties. This poses a security threat and disrupts social economic activities. Under the Constitution of Kenya, the National Government retained control over certain core functions, including security and education. In particular, the constitution is explicit that security is the mandate of the National Government. Nevertheless, devolution has introduced new variables to the processes that generate security and insecurity as well as to the management of security in general.

The County Government is however tasked with several roles including; the control and regulation of alcohol, drugs, pornography, transport, public nuisances, trade development, traffic management, street lighting and health. The Kitui County Policing Authority (CPA), which was created by the National Police Service Act, is part of the devolved structures of policing, and an important interface between Counties, communities and the National Police Service. The CPA is chaired by the Governor and incorporates community representatives and is responsible for monitoring trends and patterns of crime, developing proposals on security priorities, objectives and targets

for police performance, monitoring progress and achievements, overseeing and promoting community policing initiatives, facilitating public participation and providing financial oversight for the budget for policing within the County.

Goal for 2025

To provide security for the population and property, ensure democratic governance, and enabling environment for the public including investors

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Recruitment and deployment of more security personnel in hotspot areas;
- Mapping of insecurity hotspots and the deployment of adequate security personnel;
- Community policing and collaboration with the security organs; and

Installation of street and flood lights in major commercial and residential areas. Creating employment and sports opportunities for the youth to keep them busy.

Security Sector Flagships Projects

The Constitution guarantees security of people and their property as well as people's fundamental freedoms and rights. Security and peace are therefore fundamental tenets in achieving the desired socio-economic transformation of the County. Furthermore, no economic activity can take off without the enhancement of peace and security. In this regard, the County Government will work hand in hand with the relevant agencies to promote lasting peace and security in the County. To achieve this objective, the following programmes and flagship projects will implement:

Security Sector Flagships Projects

EIZ OO1: Kyuso-Tseikuru-Mumoni Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Security enhancement programme: Strategies aimed at enhancing peace and security especially along the

borders with Tana River County will be pursued and implemented. Some of the strategies to be pursued are; scaling up community policing and lobbying the National Government to upgrade Ngomeni and Tseikuru police stations to divisional status and upgrading police posts to stations to enhance their capacity and to effectively deliver their mandate.

EIZ OO2: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Security enhancement programme: Several strategies aimed at enhancing peace and security will be implemented in this zone. Some of the strategies to be implemented are; strengthening community policing and lobbying the National Government to upgrade Endau police station to a divisional status and upgrading police posts to stations to enhance their capacity and to effectively deliver their mandate

EIZ OO3: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Security improvement programme: To provide security within the zone a number of programmes such as the, community policing program will be scaled up. National Government programs such as "nyumba kumi" initiative will also be supported.

Street lighting program: To achieve the goal of the 24-hour economy in Mwingi Town, street and flood lights will installed in the town to enhance security. The same programme will be extended to cover other town centres especially the Sub-County headquarters.

EIZ OO4: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Security improvement programme: To provide security within the zone the following strategies will be pursued to enhance security; strengthening of the community policing program and support to

the National Government programs such as “nyumba kumi” initiative.

Street lighting program: To achieve the goal of converting Kitui to a thriving world-class urban centre, streetlights will be installed and floodlights mounted in the town as well as other surrounding town centres. This will enhance security and movement of people as well as improving its competitiveness.

EIZ OO5: Kyangi - Kwa Vonza Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Security enhancement programme: Various strategies will be pursued to enhance security in this zone. These strategies include; scaling up community policing and lobbying the National Government to put up more police posts. The zone is an educational hub and security will be beefed up in the Universities offering courses within the zone

EIZ OO6: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Security enhancement programme: A number of strategies will be adopted and implemented to enhance security in the zone. These strategies are; strengthening community policing and lobbying the National Government to upgrade Mutha police post to a fully operational police station and putting up more police posts along the borders.

Cut-line: This will entail construction of a Cut-line along the Tana River County border by rehabilitating and maintaining the Mutha -Waldena road.

2.6 Equity and Community Cohesion

Introduction

Equity:Equity describes the extent to which individuals and groups are treated fairly, regardless of their personal characteristics such as their social position, race, religion or gender. How equitable resources and opportunities are distributed throughout a society

may define how easily an individual or group accesses a range of vital goods and services such as land, water, education, health care and justice, all of which are important contributors to human development. The GINI coefficient is the best known measure of income inequality. It calculates the distribution between the richest and the poorest individuals within a country; indicating a value of 0 for complete equality to 1 for maximal inequality. With a GINI coefficient of estimated at 0.388, it's clear that inequality exist in the County of Kitui .

Community cohesion: One of the key factors of promoting sustainable development is ensuring that a community pulls together and moves to the future as one. The expected influx of people in Kitui County will mean that over time resources will become stretched and that is a recipe for conflict. The County Government will therefore work with relevant stakeholders to promote harmony and peaceful coexistence among various interest groups as well as the community.

Goal for 2025

To promote equitable distribution of resources to all economic and investment zones in addition to serving all County citizens fairly regardless of gender, race or religion.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Support the community level infrastructural programme and pro-poor programmes.
- Communities to be engaged in planning of projects and also in activities that create a common bond.

2.7 Human Resources Development

Introduction

The realization of Kitui Vision 2025 requires that the County Government invests in ensuring that a competitive and adaptive human resource base is created to meet the requirements of Kitui vision. The potential of the County is in its people – their creativity, work ethic, education, and their entrepreneurial and other skills.

To ensure significant and consistent results, the human resources will be developed, managed, rewarded and steered to develop global competitiveness.

Goal for 2025

Provide capacity building and training facilities such as TVET to uplift the competence of service providers and the youth.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- **Developing, rehabilitating and upgrading education institutions in the zone:** The TVET institutions in the zone will be strengthened to focus on technical skill sets that will be required in the County, such as engineers, industrial grade welders and electricians amongst others. This will ensure availability of the right skill mix for the County. The technical institutes will also be upgraded in all the economic and investment zones to middle level tertiary institutions.

The local youth will be given opportunities to acquire necessary skill sets to ensure that they benefit from the jobs in all the sectors of the County, and ultimately help reduce the unemployment problems in the County.

- **Human Resource Data:** To ensure that the residents of the County benefit from the opportunities that will arise, a comprehensive human resource data will be developed in the initial stages of vision implementation. This will help the Government track supply of human resource and adjust the same to demand.
- **Training of Local Contractors:** Over the vision period, the County Government plans to continue with the ambitious plan of capacity building of the local contractors. This will help them to take advantage of the opportunities that exist in the County and those expected to emerge once mining and other industries grow.
- **Human resource development:** Continuous training of staff will be one of the key strategies in ensuring a dynamic and responsive human resources base. The County Government will

utilize the envisaged the County Government training institute to achieve this objective.

2.8 Science, Technology and Innovation

Introduction

The competitiveness of County will largely depend on how best the science, technology and innovation (STI) is adopted and applied. STI has emerged globally as the key driver of wealth creation, social welfare and enhancing competitiveness. The County Government will adopt STI to pursue its agenda of being a knowledge-based economy and a prerequisite for the envisaged industrial transformation and take off.

Goals for 2025

- To enhance studies in science subjects at all levels of education by ensuring all institutions have fully functional science laboratories and also promote increased interest of students in science subjects through competition in science fairs
-
- To intensify research on appropriate technologies and promote innovativeness geared towards provision of sound solutions to the prevailing problems

Strategies to achieve the goal

- **Equipping schools:** Under this strategy, all schools in the County will be equipped with adequate laboratory equipment as a first step towards promotion of teaching of science based subjects in schools. At the tertiary level, the same emphasis will be placed on youth polytechnics and other Tertiary and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions.
- **Curriculum development:** The County will work with the relevant institutions to ensure that the curriculum being offered at these levels is tailor made to the needs of the County and in particular their relevance to the industries anticipated to be set up in the County. Measures will also be put in place to encourage teachers especially science teachers to embrace the Science and mathematics

in secondary schools (SEMASSE) project to build their capacity.

▪ **Intensifying research in appropriate areas:**

The County Government will seek partnerships especially with institutions of higher learning and Government research institutions over the vision period to accelerate research in priority areas. Some of these areas will include the environmental impact of coal mining, Limestone and iron ore mining, research on appropriate technologies and research on land reclamation

All Economic And Investment Zones

Cross Cutting Flagship Project

Mainstreaming STI training in all education levels:

The County will work with the relevant stakeholders to mainstream STI at the Primary and Secondary education levels, with a special focus on improved quality of mathematics and science education.

2.9 County Public Service Delivery

Introduction

The County Government recognizes that an efficient and result oriented public service is key to the achievement of the desired economic and social transformation. Therefore various reform measures will be initiated to improve County public service delivery. These reforms will strive to ensure that customer focus and citizen satisfaction is at the heart of service delivery.

The County Public Service will be transformed to enhance accountability and provision of efficient and quality services. The transformation will entail among others, building and implementing service delivery systems that will not only entrench efficiency, quality, speed, convenience and dignity in service delivery, but also promotion of global competitiveness.

Goal for 2025

To have an efficient, effective, citizen focused and result oriented county public service.

Strategies to achieve the goal

▪ **Capacity building for improved service delivery:** Measures will be initiated to enhance skills and knowledge in the County public service. This will involve strengthening of institutional capacities and developing competencies within the County Public Service.

▪ **Public Sector Knowledge management:** The County Government will continue sharing and disseminating knowledge particularly about County public services and reforms being undertaken to ensure a result oriented service.

▪ **Performance /Result Based Management:** For efficient delivery of its services, the County Government will adopt result based management with the aim of transforming the county public service into a citizen focused result oriented service. Some of the results based management tools to be adopted and implemented include: performance contracting, employee citizens' service delivery charters and rapid results initiatives.

Flagship projects

County Government training institute in Mwingi town:

As a way of improving the capacity of County staff, the County Government will construct a County Government training institute in Mwingi to train its staff on improving service delivery

Construction and equipping of sub-County and ward offices:

As a way to bring services closer to its citizens the County Government will construct Sub-County and ward offices to offer County services to its citizens at the grassroots level

Huduma Service Centre: The National Government through the Ministry of Devolution and Planning is setting up Huduma centres in the 47 Counties. The centres aim at providing a Multichannel citizen access to transactional Government services using a variety of channels such as:

i) One Stop Shop Huduma Citizen Service Centres;

ii) Online Huduma web portal;

iii) Mobile phone Huduma platform;

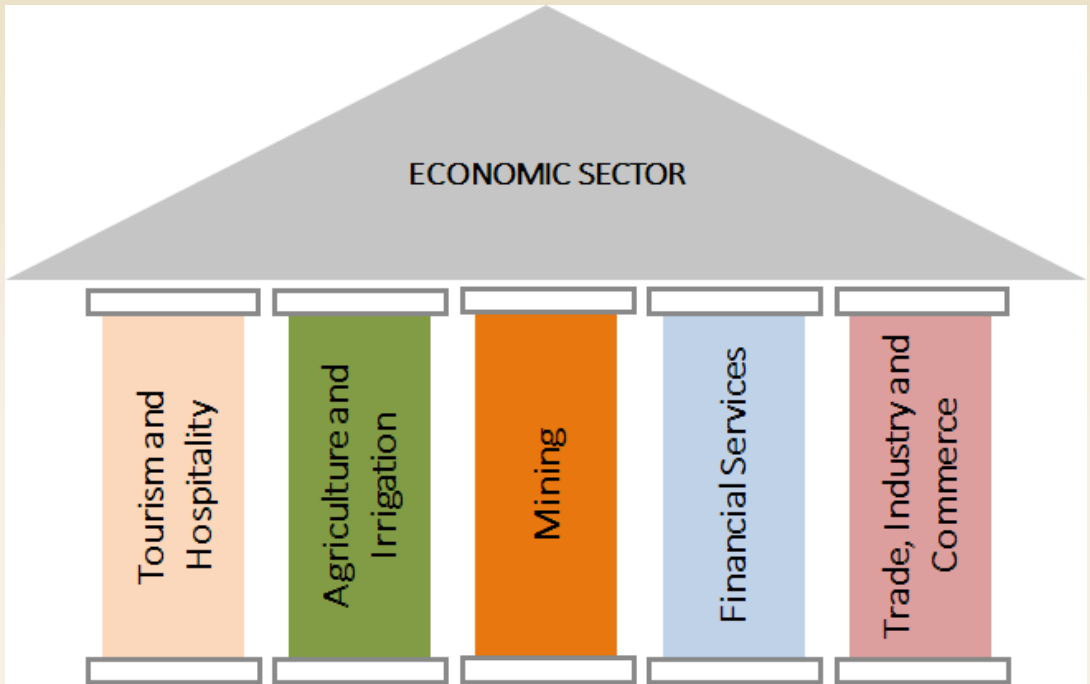
iv) A Huduma call centre; and

v) An Integrated Huduma payment gateway.

The County Government will collaborate with the National Government to include County Government services offered in the Huduma centre.

CHAPTER THREE:

ECONOMIC PILLAR



Economic Pillar Vision

The pillar aims at transforming Kitui County into
“A dynamic economic region where a high
quantum of GDP is generated to enhance wealth
and employment creation for its people and the
country at large”

3.0 Introduction

The economic pillar of Kitui Vision for Economic and Social Transformation takes into account the productive sectors that have the attractiveness and potential to accelerate the County's economic growth and transformation. Seven sectors have been identified namely: tourism and hospitality industry service, agriculture and irrigation, industrial development, mining and mineral investments, financial services, trade, industry and commerce and business process outsourcing

3.1 Tourism, Industry and Hospitality Services

Introduction

The tourism sector is vital and a key driver of Kenya's economy and Kitui County will position itself to reap maximum benefits from this sector. To achieve this, the County will develop and implement strategies to facilitate full exploitation of its natural resources, cultural heritage and other products to attract both domestic and foreign tourists.

Kitui County is endowed with a number of tourist's attraction sites, which either under exploited or totally unexploited. The County Government will therefore put up appropriate strategies to rehabilitate its tourist sites including Nzambani rock; Ikoo valley; Ngomeni rock catchment and conservancy while at the same time rehabilitate its underutilized parks. The County will also develop strategies to aggressively market these sites nationally and internationally.

The county government will also continue to enhance its hospitality services in order to attract business people who may wish to hold business and other conferences in Kitui

Situation analysis

Tourism has the potential to contribute significantly to the Economy of the County if appropriate measures are taken to develop this vital sector. Despite the availability of a number of niche products that can be developed and marketed to attract tourists in the County, Tourism remains fairly underdeveloped. While there have been attempts to fully exploit the County's

tourism potential, a lot still remains to be done. During the vision period, measures aimed at exploiting this potential will be put in place. Additionally, the County will collaborate with Kenya wildlife Service and other stakeholders in the sector to conserve the variety of wildlife species available in the County. The County will also explore Public Private Partnership framework with the private sector to establish five star tourist class hotel chains in the County.

Some of the niche products to be developed and marketed over the vision period with the aim of spurring growth this vital sector include; Mwingi North game reserve, South Kitui game reserve, water tourism in the permanent rivers and cultural tourism, production of Kamba artefacts among others. These tourist attractions have been identified and will be developed and marketed as flagship projects over the vision period to ensure they are received maximum attention.

Goals for 2025

- Position Kitui as an attractive County by developing niche products including eco-tourism based on local resources (flora and fauna) to attract local and international tourists.
- To position Kitui as a place where people from the county and other parts of the country may come for business and related conferences and workshops

Strategies to achieve the goal

- **Rehabilitation and upgrading of game reserves;** measures will be taken to attract new investment to the parks ;
- **Developing of other Niche products in the County**
- **Cultural tourism:** Kitui has rich cultural heritage that can be preserved and explored for tourism purposes. Deliberate efforts will be made to promote authentic cultural experiences and refined production of kamba artifacts. The Government will therefore partner with stakeholders to develop criteria to identify and develop cultural centres.
- **Water-based tourism:** Although the zone has enormous potential for water- based tourism, this

remains largely under-utilized. This is particularly the case in fresh waters such as Tana River and Athi river where products to be developed will include water sports and fishing.

- **Conference and business tourism product development:** The County Government will work with the private sector through a PPP arrangement to develop new classified hotels in the Zone especially in the envisaged resort city in Mwingi, Kitui town, Kitui South game reserve and Mwingi North game reserve among other areas. This is expected to ultimately expand County's revenue base.

Tourism and Hospitality Industry Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni -Tseikuru- Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Development and Promotion of Tourism including the Mwingi North National Reserve:** Development of the Mwingi North National Reserve will enhance the tourism potential of the County. The flora and fauna rich Mwingi North / Kora game reserve is an important resource which is likely to generate incomes to Kitui County and neighbouring communities and will therefore be developed and promoted as an attraction to both local and foreign tourists. The game reserve is closely associated with the Kora Reserve which is famous for being home to the late Adamson family who were Lion conservation experts.
- **Development of Niche products:** Over the vision period, the following Niche products in the zone will be developed and marketed: the Kibuka grand falls, the Mumoni bird sanctuary, Gai, Maseki and Ngomeni rocks.

The County Government will further establish tourism facilities and game watching safaris as part of the Northern Tourist Circuit. This is expected to be a major attraction to both local and international tourists and a boost to the local economy. Other attractions in this zone which will be promoted include Rock climbing activities owing to the many rock outcrops with steep cliffs of varying orientation.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic and Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Promotion of Mutitu Hills as a tourist attraction

site: The County Government will in the vision period promote the panoramic Mutitu hills as a tourist attraction site. Activities such as mountain climbing will be promoted. The County Government will seek investors to establish cable cars and climbing rails in order to fully utilize the site

EIZ 003: The Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Niche tourist products development:** The County Government will develop of tourism sites in Ikoo valley escarpment, promote Kyamutotya hill as a tourist attraction site and rehabilitate Kiomo hills.
- **Construction of Resort city:** Due to its strategic location, the zone has the potential to attract high end tourists. To achieve this, the County Government will;
 - Develop business plans outlining the strategic location, size and key activities, which may include sporting facilities;
 - Develop the supporting infrastructure in the zone
- **Business and Conference Tourism:** The zone has a potential for business and conference tourism owing to its location and proximity to Mui basin. The County will therefore seek strategic partners to build conference facilities in the zone.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Niche tourist products development:** Mukunyeki Hill and Ituki rock will be rehabilitated to become tourist attraction sites.
- **Business and Conference Tourism:** The zone has

a potential for business and conference tourism owing to its location and owing to the advantage of being the County headquarter. In order to enhance its attractive, the County will seek partnership with the Private sector to construct a convention centre for hosting major meetings and conferences.

- **Development of Nzambani rock Tourism centre:** The Nzambani rock is one of the underutilized tourist attraction sites that the County boasts of and which is very popular with the locals. Over the vision period the County Government will develop and promote the Nzambani rock centre into a tourism attraction complete with climbing lane and hotels restaurants among others.
- **Development of Sport tourism:** The County Government will initiate measures to promote sports tourism which is an untapped potential that can be exploited to attract tourists in the County

EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza- Kanyonyoo- Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Kanyonyoo Wildlife Sanctuary at Thaatha section:** The animal conservancy is a key tourist attraction component. During the vision period the County Government will put up a Community based game sanctuary at Thaatha area to boost Tourism.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Rehabilitation and upgrading of underutilized parks:** The County Government will seek national Government partnership to ensure that the South Kitui game Reserve is fully utilised. The development and promotion of a tourist circuit featuring South Kitui Game Reserve and others in the County will encourage the growth of tourism in the County. The establishment of tourism facilities and game watching safaris as part of the

Northern Tourist Circuit will attract both local and international tourists thereby boosting the local economy.

- **Cultural and heritage tourism:** The area is home to the famous caves and heritage sites such as “Mbisu sya Makongo” and the “Witu footsteps” which are natural features of cultural significance within the Kamba Community. Other important features include the roots of the Christian Church in Mutomo. The early missionaries set up a station in Mutomo which still stands to date. The conservation of these important features is of national and international importance and will therefore be aggressively promoted as tourist attractions.
- **Snake park and plant sanctuary:** The Mutomo-Ikutha area is renowned for many species of poisonous snakes which thrive due to the hot weather and vast natural savannah bush-land. The County Government will therefore partner with the KWS and the National Museums of Kenya to facilitate establishment of a snake park, plant sanctuary and museum within Mutomo hill area including a community managed venom extraction facility.

Other projects and programmes to be implemented over the plan period

- **Organizing for hospitality training forums:** over the vision period, the County Government will organize at least two hospitality forums annually to promote the hospitality industry;
- **Establishment of a cultural day events;** and
- **Installation of electric fence** along Tsavo east national park areas bordering farms and settlements.

3.2 Agriculture and Irrigation

Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of the Economy of Kitui with 83% of the residents deriving their livelihood from this sector. The sector comprises of four sub-sectors namely food crops, horticulture, Livestock and fisheries. Given the huge reliance on agriculture in the County, measures will be put in place for increased

involvement of the youth in income generating ventures in the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries sector with emphasises on value addition.

Situation analysis

The agricultural sector is major contributor to the County's GDP and this is evident by the large proportion of population in the County engaging in agricultural activities. According to the Economic Survey, 2015, Agriculture sector output value increased by 15.8% from Kshs 1,459.7bn in 2013 to Kshs 1,690.3 billion in 2014. This is a clear demonstration of the sectors potential. However, the value of marketed production in the sector declined by 5% from Kshs 10.1 billion in 2013 to Kshs 9.6 billion in 2014 mainly on account of lower marketed volumes compared to the previous year. This is a clear demonstration of the huge potential in this sector.

The sector therefore and in particular the sub-sectors of food production, livestock production and fisheries are crucial in driving the County's transformation agenda. In achieving its growth strategy, the County will seek to introduce drought resistant crops, introduce subsidies on farm inputs, promote fisheries and fully tap into the potential of the livestock sub-sector.

Crop farming in the County is mainly subsistence with the main crops produced being maize, green grams, beans, cow peas, millet and sorghum. Due to the promotion of high value crop production more farmers are venturing into horticultural farming hence boosting income from agriculture. Programs like Agriculture Livestock Support Program (ASDP) continue to turn the sector into an innovative, commercial oriented, competitive and modern industry. It is estimated that in a good season approximately 500,000 hectares of land are put under food crop and 706 hectares put under cash crop.

The County has a huge potential for livestock rearing especially if incidences of water scarcity and disease outbreak are curbed. This is also an area where the County will emphasize value addition.

Food Crops: The area under food production in the zone is estimated at 364,992 Ha. The main food crops grown include cereals (Maize, wheat, sorghum and millet), pulses (beans, pigeon peas, cow peas, and green grams) and roots and tubers (cassava). The average production per Ha is estimated at 16 bags while the total arable land in the zone is 474,620Ha, way above the area currently under crop production. Over the vision period, the area under crop production will be increased to ensure that a bigger part of the arable land is utilized.

Irrigation: It is estimated that intensified irrigation can increase agricultural productivity and income to farmers in the County. Experience from other Countries and Counties shows irrigation is a major driver of agricultural productivity. The estimated area under irrigation in the zone is 2,000 Hectares with the County Government seeking to increase this over the vision period. The availability of Tana and Athi Rivers River in the County provides a good opportunity to leverage the rivers for irrigation schemes. Such irrigation schemes would enhance food security for the region as well as allow for successful cultivation of cash crops that can be exported to markets outside the Country.

Fish Production: Fisheries production has a potential to be a major source of livelihood for communities in the County but it's done mostly in small scale and uncoordinated manner. This is despite the fact that the Tana and Athi Rivers passes along the County boundary. The Kiambere dam can also be accessed as well as other dams in the County with potential for fish farming.

Livestock Production: Livestock production is one of the major activities in Kitui County. It is practiced in all parts of the County either under smallholders system or the pastoral system utilizing the large tracts of land in the County with the main livestock been cattle, goats, sheep and poultry. With proper animal husbandry and practices put in place to boost the production of livestock, it is expected that ancillary industries such as processing of animal products

that will be fed directly from the livestock will also emerge. The pastoral systems traditionally contribute to the supply of an estimated 40,644 metric tonnes of beef and small stock meat per annum. Production of sheep, goats and poultry will be promoted in the zone with the aim of reducing poverty.

Dairy farming: The County has potential for dairy farming if irrigation is expanded to ensure availability of adequate animal feed. Currently, the total milk production is estimated at over 10 million litres per annum but with the potential for increase if adequate measures are taken.

Livestock Disease Control: Disease control in livestock is mainly addressed through integrated extension services and enhanced surveillance in collaboration with other stakeholders. The main livestock diseases in the zone are; red water, FMD, LSD, CRD, Coccidiosis, mange worm, fowl pox, anaplasmosis, CCPP, ECF, rabies, anthrax, NCD, IBD and Fowl typhoid.

Honey production: The County has enormous potential for honey production and processing. This potential will be exploited to provide an alternative source of livelihood to farmers and ensure increased income. The current honey production in the zone is 469,806Kg per annum. Measures will be put in place to increase the production of honey and also add value to the product.

Goals for 2025

- To increase agricultural productivity by increasing the land under crop production to more than 470,000 Ha as well as increasing the average yields per hectare from 16 to 32 bags of maize.
- Increase milk production to 15.7 million litres per annum, beef production increased to 50,000 metric tons per annum from 40,600 MT per annum and honey production increased from 469,806 Kg per annum to 1,007,200 Kg per annum.

Strategies to achieve the goals

To achieve the above goals, the following strategies will be pursued:

- **Improved delivery of extension services:** This will be realized by increasing the number of extension officers per farm household.
- **Irrigation intensification and expansion:** Improved irrigation is critical to increasing agricultural productivity. In this regard, irrigation schemes will be established in various areas of the County and farmers encouraged to make use of them.
- **Seed improvement:** Strategies will be implemented to increase seed quality and seed adoption rates by employing various methods including seed bulking and input subsidies.
- **Promote growing and consumption of traditional food crops**
- **Livestock development:** Several approaches will be implemented to improve livestock productivity, including increasing the availability of animal feeds through targeted programmes, breed improvement programmes, artificial insemination and establishing two disease free zones in the County

Agriculture and Irrigation Flagship projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Input subsidising programme:** The Government will support farmers with subsidized seeds and other farm inputs to promote agriculture in the zone. This will go a long way in improving access of these vital inputs and increase production.
- **Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing:** An abattoir will be constructed at a strategic location to boost animal production. This will assure farmers of ready market for their animals. The facility will also improve the animal value chain by increasing productivity and expanding trade. An abattoir will also attract other manufacturing ventures to process non-meat products such as horns, bones and compost. The County will promote value addition of animal products including hides processing.

This is expected to offer added returns to the farmers in addition to local employment.

- **Establishment of a Disease Free Zone (DFZ):** This economic and investment zone will be established as a DFZ to facilitate access of meat, leather and leather products to local markets.
- **Fisheries Development and Management:** This will be achieved through expanding the area of fish farming along Tana River and other mega dams to be constructed over the vision period.
- **Irrigation scheme development along River Tana:** The Tana irrigation scheme and other irrigable areas in Tharaka, Mumoni and Tseikuru wards will be expanded to provide an opportunity to many farmers to grow cash and food crops to meet the growing dietary demands and increasing food security in the region and beyond. This zone has the potential of being the food basket for the County. The zone is endowed with water resources from Tana River which is a perennial water source. Other irrigation projects to be undertaken will be along Tyaa and Katse river and the expansion of Wikithuki irrigation scheme in Tseikuru ward.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Seed Production and Propagation Program:** the County will promote production of drought resistant crops through bulking coupled with educating farmers on modern farming methods. This will allow for more consistent production and improved yields which will translate to better earnings and increased food security.
- **Input subsidising programme:** The Government will over the plan period continue to subsidize the cost of certified seeds and fertilizer to promote agriculture. This will go a long way in improving access of this vital input and increase production.
- **Commercial Ranching:** The County will, over the vision period, identify and allocate specific tracts of land to promote ranching. This will allow for designated ranching zones and attract ranching experts and other investors keen on large scale ranching. With ranching potential, investors will be keen on value addition industries such as meat processing and tanneries. Locals will directly benefit from more fertile land given the by-product of manure that could be collected at the various ranches and applied to revitalize land as a fertilizer.
- **Honey Production and Processing:** The region is blessed with plenty of bees and some of the best honey in the Country. Most beekeeping farmers use traditional bee hives which are less protective than modern variations. For commercial viability at larger scale, strategies will be put in place to promote and increase production and profitability through trainings and large scale production and distribution of modern bee hives. The large volume of honey harvested will be processed for both domestic and external markets.
- **Aquaculture development;** Aquaculture development will be promoted both as a means of income and to enhance nutrition. This will be done through construction of fish ponds in the zone and stocking of designated dams with fingerlings.
- **Ikoo Irrigation Scheme Development:** The Zone is endowed with water resources from Ikoo and Nzeu rivers. The vast tracts of irrigable land in Mui and Mutito areas offer the potential to grow horticultural cash and food crops with water from the Athi River. The Ikoo River in particular offers huge potential to provide water for domestic and irrigation purposes which will boost rural development. Water development to support irrigation and livestock sector development will enhance the region's food security, economic and employment opportunities.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Input subsidising programme:** The Government will over the plan period continue to subsidize the cost of certified seeds and fertilizer to promote agriculture.
- **Establish a honey processing facilities in Mwingi town and Waita:** County Government will develop strategies to production of larger scale and commercially viable honey production. The County will also train farmers on modern bee keeping approaches. There are numerous by-products (honey, wax, and royal jelly) which can be extracted after processing and refining. Small-scale farmers will be encouraged to join together to form an association or cooperative to process and market the honey.
- **Value Addition and Agro-Processing Facilities at Migwani:** The abundance of fruits, goat and cow milk, honey and sisal in wards like Migwani and Kivou justifies the need to establish value addition ventures which will benefit farmers and producers. Kitui County has the opportunity to organize farmers into cooperative societies to manage the operations of joint ventures for economies of scale. The production and marketing of finished products through farmer-led cooperatives assures farmers of better prices and reduces exploitation by middle-men. A milk cooling facility will be established to support the goat and dairy cattle farmers in the zone. The A3 Thika-Garissa highway provides a good road link to markets like Nairobi and beyond for the finished or semi- processed products.
- **Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing:** An abattoir will be constructed in the zone to boost animal production. This will assure farmers of ready market for their animals. The facility will also improve the animal value chain by increasing productivity and expanding trade. Value addition of animal products

including hides and skins will offer added returns to the farmers in addition to local employment. An abattoir will also attract other auxiliary manufacturing ventures to process non-meat products such as horns, bones and compost.

- **Irrigation schemes:** A number of irrigation schemes will be established in the zone. One such scheme is the Kiromboko irrigation scheme. The scheme will utilize water resources from the Tana River. The vast tracts of irrigable land in the zone offer the potential to grow horticultural cash and food crops. A further 500 Ha of land will be put under irrigation over the plan period using the water tapped from Tana river. Other irrigation schemes will be established along rivers Tyaa, Kivou and Kithyoko. These projects will be preceded by construction of Mega dams.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Seed Production and Propagation Program:** Production of drought resistant crops through bulking will be promoted in the zone. To achieve this objective, the County will build farmers' capacity through training on proper and modern farming and cultivation methods. This venture will enhance food security in the Zone.
- **Input subsidising programme:** The Government will over the vision period continue to subsidize the cost of certified seeds and fertilizer to promote agriculture. This will go a long way in improving access of these vital inputs and increase production.
- **Extension services:** The County Government will develop and implement a County agricultural extension policy aimed at providing a holistic approach to promote participation of the private sector, NGOs, CBOs, farmers' associations and other stakeholders in the provision of extension services.

- **Bulk grain storage facility:** To promote food security, a modern storage facility will be constructed in order to provide adequate storage as well as address any post-harvest losses occasioned by poor storage. The storage facility will ensure safe and hygienic storage of grain reserves.

- **Commercial Ranching:** The County will, over the vision period, identify and allocate specific tracts of land for ranching. This will allow for designated ranching zones and attract investors and ranching experts keen on large-scale farming. With ranching potential, investors will be keen on value addition industries such as meat processing and tanneries.

- **Construction modern agro-processing facilities:** There is abundance of fruits and honey in wards such as Kwa Mutonga, Nzambani, Kisasi, Matinyani and Mutonguni. The County will promote value addition ventures which will benefit farmers and producers through increased profitability. Strategies will be developed to facilitate farmers to form cooperative societies to manage the operations of the ventures. The production and marketing of finished products through farmer-led cooperatives assures farmers of better prices and reduces exploitation by middle men accruing from economies of scale in joint marketing and transportation of their produce.

- **Establish a Milk cooling plant:** The zone has the potential to expand dairy farming since there is large number of farmers practicing dairy farming. As a way of promoting and building the dairy sector in the zone the County Government will facilitate construction of a milk cooling plant in the zone where farmers will be able to sell their produce and thereby improve their livelihoods.

- **Aquaculture development:** The County Government will over the plan period promote aquaculture development both as a means of income generation and to enhance nutrition. This

will be done through construction of fish ponds in the zone and stocking of designated dams with fingerlings

EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza- Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Input subsidising programme:** The Government will over the vision period continue to subsidize the cost of certified seeds and fertilizer to promote agriculture. This will go a long way in improving access of these vital inputs and increase production.

- **Honey Production and Processing:** The County will promote beekeeping as an enterprise among the small scale and large-scale farmers given that the agro-ecological setting of the County is suitable for extensive beekeeping activities. This venture is expected to generate by-products such as wax and royal jelly which will be extracted after processing and refining. The County will further encourage the small-scale farmers to form marketing cooperatives for their honey.

- **Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing in Kanyonyoo:** The vision provides for the construction of modern abattoirs in Kitui County, one such abattoir will be in Kanyangi – Kwa Vonza – Kanyonyoo Zone. The construction of an abattoir in the economic zone will boost animal production since farmers will be assured of ready market for their animals. The facility will also improve the animal value chain by increasing productivity and expanding trade. Additionally, value addition of animal products including hides and skin processing will offer added returns to the farmers including generation of employment opportunities for the local community.

- **Aquaculture development:** Aquaculture development will be promoted both as a means of income generation and to enhance nutrition. This will be done construction of fish ponds in

the zone and stocking of designated dams with fingerlings.

- **Irrigation Scheme Development along River Athi:** The Zone is endowed with water resources from the perennial Athi River and other seasonal rivers such as Tiva and Mwita Syano rivers. The zone has the potential of being a major grain production zone for the County. Its vast tracts of irrigable land in Athi and Kanyangi Zones have potential to grow horticultural cash and food crops with water from the Athi River. The potential of the region will be exploited by putting more than 500 Ha under irrigation with water from the Athi River. The County will also ensure sustainability of this project by seeking for alternative water sources.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Bulk Grain Storage Facility:** The region has a huge potential for the production of green grams, maize, sorghum, millet and other cereals. However, many farmers incur losses from poor post-harvest practices in addition to exploitation by middlemen. Over the vision period, a bulk and modern grain storage facility will be constructed enhance grain storage and subsequent sale of the produce when prices are favourable.
- **Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing in Mutomo:** The vision provides for the construction of modern abattoirs in Kitui County, one such abattoir will be constructed in Mutomo-Ikutha-Kanziko Zone. The construction of an abattoir in the economic zone will boost animal production since farmers will be assured of ready market for their animals. The facility will also improve the animal value chain by increasing productivity and expanding trade. Value addition of animal products including hides processing will offer added returns to the farmers in addition

to creating employment opportunities for local community.

- **Disease free zone:** This will involve improvements in vaccination and disease control through a strengthened veterinary department, movement controls, and investments in livestock breeding, range improvements, and marketing infrastructure to raise the quality, quantity and value of processed meat animals that the County can export to other Counties and Countries.
- **Aquaculture development:** Aquaculture development will be promoted both as a means of income generation and to enhance nutrition. This will be achieved through construction of fishponds in the zone and stocking of designated dams with fingerlings.
- **Irrigation scheme development along river Athi:** The zone is endowed with water resources from the perennial Athi River and the seasonal Thua, Mutindi and Tiva rivers and has the potential of being a major grain production zone for the County. The Athi River offers huge potential to provide water for domestic and irrigation. Over the vision period, these waters will be harnessed to provide opportunities to many farmers to grow cash and food crops to meet the growing dietary demands and provide food security to the region and beyond through irrigation.

Strategy: Encourage people to harvest water from roof tops by having tanks. Schools and churches should have tanks on a cost sharing mode, trenches should be filled with plastic paper can hold a lot of water.

3.3 Mining and Mineral Investments

Introduction

Mining and other natural resources activities are expected to become major alternative sources of income to the communities involved as well as the County Government. In a setting where rain-fed agriculture is faced with recurring climatic challenges,

mining offers communities an alternative source of livelihoods. Communities in this economic zone will be encouraged to form cooperatives to help them secure equipment for mining as well as provide a better marketing avenue for finished products.

Situation analysis

Kitui County is endowed with large deposits of coal in the Mui Coal Basin, which traverses Mwingi Central and Kitui East Sub-Counties. This coal basin is divided into four main blocks, A, B, C and D. Currently there are two prospective investors namely Fenix mining company in block C and D who have already signed concession with the National Government to mine the coal and HICIG energy investment and Liketh investment Kenya Limited in Block A and B.

The potential of coal deposits in block C is estimated at 400,000 million metric tonnes of coal that can be exploited for over 50 years. These deposits alone have an estimated value of Sh3.4 trillion at current market rates, while the value of the reserves in Blocks A, B and D have yet to be determined.

Limestone is also one of the other minerals that have been discovered in large quantities in the County specifically in Ngaaie, Kanziku and Mathima in Mwingi North, and Kitui South Sub counties respectively. Currently ARM cement mining company that are engaged in the mining of Limestone in the County.

Iron ore deposits have also been discovered in the zone in Tharaka ward and Ngaaie area Mwingi North Sub County and in Ikutha in Kitui South Sub County. The County Government in partnership with National Government and other development partners will undertake a feasibility study to ascertain its commercial viability thereby paving the way for licensing of mining companies to undertake the exploration of this mineral in the zone for the benefit of the County and Country at large.

The Yatta plateau in the zone is characterized by volcanic rock deposits that are suitable for extraction of raw materials to be used in the construction industry. Currently Ballast crushing in the zone is

done by small scale miners who lack the capacity to fully utilize the resource abundance in the zone. Most of the ballast used for construction in Kitui town and other towns comes from this zone even though this resource is much underutilized.

Other minerals such as gem stone, vermilulite, granite and phonolite, siliminate, gypsum, copper, carbonate and zinc have also been discovered in the County. The commercial viability of these minerals has not yet been ascertained. The County Government will establish partnerships to undertake feasibility studies of these minerals in the County in order to determine their potential and commercial viability so as to pave way for their exploitation for the benefit of the community.

Exploration of these minerals in the zone will lead to; first, development of new and transferable skills to those employed within the sector. Secondly, it will create opportunities for new entrepreneurs who offer services as well as supply goods. Thirdly, it leads to the development of support infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, roads, water and power supply to the benefit of communities in this zone. Mining offers communities' alternative sources of income especially where agricultural practices are hampered by erratic weather and natural calamities such as drought.

Goal for 2025

To develop a commercially viable mining industry in Kitui County

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Mapping and documenting of all the mineral resources and establishing their commercial viability in the zone and the County at large.
- Develop a land use policy including land adjudication and titling in the mineral areas to prevent conflicts arising due to land issues.
- Establish and train mineral liaison committees in these mineral rich areas to negotiate on behalf of the community to prevent exploitation by investors.

Mining and Mineral Investments Flagship Projects

The exploitation of mineral resources offers a major

opportunity for local and international investors in partnership with the local communities to ensure equitable benefit and sustainable outcomes. Exploiting this sub-sector will provide opportunities for industrial development and associated direct and indirect benefits such as employment and associated infrastructure development. The following activities and projects will be implemented with the objective of establishing the commercial viability and mining Coal and other minerals.

EIZ 001: Kyuso--Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Limestone, Gem Stone Mining and Value Addition:** Limestone deposits have been discovered in Nгааie, Mimindi and Kamuwongo and Iron Ore Ngangani areas. Other important minerals found in this economic zone include Gem Stones at Nzanzeni area. These minerals exist in economic quantities which offer the potential for exploitation to the benefit of local communities and the County.
- **Clay Products Development and Pottery Making:** There are special clays in Tseikuru ward located at Kasyayuni and Kalibweni areas which will be exploited for art and craft related industries. These clays will be developed to boost pottery and associated products which can be sold within.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Coal mining:** The support for Coal mining is important to ensure that a long-term sustainable impact is achieved not only for the County of Kitui but beyond its borders. Proper pre-planning will be put in place to take advantage of the discovery of Coal in the Zone. A framework built on best practices that will achieve economic and social transformation while maintaining the environment standards will be adopted. Emphasis will be placed on

developing and implementing the right policies to ensure that Coal mining kick starts with the necessary support such as good legislation, proper working conditions, and environmental preservation. Through proper implementation of stringent regulations, Coal mining industry should be safer as well as more socially and environmentally conscious.

- **Securitisation of Coal Proceeds:** The County has an opportunity to monetize revenues from future cash flows of Coal Benefit Sharing through the Municipal Bond market. This will allow the County to finance present day infrastructure projects with future Coal cash flows

The County Government of Kitui will ensure measures are in place to provide incentives to investors in ancillary industries such as preference to set-up local manufacturing plants for industrial products needed by the Coal mining sector as opposed to importing the same. In addition, the County will explore modalities of subsidizing leasing rates for land to attract investors to set up hotels in the Zone.

EIZ 003: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza- Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Ballast production:** The County will map out the natural resources in the Zone to establish its potential and to ensure full exploitation of the same. The expansive Yatta plateau has the potential of ballast production, which is an important input in the building and construction sector and road construction industry. The County will put in place policies and laws to regulate the sustainable exploitation of these resources.
- The County will put in place measures to protect landholders to ensure they receive attractive maximum economic value and are not taken advantage of. This will include capacity building the landowners of the Zone through training and awareness creation to ensure that they come together and form cooperatives and organizations that can negotiate with miners on an equal

footing. Residents will also be encouraged to Lease land instead of selling, so that title remains with the community rather than permanent title transfers.

EIZ 005: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

- **Limestone Mining and Cement Manufacturing:** Limestone deposits have been discovered at Kanziko and Ikutha areas which will attract investors in the cement manufacturing process. The zone also has significant Precious stone and Iron ore deposits in Ikutha and Kasaala / Timboni areas respectively. The exploitation and value addition of the limestone deposits will spur industrial development within the zone. The County will engage the National Government to ensure suitable investors are found so that this resources can be fully utilized

Other projects and programmes to be implemented over the plan period

- **Enhanced community awareness on extractive industry on coal mining and compensation:** The County Government will hold public awareness meetings and workshops to train communities on coal mining and compensation criteria
- **Enhanced community awareness on extractive industry on Limestone and Iron ore mining and compensation:** The County Government will hold public awareness meetings and workshops to train communities on Limestone and Iron ore mining and compensation criteria.

3.4 Financial Services

Introduction

Financial services will play a critical role in the development of Kitui County. In this regard, strategies will be put in place to promote both public and private savings and investments. This will go a long way in mobilizing the much-needed funds to implement the projects and programmes in this vision, which

require huge financial outlays. The County is already benefitting from the mainstream financial services available in various towns in the county, particularly in Kitui and Mwingi towns. The two towns are expected to grow and become the financial services for the and commercial hubs of the County given their strategic location and the existence of both international, national banks such as Kenya Commercial Bank, National bank, Equity bank, Barclays bank, K-Rep bank, Family bank and Cooperative bank and microfinance institutions such as SMEP, Platinum, Kenya Women Finance Trust and Faulu Kenya. Other benefits will accrue from quasi-banking institutions and services provided by savings and credit cooperative organizations (SACCOs), micro-finance services, building societies, development finance institutions (DFIs) and informal financial services. These will be facilitated to establish and growth given the huge potential that they have.

Situation analysis

Financial Service Providers (FSP) currently serves a very small number of the population with only about 20% of the potential bankable population accessing the financial services within the County. Going forward and as a key strategy in achieving the KIVEST Vision, the County will encourage financial service providers who are much more responsive in terms of products and service delivery, in order to stimulate the economic growth of the County.

Kitui County currently has 7 commercial banks. The banks are branches of larger national and international banks and are mostly located in Kitui and Mwingi towns. The County also has 5 Micro-Finance Institutions that have branches; including SMEP, Platinum Kenya, Kenya Women Finance Trust, Faulu Kenya and Kadet, all also located in the major towns.

The County does not have any development finance bank. This is detrimental since they are a source of long term finances required to finance industrial, manufacturing, agriculture, transportation and real estate development. In addition, non-urban zones have an under-representation of financial services despite the large growth potential as these zones

tap into their various comparative advantages. It also results in many of the micro-enterprises having little or no access to credit and savings products which are critical for growth and expansion. A number of emerging village banks, such as Migwani FSA, Kakeani, Chuluni and Kabati FSA are helping ensure that these critical banking services reach beyond the major towns.

Cooperatives and Sacco's are also a key growth driver, since they are instrumental in helping farmers unite and access agricultural inputs as well market their produce. There are currently 8 Cooperatives in Kitui County as well as 15 Saccos that are spread across all zones. Beyond these existing cooperatives, there lies more opportunity for more economic sectors to benefit from Cooperatives such as:

- *Agricultural Cooperative Society:* For agricultural zones such as Kyuso – Tseikuru – Mumoni, Mui Basin and Kanyangi Kwa Vonza- Kanyonyoo
- *Manufacturing Cooperative Society:* For industrial zones such as Mwingi Town and its Environs, and Mui Basin
- *Transport Cooperative Society:* Various economic and investment zones would pull together establishing good governance and manage proper systems to boost returns
- *Investment Cooperative Society:* Largely drawn from main towns such as Kitui and Mwingi with a focus on financial instruments such as real estate, property development, bonds and stocks while attracting other economic and investment zones
- *Trading and Marketing Cooperative Society:* Various economic and investment zones would participate driven mainly by trading towns with thriving centers.

Other financial services which have set up operations in Kitui County include Insurance companies such as BRITAM, Heritage, and Kenya alliance co. ltd. There is further opportunity for insurers to help support enterprises with products such as micro insurance and livestock insurance. Other products such as health and education insurance will also have further benefits to the residents of the County.

Goal for 2025

To ensure citizens have access to credit facilities to finance entrepreneurial enterprises in addition to supporting the establishment of institutions willing to invest in the development of all economic sectors within the County

Strategies to achieve the goal

The following strategies will be pursued to achieve the objectives set in this sector:-

- **Mobilizing additional savings to support higher investment rates:** This will be achieved through facilitating the conversion of local cooperatives and SACCOs into Micro-finance institutions. The end product of this initiative is to encourage savings and investments. The County will therefore build capacity of new societies and strengthen the existing ones and fast track revival of collapsed ones.
- Emergence of new industries in the County will create demand for more financial services products.
- Provision of incentives and support to financial services companies that set up in the County.

Financial Services Sector Flagship Projects

- **Establishing SACCOs across the County:** There is potential in communities to establish saving groups based on speciality areas like agriculture, mining or trade. The County has numerous opportunities which the communities can benefit from if they are organised into SACCOs.

3.5 Trade, Industry and Commerce

Introduction

Trade and commerce is the link between producers and consumers. It brings together buyers and sellers who come together in a central place to exchange goods and service for money. The trade industry and commerce sector is vital for economic growth as it will harness the resources of the County through value addition and provide a link for these finished products

to reach the final consumers thereby improving the lives of the people through employment and investments.

Situation analysis

Kitui County has 987 trading centres spread across the County. These centres consist of mainly small-scale retail traders and a few wholesale traders. These centres are also manifested through the small shops and *vibandas* by the roadside where the traders display their products. A total of 8,007 retail traders had been registered by the County Government by 2015. Other forms of trade in the County include open market days that allow trading on specific market days. During these market days the main products on sale are live animals and farm produce from various parts of the County and region.

Trade in the County is promoted through improvement in infrastructure and capacity building of Micro and small enterprises

The industrial base of the County is weak because the whole County has a small number of manufacturing industries. Some of the industries include: Kitui flour mill, Kitui cotton Ginney, Neema multipurpose, Grit industries, Kitui development centre, Chuluni food processor, Mwingi tiles industries, Saab enterprises Ltd, Mwingi flour mill, Mwingi Eco Honey and Mwingi multipurpose among others. Most of these industries are located in the two urban centres of Kitui and Mwingi.

Though these industries have been a major source of employment for the residents of the County as they employ both skilled and semiskilled workers, they have also been major driver of rural-urban migration. With the discovery of coal, limestone and other minerals in the County it is expected that this sector will expand greatly once the extraction of these minerals begin. A number of industries are expected to come up due to the exploitation of these minerals hence expanding the industrial base of the County. This will have a multiplier effect of increasing and the resultant employment creation. The County will develop and implement policy interventions aimed

at attracting major investors as well as developing incentives to investors and providing the necessary infrastructure.

Goal for 2025

- To initiate measures that will create conducive business environment for potential investors and traders through improved infrastructure, training, credit facilities and security.

Strategies to achieve the goal

The following strategies will be pursued to achieve the objectives set in this sector:-

- Construction of organized markets for small-scale operators to enable them to grow into small and medium sized enterprises;
- Provide a link between producers and consumers by reducing the number of the players in the supply chain. This can be done through encouraging formation of cooperatives and producer groups who will link the producers directly to buyers;
- Marketing the County and provision of information of the vast resource of the County to investors to invest in industries; and
- Review business regulations of the County to create a conducive and enabling environment for businesses to prosper.

Trade, Industry and Commerce Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru- Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Fresh produce markets in the zone: Kyuso-Mumoni-Tseikuru is envisaged to be a big contributor to the food security strategy of the County. To ensure there is a ready market, the County Government will establish a fresh produce market in the zone to provide farmers with a platform to market their produce and also increase production.

Market stalls and sheds: Decent market stalls and sheds will be constructed across the zone to boost trade and commerce.

Iron and Steel plant at Ngangani: The steel industry offers employment opportunities and the development of auxiliary industries which are growth boosters. The County will promote value addition in the iron ore mined in the zone in order to enhance its competitiveness and create more opportunities for employment and growth of a more vibrant steel industry. The steel and iron products from the industry will find market in the Coal production area of Mui where significant construction and facility development will take place.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Fresh produce markets in the zone: The zone is envisaged to be a big contributor to the food security strategy of the County. To this end, a fresh produce market will be established in the zone to provide farmers with a platform to market their produce and also increase production.

Market stalls and sheds: Market stalls and sheds will be constructed across the zone to boost trade and commerce

Ancillary industries;Being a mining zone, there will be opportunity for ancillary industries. The County Government will put measures in place including offering of targeted incentives to investors in ancillary industries. This initiative is further expected to encourage more investors to set up manufacturing plants for industrial products needed by the Coal mining sector in order to minimise imports. In addition, ancillary industries will also provide jobs for the local populace.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Fresh produce markets in the zone: The zone is envisaged to be a big contributor to the food security

strategy of the County. To this end, the County Government will establish a fresh produce market in the zone to provide farmers with a platform to market their produce and also increase production.

Market stalls and sheds: Decent market stalls and sheds will be constructed across the zone to boost trade and commerce.

Industrial park: An industrial park will be established to provide for processing of agricultural and livestock products from the hinterland including other economic zones and neighbouring Counties. There is potential for processing honey, sisal, hides and skins, fruits, and cereals for consumption and sale to markets within and outside the County. An industrial park will have provisions for infrastructure including ICT services for ease of communication. This flagship project is expected to generate employment and boost economic within zone and encourage the growth and production of raw materials

Bulk fuel storage in Mwingi town Environs: The Kenya Pipeline Company intends to set-up a strategic inland fuel storage facility in Mwingi to serve the region including the Coal production in Mui. The bulk fuel storage facility will be served by the proposed railway line to the Mui basin and road-link connecting Kitui and Kibwezi. The facility is likely to attract other services such as logistics, security and housing to meet the needs of the workers and operations

Ballast Crusher and Pre-Cast Concrete Plant in Kiomo: Kiomo has large stones making it suitable for a ballast crusher plant. The County Government in partnership with other stakeholders will set up ballast crusher to produce ballast for the construction industry and as an alternative source of income to communities in the Zone.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

International Trade Centre Complex

A mega International Trade Centre complex will be constructed in Kitui Town in partnership with the private sector through a Public Private Partnership framework to cater for the growing urban population. This is anticipated to spur economic development in the zone.

The Industrial Trade Centre Complex will have the following key components:

- **Mega shopping mall and Commercial centre:** A major shopping mall within the trade centre complex will attract professionals from the Industrial Zones in Kitui County and beyond
- **Kitui International Convention Centre:** An international multi-purpose convention and exhibition centre with state of the art facilities capable of holding international meetings and conferences. Given the County's leadership in Mining, the convention centre will be able to host annual mining conferences, attracting international investors and operators to Kitui town.
- **Commercial offices:** The trade centre would also offer modern commercial office space for Financial Services and other firms expected to set up representative offices in Kitui.
- **Hotels and hospitality:** The Trade centre will also have world-class hotels who will host professionals working in the Industrial zones, as well as those visiting the shopping mall and convention centre.
- **Restaurants and entertainment:** The trade centre will also host world class restaurants and entertainment venues

Fresh produce markets in the zone: The zone is envisaged to be a big contributor to the food security strategy of the County. To this end, the County Government will establish a fresh produce market in the zone to provide farmers with a platform to market their produce and also increase production.

Market stalls and sheds: Decent market stalls and sheds will be constructed across the zone to boost trade and commerce.

Upgrade Kalundu market to a modern wholesale and retail market: Over the Vision period, Kalundu market will be upgraded to position it as a major wholesale and retail hub in the region.

Industrial park: An industrial park will be established to provide for processing of agricultural and livestock products which are obtained from the hinterland including other economic zones and neighbouring counties. The park will have provisions for infrastructure including ICT services for ease of communication. This flagship project will generate employment and boost economic activities within zone and encourage the growth and production of raw materials

Bulk fuel storage in the zone: The Kenya Pipeline Company intends to set-up a strategy inland fuel storage facility in Kitui to serve the region including the Coal production in Mui. The bulk fuel storage facility will be served by the proposed railway line to the Mui basin and road link connecting Kitui and Kibwezi. The facility is likely to attract other services such as logistics, security and housing to meet the needs of the workers and operations

EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Market stalls and sheds: Decent market stalls and sheds will be constructed across the zone to boost trade and commerce.

Wholesale and retail Hub at Kwa Vonza: The County will develop incentives to encourage investors in Kwa Vonza town with a view to becoming a wholesale and retail Hub.

Market hub at Kanyonyoo: The Kanyonyoo market is strategically located along the junction of Nairobi – Garissa Road. This makes it suitable for a potential market hub. The necessary infrastructure will therefore be put in place to boost the hub.

Ballast Crusher and Pre-Cast Concrete Plant: Granite rocks that form part of the geological structure of the Yatta Plateau will be crushed to produce ballast for road and building construction industry. Ballast crusher plants will be set up to add value to the mineral resource and provide an alternative source of income to communities' in the Zone. Rock crushers may be operated by private entrepreneurs or community or youth cooperatives. Community cooperatives will ensure members get maximum benefits from the activity. Private investor initiatives will generate income and raise the standards of living within the Zone where the main operations may be located.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zone

Flagship Projects

Fresh produce markets in the zone: The zone is envisaged to be a big contributor to the food security strategy of the County. To this end, a fresh produce market will be established in the zone to provide farmers with a platform to market their produce and also increase production.

Market stalls and sheds: Decent market stalls and sheds will be constructed across the zone to boost trade and commerce.

Iron and Steel plant in Timboni: An iron and steel plant will be established in Timboni. The plant is expected to create employment opportunities

including emergence of auxiliary industries which are growth boosters. Value addition on iron ore mined in the zone will be promoted in order to attract significant investment and growth into the zone. The steel and iron products from the industry will find market in the Coal production area of Mui and Kitui County Headquarters where significant construction and facility development will take place.

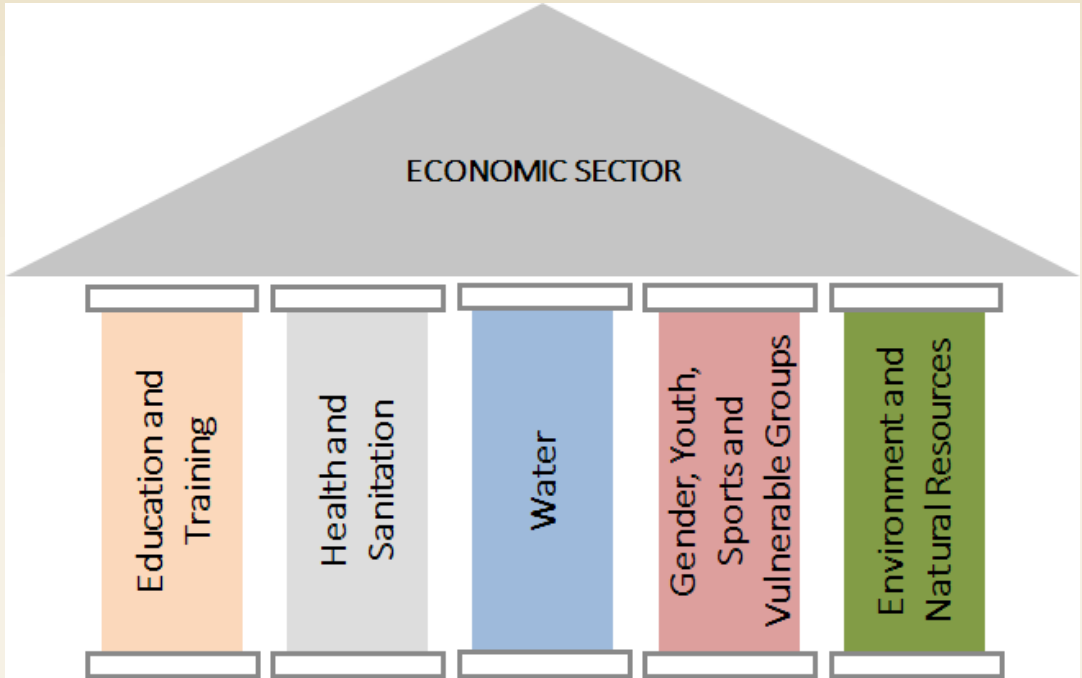
Ballast Crusher and Pre-Cast Concrete Plant: Granite rocks that form part of the geological structure of the Yatta Plateau can be crushed to produce ballast for road and building construction industry. In this regard, ballast crusher plants will be set up in the zone to add value to the mineral resource and provide an alternative source of income to communities' in the Zone. Rock crushers may be operated by private entrepreneurs or community or youth cooperatives. Community cooperatives will ensure members get maximum benefits from the activity. Private investor initiatives will generate income and raise the standards of living within the lower Athi Zone where the main operations may be located.

Other projects and programmes to be implemented over the plan period:

Exposing traders to trade shows, exhibition and fairs as well as ensuring the use of accurate weights and measures by traders: This will help build best practices among traders while equipping themselves with in-depth knowledge on current trends in addition to promoting fair and accurate trade.

CHAPTER FOUR:

SOCIAL PILLAR



Social Pillar Vision

The social pillar seeks to build Kitui County “as a place where people enjoy a high quality of life in a clean, safe and secure environment in both rural and urban areas”

4.0 Introduction

The sectors which make up the Social Pillar are Education, Training and skills development, Health and sanitation, Environment and natural resources, Water development and supply, Urbanization and Housing and Gender, Youth, sports, social services and Vulnerable Groups. The programmes and projects to be implemented in each of these sectors are geared to ensuring that they contribute towards prosperity and building a just and cohesive society that enjoys equitable social development in a clean and secure environment

4.1 Education, Training and Skills Development

Introduction

The County Government of Kitui recognizes education as the primary mean of social mobility, national cohesion and economic and social transformation. The County will therefore address constraints relating to access, quality, relevance, teachers employment and general management of basic education and skills development to achieve the vision aspirations.

Situation analysis

Kitui County has low literacy levels due to high school dropout rates, arising from high poverty levels, inadequate education facilities, low enrolment and low transition rates. The percentage of population with ability to read and write is 63.2% compared to the national level of 71.4%. The County Government will intensify the literacy campaign in an effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on universal free primary education.

The County will introduce child day care facilities, starting from the main marketplaces and later expanding to the rest of the County. This will enable working mothers to leave their children there and also breastfeed there, thus addressing issues of malnutrition in the County and strengthening bonding of mother-child. The day care centres will be staffed by caretakers who will be responsible for the welfare of the child.

Most of the ECDE centres in the County were in bad state when inherited from the National Government and therefore the County has gone a long way in refurbishing the existing these centres and construction of new ones to provide conducive learning environment to learners in the County. This has gone a long way in increasing the gross enrolment rate in the County as most young children of school going age can easily enrol in schools early following reduction of distances to the nearest ECDE centres. The ratio of teacher pupil ration in most wards schools meet the required ration of 1:40. This has improved quality of teaching as the teachers now have manageable number of pupils. Provision of the necessary learning materials to the centres has also improved with most ECDE centre being fully equipped and construction of outdoor play equipment's in most of them being done. The County will continue to equip the ECDEs to ensure that all ECDE centres in the zone have the entire necessary infrastructure to boost the education standard in the zone.

The table below shows the number of ECDE centres per ward in the zone

Table 2: ECDE Centres and Teacher Pupil Ratio in Kitui County

ECONOMIC ZONE	WARD	NO. OF CENTRES	TEACHER PUPIL	
			NO.OF TEACHERS	RATIO
MWINGI TOWN AND ITS ENVIRONS	1. WAITA	27	36	1:48
	2. KIOMO	36	44	1:40
	3. KYOME	52	74	1:30
	4. NGUUUTANI	35	51	1:37
	5. MIGWANI	48	79	1:31
	6. CENTRAL	20	28	1:20
	TOTAL		218	312
MUTOMO- IKUTHA-KANZIKO ZONE	1. IKANGA/KYATUNE	55	65	2:06
	2. MUTOMO	39	48	1:38
	3. IKUTHA	48	62	1:42
	4. KANZIKU	44	45	1:36
	5. MUTHA	39	41	1:52
	6. ATHI	70	90	1:39
TOTAL		295	351	
MUI BASIN ZONE	1. NGUNI	41	52	1:43
	2. KIVOU	27	34	1:44
	3. ENDAU/MALALANI	18	25	1:50
	4. NUU	41	45	1:45
	5. MUTITO	29	38	1:39
	6. NZOMBE	24	54	1:30
	7. VOO/KYAMATU	42	60	1:48
	8. MUI	30	37	1:45
TOTAL		252	345	
KANYANGI- KWA VONZA-KANYANGI ZONE	1. KWA VONZA YATTA	60	54	1:33
	2. KANYANGI	30	38	1:32
	TOTAL	90	92	
KYUSO- MUMONI-TSEIKURU ZONE	1. TSEIKURU	71	78	1:38
	2. THARAKA	27	31	1:27
	3. MUMONI	63	70	1:36
	4. KYUSO	73	93	1:32
	5. NGOMENI	27	31	1:42
TOTAL		261	303	
KITUI COUNTY HQs AND ITS ENVIRONS	1. KAUWI	31	62	1:31
	2. MUTONGUNI	47	84	1:40
	3. MATINYANI	29	54	1:37
	4. MIAMBANI	19	32	1:43
	5. KYANGWITHYA EAST	22	40	1:38
	6. KYANGWITHYA WEST	38	52	1:31
	7. KITHUMULA	24	48	1:30
	8. NZAMBANI	19	34	1:37
	9. MULANGO	32	63	1:34
	10. MBITINI	49	34	1:51
	11. CHULUNI	38	55	1:46
	12. KISASI	47	60	1:42
	13. TOWNSHIP	11	19	1:44
TOTAL		406	637	

Source: County Ministry of Basic Education, Training and Skills Development

In primary school level, though the County does not have full control of these facilities, several initiatives have undertaken in the zone towards improvement of the performance of primary schools in national school exams. Some of the initiatives implemented include: supporting low cost boarding primary schools in the zone, capacity building of teachers through trainings and workshops to enhance their competencies and facilitate County examination to boost competition in the County. A number of initiatives will be implemented to promote retention rates in primary school and transition rate from primary to secondary.

The table below shows the number of primary schools and teachers per ward in the zone:

Table 3: Primary Schools and Number of Teachers in Kitui County

ECONOMIC ZONE	WARD	NO. OF CENTRES	NO.OF TEACHERS	RATIO
MWINGI TOWN AND ITS ENVIRONS	1. WAITA	15	131	1:48
	2. KIOMO	33	216	1:40
	3. KYOME	29	225	1:30
	4. NGUUUTANI	27	219	1:37
	5. MIGWANI	42	284	1:31
	6. CENTRAL	15	131	1:20
	TOTAL		161	1,206
MUTOMO- IKUTHA-KANZIKO ZONE	1. IKANGA/KYATUNE	55	65	1:03
	2. MUTOMO	39	48	1:38
	3. IKUTHA	48	62	1:42
	4. KANZIKU	44	45	1:36
	5. MUTHA	39	41	1:52
	6. ATHI	70	90	1:39
TOTAL		295	351	
MUI BASIN ZONE	1. NGUNI	37	228	1:43
	2. KIVOU	26	167	1:44
	3. ENDAU/MALALANI	19	111	1:50
	4. NUU	49	141	1:45
	5. MUTITO	30	184	1:39
	6. NZOMBE	32	216	1:30
	7. VOO/KYAMATU	57	169	1:48
	8. MUI	27	167	1:45
TOTAL		277	1,383	
KANYANGI- KWA VONZA-KANYANGI ZONE	1. KWA VONZA YATTA	46	291	1:33
	2. KANYANGI	32	206	1:32
	TOTAL		78	497
KYUSO- MUMONI-TSEIKURU ZONE	1. TSEIKURU	53	274	1:38
	2. THARAKA	21	464	1:27
	3. MUMONI	69	453	1:36
	4. KYUSO	63	357	1:32
	5. NGOMENI	31	109	1:42
TOTAL		237	1,657	
KITUI COUNTY HQs AND ITS ENVIRONS	1. KAUWI	33	286	1:31
	2. MUTONGUNI	48	370	1:40
	3. MATINYANI	19	198	1:37
	4. MIAMBANI	24	154	1:43
	5. KYANGWITHYA EAST	24	240	1:38
	6. KYANGWITHYA WEST	31	268	1:31
	7. KITHUMULA	26	241	1:30
	8. NZAMBANI	17	164	1:37
	9. MULANGO	34	271	1:34
	10. MBITINI	26	271	1:51
	11. CHULUNI	29	226	1:46
	12. KISASI	31	171	1:42
	13. TOWNSHIP	13	210	1:44
TOTAL		355	3,070	

Source: County Ministry of Basic Education, Training and Skills Development

Both the national and County Government have initiated measures to increase the transition rates from primary to secondary school. However, the transition to the next level of education has been hampered by high poverty levels in the zone since some parents are not able to pay the required school fees. To ensure that dropout rates are at minimal at the County Government is supplementing National Government's efforts through implementation of pro poor program interventions such as providing bursaries to the bright and needy children in the zone. Initiatives to ensure better performance in national exams have also been initiated such as mentoring programmes for candidates in form four and facilitation of County examinations to boost competition in the County. The table below shows the number of secondary schools and teachers per ward in the zone

Table 4: Secondary Schools and Number of Teachers per Ward in Kitui County

ECONOMIC ZONE	WARD	NO. OF CENTRES	TEACHER PUPIL	
			NO.OF TEACHERS	RATIO
MWINGI TOWN AND ITS ENVIRONS	1. WAITA	3	15	1:48
	2. KIOMO	11	41	1:40
	3. KYOME	15	130	1:30
	4. NGUUUTANI	14	68	1:37
	5. MIGWANI	13	93	1:31
	6. CENTRAL	20	140	1:20
	TOTAL	76	487	
MUTOMO- IKUTHA-KANZIKO ZONE	1. IKANGA/KYATUNE	8	48	1:03
	2. MUTOMO	8	49	1:38
	3. IKUTHA	8	39	1:42
	4. KANZIKU	6	29	1:36
	5. MUTHA	6	19	1:52
	6. ATHI	11	57	1:39
	TOTAL	47	241	
MUI BASIN ZONE	1. NGUNI	14	45	1:43
	2. KIVOU	11	81	1:44
	3. ENDAU/MALALANI	3	5	1:50
	4. NUU	10	34	1:45
	5. MUTITO	8	22	1:39
	6. NZOMBE	6	14	1:30
	7. VOO/KYAMATU	7	20	1:48
	8. MUI	8	26	1:45
	TOTAL	67	247	
KANYANGI- KWA VONZA-KANYANGI ZONE	1. KWA VONZA YATTA	15	88	1:33
	2. KANYANGI	6	22	1:32
	TOTAL	21	110	
KYUSO- MUMONI-TSEIKURU ZONE	1. TSEIKURU	12	87	1:38
	2. THARAKA	4	17	1:27
	3. MUMONI	16	62	1:36
	4. KYUSO	16	102	1:32
	5. NGOMENI	4	19	1:42
	TOTAL	52	287	
KITUI COUNTY HQs AND ITS ENVIRONS	1. KAUWI	16		1:31
	2. MUTONGUNI	8	56	1:40
	3. MATINYANI	11	89	1:37
	4. MIAMBANI	7	23	1:43
	5. KYANGWITHYA EAST	10	90	1:38
	6. KYANGWITHYA WEST	12	111	1:31
	7. KITHUMULA	7	49	1:30
	8. NZAMBANI	6	75	1:37
	9. MULANGO	9	71	1:34
	10. MBITINI	9	56	1:51
	11. CHULUNI	10	41	1:46
	12. KISASI	7	44	1:42
	13. TOWNSHIP	4	56	1:44
	TOTAL	116	761	

Source: County Ministry of Basic Education, Training and Skills Development

The youth polytechnics will be refurbished and new ones constructed where they don't exist to cater for the out of school youth who were not able to complete basic education (Either primary or secondary). The polytechnics will also be equipped with the necessary tools and equipment.

The polytechnics will provide vocational and technical studies that are market oriented to enable these youth enhance their skills to be able to start income generating activities and also provide the necessary labour required in the labour market. Home craft centres in various wards across the County will also be constructed to promote the crafting of quality art, African baskets (kiondos), pottery, basketry, wood carvings, weaving, mats, and honey processing. These will provide the youth with necessary skills to

Goal for 2025

- Improving the quality of education in the zone through infrastructure development and equipping these institutions with the relevant learning materials, providing a conducive environment for learning for children and enhancing the capacity of the teachers through regular trainings.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Equipping ECDE centres and youth polytechnics with learning and IT materials to improve the quality of education in the zone;
- Provide support to primary boarding schools and mentor primary and secondary school candidates to improve their performance;
- Expand curriculum of youth polytechnics to match job market skills demanded and increase the number of ECDE centre and youth polytechnics in the zone to increase access; and
- Infrastructure development through improving physical and social infrastructure, and building of model classrooms and schools to ensure a pleasant learning environment.

Education Sector Flagship Projects

The Education, training and skills development sector

will implement the following flagship projects to achieve its goals

Education Sector Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Equipping schools with ICT and Science

infrastructure: Specific interventions within this flagship project include the equipping of secondary schools with modern science laboratory facilities and ICT hubs to equip students with necessary IT skills.

Establishing Tertiary Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institutions at Kyuso, Katse and Tseikuru:

A Tertiary Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institute will be established to cater for the skills and capacity development needs for the industrial and agricultural sectors. Providing a TVET facility will facilitate training of the community including youth and women on agricultural production skills and pottery /clay product manufacturing and other relevant training critical in the delivery of this Vision.

Establishment of a constituent college of a university to offering mining related courses in mining, hospitality and agriculture:

As the zone develops it will require professional human resource pool from the area to drive its growth. The County through partnerships with institutions of higher learning will work towards establishment of constituent colleges to offer tailor made courses that are market oriented and conform to the needs of the County and in particular driving its transformation agenda.

County mentorship programme: The County Government will continue to implement the County mentorship program to provide support services to enhance performance in national exams.

Low cost primary boarding school: To improve performance the County will construct, equip and

rehabilitate at least one low cost boarding school in each ward in the zone. This will go a long way to increase the enrolment rates and retention rates and promote equity in education indicators especially for disadvantaged areas

Upgrade Kyuso polytechnic to middle level tertiary institute: This will involve construction of additional facilities, equipping the centres with ICT equipment and increasing the curriculum to offer diploma courses that are market oriented to sectors in the zone.

Upgrading schools to be centre of excellence in the zone: The County Government will partner with the National Government to upgrade two schools per ward to centres of excellence.

Early childhood development programme (staffing and equipping): ECDE resource centres will be established in each of the wards in the zone including provision of stipends to ECDE teachers. Additional ECDE teachers will also be recruited.

Construction and equipping of Model ECDE classrooms: During the plan period, the County Government will construct and equip one Model ECDE classroom per ward in the zone to promote basic education.

Public library in Kyuso town: To promote a reading culture in the zone, the County Government in partnership Kenya National Library Services will construct a public library in Kyuso town. This will also ensure that there is a readily available source of knowledge and information in the zone to promote research in the driving sectors of the zone

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) programme: This will involve: review of ECDE policy framework and curriculum, establishment of one

ECDE classroom per ward and other classrooms in all primary schools, equipping of the ECDE centres with educational materials and outdoor playing equipment and provision of Stipends to ECDE teachers and employment of additional teachers. The County Government will also develop a framework for identifying children's inherent abilities and talents and aligning them to early childhood education and nurturing them for future professional training.

County mentorship programme; The Government will continue to implement the County mentorship programmes for primary and secondary candidates in order to boost performance in national exams.

Upgrading of polytechnics, curriculum expansion and establishment of a university constituent college: The County Government will, over the vision period upgrade Zombe polytechnic to a middle level tertiary institute offering diplomas. The County will also supply schools with science equipment and construct laboratories to support science oriented learning. Additionally, the County Government will establish networks with the local university to facilitate establishment of a constituent college offering mining and agriculture related courses.

Upgrading two secondary schools to be centres of excellence in the zone: Over the vision period, the Government will upgrade one boys' and one girls' school in the zone to centres of excellence in order to boost quality of education and enhance performance in national examinations.

Low cost primary boarding school: The County Government will facilitate construction, rehabilitation and equipping of at least two low cost boarding Primary schools in the zone. This will go a long way to increase the enrolment rates and ensure equity in education indicators especially for disadvantaged areas. This initiative will be complemented by a sensitization programme to ensure that parents enrol and retain children in school.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Establishing a University constituent college: As the zone develops it will require professional human resource pool from the area to drive its growth. The County Government will seek partnerships with institutions of higher learning to establish constituent colleges in the zone.

County mentorship programme: The County Government will initiate a program to provide support services to enhance performance in national exams.

Low cost primary boarding school: To improve performance the County will establish low cost boarding schools in each ward in the zone.

Upgrade Migwani polytechnic to middle level tertiary institute: This will involve construction of additional facilities, equipping the polytechnic with ICT equipment and expanding the curriculum to offer diploma courses that are market oriented and suited to the needs of the sectors in the zone.

Upgrading schools to be centre of excellence in the zone: The County Government in partnership with the national Government will upgrade two schools per ward to centres of excellence.

Early childhood development programme (staffing and equipping): ECDE resource centres will be established in each of the wards in the zone including provision of stipends to ECDE teachers. The additional recruitment of more ECDE teachers will be carried out.

Construction and equipping of Model ECDE classrooms: During the vision period the County Government will construct and equip one model ECDE classrooms per year in the zone to promote basic education.

Public library in Mui Town: As way to promote a

reading culture in the zone the County Government in partnership with Kenya National Library Services will construct a public library in Mui town. This will also ensure that there is a readily available source of knowledge and information.

Medical training institute: The County will require a healthy population to support the development process. A medical training college in this zone will train much needed medical staff who will in turn man the numerous health facilities in the zone and County.

EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

County mentorship programme: The County Government will continue to implement the County mentorship program to provide support services to enhance performance in the national exams.

Low cost primary boarding school: To improve performance, the County will construct, equip and rehabilitate low cost boarding schools in each ward in the zone. This will go a long way to increase the enrolment rates and retention rates and promote equity in education especially for disadvantaged areas

Upgrade Mulango polytechnic to middle level tertiary institute: This will involve construction of additional facilities, equipping the polytechnic with ICT equipment and expanding the curriculum to offer diploma courses that are market oriented to sectors in the zone.

Upgrading schools to be centre of excellence in the zone: The County Government in partnership with the National Government will upgrade two schools per ward in the zone to centres of excellence.

Early childhood development programme (staffing and equipping): ECDE resource centres will be established in each of the wards in the zone including provision of stipends to ECDE teachers. Additional ECDE teachers will also be recruited. This program will be implemented to

ensure increased enrolment rates in the zone.

Construction and equipping of Model ECDE classrooms: During the vision period the County Government will construct and equip one model ECDE classroom per ward per year in the zone to promote basic education.

Public library in Kitui town: To promote a reading culture in the zone the County Government in partnership Kenya National Library Services will construct a public library in Kitui Town. This will also ensure that there is a readily available source of knowledge and information in the zone that will also promote research in the driving sectors of the zone

**EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo
Economic And Investment Zones**

Flagship Projects

Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) programme: This programme will involve: review of ECDE policy framework and curriculum, establishment of ECDE model classrooms one per ward and other classrooms in all primary schools, equipping of the ECDE centres with educational materials and outdoor playing equipment and provision of Stipends to ECDE teachers while employing more to fill the staffing gaps. The County Government will also develop a framework for identifying children's inherent abilities and talents and aligning them to early childhood education and nurturing them for future professional training.

County mentorship programme; The Government will continue to implement the County mentorship programmes for primary and secondary candidates to boost performance in national exams. This will involve holding education stakeholders' consultative forums, giving incentives for science teachers and quality assurance programme.

Upgrading of polytechnics and curriculum expansion: The County Government will upgrade Kyusiani youth polytechnic to a middle level tertiary

institute offering diplomas.

Upgrading two secondary schools to be centres of excellence in the zone: Over the vision period, the County will upgrade at least one boys school and one girlssecondary school in the zone to centres of excellence to boost education and enhance performance in national examinations.

Low cost primary boarding school: The County Government will facilitate construction, rehabilitation and equipping of at least two low cost boarding Primary schools per ward. This initiative aims to increase the enrolment rates and promote equity as well as improving education indicators especially for disadvantaged areas. This will be complemented by a sensitization and awareness creation programme to ensure that parents enrol their children.

**EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic
And Investment Zones**

Flagship Projects

Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) programme: This programme will entail implementation of the following activities: review of ECDE policy framework and curriculum, establishment of at least one model ECDE classroom per ward and equipping of the ECDE centres with educational materials and outdoor playing equipment. The programme will also entail and provision of stipends to ECDE teachers.

County mentorship programme; The Government will continue to implement the County mentorship programmes for primary and secondary candidates in order to boost performance in national exams. This will involve holding of education stakeholders' consultative forums, provision of incentives for science teachers and quality assurance programme.

Upgrading of polytechnics and curriculum expansion: Mutomo youth polytechnic will be upgraded to a middle level tertiary institute to offer

diplomas. The County will also supply schools with science equipment and laboratories to support science oriented subjects in the Zone.

Upgrading two secondary schools to be centres of excellence in the zone: Over the vision period, the Government will facilitate the upgrading of one boys and one girls secondary school to be centres of excellence. This will go a long way in boosting quality of education in the zone and enhancing performance in national examinations.

Low cost primary boarding school: The County Government will facilitate construction, rehabilitation and equipping at least two low cost boarding Primary schools the zone. This will go a long way to increase the enrolment rates and ensure equity in education especially for disadvantaged areas. This will be complemented by a sensitization programme to ensure that parents enrol and retain children in school.

Voo Agricultural Research Station (VARS): The County and zone stand to benefit from the revamping of the agricultural research station at Voo whose focus is on research on dry land crops and environmental management of the ASAL areas. The research station will be used to develop suitable crops for the area which will in the long-run contribute towards food security in the County.

4.2 Health and Sanitation

Introduction

Better health is expected to play an important role in boosting economic growth as a healthy population lives longer and is more productive. However majority of people in the zone cannot afford quality health care services due to poverty. To lessen the disease burden in the zone the vision of Kitui will shift its focus from curative health care services to promotive and preventive health care services under the "*Pamoja tujikinga magonjwa integrated programme*". This will lead to improved access and equity to the available health care services and finally result in a healthy population that will contribute to the development of the zone.

Situation analysis

Although the County Government of Kitui inherited various health facilities spread across the entire County, a number of these facilities are in deplorable conditions and lack adequate equipment, personnel and essential drugs. The doctor to population ratio in the County stands at 1:28,130 against WHO recommended ratio of 1:10,000 and a nurse to population ratio of 1:2,652 against a recommended ratio of 1:500. The County Government is committed to the expansion and provision of modern health care services in all its health facilities.

During the vision period, the County referral hospitals will be equipped with ultra-modern CT scans and dialysis machines. An Intensive care unit, Hospice, Psychiatric unit and Maternity theatres will also be established in the 40 wards. The County Government will also establish blood donor services, County vaccine storage unit and a fully equipped orthopaedic, physiotherapy and occupational therapy unit (Rehabilitative units). To enhance referral and emergency services, the County Government will buy two (2) ambulances for each ward and establish 8 Sub-County hospitals. The County Government will utilize community strategy to facilitate establishment of additional community units from the current 74 units to 400 units.

The County Government is committed to providing quality medicines and equipment as well as provision of more funds to purchase of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals. In addition, additional staff will be recruited to cover the great shortage that exists in most health facilities.

The five main common diseases in the County are malaria, diarrhoea, Flu and Upper respiratory tract infection. The main causes of morbidity for children under 5 years in the County are: URTI, diarrhoea, skin diseases, intestinal worms, confirmed malaria, and pneumonia. Patients over 5 years of age die due to URTI, skin diseases, confirmed malaria, diarrhoea, URTI, rheumatism and hypertension.

Some of the child indicators such as malnutrition and low immunization coverage in the County are prevalent due to high poverty levels, deep rooted religious beliefs and ignorance among the people.

The infant and child mortality rates in the County are attributed to inaccessible health facilities, inadequate maternity services in the County and high number of deliveries by unskilled birth attendants. Measures will be taken to ensure that maternity services in the County are improved and have functional and well equipped health facilities in the entire County to ensure reduced infant and child mortality rates. Maternal health care services will also be improved in the County to ensure that mothers deliver their babies through skilled birth attendants and in fully functional maternities.

The latrine coverage in the County stands at 55.1% with about 1.6% using VIP toilets. However, some wards in the County have less than 50% latrine coverage. The County has initiated measures to ensure that the whole County will achieve 100% open defecation free (ODF) status by the end of the plan period.

Goal for 2025

- Rehabilitate and equip all health facilities in the County into fully functional facilities able to reach over 50% of the community in the zone with comprehensive community services under the “*pamoja tujikinge magonjwa*” integrated programme
- Increase the staffing levels in all health facilities to meet the recommended world health organization standards of doctor to patient ratio and nurse to patient ratio.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Creating comprehensive health regulations and the creation of an enabling environment to ensure increased private sector participation, and greater community involvement in service management.
- Increasing finances available to the health sector either through County budget allocation,

increased equitable share and partnerships.

- Ensure that the available resources are utilised more efficiently and reformed through improved governance, decentralisation of health facility management where possible with:
 - Emphasis on preventive services through the “*pamoja tujikinge magonjwa*” integrated programme
 - Enhanced collaboration with stakeholders and community involvement for reform efforts as required by the constitution to ensure proper community sensitization.

Health Sector Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Construct and upgrading of model level 3 health centres in each ward: Improved health services are essential to support economic and social transformation. To achieve the goals and aspirations under this sector, the County will prioritise provision of easily accessible, affordable and quality services to the population. The County Government will upgrade and construct model level 3 health centres in each ward in the zone to facilitate provision of affordable and quality health services.

Upgrading Tseikuru health centre to a fully functional level 4 hospital: To ensure that health services are available to all residents in the zone, the Tseikuru health centre will be upgraded to a level 4 status.

Community Based Health Care Services: Improved health services are essential to support economic and social transformation envisaged in this vision. Many households in this zone spend considerable resources seeking health services sometimes outside the County which denies them the ability to participate effectively in other important sectors such as agricultural production or education.

The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Upgrading Nuu, Nzombe and Mathuki to fully functional level 4 hospitals: To ensure that health services are available to all citizens in the zone, the three health facilities will be upgraded to a level 4 status.

Have a functional level 3 facility (health centre) in each ward: Fully functional health centres will be established in each ward, complete with a maternity wing and a theatre for minor surgeries.

Community Based Health Care Services: The County Government will prioritise community based health care services to achieve the goals of this vision under the health sector. This will be achieved through utilization of Community Extension health workers (CHEWs).

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Improve access to referral hospitals: A health population is key drive the desired economic and social transformation of the County. To achieve this long-term objective, the County Government in partnership with the National Government will upgrade the Mwingi district hospital in to a referral hospital during the vision implementation period.

Community based health services: The County Government will lay out strategies to promote preventive health services including; community-led sanitation programs which aim to declare the entire County open defecation free (ODF). The following additional projects will be implemented over the vision period: increasing latrine coverage from 88% to 100%, recruitment of 2,100 Community health volunteers through the *tulinde afya yetu program* and implementing measures under the HIV/AIDs program with a target of reducing the HIV/AIDs prevalence rate from 4.3% to 3.8%

Construct model level 3 health centres in each ward:

Improved health services are essential to support economic and social transformation in the zone and the County at large. In this regard model level 3 health centres will be constructed in each ward ensure enhance provision of affordable and quality health services.

EIZ 004: Kitui Country Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Improve access to teaching and referral hospitals: A healthy population is key for the growth of the economic zone. To ensure adequate of health personnel in terms of numbers and diversity of professions, the Kitui hospital will be upgraded to a teaching and referral hospital to train medical doctors.

Community based health services: The County Government will lay out strategies to promote preventive and curative health services including; community led total sanitation programs which aims to convert the entire County to an open defecation free (ODF). This programme will further entail increasing the latrine coverage from 88% to 100%. A total of 2,100 Community health volunteers will be recruited under *tulinde afya yetu program*. The programme also targets to reduce the HIV/AIDs prevalence rate from current 4.3% to 3.8% within the vision implementation period.

Construct and upgrading of model level 3 health centres in each ward: The County Government will upgrade and construct model level 3 health centres in the zone to enhance provision of affordable and quality health services.

EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Upgrading Kwa Vonza dispensary to an ultra-modern health facility: The County Government will

in the plan period upgrade Kwa Vonza Dispensary to an ultra-modern health facility to take care of the growing population.

Have a functional level 3 facility (health centre) in each ward: The County Government will ensure there is a fully functional health centres per ward, complete with a maternity wing and a theatre for minor surgeries. These will later be upgraded to level four facilities.

Community Based Health Care Services: The County Government will implement strategies to promote preventive mode of healthcare. This will be achieved through utilization of Community Extension health workers (CHEWs).

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Upgrading Mutomo health centre to a fully functional level 4 hospital: During the vision period, Mutomo health centre will be upgraded to a fully functional level 4 hospital.

Have a functional level 3 facility (health centre) in each ward: The planned fully functional health centres per ward, complete with a maternity wing and a theatre for minor surgeries, will go a long way in completing the level four facility.

Community Based Health Care Services: The County Government will be moving from curative to preventive mode of healthcare. This will be achieved through utilization of Community Extension health workers (CHEWs).

4.4 Water Development and Supply Introduction

Kitui Vision intends to ensure that the residents of Kitui County have access to clean water by 2025. The Country will put in place measures aimed at strengthening management of the County's

scarce water resources. To achieve this objective, a number of programmes and flagship projects will be implemented. Efficient water management will, therefore, not only contribute to sustainable long-term economic growth of the County, but also help poverty reduction and improved health.

Situation analysis

Kitui County is classified as arid and semi-arid area and receives unreliable rainfall. Similarly surface water sources are very scarce. The major sources of surface water are seasonal rivers that form during the rainy seasons and dry up immediately after the rains. The Athi and Tana Rivers are the only perennial rivers in the County and form the borders with neighbouring Counties. The seasonal rivers within the County flow in a general north, north-west direction and drain into Tana River. Seasonal rivers include Rivers Nzeeu, Tiva, Mwita Syano and Thua in Kitui while in Mwingi there is Tyaa, Enziu, Kamuwongo, Katse, and Muoo.

The County has several dams and water pans that play a significant role in providing water, such as Kalundu Dam. Most of the dams dry up during the dry season due to the high evaporation. Spring water is generally found on the hilly areas of the County namely: Mutitu, Endau and Mutha hills.

The majority of the population rely on surface and sub-surface dams which often do not hold sufficient water due to low rainfall and high evaporation rates during the dry seasons. The main sources of water in the County include 263 dams, 153 water pans/earth dams, 683 shallow wells, 297 boreholes, 33 protected springs, two permanent rivers namely Tana River and Athi River and 5 unprotected springs. The mean distance to a water source is 4.5 Km and a total of 4,774 households have roof catchment systems to harvest rainwater and the potential to increase this is high. A total of 21,183 households have access to piped water while a total of 92,498 household are able to access portable water. The County is served by 55 water supply schemes and several water resource users associations. There are 80 water catchment areas in the County that require conservation and rehabilitation.

Goal for 2025:

To improve access to safe water and sanitation to between 70 and 90 per cent for all residents in the County.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- The goal of ensuring the residents have access to safe water will use the County Government networks, and the private sector, where necessary. The water programmes will integrate both water and sanitation components, thereby ensuring simultaneous development of water and sanitation with the right pricing.
- **Increasing the capacity for water storage and harvesting:** Over the vision period, deliberate efforts will be taken to increase water storage and harvesting in the zone. Increased water resources will also be combined with an efficient distribution of water resources.
- Effective management of water resources through: enforcing regulations; encouraging formation of water resource users' associations by communities to assist in self-regulation; and promoting fair allocation of water among users for sustainability.
- Water harvesting and storage will be enhanced by improving water infrastructure. The plan is to construct more earth dams and sub-surface dams especially along seasonal rivers to harvest water during rainy seasons.

Water Development and Supply Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Water master plan: The County Government will undertake a comprehensive study of the zones water sources, storage, treatment and delivery systems to guide sustained water planning, management and utilisation for residential and industrial purposes.

Increasing water storage and harvesting: Over the vision period, the following initiatives will be

implemented under this programme: Construction of 60 sand dams per in line with the results of the mapping exercise, construction of a Mega dam along Tyaa, Kaste, Wangustu, Thuamatingani, Kalatine {Wuusi Wuumu} to provide water for domestic and irrigation. The construction the dam will be essential for storing surplus river waters available during wet periods and for utilization of the same during lean periods.

Increasing water supply and sanitation: A water treatment plant will be set up in the zone to ensure the residents have access to clean water for domestic use. In addition pipelines will be laid for distribution of the water to residents

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Water master plan: A comprehensive study will be undertaken to determine the water potential and needs in the zone. The study will inform development of the water master plan which will be used to guide sustained supply and general management of water in the region.

Increasing water storage and harvesting: Over the vision period, the County Government will come up with strategies and projects to harvest and store rain water. Some of the activities to be implemented under this programme include: construction of 60 sand dams per ward informed by the water master plan, construction of Mega dams along Enziu and Thua river to provide water for domestic and irrigation, construction of Kiongwe dam / water reservoir for storing surplus river waters. These dams will play a dual role of harnessing the river waters for accelerating economic and social growth and mitigate against flooding. The Kiongwe dam is expected to supply water to the Mui coal production facility whose water demands are high.

Increasing water supply and sanitation: Over the vision period, a water treatment plant will be set up

in the zone to ensure the residents get clean water for domestic use. In addition pipelines will be laid for distribution of the water to residents.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Develop a water master plan for the zone: A comprehensive study will be undertaken to determine the water potential and needs in the zone. The study will inform development of a water master plan which will be used to guide sustained supply and general management of water in the region

Increase coverage of water supply in the zone: Key projects to be implemented under this programme will be completion of the Kiambere phase II water supply project, rehabilitation and expansion of the Kiambere-Mwingi water supply distribution pipeline to cover 10km radius from the town and laying of a new pipeline from Tana River to kwasiku.

Water treatment and sewerage plant: A water and sewerage plant will be established in the zone. This will ensure water for domestic use is clean and safe for consumption.

Construction and rehabilitation of dams in the zone: Under this programme, the County Government rehabilitate major dams. They include Migwani Dam, Nzeluni Dam, Kasyethau Dam, and Nzauni Dam

EIZ 004: Kitui Town Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Develop a water master plan for the zone: A comprehensive study will be undertaken to determine the water potential and needs in the zone. The study will inform development of water master plan which will be used to guide sustained supply and general management of water in the region especially for residential and industrial use.

Increase coverage of water supply in the zone: A key project would be to complete the Masinga water supply project, rehabilitation and expansion of water supply distribution to cover 10km radius from the town.

Water treatment and sewerage plant: Over the vision period, a water and sewerage plant will be established in the zone. This will ensure water for domestic use is clean and safe for consumption.

Construction and rehabilitation of mega dams in the zone: Under this programme, the County Government will complete and rehabilitate six major dams. They include Umaa dam, Kalundu dam, Yumbu dam, Matingani dam, Ndiuni dam and Nzeeu dam.

EIZ 005: Kanyangi -Kanyonyoo-Kwa Vonza Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Water master plan: A comprehensive study will be undertaken to determine the water potential and needs in the zone. The study will inform development of a water master plan to guide sustained supply and general management of water in the region

Increasing water storage and harvesting: Over the vision period, strategies and programmes will be implemented to harvest and store rain water. Some of the activities to be implemented under this programme include: Construction of 60 sand dams per ward, construction of a Medium sized dams along Thwake and Mitamisiano rivers to provide water for domestic and irrigation. It is anticipated that construction of these dams will facilitate storing of surplus waters.

Increasing water supply and sanitation: Under this initiative, a water treatment plant will be set up in the zone to ensure the residents get clean water for domestic use. In addition pipelines will be laid for distribution of the water to residents. The **Athi-Kanyangi-Mutomo water project** will be expanded

to ease the perennial water shortage experienced in the Mutomo and Lower Athi region. Access to clean water will lead to a reduction in of water borne diseases and other health challenges associated with the use of dirty / untreated water.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Water master plan: A comprehensive study will be undertaken to determine the water potential and needs in the zone. The study will inform development of a water master plan which will be used to guide sustained supply and general management of water in the region

Increasing water storage and harvesting: Over the vision period, a number of projects will be implemented to harvest and store rain water. Some of the activities to be implemented under this initiative include: Construction of 60 sand dams per ward in the zone in line with the water harvesting master plan, construction of a Mega dam along Tiva river at Kasaala to provide water for domestic and irrigation. The dam will play a dual role of harnessing the river waters for accelerating economic and social growth and mitigate against flooding. The dam is expected to supply water to the lower Athi and Mutomo locations.

Increasing water supply and sanitation: Under this programme, a water treatment plant will be set up in the zone to ensure the residents get clean water for domestic use. In addition pipelines will be laid for distribution of the water to residents. The **Athi-Kanyangi-Mutomo water project** will be expanded to ease the perennial water shortage experienced in the Mutomo and Lower Athi region. Access to clean water will lead to a reduction in of water borne diseases and other health challenges associated with the use of dirty / untreated water.

4.5 Gender, Youth, Sports, Social Services and Vulnerable Groups

Introduction

Gender equality is guaranteed by the Constitution of Kenya, however there are still challenges in the County and this evidenced in the access to formal employment, credit and financial services, land ownership, education, access to health services, sexual harassment cases, gender based violence, harmful cultural practices and general discrimination. The County Government is working to promote gender equality and empower women at different levels. In the education sector, the County is providing support to the girl child to access basic pre-primary education and addressing adult literacy rates. In the Finance sector, a number of funds and programmes have been setup to provide additional financial support to uplift the standards of women. As a result of these interventions, positive results are being witnessed. Access to credit facilities is also increasing, thus enabling women to raise their incomes and reduce the gap in earned incomes between men and women.

In the Health sector, strategies will be put in place to improve maternal health care and access to skilled health personnel and family planning. Measures will also be put in place to eradicate gender-based violence, reduce the rate of high-risk sex through increased access to safe sex, and rehabilitate, manage and control of commercial sex workers. The County Administration is also striving to comply with the constitutional requirement on gender balance that women should constitute at least a third of the persons employed in the public sector. To address this constitutional requirement, the County Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2013/14 was developed and is before the County assembly awaiting enactment and subsequent implementation.

Social Services

The social services department will put in place mechanisms to respond and address issues of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, children in distress and Gender Based Violence among other issues. The County will therefore facilitate development of a County Drug

and Alcohol Abuse Policy and a County Gender Based Violence policy and mainstream them to its projects and programmes. The County will further develop leadership and skills among youth as well as mobilize youth groups to engage in incoming generating activities. The youth will also be assisted to identify and nurture their talents through art, sports and culture.

Sports and Culture

Sporting and cultural activities will be exploited as a vehicle for social integration and economic development. This will include rehabilitation of sports stadia across the County. The County will also facilitate rehabilitation and re-integration of people in conflict prone zones into the society.

Vulnerable groups

Special attention will be given to people with special needs such as the aged, people living with disabilities (PLWDs) and people living with HIV / AIDS, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), under age mothers and persons living below the poverty line. Strategies will be developed to mainstream this category to the development of the County.

Goal for 2025

To promote gender equality and empower women and the youth integration into different sectors to uplift their economic and social status

Strategies to address gender disparities

In order to reduce gender disparities, a number of strategies will be implemented under the Vision. Key among them will be:

- Implementation of the affirmative action by giving priority to female employees in the County Public Service in order to progressively attain the 30 per cent gender representation in recruitment, promotion and appointment of women to all decision making levels; and
- Development and implementation of the relevant policies and strategies to safeguard the interest of women and to mainstream them into County development.

To support the implementation of the above-mentioned flagship projects, the following two initiatives will be pursued:-

- Development and implementation of a County Gender Based Violence Policy;
- Operationalisation of the County Gender Mainstreaming Policy to mainstream Gender in County Government plans, budgets and programmes; and
- Development and implementation of a County Gender Based Violence policy.

Strategies to address youth challenges

To mainstream youth fully to the development of the County, the following strategies will be adopted over the vision period:-

1. Creating more education and employment opportunities for the youth:
 - Training the youth in technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skills to increase their productivity and enable them to participate fully in productive activities;
 - Creativity and entrepreneurship: The development of talent, creative skills, entrepreneurial mind-set and cultural expressions should be promoted among young people; and
 - Behavioural and life skills to mould their character and help them make appropriate choices in life.
2. Revision of education and training curriculum at Youth polytechnics to enable the production of skills that are demand-driven and to mould character and appropriate behaviour.
3. Rehabilitation of youth polytechnics to raise the levels of technical and entrepreneurial skills produced to support economic development.
4. Development of education programmes to upgrade skills of non-formal and out of school operators
5. Development of youth targeted programmes (Youth investment and saving programme) to:
 - Reduce youth unemployment (thus reducing

their engagement in criminal activities);

- Increase space for youth to participate in positions of leadership;
- Reduce new HIV/AIDS infections, as well as teenage pregnancies and drug abuse among the youth;
- Promote sports, music and the film industries so as to enable the youth develop their talents in these areas, thus expanding their income opportunities

Strategies to address vulnerable groups

The following strategies will be deployed to reduce vulnerabilities among the vulnerable groups and orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs):-

- Empowering people with special needs to make them self-reliant;
- Enhancing support to orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) to reduce dependency;
- Reducing the number of orphans; and
- Initiate programmes geared towards reducing deaths caused by HIV and AIDS.

Gender, Youth, Sports, Social Services and Vulnerable Groups Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Gender

Increase women representation at the executive level in all branches of County Government

Youth

Community resource centre: Rehabilitation or construction of one youth community resource centre in each ward in the zone.

Youth investment and saving programme: To empower the Youth the County Government will promote a culture of saving and investment among the youth. The County will also design programs aimed at facilitating youth to access affordable credit facilities.

Sports and culture

Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex: An ultra-modern sports stadium will be constructed in the zone to promote and nurture the sporting prowess among the Youth. The stadia will be expected to host sporting activities outside the region and generate income through hosting of both national tournaments.

Construction of a heritage museum: This will aim at documenting and preserving the Kamba people's heritage.

Vulnerable groups

Pro-poor support program: Measures will be implemented to support children from poor backgrounds. A key initiative of this programme entails ring-fencing funds in the budget to provide education bursaries to support children from poor backgrounds access education and uplift their standards of living.

Establish a Data bank of the vulnerable groups (orphans, PLD, minorities): The County will establish a data bank of all vulnerable people in the zone to facilitate development and implementation of effective intervention programmes.

Modernisation and/or construction of facilities for the physically challenged: The County Government will develop and modernise existing facilities in the region to adequately address the needs of physically challenged.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Gender

Increase women representation at the executive level in all branches of County Government

Youth

Community resource centre: The County Government will rehabilitate or construct of one youth community resource centre in each ward in the zone.

Youth investment and saving programme: To empower the Youth the County Government will promote a culture of saving and investment among. The County will also design programs aimed at facilitating youth to access affordable credit facilities.

Sports

Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex: An ultra-modern sports stadium will be constructed in the zone to promote and nurture the sporting prowess among the Youth. The stadia will be expected to host sporting activities outside the region and generate income through hosting of both national tournaments.

Vulnerable Groups

Pro-poor support program: Measures will be implemented to support children from poor backgrounds. A key initiative of this programme entails ring-fencing funds in the budget to provide education bursaries to support children from poor backgrounds access education and uplift their standards of living. The County will also establish partnerships to set up an education fund modelled along the Equity Bank *Wings to fly programme*.

Establish a Data bank of the vulnerable groups (orphans, PLD, minorities): The County will establish a data bank of all vulnerable people in the zone to facilitate development and implementation of effective intervention programmes.

Modernisation and/or construction of Facilities for the physically challenged: The County Government will develop and modernize any existing facilities in the region to adequately address the needs of physically challenged.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Youth

Community resource centre: The County Government will rehabilitate or construct of one youth community resource centre in each ward in the zone.

Youth investment and saving programme: To empower the Youth the County Government will promote a culture of saving and investment among. The County will also design programs aimed at facilitating youth to access affordable credit facilities.

Sport

Construction and establishment of a talent academy: The County Government will construct in the zone a talent academy to tap into the already existing pool of talent and develop them into careers that will promote economic and social transformation.

Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex: An ultra-modern sports stadium will be constructed in the zone to promote sports and nurture the sporting prowess among the Youth. The stadia will be expected to host sporting activities outside the region and generate income through hosting of both national tournaments.

Vulnerable groups

Pro-poor support program: Measures will be implemented to support children from poor backgrounds. A key initiative of this programme entails ring-fencing funds in the budget to provide education bursaries to support children from poor backgrounds access education and uplift their standards of living. The County will also partner with other stakeholders to set up an education fund modelled along the Equity Bank *Wings to fly programme*.

Establish a Data bank of the vulnerable groups (orphans, PLD, minorities): The County will establish a data bank of all vulnerable people in the zone

to facilitate development and implementation of effective intervention programmes.

Modernisation and/or construction of facilities for the physically challenged:The County Government will develop and modernise existing facilities in the region to adequately address the needs of physically challenged. The targeted areas are Kyome and Migwani.

EIZ 004: Kitui Town Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Increase women representation at the executive level in all branches of Government

Youth

Community resource centre:The County Government will rehabilitate or construct of one youth community resource centre in each ward in the zone.

Youth investment and saving programme: To empower the Youth, the County Government will promote a culture of saving and investment among. The County will also design programs aimed at facilitating youth to access affordable credit facilities.

Construction of a Kitui County Theatre: In order to promote theatre and film production as source of income especially among the youth, a Kitui County Theatre will be constructed where the youth will be supported to exploit their talents in theatre, film and play production.

Sports

Construction and establishment of a talent academy: A talent academy will be constructed in the zone to tap in the already existing pool of talent and develop them into careers that will promote economic and social transformation. The Academy will be benchmarked with some of the internationally renowned academies.

Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex: An ultra-modern sports stadium will be constructed in the zone to promote sports and nurture the sporting prowess among the Youth. The stadia will be expected to host sporting activities outside the region and generate income through hosting of both national tournaments.

Vulnerable groups

Pro-poor support program: The County Government will implement measures to support children from poor backgrounds. A key initiative of this programme entails ring-fencing funds in the budget to provide education bursaries to support children from poor backgrounds access education and uplift their standards of living. The County will also partner with other partners to set up an education fund.

Establish a Data bank of the vulnerable groups (orphans, PLD, minorities): The County will establish a data bank of all vulnerable people in the zone to facilitate development and implementation of effective intervention programmes.

Modernisation and/or construction of facilities for the physically challenged: The County Government will develop and modernise existing facilities in the region to adequately address the needs of physically challenged

EIZ 005: Kyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Gender

Measures will be implemented to increase women representation at the executive level in all branches of Government

Youth

Community resource centre: The County will establish a Community resource centre in the zone to offer the community training and skills in business and entrepreneurship, ICT, technical and training.

Communities in the zone will benefit from training and skills enhancement on other important aspects such as natural resource conservation including mitigating against climate change, community cohesion, improving governance and building partnerships.

Youth investment and saving programme: To empower the Youth the County Government will promote a culture of saving and investment among. The County will also design programs aimed at facilitating youth to access affordable credit facilities.

Sport

Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex: An ultra-modern sports stadium will be constructed in the zone to promote sports and nurture the sporting prowess among the Youth. The stadia is expected to host sporting activities outside the region and generate income through hosting of both national tournaments.

Vulnerable groups

Pro-poor support program: The County Government will implement measures to support children from poor backgrounds. A key initiative of this programme entails ring-fencing funds in the budget to provide education bursaries to support children from poor backgrounds access education and uplift their standards of living.

Establish a Data bank of the vulnerable groups (orphans, PLD, minorities): The County will establish a data bank of all vulnerable people in the zone to facilitate development and implementation of effective intervention programmes.

Modernisation and/or construction of facilities for the physically challenged: The County Government will develop and modernise existing facilities in the region to adequately address the needs of physically challenged

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Youth

Community resource centre: A Community resource centre will be established in the zone to offer the community training and skills in business and entrepreneurship, ICT, technical and training. Communities in the zone will benefit from training and skills enhancement and other important aspects such as natural resource conservation including mitigating against climate change, community cohesion, improving governance and building partnerships.

Youth investment and saving programme: To empower the Youth the County Government will promote a culture of saving and investment among. The County will also design programs aimed at facilitating youth to access affordable credit facilities.

Sports

Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex: A Ultra-Modern stadia complex will be established in the zone to provide the community with space for recreation and also for hosting official functions, events and performances. A stadium complex will support the growth of sports and performance talents especially by the youth. A stadium is also expected to generate income and employ more people especially outstanding youth in its management.

Vulnerable groups

Pro-poor support program: The County Government will implement measures to support children from poor backgrounds. A key initiative of this programme entails ring-fencing funds in the budget to provide education bursaries to support children from poor backgrounds access education and uplift their standards of living. The County will also partner with other partners to set up an education fund modelled along the Equity Bank *Wings to fly programme*.

Establish a Data bank of the vulnerable groups(orphans, PLD, minorities): The County will

establish a data bank of all vulnerable people in the zone to facilitate development and implementation of effective intervention programmes.

Modernisation and/or construction of facilities for the physically challenged: The County Government will develop and modernise existing facilities in the region to adequately address the needs of physically challenged

4.6 Environment and Natural Resources

Introduction

The growth of the County will be dependent on agriculture, tourism, manufacturing and the energy sector, which heavily rely on utilization of natural resources and the environment. The proposed development project under KIVEST will have major environmental impacts and should have adequate mitigation measures.

Situation analysis

The conservation of water catchment areas and riparian in the zones will result in the transformation of already depleted and fragile zones to create ecosystem balance. Some of the hills have forests and vegetation of medicinal and ornamental value whose preservation will attract interest from local and international partners. Tree species of medicinal and timber value can be harvested and marketed for economic gains. The conservation of hill top areas will prevent soil erosion and improve on the recharging of underground aquifers. The zone has two gazetted forests namely Mumoni hills and Kakuyu. This forest must be rehabilitated if proper conservation is to be achieved.

The rehabilitation of disused mining areas will help to restore the ecology (flora and fauna). Additionally, the rehabilitation of areas after mining activities will help to restore the aesthetic and scenic elements of the areas to a reasonable level. The mining areas are also important ground water and aquifer recharging areas and can be managed under the community forest / conservation association arrangements. Managing formerly mining areas by the County and community will offer opportunities to conserve shrines and

other traditionally and culturally sensitive areas. Fully rehabilitated areas can be used to promote tourism and recreation activities.

Fully rehabilitated areas offer the opportunity to condition the micro-climatic dynamics in the economic and investment zones. Restoring areas offers communities the opportunity to supply seedlings and planting material and their management which translates to income and potential employment / engagement.

Through the conservation of natural resources, opportunities for the establishment of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) to manage and control use of natural resources in the protected areas are established. Communities are therefore empowered to take charge of their natural resources for the benefit of all. These benefits are both social and economic.

The protection and conservation of forest resources has potential direct benefits to the Bee keeping industry, which relies on vegetation cover. The forested areas are important sources of water which feeds into springs and streams flowing downstream.

Goal for 2025

To support the conservation of forest to increase current forest cover to the required 10 per cent and support wildlife conservation by protecting all wildlife ecosystems especially in the Mwingi North and South Kitui game reserves. This is in addition to reducing hazards related to an unhealthy environment thereby ensuring a clean, healthy and secure environment.

Strategies to achieve the goal

In order to deliver the goals for 2025, specific strategies need to be implemented in each of the four identified strategies.

- Rehabilitation of degraded water catchments areas by planting trees while promoting on-farm forestry. This will include promotion of indigenous trees like *Mukau*, strengthening of forest producer groups, use of farm forestry school fields and school greening;
- Secure wildlife corridors and migratory routes and

- reverse wildlife loss in the County;
- Develop a sustainable land use policy for common grazing areas;
- Develop and enforce mechanisms targeting pollution and solid waste management; and
- Formulate comprehensive policies and laws to ensure sustainable utilization of resources

Environment and Natural Resources Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Environmental Conservation in Water Catchment Areas and Mining Areas: The conservation of water catchment areas and other fragile zones will ensure that water sources and supply are protected and able to meet the needs of the population. Equally, the restoration and conservation of formerly mined areas will ensure that the land potential is restored. Conservation of these areas will require elaborate tree and vegetation cover planting and management.

Pollution reduction strategies: Mining of Limestone will no doubt bring with it pollution challenges. The County Government will put in appropriate strategies to ensure the situation is contained including extensive research in effective pollution reduction strategies.

Sand harvesting and charcoal burning regulatory framework: Over the vision period, the County Government will formulate comprehensive legal tools to promote sustainable charcoal burning and sand harvesting. This will go a long way in protecting both forests and riverine areas.

Solid waste disposal management programme: The programme will target setting up of waste disposal sites outside the urban areas in the zone and also facilitate waste recycling programmes.

Afforestation programme: The County Government will continue supporting tree planting across the zone by providing seedling to institution and farmers. The objective of this activity is to increase forest cover in

the County, which is mainly arid or semi-arid in nature.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Rehabilitation and Protection of water catchment areas: This programme will entail rehabilitation and protection of the zones water catchment areas by rehabilitating them through tree planting and restricting human encroachment.

Pollution reduction strategies: Mining of coal will no doubt bring with it pollution challenges. The County Government will put in appropriate strategies to ensure the situation is contained including extensive research in effective pollution reduction strategies.

Sand harvesting and charcoal burning regulatory framework: Over the vision period, the County Government will formulate comprehensive legal tools to promote sustainable charcoal burning and sand harvesting. This will go a long way in protecting both forests and riverine areas.

Solid waste disposal management programme: The programme will target setting up of waste disposal sites outside the urban areas in the zone and also facilitate waste recycling programmes.

Afforestation programme: The County Government will continue supporting tree planting across the zone by providing seedling to institution and farmers. The objective of this activity is to increase forest cover in the County which is mainly arid or semi-arid in nature

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Solid waste disposal management programme: The program will consist of setting a waste disposal site outside the town centre and waste recycling programs.

Afforestation program: The County Government will embark on tree planting initiative in the zone especially in Kiomo Hills, Kyamutoty Hill and Manguva Dam.

Rehabilitation and protection of water catchment areas: The program will consist of rehabilitation and protection of the zones water catchment areas including planting trees and preventing human encroachment.

Regulatory framework for sand harvesting and charcoal burning: The County Government will formulate legal frameworks to promote sustainable sand harvesting and charcoal burning to protect riverine areas

EIZ 004: Kitui Town Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Solid waste disposal management programme: The program will consist of setting a waste disposal site outside the town centre and facilitate waste recycling programs.

Afforestation program: The County Government will embark on tree planting initiative in the zone especially in Kyandula hills, Masaku hill, Mutongoni hill, Kyulu hill, Kyamwea hill and other hills

Rehabilitation and protection of water catchment areas: The program will involve rehabilitation and protection of the zones water catchment areas including planting trees and preventing human encroachment.

Regulatory framework for sand harvesting and charcoal burning: The County Government will formulate legal frameworks to promote sustainable sand harvesting and charcoal burning to protect riverine areas

EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Rehabilitation and Protection of water catchment areas: This programme will entail rehabilitation and protection of the zones water catchment areas by rehabilitating them through tree planting and restricting human encroachment.

Pollution reduction strategies: Mining of Limestone and Iron ore will no doubt bring with it pollution challenges. The County Government will put in appropriate strategies to ensure the situation is contained including extensive research in effective pollution reduction strategies.

Sand harvesting and charcoal burning regulatory framework:

Over the vision period, the County Government will formulate comprehensive legal tools to promote sustainable charcoal burning and sand harvesting. This will go a long way in protecting both forests and riverine areas.

Solid waste disposal management programme: The programme will target setting up of waste disposal sites outside the urban areas in the zone and also facilitate waste recycling programmes.

Afforestation programme: The County Government will continue supporting tree across the zone by providing seedling to institution and farmers. The objective of this activity is to increase forest cover in the County which is mainly arid or semi-arid in nature.

Environmental Plan: The County will prepare an environmental plan to address the environmental degradation. It is important that a clear environmental plan is put in place to facilitate the rehabilitation of formerly mined areas. This will also ensure that there is a framework for ecological restoration once mining is complete, and will ultimately benefit the residents and future land use.

EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Rehabilitation and Protection of water catchment areas:

This programme will entail rehabilitation and protection of the zones water catchment areas by rehabilitating them through tree planting and restricting human encroachment.

Pollution reduction strategies: Mining of Limestone and Iron ore will no doubt bring with it pollution challenges. The County Government will put in appropriate strategies to ensure the situation is contained including extensive research in effective pollution reduction strategies.

Sand harvesting and charcoal burning regulatory framework:

Over the plan period, the County Government will formulate comprehensive legal tools to promote sustainable charcoal burning and sand harvesting. This will go a long way in protecting both forests and riverine areas.

Solid waste disposal management programme:

The programme will target setting up of waste disposal sites outside the urban areas in the zone and also facilitate waste recycling programmes.

Afforestation programme:

The County Government will continue supporting tree across the zone by providing seedling to institution and farmers. The objective of this activity is to increase forest cover in the County which is mainly arid or semi-arid.

4.7 Housing and Urbanization

Introduction

The two major towns of Kitui and Mwingi are the primary urban centres. Other upcoming urban centres include; Mutomo, Kwa Vonza, Migwani, Tseikuru, Kabati, Tulia, Katse, Ikutha, Mutitu/ Ndooa, Zombe, Kyusyuni, Kyuso and Nguni.

Rapid urbanisation in urban centres coupled with increased unplanned settlements due to population increase and persistent drought have resulted to loss of environmental quality and health deterioration, water pollution, loss of biodiversity, encroachment of fragile ecosystems and urban decay. The widespread accumulation of solid wastes and liquid wastes in urban areas is also an environmental hazard culminating in soil, air and water pollution and increased incidences of respiratory and water borne diseases. The National and County Governments have not been able to provide social housing to the increasing number of urban residents.

Goal for 2025

To set up a foundation for sustainable urban growth and management and provide physical and social infrastructure in order to promote more balanced economic growth throughout the County.

Strategies to achieve the goal

- Ensure proper planning and management of urban areas of the County;
- Development control through approval of all Housing development Plans, site inspection, receiving and commenting Environmental Impact Assessments;
- Geospatial surveys across the County to map urban growth and development.

Housing and Urbanization Flagship Projects

EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni - Tseikuru Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Tseikuru Agricultural Hub City: The anticipated growth and development of the agricultural and mining industry will attract investment and migrant labour in the zone. Existing urban and market centres will grow and expand as a result. Tseikuru which is the main hub in the zone will grow to cater for the needs of the new population and investment. An agricultural hub will offer services to farmers and facilities for

trade and logistics. The agricultural hub will also have agro-based industries and related services which will attract a large number of people including investors. A plan to guide the future growth of the agricultural hub is essential to ensure un-controlled development is avoided. The plan will identify areas for the various uses including commercial, residential, industrial, and public cum utilities zones.

Preparation Kyuso-Mumoni-Tseikuru urban centres plan (part development plan and spatial master plan):The mining and agricultural activities in the zone will attract a large workforce from within and outside the County. This will also attract investors who will provide services including commercial and social amenities. There is need therefore to provide guidance to the anticipated growth of activities that support the mining venture. A land-use plan detailing key infrastructure and spatial layout of various uses will be prepared. The plan will also provide for future growth and a framework for urban environmental management.

EIZ 002: The Mui Basin Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Preparation Mui zone urban centres plans (part development plan and spatial master plan):The mining activities in Mui Basin will attract a large workforce from within and outside the County. This will also attract investors who will provide services including commercial and social amenities. There is need therefore to provide guidance to the anticipated growth of activities that support the mining venture. A land-use plan detailing key infrastructure and spatial layout of various uses will be prepared. The plan will also provide for future growth and a framework for urban environmental management.

EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Preparation Mwingi town plan (part development

plan and spatial master plan):The anticipated growth of Mwingi Town owing to the mining activities in Mui Basin and industrial growth in the economic zone calls for a town plan which guides land-uses and enhances the quality of the living environment and human settlement. A well planned urban area will attract significant investment in service provision and associated activities. Planning will ensure proper land-use for current and strategic uses. A vibrant commercial centre with all the necessary amenities is an important feature to support the industrial growth. Additionally, the plan will outline major infrastructure services and provide frameworks for development control and waste management.

Low-cost housing: Enhance efforts to design and implement truly low-cost housing Models/prototypes/pre-approved building plans. This will be promoted through rural technical institutes.

Establishment of Town management boards: The Urban and Cities Act, 2012 section 14 states that there shall be a board of municipalities which shall comprise nine members of whom four shall be appointed and five elected in the prescribed manner. The County will therefore facilitate establishment of relevant boards.

EIZ 004: Kitui Town Headquarters and its Environs Economic And Investment Zones

Flagship Projects

Preparation Kitui town master plan (part development plan and spatial master plan): The anticipated growth of Kitui Town owing to the mining activities in Mui Basin and Mutomo industrial growth in the economic zone calls for a town plan which guides land-uses and enhances the quality of the living environment and human settlement. A well planned urban area will attract significant investment in service provision and associated activities. Planning will ensure proper land-use for current and strategic uses. A vibrant commercial centre with all the necessary amenities is an important feature to support the industrial growth. Additionally, the plan will outline major infrastructure services and provide

frameworks for development control and waste management.

Gentrification of Kitui town will also be key. Many informal settlements have led to a town that is not properly planned from an urban planning perspective. However, there is still an opportunity to gentrify under-developed sections of the town. Proper coordination with Urban planners will help in zoning the town to incentivize structural upgrades and to limit number of informal structures.

Low-cost housing: Enhance efforts to design and implement truly low-cost housing Models/ prototypes/pre-approved building plans. This can be promoted through rural technical institutes

Establishment of Town management boards: The Urban and Cities Act, 2012, section 14 states that there shall be a board of municipalities which shall comprise nine members of whom four shall be appointed and five elected in the prescribed manner. The County will therefore facilitate establishment of relevant boards.

**EIZ 005: Kanyangi - Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo
Economic And Investment Zones**

Flagship Projects

Preparation Kanyangi – Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo zone urban centres plans (part development plan and spatial master plan): The education institutions

in the zone will attract significant investment in service provision and associated activities. A vibrant commercial centre with all the necessary amenities is an important feature to support the industrial growth. The urban centre is expected to house different cadres of employees of the upcoming educational institutions. A well planned urban area is therefore important to ensure proper land-use for current and strategic uses. The plan will outline major infrastructure services and provide frameworks for development control and waste management.

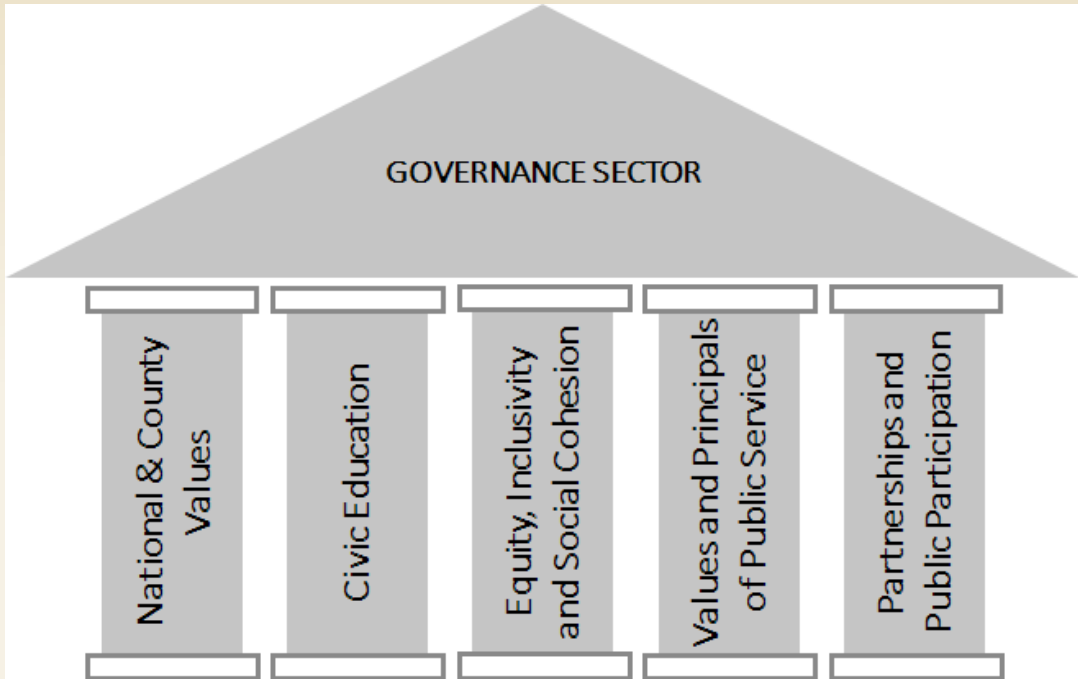
**EIZ 006: Mutomo- Ikutha-Kanziko Economic
And Investment Zones**

Flagship Projects

Preparation Mutomo-Ikutha-Kanziko zone urban centres plans (part development plan and spatial master plan):The establishment of a cement manufacturing plant in the Kanziko zone will attract significant investment in service provision and associated activities. A vibrant commercial centre with all the necessary amenities is an important feature to support the industrial growth. The urban centre is expected to house different cadres of employees of the factory as well as their families. A well planned urban area is therefore important to ensure proper land-use for current and strategic uses. The plan will outline major infrastructure services and provide frameworks for development control and waste management

CHAPTER FIVE

GOVERNANCE PILLAR



The Governance Pillar Vision

The governance pillar aims to transform the County into “a people centered, issued based and result oriented and accountable to its citizens”

5.0 Introduction

The promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya in 2010 was a landmark development in the governance reform in Kenya and has been hailed as one of the most progressive constitutions in the world. The Constitution provides for two tier system of government: national and County governments. The structure of Government provides for elaborate accountability mechanisms and citizens participation in the governance processes; It addresses well the issue of national values while vesting the sovereign power in the hands of the citizenry. The Constitution further defines and expands the bill of rights that is to be progressively realised and which guarantee recognition and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Some of the progressive ideals of the constitution include the following Objects of devolution:

- Promote democratic and accountable exercise of power,
- Foster national unity by recognising diversity,
- Give powers of self-governance to the people and enhance the participation of the people in the exercise of the powers in making decisions affecting them,
- Recognise the right of communities to manage their own affairs and to further their development,
- Protect and promote the interests and rights of minorities and marginalised communities,
- Promote social and economic development and the provision of proximate, easily accessible services throughout the County,
- Ensure equitable sharing of national and local resources throughout the County,
- Facilitate the decentralisation of institutions and functions and services, and
- Enhance checks and balances and the separation of powers.

The KIVEST Governance pillar is aligned to that of the National vision 2030 and it will seek to promote *“people centred, issue based and results oriented,*

accountable democratic political environment in Kitui County”. “People-centred” refers to responsiveness to the needs and rights of citizens, whose participation in all public policies and resource allocation processes will be fully appreciated and enabled in line with the Constitution. ‘result oriented” implies a system based on stable, predictable and measurable outcomes. Issue-based means the county will strive to meet the widest public interest and expectations. An accountable system is one that is open, transparent and permits the free flow of information to citizens and leaders are accountable to its citizens.

The KIVEST governance pillar therefore ensures that the above cited provisions of the constitutional including the above objects and other articles relevant to devolved structures are clearly understood and integrated into the county government policy and administration thereby enhancing the quality of services and the utilization of resources.

The pillar will also ensure that citizens are well sensitized in all constitutional provisions for their own compliance and their capacity to hold government to account. Further there are also legislations enacted by the national parliament for the effective functioning of the counties which will be domesticated and complied with by Kitui county in its administration, budgeting, planning, and development and in addressing issues like gender parity. In this way the Governance Pillar is poised to promote inclusive growth, equitable access to services, strengthened democratic participation and enhanced delivery of public services. These laws include: the County Governments Act, 2012, the Intergovernmental Relations Act, 2012, the Public Financial Management Act, 2012, the Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012, the Urban and Cities Act, 2011 and the Public Service (Values and Principles) bill, 2014 among others.

5.1 Kitui County Institutions responsible for implementation of the Governance Pillar

To deliver on the KIVEST Governance Pillar, the following institutions depicted in a diagrammatic

presentation below will play a central role and will be expected to work in close collaboration and partnership with each other. Similarly, the County Government will partner with the National Government within the framework provided for under the Intergovernmental Relations Act, 2012. Specifically, the Act provides for consultation and cooperation between the National and County Governments and amongst County Governments. It also establishes mechanisms for resolutions of intergovernmental disputes.

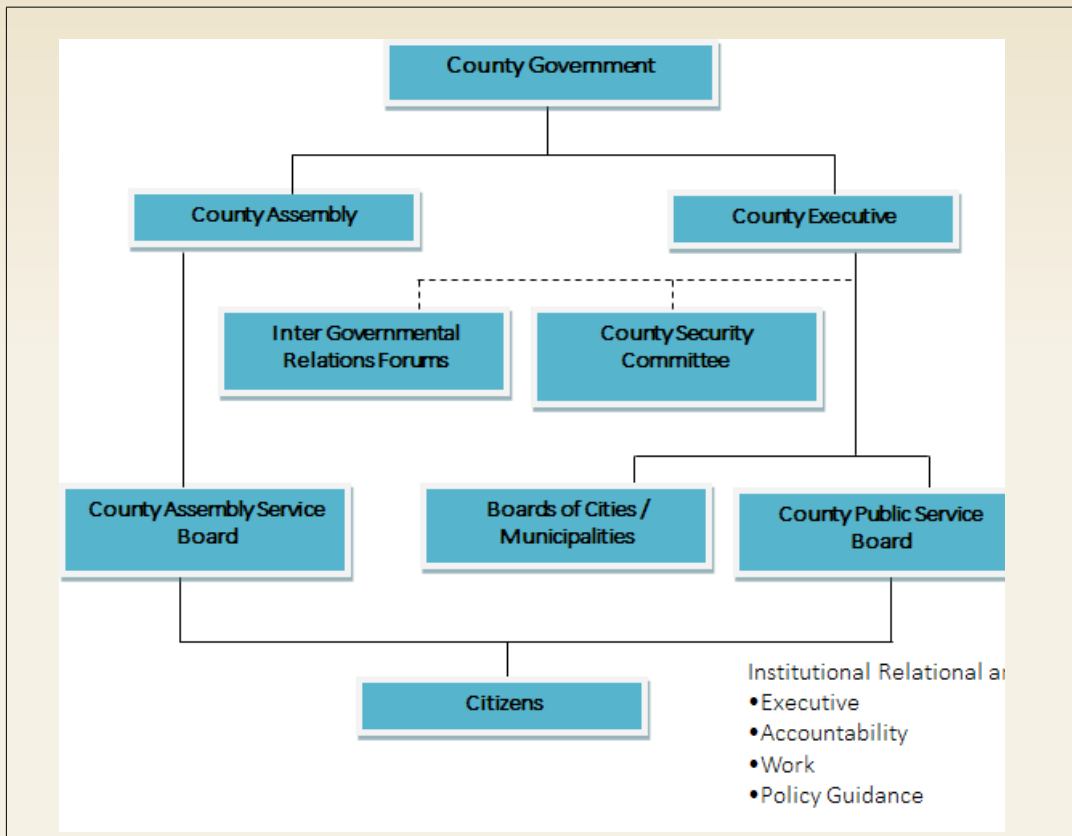


Figure 3: County Institutions Framework

5.2 merging issues and challenges

In the context of devolution the governance pillar is likely to be undermined by the following key bottlenecks:

- Weak sectoral collaboration and coordination both within and outside the County;
- Low levels of awareness of the devolved system of governance both in the public sector and the general public;
- Limited capacity of citizens to participate in development and democratic processes;
- The current legislative and institutional framework has some gaps especially because regulations intended to operationalize key laws are lacking.
- Conflicts between the County and National Governments in exercising their powers and executing their mandates;
- High levels of insecurity;
- How to deal with any excess staff after rationalisation in both levels of government; and
- Inadequate capacity and resources for running the County Governments.

5.3 Guiding principles

In pursuit of KIVEST Governance agenda the following general principles will be adhered to:

1. *Transparency and Accountability:* Transparency and Accountability are two of the central pillars of good governance. The County recognises that an effective public service is a prerequisite to socio-economic development. As a result of this realization measures will be instituted to revamp the public service and ensure effective and efficient public service delivery that is accountable to the public. The County will also develop policies and strategies aimed at mainstreaming and integrating its citizens in its development agenda. This vision supports and recognizes the diversity of different cultures in the County, equality, traditions and aspirations of all the people of Kitui County.
2. *Promotion of Gender equity:* One of the principals of devolved government is that no more than two-thirds of the members of representative bodies in each County Government shall be of the same gender. The KIVEST Vision recognizes the importance of mainstreaming gender issues and perspectives in development. The Country Government will promote equal enjoyment by women and men of socially-valued goods, opportunities and resources. This will be achieved by empowering both genders.
3. *Rule of law:* The rule of law and security are central pillars in fostering stability, democracy, human rights and the attainment of the goals and aspirations of this vision.
4. *Public participation in governance:* The success of KIVEST depends on an open and participatory development planning process and a transparent and accountable governance system.

5.4 Strategic interventions

In order to achieve the goals and objectives of the

governance pillar the following strategic thrusts and interventions will be pursued:

5.4.1 Civic Education

Our Constitution requires public participation in governance processes. By providing for public participation as a national value and principle of governance, it demonstrates the need for citizens to be aware of their roles and responsibilities to enable them participate in deciding on their destiny. For such participation to be meaningful, it has to be based on awareness and knowledge, hence need to put in place a continuous and comprehensive a citizen civic education programme. Traditionally, civic education in Kenya has been associated with civil society organizations and religious groups particularly before a general election.

The County Government of Kitui is cognizant of the importance of participatory democracy as a form of Governance in which citizens are actively involved in the decision-making processes of Government at different levels - on issues that interest or affect them, and on the basis that mechanisms and platforms will be in place to facilitate this. In order to ensure that the Kitui County citizens are fully informed and participate in the democratic processes, the County Government will provide platforms for citizen engagement and decision-making in most of its key processes. Such platforms will include community forums / barazas where important information is disseminated and communicated.

The Country Government will partner with the National Government and in particular the Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to mount comprehensive civic education programme to educate the citizens on the importance of getting involved in all aspects of the political process as well their contribution to building a vibrant, transparent and accountable democracy in Kitui County.

5.4.2 Rule of Law and Security

The rule of law and security are central pillars in fostering stability, democracy, human rights and the

attainment of the goals and aspirations of this vision. The County Government recognizes that lawlessness and disorder contribute to the atmosphere in which economic and social transformation cannot be realized. The County Government will strengthen its collaboration and partnership through with the National Government institutions and agencies responsible for maintaining law and order through MOUs in order to improve security and to promote fair, affordable and equitable access to justice by all the citizens.

The County Government will put in place mechanisms including development and enactment of legislation to strengthen law and order.

5.4.3 Equity, Inclusivity and Social Cohesion

At independence in 1963, Kenya inherited a highly unequal and inequitable society on many fronts. There was inequity in entitlement to political, civil and human rights, and large disparities in incomes and access to education, health and land, as well as to basic needs, including clean water, adequate housing and sanitation. The County Government of Kitui has in the last few years of its existence made significant progress towards resolving these problems, particularly in education and in access to improved health services and clean water sources among others. But much remains to be done to provide citizens with equal opportunities so that every citizen in the County has an equal chance to realize his or her potential in life.

The County will design and implement targeted programmes to benefit individuals and communities who, through no fault of their own, cannot take advantage of generally available opportunities.

This strategy is dedicated to the realization of equal citizenship rights regardless of one's origin, sex or age, and to equality of participation in the making of major policy decisions. All these aspects are relevant to the creation of equity, inclusivity and social cohesion and wealth creation opportunities especially for the poor. Some of the initiatives to reduce inequalities have already been outlined in the economic and social pillars of this vision.

5.4.4 Leadership and Integrity

As required under article 80 of the Constitution, Parliament enacted the Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012 establishing the procedures and mechanisms for effective administration of Chapter 6 of the Constitution on leadership and integrity. The Act provides for Leadership and Integrity Codes setting out the leadership and integrity standards expected of State and Public Officers in addition to those prescribed in Chapter Six of the Constitution.

The County Government will domesticate the Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012 by developing and implementing policies and strategies for the effective administration of the County affairs specifically enforce disciplinary measures as stipulated in National and County laws. In order to operationalize the Leadership and Integrity Act, the County Government will develop and implement a County Staff Code of Conduct and Anti-Corruption Strategy among interventions.

5.4.5 Values and Principals of Public Service and Finance

Chapter 13 of the Constitution outlines the values and principles of public service to include: high standards of professional ethics; efficient, effective and economic use of resources; responsive, prompt, effective, impartial and equitable provision of services; involvement of the people in the process of policy making; accountability for administrative acts; transparency and timely provision of accurate information to the public; fair competition and merit as the basis of appointments and promotions; representation of Kenya's diverse communities; and affording adequate and equal opportunities for appointment, training and advancement, at all levels of the public service,

The County Government will therefore put in place measures to improve delivery of services in line with the above provisions of chapter 13 of the constitution which will include introduction of citizen satisfaction surveys, performance contracts, service delivery charters, Integrity testing and change management

programmes. This will ensure efficiency and efficacy in the public service in a corruption-free environment. Additional efforts will be directed towards improving performance and human resource management. The County will adopt best practices in its reform programmes. All of these will be anchored on a strong core of public service values and ethics that aim at improving the welfare of all the people of the County. Some of the interventions to be implemented include: enforcing County Public Service Board (CPSB) policies and procedures, implementation of integrated performance management system, capacity building and development of staff, enhancing good governance systems and practices, putting in place system that enhance accountability and transparency, promote professional ethics in service delivery and implementing culture and change management programme. The County will further strengthen financial management by establishing sound expenditure tracking and reporting systems.

5.4.6 Partnerships and Public Participation

The advent of devolution shifted some key decision-making from central to County Governments, creating an opportunity for more 'bottom-up' engagement, backed by a Constitution and legal framework that include provisions for government to share information, consult the public and regularly gather citizen feedback. The Constitution further provides that citizens have the right to participate – directly or indirectly – in all development processes and making of decisions that affect them. Real citizen participation is about the ability to influence outcomes and it's both beneficial to the county governments and to citizens.

The County Government will put in place measures aimed at strengthening partnership and collaboration with other stakeholders.

The interventions to be adopted and implemented include allocation of budget for public consultations and outreach, development of feedback mechanisms, building capacity of County Government officials to facilitate public consultations and disseminate user-friendly information. The County will further

promote open engagement with all stakeholders as well as the free flow of information such as through better and continuous engagement with the media. Appropriate mechanisms to ensure accountability of County Government at all levels shall also be put in place. The existing County structures and systems for public participation in decision making will also be strengthened.

Flagship projects

Leadership, Ethics and Integrity: During the Vision plan period, leadership, ethics and integrity programme will be implemented with the aim of strengthening the legislative, policy and institutional framework for ethics and integrity. Specific interventions to be implemented include: establishment of effective accountability mechanisms in the County, sensitization of the County staff and creating awareness on corruption, integrity and ethical issues; mainstreaming preventive measures against corruption, promoting standards and best practices in ethics, integrity and anti-corruption. A Country Staff Code of Conduct and Anti-Corruption Strategy will be developed and implemented in line with Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012

Human rights based approach to planning and development:

The Constitution espouses a human-rights based approach to planning and development by encapsulating important national values and principles of governance, which will inform all aspects of the County Government planning and development. The County Government will partner and collaborate with the National Government to build capacity for adoption and implementation of human-rights based approaches to planning, development and service delivery. The County will further ensure that the rights of its people are preserved through good governance, democracy, respect for the rule of law, social protection and welfare for the disadvantaged.

Inculcate culture of Constitutionalism: It is important to ensure adherence to the Constitution. Constitutionalism binds the people and the

government, which promotes democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights and good governance. To realize this aspiration, the County Government will put in place measures aimed at building a culture of respect for rule of law while fostering a system that ensures Government's responsiveness to its citizens and citizens' responsibility for keeping Government in check.

Civic Education on the Constitution: It is critical that the Kitui County people understand their rights and responsibilities under the supreme law well enough to actively engage government and governmental processes as part of their civic engagements. In this regard, the County will partner with the National Government to develop and execute a comprehensive citizen civic education programme to ensure

sustainable access to information and awareness on the Constitution, its principles, structures and processes.

County Public Service transformation programme:

This will entail implementation of integrated performance management system, capacity building and development of staff, enhancing good governance systems and practices, putting in place systems that enhance accountability and transparency, promotion of professional ethics in service delivery and implementing culture and change management programme. The programme will further entail strengthening of financial management by establishing sound expenditure tracking and reporting systems and enforcing County Public Service Board (CPSB) policies and procedures.

CHAPTER SIX:

DELIVERING THE VISION

6.0 KIVEST Implementation Framework

6.1 Introduction

The KIVEST implementation framework outlines the key steps to be followed to achieve the desired growth and transformation of Kitui through implementation of flagship projects and other projects and programmes detailed in this document. The projects and programmes will be implemented in the next 10 years. KIVEST is a living document and its implementation is expected to respond to changing economic, social and political dynamics that will unfold over the years while remaining focused on its overarching goal and objectives.

6.2 KIVEST implementation and Legal Framework

KIVEST is an ambitious but attainable long-term plan for Kitui County. The preparation of the plan was motivated by the collective aspiration of the people of Kitui to see the transformation of the County from its current state of low levels of income, food insecurity, high youth unemployment, inadequate water supply, poor infrastructure and other social amenities to a more robust dynamic and wealthy county in the shortest time possible. It was inspired by the emergence of opportunity presented by the enactment of the new Constitution that created a two tier system of government with Counties now vested with major political, economic and socio-cultural responsibilities to the citizens and encouraged by the impacts already realised with the implementation of the Kenya Vision 2030 across the Country. The success of Vision 2030 has demonstrated that a plan like KIVEST would have significant beneficial impacts to the County.

Although KIVEST has been initiated and midwived by the current, first County Government of Kitui, its overarching vision and objectives are long term and intended to go beyond the mandate of the current government. The vision was also inspired by the need to mobilise all human and material resources

towards the transformation of the county and the country generally. Kitui County is endowed with enormous coal and limestone and other mineral resources that must be harnessed to promote the economic transformation, employment creation, skills development and education and to develop attractive living and working conditions within the County.

In the course of preparation of this vision, a wide spectrum of stakeholders participated in the process. The stakeholders including professionals, business community, farmers, institutional representatives, leaders, and ordinary citizens from across the six zones, were all involved. This vision is therefore well grounded in the psych and spirit of the people of Kitui. The expectation of the people of Kitui is that the successful implementation of the Vision will improve their livelihoods. They want to see results that will directly improve their lives. The County Government and the experts had these objectives in mind when preparing the vision. The projects proposed in KIVEST and the six economic and investment zones cover all the regions of the County and aim to ensure that every community stands to gain from it. KIVEST stresses equitable development and modernization through institutional changes and flagship projects distributed throughout the Country and across all the six economic and investment zones to take advantage of each zone's uniqueness. The projects will be implemented through five-year medium term plans. The first five-year medium term plan will run from 2015 to 2019.

KIVEST is the peoples plan and going by the experiences of the Kenya Vision 2030, it is expected that with citizen ownership already secured, its implementation will not be interrupted or undermined by any future changes in the political and or executive leadership in the County. KIVEST will be accomplished by the collective efforts and will of the Kitui citizens.

KIVEST is designed to provide practical solutions to problems that the County faces especially after many decades of neglect by the National Government which is manifested by the dearth of Government investment in key sectors of the county economy. In order to reverse this trend and catapult the County to a high growth trajectory, the vision implementation calls for a pragmatic approach to development, constant monitoring of both internal and external developments and a political will to make changes rapidly so that the County does not lose any ground. A Vision that responds to the dynamic needs of the people must be flexible enough to respond to changing local, National and international realities. KIVEST is, therefore, expected to be a “living document” that will respond to internal and external changes but still remain focused on the goals.

The Fourth Schedule of the constitution outlines the functions of the National and County Governments. A number of laws have been enacted to support the devolution process. The Intergovernmental Relations Act (2011) establishes a framework for intergovernmental consultation and cooperation between the two levels of Government. The Public Financial Management Act (2012) provides guidelines on efficient use of public resources at the National and County Government level. The implementation of programmes and projects of KIVEST will therefore require close collaboration and partnership with the National Government in conformity with the various enacted laws that support the framework for inter-governmental consultation and the devolution process.

Successful implementation of KIVEST is expected to contribute significantly to economic growth and county and national development and deepen decentralization of services to the sub-counties, bringing service delivery closer to the people.

The medium term plans and CIDPs will be expected to come up with innovative ways to deliver on KIVEST and the flagship projects without introducing fundamental changes to the thrust and framework of the plan.

6.3 Strategic Vision Communication and Marketing

6.3.1 Introduction

The success of KIVEST is dependent on how the County will manage its relationships with various stakeholders. Like any other development dynamic, KIVEST may likely attract a certain amount of criticism and equally it is expected to attract a huge buy-in and support. To address these issues, the County will use strategic communication to reach out to various publics. Strategic Communication is the art and science of deploying media and communication resources in the service and delivery of clearly defined policy objectives and goals. Strategic communications is often anchored on a clearly spelt out policy framework that an institution is seeking to deliver. The County Government will develop and deploy a strategic communication that is different from the general publicity and public relations approach. The County Government will develop a comprehensive Communication Master Plan to guide the communication and relationship management with all stakeholders, and to maximize its support during the entire process of implementing KIVEST, ensuring stakeholder buy-in. The Master Plan will further be used to guide branding of the flagship projects to raise their profile and visibility.

Strategic communication will further play an important role in promoting ownership of the KIVEST programmes. The Communication will also facilitate learning, feedback and knowledge management and advocacy as well as crafting of right messages with a view to raising visibility of the KIVEST policies and programmes and building and strengthening partnership with major stakeholders. The County Government will set aside adequate resources, both financial and human resources to actualize this.

6.3.2 Communication Objectives

- i. To design a comprehensive communication strategy to guide KIVEST’s stakeholder management;
- ii. To establish a centralized communication mechanism to manage all communication on KIVEST;

- iii. To craft, define and promote Kitui's desired image and reputation that is attractive to investors and can foster pride from Kitui's constituents and residence, leading to increased trust by stakeholders, economic and social development through implementing a strategic communication campaign for KIVEST.
- iv. To build and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with shareholders and others in the financial community to maximize KITUI County's market value by increasing direct and indirect investment in line with KIVEST.
- v. To carry out an eye catching branding for KIVEST especially the flagship projects
- vi. To promote Kitui County in line with KIVEST as a growing, secure and attractive County for tourists, residents, industry and other desired publics.
- vii. To use research to inform the County Government on diverse publics' opinions, attitudes and expectations in order to guide implementation of communication actions
- viii.

In addition, the Communication Strategy will cut across all stages of planning, installation, initial implementation and full implementation, bringing on board at each stage the relevant stakeholders through:

Strategic Communication: This will involve planning for stakeholder engagement at a macro level and shaping the reputation of the County as a whole. This shall go a long way in rebranding Kitui's reputation in order to position it as the most attractive region for investors and tourists. At this level, messages to enable various stakeholders to "latch on" to the KIVEST vision shall be designed, crafted, and disseminated using various channels.

Branding: KIVEST shall undergo an intensive branding process in creating a unique brand and definition through advertising campaigns with a consistent theme. The branding exercise shall involve production of print, visual and audio-visual representation to produce a series of brand identity tools. The KIVEST

brand shall be synonymous with the Kitui County brand for the next 10 years; therefore utmost care shall be taken to ensure an accurate identity is captured in the brand.

Governor Positioning: The Governor is the symbol of the County, and his brand is synonymous to the County's brand. Public and investor trust of the Governor is crucial in achieving the necessary buy-in to lock down investment portfolios for the first flagship projects. A series of public relation activities to showcase the personal strengths of the Governor as the County's Chief Executive Officer, and managing his public reputation and image are important, embracing the principles of a 2-way symmetrical communication system.

Internal Communication: This will entail various strategies to engage stakeholders within the County Government structure and National Government representatives within the county, to synergize and align all their work and resources to KIVEST. Stakeholders at the county levels shall be required to buy into the strategy, and invest in it, economically, socially and politically.

Press and Media Relations: Strategic partnership with the media can help the county from the on-set, to control the narrative of KIVEST to the county's advantage. Maintaining good relations with the media also goes a long way in averting crises whenever they occur. Activities under this prong shall devise tactics that will help position KIVEST and thus the county, on the national and global agenda by use of both traditional and new media, to capitalize on digital, audio-visual, audio, print and online tools.

Events: All four stages of KIVEST shall require various forms of event planning and management. The communication strategy shall focus on events that are especially designed for the purposes of: stakeholder and investor briefings, donor relations and resource mobilization, County positioning, and flagship launches; highlighting the appropriate standards to be adhered to, consistent event branding, theme

setting and publicity management, social media management and post event communication management.

6.4 Financing the Vision Plan and Resource Mobilization

The County Government annual budget is financed by funds from the National Government and own revenue raised from various sources. These funds are not adequate to finance implementation of the ambitious projects and programmes identified across the six economic and investment zones. Concerted efforts will be made to mobilize required resources to finance these projects and programmes and in particular the flagship projects.

The County will come up with strategies to mobilize resources to finance the Vision. The County will also leverage on the PPP framework to engage the private sector investors to finance key projects and programmes especially the flagship projects. Similarly, development partners will be engaged to support the vision implementation especially those of the Social and Governance pillars. This will call for strengthening of existing partnerships and collaboration with development partners currently working with the County. Private sector investors both local and international, Development partners and a wide spectrum of stakeholders will be invited to annual KIVEST conferences to fast track the uptake and roll out of the planned flagships and all other projects and programmes detailed in this document. Other promotional roadshows outside the county will also be roll out.

The County Government has an opportunity to obtain credit which will be secured by the future proceeds from the sale of mineral products. Obtaining money upfront will enable the County to finance the construction of key flagship projects which translates to economic and social transformation. Best practice in the securitization of mining proceeds exists in South Africa and Nigeria.

The five year County Integrated Development plans guide on the resource requirements for each of the

activities identified. The County will also prepare bankable project to facilitate engagement with investors.

Securitization: The County may be able to leverage on anticipated earnings / income from cess levied on minerals such as Coal and Limestone through securitization models. The process allows the flow of cash between the entities and is a way of direct capital gaining on financial markets through issuing papers, thus omitting traditional indirect financing through credits from banks and other lending institutions. Money raised through this process may be used to finance expensive infrastructure such as roads and mega dams proposed by the Vision plan.

6.5 Monitoring and Evaluation

The Constitution of Kenya provides the basis for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) as an important part of operationalizing Government activities to ensure that transparency, integrity, access to information and accountability principles are embraced in resource allocation and management at both at county and national Government. A robust M & E system is essential for efficient and effective implementation of the KIVEST. To effectively deliver on this ambitious transformation agenda for the Kitui County, a robust and sound monitoring and evaluation system aligned to results-based management will be developed. The system will promote monitoring progress towards achievement of results and systematic reporting on results. It will also promote continuous learning and enhance the capacity of the County Government to make better decisions in the future and improve the formulation and higher rates of success in future.

To ensure coherence in tracking results in the County, the M and E will be regularized and synchronized with the existing reporting frameworks. Independent reviews for this Vision will also be undertaken to measure the success and identify any implementation challenges. In this regard, the Medium Terms Plans will be synchronized with the CIDPs as well as the budgeting process for ease of tracking. The County

will also develop indicators and prepare a County Annual Progress Reports to track the implementation of KIVEST projects and programmes.

Actual monitoring and evaluating the progress in implementing this Vision will be based on the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which will be contained in the County M and E indicators and the Medium Term Plan as well as other planning documents. The KPIs will be the basis of measuring the success or failures so far achieved. The County Assembly will enact a law to entrench Monitoring and Evaluation.

1.6 Vision Delivery Framework

In order to successfully achieve KIVEST and to particularly ensure the timely implementation of the flagship projects, the Office of the Governor will identify a dedicated team among the existing staff (Secretariat) to champion the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the KIVEST. Among other things, the team shall provide strategic leadership and direction under the support of the Governor in the realization of KIVEST goals and aspirations.

The secretariat will have several working committees that monitor the progress in each of the main strategy sections of the Vision, and report on a regular basis in a public and transparent manner. The secretariat will have statutory powers to manage the implementation as well as seek information from implementing partners / departments, call implementing teams and directors to account, and to guide and monitor the KIVEST policies during implementation. The Secretariat will therefore be part of the legal framework to be enacted by the County Assembly to insulate the vision.

6.7 Implementation Risks and Challenges

Among the risks at national level include election related violence which has the potential to disrupt economic and social patterns across the country. Historically, these issues have had a major impact on the country's anticipated economic trends, social equity and governance.

Macro-economic factors - the government of Kenya for example had projected to grow by 6 percent in the 2008/2009 financial year, but only registered a 2.5 percent growth. This was as a result of an increase in oil prices and global food prices. The structural imbalance of Kenya's exports and imports makes the country vulnerable to exogenous shocks and represents a significant risk to macroeconomic stability.

Kitui County is classified as a semi-arid zone prone to climatic shocks in the form of extended drought periods and rainfall shortage floods. These factors have further posed challenges to the provision of basic services such as health and education to the already vulnerable communities.

The high poverty (particularly in rural areas), economic inequality, limited access to critical services like water and health care and environmental degradation has reduced the ability to the people in the County to participate fully in development of their communities.

The high unemployment amongst the youth constitutes a formidable risk factor for both the youth and prosperity of the economy, and requires appropriate intervention. Crime and social ills are mainly attributed to unemployment among the youth. The consumption of illegal brews and *khat / miraa* exacerbates the youth challenge.

Insecurity challenges resulting from the inability of the Northern Kenya region affects areas bordering Tana River and Garissa Counties. Frequent bandit attacks have led to displacement and loss of lives and property.

Securing adequate financial resources and attracting investors and development partners challenge that the county will overcome through maintenance of good governance, political stability, security and peace in the county.

Monitoring and Evaluation Matrix

Table 5 Monitoring and Evaluation Matrix

Roles and Responsibilities for Monitoring and Evaluation		
Who: Actors and Accountability	What: Roles and Responsibilities	How: Timing and Methodology
<p>County Executive</p> <p>Main responsibilities:</p> <p>Lead and oversee County flagship projects to determine progress towards intended results</p> <p>Identify and manage partnerships with development partners and community</p> <p>Collaborate with national partners to determine the focus and intended results</p> <p>Ensure the strategic and cost effective use of County and Partner resources</p>	<p>Monitoring Flagship Implementation for Results</p> <p>To provide clear basis for decision making and guide development initiatives</p> <p>To link results with resources and ensure accountability in the use of County resources</p> <p>To ensure quality and the appropriate use of monitoring evidence and lessons learned</p> <p>To resolve key bottlenecks to implementation in order to improve the chances of achieving results</p> <p>To approve M&E framework for the flagships programme in line with the County plans</p>	<p>Through active participation in development and approval of M&E frameworks for flagship implementation programmes</p> <p>Annual and mid- term reviews (of progress towards results</p> <p>Reviewing progress, issues, and trends in the achievement of results</p> <p>Making decisions on changes as needed</p> <p>Approving future work including M&E tasks</p> <p>Participating in joint monitoring across the sectors and ministries</p>
<p>County Line Ministry Staff and Project Managers</p> <p>Main responsibilities:</p> <p>Contribute to sector level coordination mechanisms</p> <p>Manage flagship projects portfolio</p>	<p>To analyse progress towards achievement of outcomes</p> <p>To assess the effectiveness of partnerships and take related actions (e.g., better coordination with partners)</p> <p>To ensure effective use of resources, deploying them to maximize the possibility of achieving results (outcomes)</p> <p>To use project-level monitoring data towards achieving output targets</p> <p>To ensure efficient use of resources</p>	<p>Through active participation in development and approval of M&E framework</p> <p>Throughout programme cycle by carrying out monitoring activities and joint monitoring</p> <p>Participate in annual reviews at the outcome level</p> <p>Progress towards the achievement of outputs and contribution related outcomes</p>

6.7 Enhancing Implementation Capability

Table 6: Enhancing Implementation Capability

PLAN	DO	ACT	CHECK
<p>PLAN</p>	<p>To implement the KIVEST plan, there will be need to establish and maintain an effective implementation management system. The County Government and Assembly is expected to set the stage for KIVEST implementation by providing an enabling policy environment which will attract private sector investors and development partners. Policies should be designed to meet legal requirements, prevent potential problems, and enable the implementation to respond quickly where difficulties arise or new risks are encountered.</p> <p>Planning will enable the County team to address some of the following issues;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current state of affairs and where the County intends to be in the long run, • What the plan will achieve and who will be responsible for what • How to monitor performance and success of the KIVEST • Addressing changes and risks associated with the implementation 		
<p>DO</p>	<p>KIVEST delivery will depend on an effective management system to ensure results and outcomes as per plan. The County Government should identify a competent and knowledgeable team to steer the process. The team should be aware of risks and challenges abound and able to deal with them sensibly and responsibly. The implementation should be clear about what priorities including development triggers come first in order to stimulate growth in other sectors.</p> <p>The County leadership should provide adequate resources, including competent advice where needed by the implementation team. The implementation team should be trained to ensure everyone is competent to carry out their work including monitoring progress.</p>		
<p>ACT</p>	<p>Monitoring and reporting are important parts of KIVEST. The Government and implementation team should be able to receive reports and routine brief on the performance of KIVEST implementation.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of all to ensure that the flagships are implemented and that all legal and project requirements are met. Where problems and challenges are encountered the County Government and implementation team must ensure speedy resolution and risk reduction measures put in place.</p>		
<p>CHECK</p>	<p>Monitoring of implementation is most effective when there is early consideration of monitoring arrangements, and agreement on the level and frequency of information to be provided. From the onset, the County Government will build consensus on what success looks like.</p> <p>Monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements will reflect the importance of the initiative and its implementation risks. The early identification of appropriate data sources assists in establishing timely and effective monitoring activities. The timely reporting of key issues and trends should be prioritized for all flagship projects.</p>		

Table 7: Economic and Social Flagship Projects

Annex I: Economic Flagship Projects			
Years	1-3 Years	4-7 Years	7-10 Years
Flagships	Short	Medium	Long
EIZ 001: Kyuso--Tseikuru Muumoni Economic Zone			
Tourism Development (Mwingi North National Reserve)	X		
Limestone and Gem Stone Mining and Value Addition		X	
Clay Products Development and Pottery Making	X		
Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing	X		
Road and Bridge Construction		X	
Irrigation Scheme Development along Tana River		X	
Iron and Steel Production			X
Tseikuru Agricultural Hub		X	
Airstrip Development Tseikuru	X		
EIZ 002: Mui Basin Economic Zone			
Coal mining	X	X	X
Coal Fueled Power Generation		X	X
Securitisation of Coal Proceeds		X	
Commercial Ranching		X	
Seed Production and Propagation Program	X		
Honey Production and Processing	X		
Solar Energy Production Farm			X
Kiongwe Water Dam			
Mui Basin Airstrip Upgrade	X		
EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and Environs Economic Zone			
Industrial Park		X	
Mega Dams for Irrigation and Domestic Water Supply		X	X
Mwingi-Mutito Road Construction		X	
Milk Cooling and Agro-Processing Facilities at Migwani	X		
Bus and Lorry Park in Mwingi Town		X	
Honey Production and Processing	X		
Bulk Fuel Storage Facility at Mwingi Town Environs		X	
Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing	X		
EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and Environs Economic Zone			
International Trade Center Complex		X	X
Kitui Town Master Planning	X		
Kitui - Mutomo and Kitui - Kanyangi Road Construction		X	
Agro-Processing and Cooling Plant	X		

Bulk Grain Storage Facility		X	
Nzambani Eco-Tourism Centre	X		
Modern Fresh Produce Market		X	
Bulk Fuel Storage Facility		X	
Kitui Town Road Network	X		
EIZ 005: Kanyangi- Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo- Economic Zone			
Irrigation Projects along Athi River	X		
Ballast Crusher and Pre-Cast Concrete Plant	X		
Kanyonyoo -Kwa Vonza-Kanyangi-Ikutha Road Link		X	
Honey Production and Processing	X		
Kanyonyoo Commercial and Horticultural Hub		X	
Solar Power Production			X
Kanyonyoo Wildlife Sanctuary		X	
Thwake Dam in Lower Athi River		X	
EIZ 006: Mutomo-Ikutha-Kanziko Economic Zone			
Limestone Mining and Value Addition	X		
Tourism Promotion and Heritage Development	X		
Abattoir Construction and Animal Products Processing	X		
Bulk Grain Storage Facility		X	
Athi River Water Project (Irrigation and Domestic)		X	
Mutomo – Kitui Road Infrastructure Development		X	
Iron and Steel Production at Timboni			X
Bulk Fuel Storage at Ikutha		X	
Tiva River Dam at Kasaala		X	
Ballast Crusher and Pre-Cast Concrete Plant	X		
Annex II: Social Flagship Projects			
Years	1-3 Years	4-7 Years	7-10 Years
Flagships	Short	Medium	Long
EIZ 001: Kyuso- Mumoni-Tseikuru Economic Zone			
Conservation of Water Catchment Areas		X	
Land Titling	X		
Equipping Schools with ICT and Science Infrastructure	X		
Stadium Complex		X	
Lower Eastern Heritage and Cultural Centre - Tseikuru	X		
EIZ 002: Mui Basin Economic Zone			
Sand harvesting regulation framework	X		

Mui City "Coal Based City" - Planning and Service Provision	X		
Community Resettlement Scheme	X		
Stadium Complex		X	
EIZ 003: Mwingi Town and Environs Economic Zone			
Multi-Purpose Institute for Community Empowerment	X		
Conservation of Water Catchment Areas		X	
Equipping Schools with ICT and Science Infrastructure	X		
Mwingi Town Planning	X		
Facility for the Physically Challenged		X	
Athletics and Talent Academy		X	
Mwingi Referral Hospital		X	
EIZ 004: Kitui County Headquarters and Environs Economic Zone			
Multi-Purpose Institute for Community Empowerment	X		
Mega Dams for Irrigation and Domestic Water Supply		X	
Equipping Schools with ICT and Science Infrastructure	X		
Athletics and Talent Academy		X	
Disaster Management and Response Centre	X		
Kitui Referral Hospital	X		
EIZ 005: Kanyangi--Kwa Vonza - Kanyonyoo Economic Zone			
Planning for Kwa Vonza "University Town"	X		
Equipping Schools with ICT and Science Infrastructure	X		
Establishment of a TVET Institution	X		
Stadium Complex		X	
EIZ 006: Mutomo-Ikutha-Kanziko Economic Zone			
Voo Agricultural Research Station (VARS)		X	
Snake Park and Nature Reserve		X	
Equipping Schools with ICT and Science Infrastructure			
Planning for the "Limestone City"	X		
Stadium Complex		X	
Land Titling		X	

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