

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA



KAKAMEGA COUNTY CHILDREN POLICY

APRIL 2023

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA

COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, SPORTS, YOUTH, GENDER
AND CULTURE

DIRECTORATE OF CHILDREN SERVICES

KAKAMEGA COUNTY CHILDREN POLICY



THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA,
P.O. BOX 36-50100,
KAKAMEGA

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FOREWORD



This policy is a demonstration of the commitment by the County Government of Kakamega to the protection, promotion and safeguarding the welfare of all children regardless of their socio-cultural or economic backgrounds as provided for in section 61 and 62 of the Children’s Act 2022. It envisions a society where all the rights of a child in Kakamega shall be respected and realised. It is the culmination of consultative meetings and engagements with a wide range of stakeholders at both national and county levels while also taking into account international, regional and national legal instruments that underpin the rights and welfare of the child. The policy provides a framework for the effective and coordinated planning, resource mobilisation, implementation of interventions, data collection, monitoring and evaluation of children’s issues within Kakamega County.

Child protection and promotion of their welfare is a collective responsibility that requires the efforts and collaboration of all stakeholders in fulfilling their duties, roles and responsibilities. This policy is instrumental in providing a roadmap for all engagements between the County Government and other stakeholders including parents and guardians, civil society organisations and partners in child protection in line with sustainable development goals, Vision 2030, the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the Children’s Act No. 29 of 2022 and other relevant national and international aspirations and goals. With this policy in place, the future of children in Kakamega County regardless of their background is bright. In this regard, stakeholders are encouraged to utilise the provisions of this policy effectively for the enhancement of the welfare of Children in Kakamega County.

Mr. Mophat Mandela

County Executive Committee Member

Social Services, Sports, Youth, Women Empowerment and Culture

County Government of Kakamega

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



I acknowledge the Almighty God for the gift of Kakamega County, our people, the good climate, peace and the gargantuan economic activities that support livelihoods.

I acknowledge and appreciate the effort of the first Governor of Kakamega County H.E. Dr. FCPA Wycliffe Ambetsa Oparanya, EGH for initiating the development of this policy. I also acknowledge the Governor H.E. FCPA Fernandes Odinga Barasa, OGW for steadfast support and commitment to the children of Kakamega County. He has understood the agenda and sustainable development goals of children welfare. He has committed a manifesto that is not only child-friendly but is also responsive to the policy priority needs for the youth in the County. I further acknowledge the Deputy Governor H.E. Hon. Ayub Angatia Savula who has ensured that this policy undergoes the necessary approvals to pave the way for its implementation.

I appreciate all the stakeholders and partners who contributed in one way or another to the realisation of this policy. My sincere appreciation goes to the technical committee that drafted this policy under the guidance of the National committee of Children Services (NCCS). In particular, I recognize the Directorate of Children’s Services, Probation, Judiciary, Education, CISP, World Vision and USAID 4TheChild who gave valuable inputs and support to the formulation of this policy.

Thirdly, I wish to appreciate the Kakamega County Assembly representatives who contributed and participated in the development of this policy. This commitment is unparalleled.

I further recognize the commitment of the staff from the County Government of Kakamega. In particular, I recognize the generous guidance and technical input from the former Ag. County Executive Committee Member in the Department of Social Services, Sports, Youth, Women Empowerment and Culture Dr. George Lutimia, EGJ and technical officers led by my predecessor, Dr. Brenda Barasa Makokha. As we look forward towards implementation of this policy, may God be our shield and defender to empower the lives and welfare of children in Kakamega. I look forward to more support in the implementation, monitoring, reviews and reporting of the impact of this policy.

Ms. Vivien Ayuma

Chief Officer – Social Services, Children Services, Gender and Culture
County Government of Kakamega

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a policy on children welfare and protection governing the County Government of Kakamega. The County Government of Kakamega formulates this policy as a framework to assist in enforcement of the salient provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Children Act, 2022 in addition to other National and International legal instruments addressing the plight of children in Kenya. This policy shall ensure that children's rights and welfare are protected and advanced so that children in the County have a chance of realising their full potential by growing in a safe and stable environment.

The policy has four major thematic Areas. The first thematic area is to enhance Survival of Children by promoting Accessibility to quality and child friendly health services, preventing communicable diseases among children, promoting child health and improving the quality of life for children with disability. Thematic Area 2 is to promote child development by increasing access to affordable and quality education, and enhancing Child Social cultural development. In thematic Area 3, the policy provides measures to enhance child Participation by creating the avenues, platforms and forums that promote child participation in decision-making processes on matters affecting children. Finally, the fourth thematic Area outlines the strategies through which the County can enhance child protection by instituting measures against all forms of child abuse.

The policy is expected to achieve its goal in 10 years after promulgation with a provision of mid-term review. The policy shall be implemented through a collaboration of state and non-state actors to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in addressing child welfare services. The non-state actors include the private sector, local and international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Faith based Organisations (FBOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and other community groups.

The overall responsibility of the implementation of this policy shall be the County Executive Committee (CEC) Member responsible for children services. The coordination of this policy shall be through the Kakamega County Children Advisory committee cascaded to the lower levels i.e. Sub-County, Ward, and the Community Children Advisory committees. Awareness creation on the policy shall be undertaken to generate broad support in Kakamega and beyond for cooperation and resource mobilisation for the effective implementation of the policy. The County shall use widely shared print, mass and electronic media and in different languages to give prominence to children and their welfare

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	iv
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....	viii
DEFINITION OF TERMS.....	ix
CHAPTER ONE	1
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	1
1.1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.2 SITUATION ANALYSIS.....	2
1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM	5
1.4 VISION	6
1.5 MISSION	6
1.6 RATIONALE	6
1.7 GUIDING POLICY PRINCIPLES	6
1.8 LEGAL FRAMEWORK.....	7
1.8.1 International Legal Framework.....	7
1.8.2 National Legal Framework.....	7
1.8.2.1 The Constitution of Kenya 2010	8
1.8.2.2 Children’s Act 2022	8
1.8.2.3 Sexual Offences Act 2006	9
1.8.2.4 Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act 2011	10
1.8.2.5 Employment Act 2007	10
1.8.2.6 Counter Trafficking in Persons Act 2010	11
1.8.2.7 Penal Code	11
1.8.2.8 Marriage Act 2014	11
1.8.2.9 Protection against Domestic Violence Act 2015	12
1.8.2.10 Evidence Act	12
1.8.2.11 Basic Education Act 2013	12
1.8.2.12 Alcoholic Drinks Control Act 2010	13
1.8.2.13 Refugee Act 2006	13
1.8.3 County legal framework.....	13
1.8.3.1 The Kakamega County Maternal Child Health and Family Planning Act, 2017	13
1.9 Policy Objectives.....	13
CHAPTER TWO	14
POLICY FRAMEWORK	14
2.1 Chapter introduction.....	14
2.2 Objective 1	14
2.2.1 Key issues.....	14
2.2.1.1 To enhance child survival:	14
2.2.1.2 To Promote Child Development:	14
2.2.1.3 To Enhance child protection	14
2.2.2 Policy directions.....	15

2.2.2.1	To Enhance child survival	15
2.2.2.2	To Promote Child Development	15
2.2.2.3	To Enhance child protection	15
2.3	Objective 2	16
2.3.1	Key issues	16
2.3.2	Policy directions	17
2.4	Objective 3	17
2.4.1	Key Issues	17
2.4.2	Policy Direction	17
2.5	Objective 4	18
2.5.1	Key Issues	18
2.5.2	Policy Direction	18
CHAPTER THREE:		19
POLICY IMPLEMENTATION		19
3.1	COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ACTORS	19
3.1.1	Overview	19
3.1.2	Obligations of the National government	19
3.1.3	Obligations of the County Government of Kakamega	20
3.1.4	Duties and Responsibilities of Children	20
3.1.5	Obligations of Parents, Guardians and Caregivers	21
3.1.6	Duties and Responsibilities of the Private Sector and CSOs	22
3.2	Coordination Framework	22
3.2.1	County Children Advisory Committee	22
3.2.2	Functions of the County Children Advisory Committee	23
3.2.3	Sub-County Children Advisory committee	24
3.2.4	The Ward Children Advisory committee	25
3.2.5	The Community Area Children Advisory Committee	25
3.2.6	County Policy Coordination Structure	26
3.3	Financing and Resource Mobilization	27
3.3.1	Objectives of the Resource Mobilisation strategy	27
3.3.2	Specific Objectives	27
3.3.3	Guiding Principles	27
3.3.4	Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring, and Evaluation	27
3.3.5	Resource Acquisition, Planning and Management Strategy	28
3.3.5.1	Resource Acquisition and utilisation	28
3.3.5.2	Resource Planning and Management	29
3.3.5.3	Monitoring and Reporting	29
3.3.5.4	Capacity for resource mobilisation	30
3.3.5.5	Technical Assistance	30
CHAPTER FOUR:		32
MONITORING AND EVALUATION		32
4.1	Monitoring and Evaluation strategies	32
4.2	Monitoring and Evaluation framework	32
4.3	Policy review	32
ANNEX 1: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK		33
5.1	Introduction	33
5.2	Objective 1	33

5.2.1	Strategic intervention 1:	33
5.2.2	Strategic Intervention 2:	33
5.2.3	Strategic intervention 3:	34
5.2.4	Strategic intervention 4:	34
5.2.5	Strategic intervention 5:	34
5.2.6	Strategic intervention 6:	35
5.2.7	Strategic intervention 7:	35
5.3	Objective 2:	36
5.3.1	Strategic intervention 1	36
5.4	Objective 3	37
5.4.1	Strategic intervention	37
5.5	Objective 4	37
5.5.1	Strategic intervention	37
ANNEX 2: MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK		38
6.1	Objective 1	38
6.1.1	Strategic intervention 1:	38
6.1.2	Strategic intervention 2:	39
6.1.3	Strategic intervention 3:	40
6.1.4	Strategic intervention 4:	41
6.1.5	Strategic intervention 5:	41
6.1.6	Strategic intervention 6:	42
6.1.7	Strategic intervention 7:	43
6.2	Objective 2	44
6.2.1	Strategic Intervention 1	45
6.3	Objective 3	46
6.3.1	Strategic intervention	46
6.4	Objective 4	47
6.4.1	Strategic intervention	47
ANNEX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS		48
LIST OF REFERENCES		50

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACRWC	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
ANC	Antenatal care
CACs	Children Advisory Committees
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CECM	County Executive Committee Member
CHVs	Community Health Volunteers
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CLCs	Community Lay Counsellors
CPIMS	Child Protection Information Management System
CPS	Child Protection System
CPVs	Child Protection Volunteers
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCS	Directorate of Children Services
ECDE	Early Childhood Education
FBO	Faith-based Organisation
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organisations
KDHS	Kenya Demographic and health survey
KIHBS	Kenya Integrated Household Budget survey
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation Accountability and Learning
NCCS	National Council for Children’s Services
NCPS	National Child Protection System
NFE	Non-formal Education
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
PNC	postnatal care
PWSD	People Living with Severe Disability
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Authorised Officer	Includes a police officer, a chief, a children’s officer, a probation officer, prison officer, a registered medical practitioner, a labour officer, a teacher, or any other officer authorised by the secretary of children services, or under any other written law for the purposes of the children’s Act 2022.
Child	Any person below the age of 18 years as per the Constitution of Kenya
Child protection	All measures taken to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and all other forms of violence against children.
Child abuse	Is the act of ill-treatment that can harm or is likely to cause harm to a child's safety, well-being, dignity and development. Abuse includes all forms of physical, sexual, psychological or emotional ill-treatment as provided for in the Children’s Act 2022.
Child protection Volunteer	Someone who gives part of their time to freely serve and protect children.
Child trafficking	The recruitment, transporting, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purposes of exploitation;
Child Labour	Work that is mentally, physically, socially, or morally dangerous and harmful to the child;
Child Exploitation	The use of a child for a personal gain, gratification, or profit that often results in the unjust, cruel, and harmful treatment of the child.
Disabled Child	A child suffering from a physical or mental handicap which necessitates special care for the child;
Child Marriage	Cohabitation or any arrangement with a person below the age of 18 years for purposes of sexual exploitation;
Education	Giving of intellectual, moral, spiritual instruction or other training to a child
Emotional abuse	This is any harm to a child's emotional or intellectual functioning

Female Genital Mutilation	means the cutting and removal of part or all of the female genitalia and includes the practices of clitoridectomy, excision, infibulation, or other practice involving the removal of part, or of the entire clitoris or labia minora of a female person;
Foster care placement	Temporary placement of a child or children in the care of a person who is not the child's parent, relative, or guardian;
Harmful cultural practices	These are cultural activities that impact negatively on a child's physical, emotional and behavioural development, their general health, family and social relationships, self-esteem, educational achievements, and aspirations.
Neglect	This is deprivation of a child's basic needs such as food, clothing education, medical care, parental/ guardian care etc.
Parent	The mother or father of a child or any person who is conferred parental rights by law
Physical abuse	It is intentional and unreasonable use of violence or force on a child, which may result in physical injury of a child. This includes and is not limited to hitting, burning or caning, biting, cutting among others.
Sexual abuse	All forms of sexual violence including incest, early and forced marriage, rape/defilement, involvement in child pornography, and sexual slavery.

CHAPTER ONE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Children are an integral part of our society. Their nurture and well-being is the responsibility of everybody including parents, wider family, the state (National and County Government), civil society and the community. The provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the African Charter on the Rights of children, the Children Act of 2022, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the articulation of children issues in the vision 2030 are the guiding pillars of this obligation anchored in the four pillars namely – child survival; protection; development; and participation.

In Kakamega County, there is a need to provide childcare facilities, healthcare, investment in Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) and provision of social amenities to promote the social welfare of children. There is also a need to enhance the survival of children by promoting accessibility to quality and child friendly health services, preventing communicable diseases among children, promoting child health and improving the quality of life for children with disability.

Secondly, the promotion of child development by increasing access to affordable and quality education, and enhancing child social cultural development is key. This can be achieved through measures put in place by the County Government to support socio-cultural development of the child in line with existing policies and legislation.

The measures to enhance child participation by creating the avenues, platforms and forums that promote child participation in decision-making processes on matters affecting children is an area that needs to be emphasised to ensure that a child's opinion on issues that affect them is put into consideration.

The County Government of Kakamega therefore formulates this policy as a framework to assist in enforcement of the salient provisions of both international instruments, national and county legislations addressing the plight of children in the County. This policy shall ensure that children's rights and welfare are protected and advanced so that children in the County have a chance of realising their full potential by growing in a safe and stable environment.

1.2 SITUATION ANALYSIS

About 25% of the world population is under 15 years of age, comprising 2.2 billion children. Globally, Niger has the highest fertility rates of 6.91 children per woman. South Korea has the lowest fertility rate of 0.9 children per woman while the fertility rate of Kenya is 3.36 (World Bank, 2021). According to the United Nations (2022) survey report, poverty continues to be a major challenge that affects children disproportionately. Around the world, one out of six children lives in extreme poverty. Their families struggle to afford the basic health care and nutrition (United Nations, 2022). However, Save the Children (2022) reported that children living in Conflict Zones face the greatest challenges as nearly 200 million children are living in the world's most lethal war zones. Many of these children are already on the frontline of climate change and battling a life-threatening hunger crisis which is the second major challenge among children. Worldwide, an estimated 117 million children were out of school due to COVID-19 in 2022. This is on top of 260 million children who were out of school even before the pandemic. Further, according to UNICEF (2021), 10% of children born in the world die because of preventable diseases.

According to the United Nations (2022), Kenya is among the states that have ratified the UNCRC and has undertaken to pursue policies aimed at progressive realisation of those rights. Despite global and national recognition of children's rights, Kenya still faces many challenges such as poverty, limited access to clean drinking water and proper nutrition, limited access to healthcare, violence against children, child marriage, child neglect and Female Genital Mutilation. The population of children in Kenya is estimated to be approximately 53% translating to 24 million out of 47 million with an annual growth rate of 2.2% (KNBS, 2019). By the time children reach eighteen years, 56.1% of boys and 45.9% of girls experience childhood violence in Kenya. Among the 15.6% of females who experienced childhood sexual violence, nearly 62.6% experienced multiple incidents before age 18. Physical violence is the most common type of child abuse experienced in Kenya which is experienced amongst nearly two out of five females (38.8 %) and half of males (51.9%). For females, intimate partners are the most common perpetrators of childhood sexual violence, comprising 44.4% of first incidents. Childhood physical violence by parents, caregivers and adult relatives is common, affecting 28.9% of females and 37.79% of males.

Childhood emotional violence by peers is also common and affects 30.9% of females

and 31.0% of male children. Only two out of five females who experienced childhood sexual violence (41.3%) reported the incident of sexual violence. Only two out of five females (41.0%) and males (39.2%) who experienced childhood physical violence reported the incident. (Violence against Children report, 2019). Every year, it is estimated that about 74,000 children in Kenya die before the age of five years. Although Kenya has made significant progress in reducing maternal, new-born and child mortality, neonatal death reduced from 31 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2008/9 to 22 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2014, and under-five child mortality reduced from 74 per 1000 live births in 2008/9 to 52 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2014 (KDHS, 2014). Disparities in the quality, accessibility and affordability of healthcare remain a major challenge, hence most vulnerable mothers and children are denied their right to survive and thrive.

Kenya has made tremendous progress towards increasing access to education, due to free primary and day secondary education. Despite the overall progress in access, there are still issues of inequity among marginalised groups. The Net Enrolment Ratio in primary grade stalled at 88% between 2011 and 2015. With regard to child protection, data from the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) between January 2021 and December 2021 indicated that 142 children were defiled, 13 households were headed by children, 15 experienced child marriage and 24 were exposed to incest. Further, 28 children experienced disputed paternity, 34 were teenage mothers, 44 children were abducted, 48 underwent teenage pregnancy, 60 experienced emotional neglect, 90 children were reported lost or missing, 212 experienced physical abuse, parental child abduction was at 323 while 361 children were abandoned and 5,096 children were neglected (CPIMS, 2021). Reporting on child protection matters was mostly done by mothers at 5,115 cases, 1,334 cases were reported by fathers, 797 cases were reported by other relatives and 193 cases were reported by the children in need of care and protection.

According to the 2019 Population and Housing Census, Kakamega County's population was 1,867,579 consisting of 897,133 males and 970,406 females giving a population distribution of 48.04% and 51.96% for males and females respectively. It is noted that 12.1% of the population are below 4 years, whereas the school going population aged between 5 and 19 years make up 42.81% of the population. The County's population is growing at a rate of 1.1% and is projected to increase to

1,930,196 by the end of the year 2022 (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics - KNBS, 2019).

Teenage pregnancy is a major challenge in the county. The rates vary from sub-county to sub-county; Malava, Butere, and Matungu having the highest. Kakamega County recorded 6,669 cases of teenage pregnancies between the months of January and June 2020. Nonetheless, Kakamega county records 12,900 teenage pregnancies on average yearly, and on average about one in five (19%) of girls aged 15-19 years in the county have begun childbearing.

In 2019, there were about 220 street children in Kakamega town excluding other major towns in the county (Adama, 2019). The majority (43.6 %) of street children were in the age group 11-15 years. Male Street children were 78.2% compared to female 21.2 % .Those who had spent 1-3 years in street life were 41.8 %. Step mother/father harassment 25.5% and parent's death 18.2 % were popular reasons for children joining street life. Some street children 27.6 % suffer from malaria whereas 63.6 % dropped school in primary. Economically 21.8% of street children were involved in begging while 41.8% collected scraps. Glue (*mbiere*) was the most abused drug by 38.2 % whereas 60 % have been arrested when in street life and 10.9 % were harassed and remanded for months.

Kakamega County has 917 public Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres with an enrolment of 124,500 as at the close of the financial year 2022/2023. Moreover, by the close of the financial year 2021/2022, a total of 2,016 ECDE teachers had been employed by the County Government. The County has a high primary school net enrolment of 96.0%. However, over 18,000 children of primary school-going age out of school. The secondary school net enrolment rate for the County is 52.1% (CIDP, 2018). The difference in the primary and secondary school net enrolment rates also imply that the primary to secondary school transition rate is relatively low in the County, indicating that there is a large number of children who drop out and do not proceed to the secondary level of education. Kakamega County has 67 County polytechnics with an enrolment of 10,539 trainees at the close of the 2020/2021 financial year and polytechnic instructors were 331. The County installed 109, 5,000-litre storage tanks in 632 ECDE centres and has supplied 84,891 and 13,065 child-friendly chairs and tables respectively.

Further, the County launched the *Imarisha Afya ya Mama Na Mtoto* program in 2014 to help reduce the high maternal and infant mortality rates. The County has 350 health facilities that have 12 maternity wards and 3 paediatric wards. The specialised human resources for health (paediatrics) are however inadequate. By 2022, about 65,000 needy and vulnerable mothers had been enrolled in the *Imarisha Afya ya Mama Na Mtoto* program, which increased access to skilled delivery and reduced infant mortality from 40 to 19 per 1,000 live births. Of the total enrolled pregnant mothers, 39,000 met the eligibility criteria to benefit from the cash transfer.

1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Poverty and hunger is a great challenge affecting global efforts in protecting children. World over, however, efforts to protect children have been put in place through various conventions and legislation to ensure that children's rights and welfare are adhered to. Kenya is also a signatory to various international conventions and instruments that specifically aim to protect children's rights.

The county's poverty rate was at 35.8% compared to the national average at 36.1% in 2022. This is relatively high and has a negative impact on the wellbeing of children in Kakamega. The County Government has made great strides in ensuring that the welfare of children in Kakamega County is well catered for including the operationalization of the *Imarisha Afya ya Mama Na Mtoto* program, establishment of a department dedicated to children affairs and decentralisation of services to the community area units. To ensure food security and child nutrition is achieved, the County Government of Kakamega subsidised farm inputs, and promoted people's welfare through one cow initiative, poultry, and fingerlings programmes.

However, with all these efforts in place, it is still notable that the County has a high poverty rate, which has contributed to the challenges that have been experienced in pursuit of protecting the welfare of the children. It is observed that cases of child neglect are rampant in the County thus resulting to an increase in street children, school dropouts, child headed families, incest cases and child labour as well as children getting into conflict with the law.

Further, drug and substance abuse, child pregnancy, sexual and gender-based violence are also identified as the main health issues affecting children. These issues are attributed to parents' unemployment, peer pressure and poverty. The most abused drugs

among children in the county include *chang'aa*, *kuber* and *hbang*. Increased school dropout, new HIV cases among adolescents, and abortions affect the wellbeing of children. These issues have many consequences on the quality of life of the child.

1.4 VISION

To be a County where all rights of children are respected and realised.

1.5 MISSION

To provide a framework for implementation, realisation and safeguarding of children's rights and welfare in Kakamega County.

1.6 RATIONALE

Poverty is one of the factors contributing to the challenges experienced in pursuit of protecting the welfare of children in Kakamega County. Cases of child neglect are rampant in the County resulting to an increase in street children, school dropouts, child headed families, incest cases, child labour as well as children getting into conflict with the law. Further, drug and substance abuse, child pregnancy, sexual and gender-based violence are also major health issues affecting children. These social issues are attributed to unemployment, peer pressure and poverty. Malnutrition, specifically stunting among under-five children in the County is also high.

While all these issues are prevalent, the County has inadequate safe places for children in need of care and protection. In view of the above prevailing issues, Kakamega County has found it necessary to develop this policy to address the gaps and reinforce rights and welfare of the children in the County. This policy shall provide a framework to guide child rights and provision of child welfare programmes in Kakamega County. It focuses on child survival, development, participation, and protection through improved child welfare services.

1.7 GUIDING POLICY PRINCIPLES

This policy shall be guided by the following principles:

- (i) The best interest of the child.
- (ii) Respect for human dignity
- (iii) Accountability
- (iv) Non-discrimination
- (v) Equity and Equality for children

1.8 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy is anchored on various pieces of legislation and instruments developed internationally, nationally and in the County to support and protect the rights of children.

1.8.1 International Legal Framework

Kenya is a signatory to key international conventions that specifically aim to protect children from abuse and neglect. Kenya signed the 1989 **Convention on the Rights of the Child** (CRC) in January 1990 and ratified it in July of the same year. CRC states that:

“(1), State Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social, and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child. (2), Such protective measures should, as appropriate, include effective procedures for the establishment of social programs to provide necessary support for the child and for those who have the care of the child, as well as for other forms of prevention and identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment and follow-up of instances of child abuse described heretofore, and, as appropriate, for judicial involvement.”

Kenya is also a signatory to the **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict** (Sept. 2000) and the **Optional Protocol to the Convention to the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, child Prostitution and Child Pornography**.

Kenya ratified the 1990 **African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child** (ACRWC) in July 2000. Like the CRC, the Charter calls for member states to take specific legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment including physical, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and neglect, while in the care of the child.

1.8.2 National Legal Framework

In 2001, Kenya enacted the Children Act to implement its obligations under the CRC and ACRWC. This was followed by a constitutional reform in 2010, which was a major milestone for the children of Kenya, as it recognizes fundamental human rights, in

keeping with the UNCRC, the ACRWC and other international and regional treaties. Consequently, to address emerging children issues and align issues of child protection and welfare to the provisions of the Constitution 2010, the Children Act 2001 was reviewed into the Children's Act 2022. The Children's Act 2022 provides for the roles of County Governments on matters of Children in Part VI.

Besides, various other Kenyan laws include provisions aimed at advancing child rights and protecting children from abuse and neglect. These include the Prohibition against Female Genital Mutilation Act, the Employment Act, the Sexual Offences Act, the Trafficking in Persons Act, the Penal Code, the Marriage Act, the Domestic Violence Act, the Evidence Act, the Basic Education Act, the Alcohol Drinks Control Act, and the Refugee Act;

1.8.2.1 The Constitution of Kenya 2010

In addition to the general rights and privileges accorded to children as members of Kenyan society, the Kenyan Constitution recognizes children as a special vulnerable group and specifically calls for their protection from abuse and neglect, stating "every child has the right to be protected from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhuman treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labour." The constitution also provides for the rights of children and reiterates that in the handling of all matters concerning children, the best interest principle is paramount.

1.8.2.2 Children's Act 2022

This Act includes numerous provisions designed to protect children from abuse and neglect. It provides for the rights of the children, their responsibilities as well as provides special protection/response mechanisms and procedures for the various situations faced by children. It defines the term "child abuse" to include "physical, sexual, psychological and mental injury." The Act protects the welfare of children through the following;

- (i) Safeguards for the Rights and Welfare of Children: The Act makes the principle of the best interest of the child the primary driver of all decisions and actions involving children. The act also provides for the determinants of the best interest considerations under the First Schedule.
- (ii) Enforcement of Rights: The Act provides for redress mechanisms on the violation of the rights of the child by providing that if anyone believes that any of the

provisions in the legal frameworks "has been, is being or is likely to be contravened about a child, then without prejudice to any other action concerning the same matter which is lawfully available, that person may apply to the High Court for redress on behalf of the child."

(iii) The Act in Sections 61 and 62 provides for explicit functions of the County Governments on Children matters as follows:

1. provide or facilitate the provision of pre-primary education;
2. Provide or facilitate the provision of childcare facilities.
3. Every county government shall, in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary responsible for children matters, develop policies and guidelines for the better carrying out of its functions
4. A county government may, either by itself or jointly with other county governments, and in consultation with the National Council for Children Services, establish welfare schemes to provide or facilitate the provision of childcare facilities and programmes for children including children with disabilities.

(iv) The National Council for Children's Services: Section 41 of the Children's Act 2022 establishes the National Council for Children's Services (NCCS) charged with the overall mandate of regulating, coordinating and supervising the provision of children services as well as the actors in the Children Sector. The act also mandates the NCCS to provide advisory services to both national and county governments on matters of children. In its composition, a representative of the Council of Governors is a member cognizant of the fact that some of the functions on children matters are devolved.

(v) Children in Need of Care and Protection: The Act states that anyone who has reason to believe that a child needs care and protection may report it to the closest authorised officer, including a police officer, administrative officer or children's officer.

1.8.2.3 Sexual Offences Act 2006

The Sexual Offences Act has in place specific provisions that are geared towards protecting children from sexual abuse and exploitation. It provides that children cannot consent to any sexual acts.

Secondly, the act has expanded the scope of offenses to ensure that more protection is

afforded to children for example; the introduction of the offenses of gang defilement, child sex tourism.

Third, the Act also specifically recognizes that persons of both sexes (either male or female) can be victims of sexual offenses and in the same breath, also recognizes that both sexes can be perpetrators in effect ensuring that both boys and girls are protected from abuse.

Fourth, the Act introduced the concept of minimum sentencing when dealing with sexual offenses and in offenses such as defilement, has provided for the graduation of sentencing according to the victim child's age to ensure better protection of the victims and commensurate appropriate punishment to the perpetrators for example; defilement of a child under the age of 11 years is punishable by life imprisonment.

1.8.2.4 Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act 2011

The Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act protects children from FGM in a two-fold manner; one it criminalizes FGM against children specifically and provides for the punishment of those with intimate involvement, and secondly; it holds accountable anyone who participates in any capacity irrespective of the fact that they were not directly involved in the act of cutting. It has also expanded the scope of offenses associated with FGM. If the performance of an FGM procedure causes death, the person responsible is, on conviction, liable to life imprisonment. Also criminalized under the Act are the following acts or omissions: Aiding and abetting FGM; Procuring a person to perform FGM in a foreign country; Allowing the use of one's premises for FGM; Possession of FGM tools; Failure to report FGM; Use of derogatory or abusive language towards someone for not having undergone FGM

1.8.2.5 Employment Act 2007

The Act criminalises the employment of children under the age of thirteen years. It however provides that a child between ages 13-16 years may be engaged in light work that does not pose a threat to the health and life of the child and that does not interfere with the child's right to education. Further, the Act prohibits the "*worst forms of child labour*." The term "worst form of child labour" includes

- a) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

- b) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or pornographic performances;
- c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; [or]
- d) Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of the child.

1.8.2.6 Counter Trafficking in Persons Act 2010

This Act criminalises trafficking in persons. Concerning children, it provides that, recruiting, transporting, transferring, harbouring or receiving a child for exploitation amounts to child trafficking. The Act also provides in-detail acts that promote child trafficking; provides for minimum sentencing on the perpetrators as well as recognizes that trafficking can be both internal (within the country) or external (outside the country.)

1.8.2.7 Penal Code

The Penal Code provides for specific protection to children; that the age of criminal culpability is from 8 years and thus a child under the age of 8 cannot be charged with any criminal offence; a child between ages 8-12 years shall only be charged when it is proven that he knew that the said act or omission was an offence; and further that the age of carnal knowledge is 12 years. The Code further criminalizes the acts of supplying children with substances that can be harmful to their health and wellbeing; infanticide; abortion and the kidnapping of children.

1.8.2.8 Marriage Act 2014

The Marriage Act bars child marriages. The general provisions of the Act, which is the part of the legislation applicable to all forms of marriage, including Islamic and customary marriages, states that "a person shall not marry unless that person has attained the age of eighteen years." Another provision, in the same section of the legislation, makes a marriage in which one or both of the parties is under the age of eighteen void, stating that "a union is not a marriage if at the time of the making of the union either party is below the minimum age for marriage." Significantly, the Act criminalises marriage with an underage person; anyone convicted for this offence is liable to a sentence of up to five years and/or a fine of up to Kshs. 1,000,000/=.

1.8.2.9 Protection against Domestic Violence Act 2015

The Act describes domestic violence to include violence against that person, or threat of violence or of imminent danger to that person, by any other person with whom that person is, or has been, in a domestic relationship. The Act recognizes that violence in a domestic relationship entails various types including child marriage, FGM, virginity testing, defilement, economic abuse and emotional or psychological abuse. In situations of domestic violence in which children are victims, the Act provides for the application of protection orders in favour of the child which applications can be done by a parent, guardian or any other person in the interest of the child including the children and probation officers.

1.8.2.10 Evidence Act

The Act provides that when a case involves a sexual offense in which the alleged victim and the only witness to the offense is a child, "the court shall receive the evidence of the alleged victim and proceed to convict the accused person if, for reasons to be recorded in the proceedings, the court is satisfied that the alleged victim is telling the truth." This provision protects children from sexual abuse primarily because violence and especially sexual offenses happen in the private where, mostly, only the child victim and the perpetrator are present.

1.8.2.11 Basic Education Act 2013

The Act specifically provides for the provision of free basic and compulsory education to children and provides that no tuition shall be charged in respect to Kenyan citizen students at public schools. It further provides that while public schools are allowed to charge minimal costs that are no tuition fees, no child shall be barred from attending school on account of those unpaid charges. It also provides for punitive penalties to parents/guardians who fail to take their children to school.

The Act lists various values and principles that must be used as guides in the provision of basic education which include elimination of gender discrimination, corporal punishment or any form of cruel and inhuman treatment or torture, protection of every child against discrimination within or by an education department or education or institution on any ground whatsoever" and "non-discrimination, encouragement and protection of the marginalized, persons with disabilities and those with special needs."

1.8.2.12 Alcoholic Drinks Control Act 2010

One of the objects and purposes of the Alcoholic Drinks Control Act is to “protect the health of persons under the age of eighteen years by preventing their access to alcoholic drinks.” To that end, it bars anyone who has a licence to manufacture, store, or consume alcoholic beverages from allowing anyone under the age of eighteen “to enter or gain access to the area in which the alcoholic drink is manufactured, stored or consumed.” Anyone who commits an offence is punishable on conviction by a maximum fine of Ksh. 500,000 and/or a custodial sentence of up to three years.

1.8.2.13 Refugee Act 2006

Kenya has in place the Refugee Act to ensure that refugee children within the country irrespective of their citizenship status are well catered for.

1.8.3 County legal framework

1.8.3.1 The Kakamega County Maternal Child Health and Family Planning Act, 2017

This Act was enacted to provide a framework to support the Kakamega County Maternal County Maternal Child Health and Family Planning program and the establishment and management of the Kakamega County Maternal Health and Family Planning Fund (*Imarisha Afya ya Mama Na Mtoto*).

1.9 Policy Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to –

- a) operationalize sustainable welfare programmes that promote child survival, protection, and development;
- b) strengthen the channels of collaboration and participation among children as well as stakeholders in the children sector;
- c) promote the capacity of all actors on child rights and welfare; and
- d) strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare.

CHAPTER TWO

POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.1 Chapter introduction

This chapter outlines the objectives of this policy, identifies the key issues under each policy and further recommends the policy directions that the County Government of Kakamega commits to undertake in promoting the welfare of children.

2.2 Objective 1

To operationalize sustainable welfare programmes that promote child survival, protection and development.

2.2.1 Key issues

The key issues on the operationalization of sustainable welfare programmes that promote child survival, protection and development are organised into three pillars as follows:-

2.2.1.1 To enhance child survival:

- a) Low immunisation rate attributed to high defaulter rates on immunisation.
- b) Impaired growth and development due to poor nutrition and repeated infection.
- c) Inadequate child friendly health facilities in Kakamega County.
- d) Low capacity of health staff needed to provide child friendly services.
- e) Low awareness level on child health and welfare among various.

2.2.1.2 To Promote Child Development:

- a) Inadequate equipment, furniture and structures in early childhood education centres and county polytechnics.
- b) Inadequate technical capacity of early childhood education and polytechnics.
- c) Inadequate child mentorship and development programmes in the county.
- d) Lack of a school feeding programme in the county.

2.2.1.3 To Enhance child protection

- a) high prevalence of teenage pregnancies, child defilement, children born out of incest and sexual abuse in the county;
- b) increased number of child neglect and abandonment in the county;
- c) early exposure and high involvement of children in child labour, trafficking, radicalization and extremism;

- d) substance and drug abuse among children.

2.2.2 Policy directions

Policy direction on this objective are organized into three pillars as follows:-

2.2.2.1 To Enhance child survival

In order to address the inadequacies in child survival, the County Government shall –

- a) carry out community outreach immunisation services targeting under-fives.
- b) increasing static immunisation sites in the health facilities;
- c) create awareness on the importance of immunisation for children in the county;
- d) sensitise and train child welfare stakeholders (CHVs/Nutrition champions) on child healthy nutrition practices, sports and recreational initiatives;
- e) conduct sensitization on personal child hygiene to reduce communicable diseases;
- f) renovate and equip health facilities to offer child friendly services;
- g) conduct training for technical staff on provision of child friendly health services;
- h) create awareness on child health promotions and prevention services, to reduce child morbidity and mortality rates;
- i) conduct sensitization forums on physical fitness; and
- j) conduct sensitization forums on child mental well-being.

2.2.2.2 To Promote Child Development

In order to promote the Development of children and address issues of technical capacity, nutrition and child mentorship, the County Government shall –

- a) improve the infrastructure of education facilities and technical capacity of the institutions;
- b) progressively introduce school feeding programs in devolved learning institutions;
- c) engage children in social cultural activities such as sports and talent development; and
- d) initiate and conduct leadership and mentorship programs for children.

2.2.2.3 To Enhance child protection

In order to enhance child protection, and to minimize the prevalence of child abuse in Kakamega, the County Government shall –

- a) conduct sensitizations on the rights of children born out of wedlock, incest and such other circumstances so as to demystify cultural stereotypes;
- b) conduct sensitizations on child protection rights;
- c) constitute a mechanism for handling Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) issues against children e.g. defilements, sexual assault and abuse, incest, and emotional abuse;
- d) collaborate with state and non-state actors on addressing issues of child protection;
- e) establish modalities for mitigation against drug abuse among children;
- f) conduct awareness programmes on Violence against children and prevention of child trafficking, radicalization and extremism;
- g) initiate and support measures to promote positive parental skills and alternative family care strategies to address issues of street children, child neglect and abandonment;
- h) conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization to discourage communities against retrogressive cultural practices; and
- i) conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization to discourage communities against child Labour.

2.3 Objective 2

To strengthen the channels of collaboration and participation among children as well as stakeholders in the children sector.

2.3.1 Key issues

The major issues affecting child participation to be addressed are –

- a) inactive children assemblies in the County;
- b) inadequate child rights clubs in schools;
- c) inadequate fora in the county for children to engage with leaders and role model;
- d) inadequate inclusion of children's voices on matters affecting them; and
- e) low level of awareness on child helplines and other authorised reporting structures on children issues.

2.3.2 Policy directions

Whereas child participation enhances the development and creative potential of a child, lack of it would disenfranchise not only children but the future of the county. To enhance child participation, the County Government of Kakamega shall –

- a) strengthen and provide mechanisms for the support of children assemblies in the County;
- b) create awareness and support child rights clubs in schools and other learning institutions;
- c) organise annual fora where children engage with leaders and role models in the County;
- d) organise and support child-led advocacy programs; and
- e) create awareness on child helplines and other authorised reporting structures on children issues.

2.4 Objective 3

Promote the capacity of all actors on child rights and welfare.

2.4.1 Key Issues

- a) duplication of services among different departments, private sector and CSOs on children's issues;
- b) weak support structures and systems in the county;
- c) unreliable and insufficient data sources on children's issues within Kakamega County;
- d) inadequate staff in the county to handle all child rights and welfare issues;
- e) inadequate child mainstreaming strategies;
- f) inadequate communication strategies on children matters; and
- g) inadequate collaboration between government, the private sector, development partners and other stakeholders in implementing children initiatives.

2.4.2 Policy Direction

To Promote the capacity of all actors on child rights and welfare; the County Government of Kakamega shall –

- a) Collaborate with state and non-state actors on addressing issues of child rights and welfare;
- b) recruit and train more children technical officers to handle child welfare programmes
- c) conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization on child rights and welfares;
- d) conduct training for technical staff on provision of child friendly services;

- e) develop mechanisms for regulation of child day care givers; and
- f) establish a mechanism for supervision and administration of all child welfare support institutions in the county.

2.5 Objective 4

Strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare.

2.5.1 Key Issues

- a) Inadequate integrated implementation of children initiatives.
- b) Weak monitoring and evaluation framework on child issues.

2.5.2 Policy Direction

To strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare, the County Government of Kakamega shall –

- a) Develop mechanisms for reporting amongst all institutions implementing child welfare programmes and activities in the county;
- b) initiate modalities that enable all state and non-state actors to effectively disseminate and share information on child welfare programmes and activities implemented in the county;
- c) develop strategies for maintaining and updating a database of all children welfare issues reported in the county; and
- d) develop a data collection tool that will be used by all actors in collecting data on child welfare activities;

CHAPTER THREE:

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ACTORS

3.1.1 Overview

The Kakamega County Children policy shall be implemented through collaboration of state and non-state actors to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in addressing child welfare services. The CEC member shall initiate and oversee the signing of MOUs between non-state actors implementing child welfare programs in Kakamega and the County government thus enhancing smooth coordination and collaboration in implementation of child welfare programs in the County.

The duties and responsibilities of each actor to this policy is defined in this section in the interest of promoting efficiency, minimising conflicts during implementation and finally promoting accountability.

This policy shall be implemented by the following actors:-

1. National Government line ministries
2. County Government of Kakamega
3. Parents, caregivers and guardians
4. The community
5. Children
6. Non-state actors – FBOs, NGOs, CBOs, etc.

3.1.2 Obligations of the National government

The National government shall be responsible for the following –

- a) provide general supervision for children rights and welfare at the County level;
- b) regulate and supervise child care facilities managed by the County Government;
- c) coordinate and manage all children's activities;
- d) oversee data management and sharing at the County level;
- e) provide technical support in the implementation and review of the County children policy;
- f) prevent, respond to child abuses and report to the relevant authorities;
- g) advocate for implementation of children rights;

- h) provide child rights and welfare; and
- i) implement the functions of the office of the Secretary of Children Services as spelt out in the Children Act 2022.

3.1.3 Obligations of the County Government of Kakamega

It is the role of the County Government to ensure that all citizens are served to their expectations within its jurisdiction. The county shall strategically plan and support programs that nurture children into responsible citizens. Kakamega County Government shall –

- a) involve children in peace building, conflict resolution and prevention, and reconciliation initiatives;
- b) design and implement programs to promote intergenerational dialogue and societal values for the children;
- c) establish friendly childcare facilities;
- d) establish recreational facilities for the children;
- e) implement international, national and county legislation and policies;
- f) provide pre-primary education, vocational training centres, home craft centres and regulate child care facilities;
- g) provide the necessary institutional and legal framework for children to enjoy their rights;
- h) support investment in alternative or non-formal education programmes that reach out to school children;
- i) ensure a conducive learning environment in all devolved learning institutions;
- j) ensure access to quality education and skills development in all devolved learning institutions;
- k) create mechanisms and opportunities for participation of children in affairs that affect their growth and development;
- l) allocate a budget and avail resources to cater for children welfare activities; and
- m) collaborate, partner and network with other stakeholders in provision of children disaggregated data for better planning.

3.1.4 Duties and Responsibilities of Children

Pursuant to Article 31 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child as well as the provisions of section 30 of Children’s Act 2022, a child shall have the

following responsibilities –

- a) work for the cohesion of the family;
- b) respect their parents, superiors and elders at all times and assist them in case of need provided that the child’s best interest shall remain paramount;
- c) serve their community by placing their physical and intellectual abilities at its service;
- d) preserve and strengthen social and national solidarity;
- e) preserve and strengthen the positive cultural values of their community in their relations with other members of that community;
- f) attend school unless prevented by factors beyond their capability;
- g) not discriminate against other children on account of ethnicity, race, disability, gender, social status or other grounds;
- h) protect the environment;
- i) not abuse or harm other children;
- j) not destroy any property; and
- k) report instances of child abuse and neglect.

3.1.5 Obligations of Parents, Guardians and Caregivers

This policy spells out roles for parents and guardians/caregivers. Parents, Guardians and Caregivers shall promote responsible parenting for their children by –

- a) providing a conducive environment that promotes positive values and holistic development of children;
- b) providing protection and care for all children under their care;
- c) providing positive role models to the children;
- d) providing access to equal opportunities for the children, regardless of their gender;
- e) providing basic needs for the children;
- f) providing specialised care for children with special needs;
- g) providing guidance and counselling to the children;
- h) socialising and equipping their children with relevant life skills;
- i) offering room for children participation at all levels of decision making on matters affecting their growth and development; and
- j) assisting children to realise their goals and develop their full potential.

3.1.6 Duties and Responsibilities of the Private Sector and CSOs

The private sector and CSOs shall assist in –

- a) ensuring safety of the children in their operations;
- b) providing resources and driving innovation to support children programs and affairs through corporate social responsibility;
- c) promoting children rights through advocacy;
- d) complementing the County Government in provision of children basic services; and
- e) reporting on the milestones made on promotion of children welfare within Kakamega County to both National and County Governments.

3.2 Coordination Framework

The coordination of this policy shall be through the Kakamega County Children Advisory Committees (CACs) as follows: -

1. County Children Advisory committee
2. Sub-County Children Advisory committee
3. Ward Children Advisory committee
4. Community Area Children Advisory committee

3.2.1 County Children Advisory Committee

The roles of the committee shall be to plan, coordinate and determine priority areas for intervention in order to enhance child rights and welfare in the County.

Membership to this committee as provided for in Section 54 of the Children’s Act 2022 shall comprise of –

- a) the County Commissioner or a representative;
- b) the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for matters relating to children, or a representative;
- c) the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for matters relating to education, or a representative;
- d) the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for matters relating to health, or a representative;
- e) the County Director for Education or a representative;
- f) the Children Officer in charge of the area;

- g) a representative of the Director of Public Prosecutions attached to the area within the local jurisdiction of the committee;
- h) a probation officer in charge of the area within the local limits of the committee's jurisdiction;
- i) a police officer attached to the area within the local jurisdiction of the committee;
- j) a representative nominated by Public Benefits Organisations engaged in children's welfare activities within the local limits of the committee's jurisdiction;
- k) a representative nominated by public benefits organisations knowledgeable in matters relating to the rights of persons with disabilities;
- l) a representative of faith-based organisations within the jurisdiction of the committee;
- m) the registrar in charge of the area or a representative;
- n) the Labour Officer in-charge of the area or a representative; and
- o) a representative of the Council who shall be the Secretary to the Committee.

This membership shall be replicated at the other decentralised units of service delivery.

3.2.2 Functions of the County Children Advisory Committee

The functions of the County Children Advisory committee shall be to–

- a) provide overall oversight and coordination on children issues in the County;
- b) safeguard the survival, development, protection and participation rights of children contained in the legal framework;
- c) provide technical advice on children issues in the County;
- d) help in spearheading, planning, and implementation of children programs in the County;
- e) develop and disseminate a framework for reporting, monitoring and evaluation on child rights and welfare activities;
- f) provide leadership in the mobilisation of resources and the implementation of child related programs;
- g) conduct monitoring and evaluation on children programs and projects within the County;
- h) provide mechanisms and platforms for partnership between the two levels of government and non-state actors involved in child welfare activities;

- i) conduct advocacy and lobbying on programs, legislations and policy implementation;
- j) promote and create public awareness on children rights and welfare;
- k) develop a referral system in the County on children matters;
- l) safeguard data on children matters in the County and submit quarterly reports to the relevant authorities;
- m) develop mechanisms to address retrogressive cultural practices affecting child development;
- n) conduct planning and coordination of training and capacity building of stakeholders in children welfare; and
- o) any other function that may be assigned by the relevant authorities.

3.2.3 Sub-County Children Advisory committee

The functions of the sub-county Children Advisory committee shall be to –

- a) safeguard the survival, development, protection and participation rights of children in the sub County;
- b) provide oversight on children issues in the sub-county and report to the County CAC;
- c) provide technical advice on children issues in the sub-county;
- d) help in spearheading, planning, and implementation of children programs in the sub-county;
- e) collect, compile and forward to the County CAC data on children matters in the sub-county;
- f) conduct monitoring and evaluation on children programs and projects within the sub-county;
- g) promote and create public awareness on child rights and child welfare ;
- h) popularise and implement the use of the County referral system on children matters;
- i) sensitise communities to address retrogressive cultural practices affecting child development; and
- j) any other function that may be assigned by the relevant authorities.

The Sub County Advisory committee shall report to the County Children Advisory Committee on the recommendations for the implementation of child welfare programs in the sub-county.

3.2.4 The Ward Children Advisory committee

The Ward Children Advisory committee shall report to the sub County Children Advisory committee on the recommendations for the implementation of child welfare programs in the ward. Membership shall be a replica of the Sub-County Advisory Committee. The roles of the Ward Children Advisory committee shall be to –

- a) ensure that children access survival, development, protection and participation rights contained in international, national, and County legislations within the ward;
- b) identify and link children in need of care and protection to support agencies and structures;
- c) participate in the coordination of children issues in the ward and report to the sub county Advisory committee;
- d) undertake activities aimed at promoting and creating public awareness on child rights and welfare;
- e) support networking by creating linkages and partnerships between stakeholders in the ward;
- f) collect, compile, forward data and information on children to higher levels;
- g) participate in monitoring and evaluation in the implementation of child rights and welfare activities within the ward;
- h) popularise and implement the use of the County referral system on children matters;
- i) hold regular meetings with various stakeholders involved in child welfare activities within the ward;
- j) sensitise communities to address retrogressive cultural practices affecting child development; and
- k) undertake any other function as identified by relevant authorities.

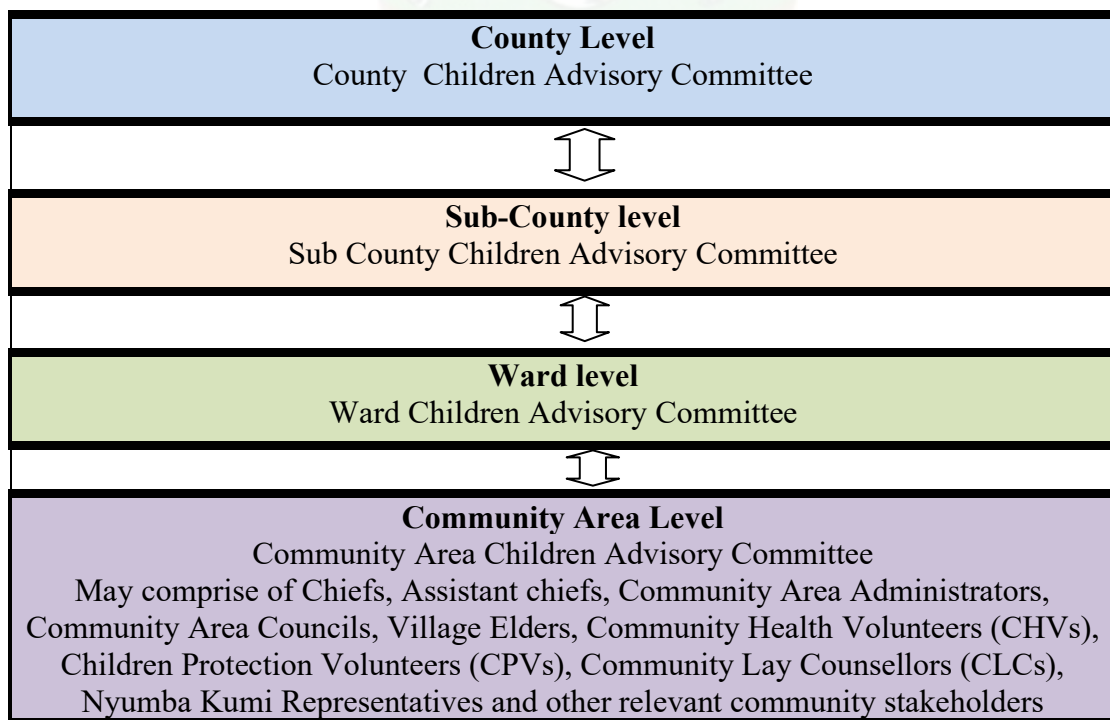
3.2.5 The Community Area Children Advisory Committee

The Community Area Children Advisory committee shall report to the ward Children Advisory committee on the recommendations for the implementation of child welfare programs in the community area. Membership shall be a replica of the Sub-County Advisory committee. The Roles of the Ward Children Advisory committee shall be to

- a) identify and link children in need of care and protection to support agencies and structures;

- b) participate in the coordination of children issues in the community area and report to the ward Advisory committee;
- c) undertake activities aimed at promoting and creating public awareness on child rights and child protection and laws affecting children;
- d) support networking by creating linkages and partnerships between stakeholders in the community area;
- e) collect, compile and disseminate data and information on children and facilitate information sharing amongst stakeholders in the community area;
- f) participate in monitoring and evaluation in the implementation of child rights and welfare activities within the ward;
- g) popularise and implement the use of the County referral system on children matters;
- h) hold regular meetings, which shall not be less than four (4) in a year, with various stakeholders involved in child welfare activities within the ward;
- i) sensitise communities to address retrogressive cultural practices affecting child development; and
- j) undertake any other function as identified by the County or sub County and Ward children Advisory committees.

3.2.6 County Policy Coordination Structure



3.3 Financing and Resource Mobilization

3.3.1 Objectives of the Resource Mobilisation strategy

The overall objective of the Kakamega County Children Policy Resource Mobilisation Strategy is to ensure that there is a clear, systematic, predictable, sustainable and well-coordinated approach to mobilise for additional resources from all relevant actors.

3.3.2 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the strategy are to –

- a) ensure that the Kakamega County children's policy has a clear, coordinated and accountable approach to mobilising, utilising, managing and monitoring resources;
- b) enhance the effectiveness of children related assistance in Kakamega County;
- c) improve relations and dialogue between Kakamega County and its partners;
- d) improve structures and systems to facilitate better management of resources;
- e) align the partners support to the County policy objectives, priority areas, systems, structures, and procedures; and
- f) increase domestic resource mobilisation and broaden the resource channels by exploring alternative sources of funding.

3.3.3 Guiding Principles

The County Government of Kakamega shall pursue a resource mobilisation strategy that is consistent with the national overarching goals and priority programs. The guiding principles of the county are as follows –

- a) Accountability
- b) Fairness, Equity and Equality
- c) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination
- d) Innovation
- e) Integrity
- f) Professionalism
- g) Teamwork

3.3.4 Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring, and Evaluation

The County Children Advisory committee shall be responsible for the development of a coherent and harmonised resource mobilisation strategy based on: -

1. Kakamega County Government Strategy Development, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (SPME) and Medium Term Strategy priorities as determined by the children policy;
2. Decisions taken by the County Children Advisory Committee and
3. The operational plans developed by the County Children Advisory Committee

The Kakamega County Children Advisory committee shall put in place appropriate rules and procedures that shall apply standards offering guarantees equivalent to internationally accepted standards and promote ownership in implementing the policy's Common Agenda. Partners shall work closely with the County Children Advisory Committee during the identification and appraisal/formulation cycles and the implementation and evaluation phases. The Advisory committee shall provide regular updates on the levels of funding to various thematic areas to guide a more balanced contribution by the County Government of Kakamega.

3.3.5 Resource Acquisition, Planning and Management Strategy

3.3.5.1 Resource Acquisition and utilisation

- a) For the externally sourced funds, the County Children Advisory Committee shall continue to abide by internationally agreed principles on aid effectiveness as outlined by the donors and expects the International Cooperating Partners to do the same in assisting the County Government of Kakamega to attain its goals.
- b) Resources shall only be acquired from external resources if they are based on the priorities outlined in the children policy
- c) The County children committee shall continue to encourage its Partners to move progressively towards Contribution Agreements and Basket Funding.
- d) The resources shall be allocated only to the approved projects.
- e) Effective reporting systems shall be developed so that the County children committee is enabled to capture all inflows to the various units.
- f) To ensure the availability of external resources when required, the timing of financial commitments shall be progressively aligned to the Kakamega County planning and budgeting cycle.

- g) The County Children Advisory Committee shall work towards effective harmonisation of development assistance that comes through its system and ensure better capturing of information on all external assistance received.

3.3.5.2 Resource Planning and Management

The County children committee shall strengthen its planning, budgeting and financial management systems in a manner that shall maximise the resource absorptive capacity and optimally utilise resources for its children's programs. The strategy for resource planning and management are as follows: –

- a) The County CAC plans and their associated budgets shall define the areas where resources shall be required.
- b) All resources acquired by the committee (both financial and human), shall be delivered, managed, monitored, and reported through the official and approved County management system.
- c) The County Children Advisory Committee shall put in place enhanced financial oversight and accountability systems and structures that would secure the confidence of all stakeholders.
- d) The County Children Advisory Committee shall encourage cooperating partners to program their financial support over multi-year timeframes as well as make multi-year funding commitments in a manner that would make it easier for the committee to plan and make good projections following predictable funding.
- e) The County Children Advisory Committee shall work towards improved reporting of external resource flows through a well-functioning Development Cooperation Information System.
- f) The County Children Advisory committee shall request timely information on cooperating partners' commitments and disbursement schedules to secure the required resources.

3.3.5.3 Monitoring and Reporting

The County Children Advisory Committee shall institute systems and capacity to provide quality information that is responsive, and comprehensive. This shall be built into reporting and monitoring systems within the existing structures. The internal

monitoring system shall be strengthened towards generating and disseminating quality information, which feeds back into the policy process for informed actions.

Processes and procedures shall be simplified to harmonise and facilitate flexibility in the management of projects and programs. The County Children Advisory Committee shall strengthen the aid management information systems to secure the generation, integration and dissemination of accurate data for monitoring and execution.

The Management System remains key to the monitoring and reporting process. Result Based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and the reporting systems shall be used. Cooperating partners shall be encouraged to adopt a single monitoring framework that stipulates common formats, content and frequency for reporting.

The development and use of websites and ICT related products shall help improve information sharing among all stakeholders, including cooperating partners. In the same manner, the monitoring and reporting communication infrastructure (both hardware and software) shall be strengthened.

Effective development assistance reporting and monitoring systems shall be fully integrated into the other existing systems that monitor all resources for the Kakamega County programs.

3.3.5.4 Capacity for resource mobilisation

The County Children Advisory Committee shall establish a Resource Mobilisation sub-committee with a mandate to support the processes necessary to implement resource mobilisation activities and oversee the County's efforts in obtaining resources.

Kakamega County resource mobilisation framework and guidelines shall indicate how to provide for mechanisms in coordinating and mobilising financial and technical resources from cooperating partners to support the implementation of priorities as defined in the children's policy. Resource mobilisation plans synchronised with the planning cycle shall constitute important work-plans that support the implementation of the policy and guide the negotiation and interaction with children actors.

3.3.5.5 Technical Assistance

The County Children Advisory Committee shall identify the existing gaps in technical capacities and Technical Assistance (TA). Procurement of TA shall be demand-driven and responsive to the Capacity Development Framework. The committee shall develop

guidelines on TA solicitation, recruitment, management, monitoring of performance, and evaluation.



CHAPTER FOUR:

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

4.1 Monitoring and Evaluation strategies

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a continuous management function to assess if progress is made in achieving expected results, to spot bottlenecks in implementation and to highlight whether there are any unintended effects positive or negative from a programme or project and its activities.

The processes of monitoring and evaluation make up the Result-Based Management approach, which is intended to aid decision –making towards explicit goals. M&E facilitates learning from past successes and challenges and those encountered during implementation.

The strategic interventions in the policy shall be monitored and evaluated to ascertain the progress of the implementation.

The department responsible for children services in the county shall carry out comprehensive monitoring and Evaluation twice in a year and come up with reports that shall inform the interventions in reviewing the targets set.

4.2 Monitoring and Evaluation framework

The Monitoring and Evaluation shall be carried by the County CAC in collaboration with technical stakeholders and shall be guided by the matrix Annexed.

4.3 Policy review

The children policy may be reviewed at least once every three years and in line with other government policy statements.

ANNEX 1: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

5.1 Introduction

This policy comprises four thematic areas that form the basis of the implementation matrix as follows:

5.2 Objective 1

To operationalize sustainable welfare programmes that promote child survival, protection and development. This objective addresses activities and programmes under thematic areas as follows: Child survival; Child protection; and Child development

5.2.1 Strategic intervention 1:

To promote Accessibility to quality and child friendly health services

Activities	Actors	Time frame
(i) Equip health facilities to offer child friendly services.	Lead Actor	2022 - 2032
(ii) Conduct periodic assessments to ascertain the progress of children's psychomotor during the first 1,000 days of life and address the underlying welfare issues.	CECM children services	
(iii) Conduct training for technical staff on provision of child friendly health services	Development partners	
(iv) Create awareness on child health promotions and prevention services, to reduce child morbidity and mortality rates.		
(v) Sensitise and train child welfare stakeholders on child healthy nutrition practices, sports and recreational initiatives.		
(vi) Conduct sensitization on personal child hygiene to reduce communicable diseases		
(vii) Conduct sensitization on physical fitness,		
(viii) Conduct sensitization on child mental well being		

5.2.2 Strategic Intervention 2:

To prevent communicable diseases among children

Activities	Actors	Time frame
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k) Carry out community outreach immunisation services targeting under-fives.	Lead actor CECM	2022 - 2032
l) Increasing static immunisation sites in the health facilities.	children services	
m) Support the participation of children and other stakeholders in children welfare issues in the observation of world health days e.g. malaria day, TB day, hand washing day, Breastfeeding day	Development partners	

5.2.3 Strategic intervention 3:

To promote school child health

Activities	Actors	Time frame
a) Conduct free deworming campaigns in schools	Lead Actor	2022 -
b) Create awareness and distribute menstrual hygiene towels.	CECM	2032
c) Free screening of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and immunisation of above 10 years.	Children services	
d) Conduct health education and counselling on matters affecting children.	Development partners	
e) Carryout jigger eradication campaign in schools and households.		

5.2.4 Strategic intervention 4:

To improve the quality of life for children with disability

Activities	Actors	Time frame
a) Map and establish a database of children with disabilities.	Lead Actor	2022 -
b) Providing technical and material support to institutions and families that take care of children with disabilities.	CECM	2032
c) Create awareness on inclusion of children with disability to reduce discrimination.	children services	
	Development partners	

5.2.5 Strategic intervention 5:

To increase access to affordable and quality education

Activities	Actors	Time frame
a) Improve the capacity of technical and education institutional facilities.	CECM children	2022 - 2032

b) Enhance capitation, bursaries and scholarships c) Introduce school feeding programs in learning institutions.	services Development partners	
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5.2.6 Strategic intervention 6:

Enhance Child Social cultural development

Activities	Actors	Timeframe
a) Engage children in social cultural activities such as sports and talent development. b) Initiate and conduct leadership and mentorship programs for children.	Lead actor CECM children services Development partners	2022 - 2032

5.2.7 Strategic intervention 7:

To institute measures against all forms of child abuse

Activities	Actors	Time frame
i) To conduct sensitization on child protection rights ii) Conduct sensitizations on the rights of children born out of wedlock, incest and such other circumstances so as to demystify cultural stereotypes. iii) Establish modalities for mitigation against drug abuse among children iv) Conduct awareness programmes on Violence against children and prevention of child trafficking, radicalization and extremism. v) Collaborate with state and non-state actors on addressing issues of child protection. vi) Conduct mapping on institutions and organisations involved in implementation of child protection issues in the County vii) Promote positive parental skills and alternative family care strategies to address issues of street children, child neglect, abandonment etc. viii) Constitute a committee and mechanism for handling SGBV issues against children e.g. defilements, sexual assault and abuse, incest, emotional abuse etc. ix) Conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization to discourage communities against retrogressive cultural practices x) Conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization to discourage communities against child Labour	Lead actor CECM children services Development partners	2022-2032

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> xi) collaborate with relevant justice agencies to ensure fast processing of cases involving child offenders and children in contact with the law xii) Establish and sensitise stakeholders on functional County referral system that address matters on children. xiii) Implement continuous capacity building programs for officers and stakeholders involved in child protection matters. 		
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5.3 Objective 2:

To strengthen the channels of collaboration and participation among children as well as stakeholders in the children sector. The objective addresses thematic area of child participation.

5.3.1 Strategic intervention 1

To create avenues, platforms and forums that promote child participation in decision-making process on matters affecting them

Activities	Actors	Time frame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To provide mechanisms for the support of children assemblies in the County. ii) Support child right clubs in schools and other institutions iii) To organise and support child-led advocacy programs iv) To organise annual forums where children engage with leaders and role models in the County v) To expand channels of communication on children matters in the County vi) To create awareness on child helplines and other authorised reporting structures on children issues vii) Support children to participate in international and national children days viii) To institute mechanisms for public participation among children on matters that concern them 	Lead actor CECM children services Development partners	2022-2032

5.4 Objective 3

To promote the capacity of all actors on child rights and welfare

5.4.1 Strategic intervention

To implement programs and activities geared towards capacity development of technical staff and enhanced stakeholder ability to tackle challenges of child welfare in the county.

Activities	Actors	Time frame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Conduct a mapping of all stakeholders involved in implementation of child welfare programmes ii) Train state and non-state actors on child rights and welfare legal framework (i) recruit and train children technical officers to handle child welfare programmes (ii) conduct training for technical staff on provision of child friendly services. iii) Train and capacity build members of the county children advisory committees iv) Develop a policy framework and guidelines for the supervision and administration of child day care facilities and other child support institutions in the county. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead actor CECM children services Development partners 	2022-2032

5.5 Objective 4

To strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare

5.5.1 Strategic intervention

Establish a robust system of service delivery to strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare

Activities	Actors	Time frame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop synergized data collection tools on child welfare activities Establish and maintain a database of all children welfare issues reported in the county. Initiate, operationalize and train the children sector working group Automate processes of data dissemination and knowledge management on child welfare programmes and activities implemented in the county 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead actor CECM children services Development partners 	2022-2032

ANNEX 2: MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

6.1 Objective 1

To operationalize sustainable welfare programmes that promote child survival, protection and development

6.1.1 Strategic intervention 1:

To promote Accessibility to quality and child friendly health services

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target																	
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10								
Conduct survey on various parameters on child welfare	2 Baseline surveys	4 surveys conducted																		
	1 Review Survey		1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1 Evaluation survey																			
Improve the capacity of technical staff and institutional facilities that offer child health services.	No. of staff trained	20 technical staff employed and deployed	7	7	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	No of children facilities improved																			
Create awareness on child health promotions and prevention services, to reduce child morbidity and mortality rates.	No. of awareness and sensitization sessions conducted	Conduct 4 annual awareness sensitization sessions	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
			0	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Promote child healthy nutrition practices, sports and recreational initiatives	No. of child talent academies established	3 talent child academies established	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Promote and facilitate personal child hygiene programs, physical fitness, child reproductive and mental well-being	No of child recreational facilities	12 child recreational facilities established	0	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
	No of school and community training sessions conducted on child hygiene, physical fitness, child reproductive and mental well-being	60 school and community training sessions conducted annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Invest in children's psychomotor during the first 1,000 days of life.	No of communities and stakeholder sensitization forums conducted on psychomotor during the first 1,000 days of life.	4 annual forums conducted on psychomotor during the first 1,000 days of life	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

6.1.2 Strategic intervention 2:

To prevent communicable diseases among children

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target											
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10		
Carryout community outreach immunisation services targeting under-fives.	No of community immunisation outreach services targeting under-fives conducted	12 Annual community immunisation outreach services	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Increasing static immunisation sites in the health facilities.	No static immunisation sites established	60 static immunisation sites established	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Observation of world	No of world health days	12 annual world health	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12

health days e.g. Malaria day, TB day, Hand Washing Day, Breastfeeding day	days observed																			
	No of children facilitated to attend world health days	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120

6.1.3 Strategic intervention 3:

To promote school child health

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target																	
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10								
Conduct free deworming campaigns in schools	No of school children dewormed	100,000 children in schools dewormed annually	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
create awareness and distribute menstrual hygiene towels	No of schools sensitised on menstrual hygiene No of children beneficiaries of the menstrual hygiene packages	60 schools sensitised annually 60,000 girls annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Free screening of HPV and immunisation of girls above 10 years	No of girls above 10 years screened No of girls above 10 years immunised	10,000 girls screened annually 60,000 girls annually	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Conduct health education and counselling	No of institutions sensitised on health education and counselling	60 institutions sensitised on health education and counselling every year	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
carryout jigger eradication campaign in schools and households	No of households reached No of schools reached	10 per community area annually 60 schools annually	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000

6.1.4 Strategic intervention 4:

To improve the quality of life for children with disabilities

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target												
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10			
Map and establish a database of children with disability	No of database for children with disability	A database for children with disability	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	No of times the database is update	An updated database for children with disability	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous	Conti nuous
Support children’s charitable institutions that provide safe homes for children with disability	No of Children with disability institutions supported	60 Charitable institutions annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Create awareness on inclusion on children with disability to reduce discrimination	No of awareness forums conducted	60 annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60

6.1.5 Strategic intervention 5:

To increase access to affordable and quality education

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target												
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10			
Improve the capacity of technical and education	No of ECDE teachers employed and trained	2500 ECDE teachers employed and trained	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250

institutional facilities	No of sensitization forums conducted on joining County polytechnics	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	No of students sensitised to join County polytechnics	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
	No of schools benefiting from assorted learning tools and equipment	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	No of schools benefiting from learning infrastructural improvements	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Enhance capitation, bursaries and scholarships	% increase in annual Capitation	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
	% increase in the annual allocation of bursaries and scholarships	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
introduce school feeding program in learning institutions	No of schools benefiting	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60

6.1.6 Strategic intervention 6:

Enhance Child Social cultural development

Activities	Indicators	Target																		
		Output	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10								
Engage children in social	No of County annual children cultural and talent promotion events conducted	1 annually	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

cultural activities like sports and talent development	No of County annual children sports tournament conducted	1 annually	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Establish Leadership and mentorship programs for children	No of annual County children debates conducted	2 annual debates	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

6.1.7 Strategic intervention 7:

To institute measures against all forms of child abuse

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target										
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	
To conduct sensitization on child protection rights	No of sensitization forums on child protection rights	12 sensitizations forums annually	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Establish modalities for mitigation against drug abuse among children	No of sensitization forums on child drug abuse.	60 sensitization forums annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Implement legislation and programs that enhance prevention, countering of child trafficking radicalization and extremism	No. of sensitization forums enhancing prevention and countering of child trafficking	12 sensitization forums annually	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Develop and Implement guidelines on violence against children	No. of developed and implemented guidelines on violence against children	3 guidelines annually	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Collaborate with state and non-state actors on addressing issues of child protection	No. of non-state actors collaborated	Non-state actors collaborations	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Conduct mapping on institutions and organisations involved in implementation of child protection issues in the County	Database of institutions dealing with child protection developed and updated annually	Database of institutions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Promote positive parental skills and alternative family care strategies to	No. of sensitization forums on parental skills	60 sensitization forums annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target														
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10					
address issues of street children, child neglect, abandonment etc.																	
Constitute a committee and mechanism for handling SGBV issues against children e.g. defilements, sexual assault and abuse, incest, emotional abuse etc.	No. of committees constituted	73 committees constituted	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization to discourage communities against retrogressive cultural practices	No of stakeholders sensitization forums	12 stakeholder's sensitization forums annually.	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Conduct multi-stakeholder sensitization to discourage communities against child Labour	No. of stakeholders sensitization against child labour	12 stakeholders sensitization forums annually	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Collaborate with relevant justice agencies to ensure fast processing of cases involving child offenders and children in contact with the law	No. of agencies collaborated with	All relevant agencies collaborated with	All	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Establish and sensitise stakeholders on functional County referral system that address matters on children	No of stakeholders sensitization forums	12 stakeholders sensitization forums annually	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Implement continuous capacity building programs for officers and stakeholders involved in child protection matters.	No. of capacity building sessions	12 Capacity building sessions annually	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12

6.2 Objective 2

To strengthen the channels of collaboration and participation among children as well as stakeholders in the children sector.

6.2.1 Strategic Intervention 1

To create avenues, platforms and fora that promote child participation in decision-making process on matters affecting them

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target													
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10				
To provide mechanisms for the support of children assemblies	No of children assemblies supported	1 annually	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Support child right clubs in schools and other institutions	No of schools and institutions sensitised on the establishment of child rights clubs	60 schools and institutions annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
To organise and support child-led advocacy programs	No. of child-led advocacy programs supported	3 annually	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
To organise annual forums where children engage with leaders and role models in the County	No of Annual County Children Dialogue Forums conducted	13 forums annually	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
To expand channels of communication on children matters in the County	No of sensitization forums on the available channels of communication on children matters in County	60 annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
To sensitise on child helplines and other authorised reporting structures on children issues	No of sensitization forums on child helplines and other authorised reporting structures	60 annually	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Support children to participate in international and national children days	No of children days supported	3 annual days	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
To institute mechanisms for public participation among children on matters that concern them	No of public participation engagements attended by children	2 per year per sub County	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24

6.3 Objective 3

To promote the capacity of all actors on child rights and welfare

6.3.1 Strategic intervention

To implement programs and activities geared towards capacity development of technical staff and enhanced stakeholder ability to tackle challenges of child welfare in the county.

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target													
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10				
Conduct a mapping of all stakeholders involved in implementation of child welfare programmes	Frequency of stakeholder mappings conducted	1 annually	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Train state and non-state actors on child rights and welfare legal framework	No of stakeholders capacity-built	stakeholders capacity-built	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
recruit and train children technical officers to handle child welfare programmes	No of children technical officers recruited and trained	children technical officers recruited and trained	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Train and capacity build members of the county children advisory committees	No of capacity building sessions conducted	capacity building sessions conducted	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Develop a policy framework and guidelines for the supervision and administration of child day care facilities and other child support institutions in the county.	Guidelines developed	Continuously	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

6.4 Objective 4

To strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare

6.4.1 Strategic intervention

Establish a robust system of service delivery to strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy for child protection and welfare

Activities	Indicators	Output	Target												
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10			
Develop synergized data collection tools on child welfare activities	Frequency of dissemination of Data collection tools	1 quarterly	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Establish and maintain a database of all children welfare issues reported in the county.	Database established	1 quarterly	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Initiate, operationalize and train the children sector working group	No of training sessions for the children sector working group	4 per year	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

ANNEX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- 1 H.E. Hon. FCPA Fernandes Barasa, OGW – Governor, Kakamega County
- 2 H.E. Hon. FCPA Wycliffe Oparanya – First Governor, Kakamega County
- 3 H.E. Hon. Ayub Savula – Deputy Governor, Kakamega County
- 4 Kakamega County Children Assembly
- 5 Amb. James Ochami – Former County Secretary and Head of Public Service
- 6 Anglican Development Services (ADS)
- 7 CS, Vivianne Mmbaka Komwonyo – County Attorney
- 8 Dr George Lutomia – Former Ag. CECM, Social Services, Youth, Women Empowerment, Sports and Culture
- 9 Dr. Brenda Makokha – Former Chief Officer, Social Services, Youth, Women Empowerment, Sports and Culture
- 10 Dr. Phitalis Masakhwe – Chief Officer, Risk Management and Service Delivery
- 11 Geoffrey Nyakwara – County Planning Officer, County Government of Kakamega
- 12 International Committee for the Development of Peoples (CISP)
- 13 James Khalwale – Youth Development Officer, County Government of Kakamega
- 14 Justus Wabuko – Legal Officer, County Government of Kakamega
- 15 Kennedy Owino – Consultant NCCS
- 16 Kenya National Children Coordination Service
- 17 Mercyline Nangila – Children’s officer, County Government of Kakamega
- 18 Mildred Wandema – County Solicitor, County Government of Kakamega
- 19 Mr. Joseph Abucheri – Chief Officer, Youth, Sports and Library Services
- 20 Mr. Mophat Mandela – CECM, Social Services, Youth, Women Empowerment, Sports and Culture
- 21 Ms. Doreen Amwoga – Former Ag. Chief Officer, Social Services, Youth, Women Empowerment, Sports and Culture

- 22 Ms. Everlyne Ityeng – Principal Human Resource, Management and Development, Department of Social Services, Children Services, Gender and Culture
- 23 Ms. Vivien Ayuma – Chief Officer, Social Services, Children Services, Gender and Culture
- 24 Save the Children International
- 25 Silas Mukhebi Juma - Children’s Officer, County Government of Kakamega
- 26 State Department of Children Services Kakamega
- 27 USAID 4TheChild
- 28 World Vision Kenya (Matete)
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VISION

To be a County where all rights of children are respected and realised

MISSION

To provide a framework for implementation, realisation and safeguarding of children's rights and welfare in Kakamega County



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