

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF ICT, INNOVATION AND YOUTH AFFAIRS
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS

Kenya Youth Development Policy 2019

Empowered Youth for Sustainable Development

November, 2019

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**Kenya Youth Development Policy
2019**

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Foreword

The youth are the strength, wealth and drivers of innovation in Kenya. Deliberate and systematic efforts are necessary to appropriately equip and empower them to attain and realize their full potential and in turn, drive the attainment of development objectives set out in Kenya Vision (2030); and international commitments which include African Union Agenda (2063), United Nations Strategy for the Youth (2014) and SDGs (2030).

We are therefore delighted as Government, to roll out the Kenya Youth Development Policy (KYDP) (2019). This Policy is an expression of the collective commitment of concerned stakeholders to harness and optimize the strengths and opportunities that the youth present while addressing personal and structural barriers that affect their productivity.

It is important to acknowledge that previous policies have helped the country achieve a number of key milestones in youth empowerment efforts. Notable among them being: the establishment of the National Youth Council as a representative body advancing the voice of the youth, the establishment of several Affirmative Action Funds that continue to target youth, women and people living with disabilities with low/ interest-free funds for economic empowerment activities.

This Policy, which is an outcome of a broad based consultative process, is designed to promote the creation of sustainable decent jobs and income generating opportunities for all youth, facilitate building of digital skills and leverage young people's natural affinity to technology which is powerful in helping the nation grow and strengthen its economic base thus become more competitive in today's globalized markets. Further, the policy intends to help realize a mentally and physically healthy nation which is socially secure. In addition, it will nurture a value driven, moral, ethical generation of patriotic youth with a heart for volunteerism and transformative leadership. Harnessing the full power of youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation is critical for a job-ready work force across all sectors of national and global economy and this has been given due consideration in this policy. The policy has outlined strategies that contribute to a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya.

This Policy is underpinned by strong partnerships and a multi-agency approach including the youth, private sector, development partners, youth serving organizations, faith-based organizations; and other stakeholders. Through these partnerships, the objectives of this Policy will be pursued through rights-based, professional, mainstreamed, sustainable and

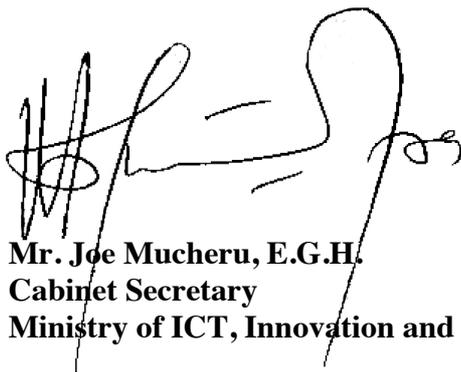
co-ordinated approaches guided by national values and principles of governance.

The Policy provides for its implementation, co-ordination framework at the national, county and sub-county levels through the National Government administration structures and County Government structures down to the youth at the grassroots. The Policy also provides for institutional, communication, monitoring and evaluation frameworks to ensure effective implementation of the identified Policy objectives and measures.

We are confident that all players, actors and stakeholders will find space to fit in and play their part within the youth space in a way that is coherent and that breaks down the silos that have existed in the sector for over a decade.

Finally, success in the implementation of the Policy shall require the youth to play an active role in identifying their needs and taking necessary action with the support of stakeholders. All youth serving organizations and youth groups; development partners; families and the larger society; private sector; the County Governments; National Government, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and the international community shall also play a leading role in the realization of the aspirations of the Policy.

The Government remains committed to all efforts directed at the realization of the youth' potential in nation building, in line with the Constitution and all regional and international conventions and charters signed relating to the youth.



Mr. Joe Mucheru, E.G.H.
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs

Preface and Acknowledgements

The youth are an essential component of our nation's development and a key driver in the realization of Kenya's Big Four Agenda, Vision 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This Policy, which has been informed by the current realities in the country, places the youth in the broader context of national development and envisages that all will have productive opportunities to reach their full potential, both as individuals and as active participants in society. The Policy also places an obligation on the youth to be patriotic and value driven, agile protagonists of their own development and not merely recipients of government and/or other stakeholders' support.

Among the most outstanding priorities that the Policy proposes is to focus on the development, for the first time, of a Kenyan Youth Development Index to track and measure impact of initiatives, programmes, projects and activities at various levels. The Index shall have clear indicators, making it easy to obtain relevant data and information through regular national and county level surveys and reporting mechanisms.

The process of developing this Policy was inclusive through involvement of youth partners and stakeholders through consultative and participatory processes. This comprised of regional public participation and stakeholder validation forums, technical team forums, and multi-sectoral technical working groups.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all individuals, groups and organizations that made contributions towards the successful formulation of the Policy. To name just a few: the World Bank through the Kenya Youth Empowerment and Opportunities Project (KYEOP) for financial and peer support; Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) for technical support; all the youth and youth groups who candidly shared their views during the public participation forums and written memorandums; all youth serving groups and organizations that not only provided views to enrich the Policy but also provided financial facilitation for their youth groups to attend the public participation forums; and all authors of publications and other information resources whose ideas were sourced to inform the content of the Policy.

I also wish to thank the staff of the then Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender for their contribution towards the development of this Policy. Special gratitude goes to the Cabinet Secretary and Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) for guidance, facilitation and selection of a capable

multi-stakeholder Technical Committee that worked with the State Department for Youth to provide the overall co-ordination of the entire Policy development process as well as refining and finalizing the document.

Finally, I once again call upon all those who supported the Policy formulation process and partners to commit more support to the next phases of the Policy which include; implementation, monitoring, reviews and reporting of impact.



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State Department for Youth Affairs
Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
AU	African Union
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CECs	County Executive Committee Member
COG	Council of Governors
COTU	Central Organisation of Trade Unions
CSO	Community Service Organisations
DCI	Directorate of Criminal Investigation
FBO	Faith Based Organisation
GATS	Global Adult Tobacco Survey
GOK	Government of Kenya
GTZ	German Technical Co-operation
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
FKE	Federation of Kenya Employers
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICTA	Information and Communication Technology Authority
IEBC	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
ILO	International Labour Organization
KAM	Kenya Association of Manufacturers
KDHS	Kenya Demographic Health Survey
KEPSA	Kenya Private Sector Alliance
KIHBS	Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey
KIPPRA	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

KYDP	Kenya Youth Development Policy
KYEOP	Kenya Youth Empowerment and Opportunities Project
KYEP	Kenya Youth Empowerment Project
MDAs	Ministries, Department and Agencies
MTP	Medium Term Plan
NACADA	National Authority for the Campaign against Alcohol and Drug Abuse
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases
NEET	Not in Education Employment and Training
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPS	National Police Service
NYC	National Youth Council
NYS	National Youth Service
SACCOs	Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
STI	Science Training and Innovation
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SWOT	Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund
YSOs	Youth Serving Organisations

Key Policy Definitions

Youth

The Policy defines the Youth as a person aged 18 years and who has not reached the age of 35 years (Kenya Constitution 2010). However, to ensure that youth issues are addressed comprehensively, this Policy also proposes some interventions for young people aged between 15 to 17 years.

The Policy uses the term ‘youth’ to refer to both age and youth-hood. With respect to age, a youth will be defined as a person, male or female, in the age bracket of 18 to 34 years; while youth-hood will be looked at as the specific stage between childhood and adulthood when people have to negotiate a complex interplay of both personal and socio-economic and cultural changes to manoeuvre the transition from dependence to independence, take effective control of their lives and assume social commitments. The Policy recognizes youth-hood as a period of transition and vulnerability when the youth have to undergo learning, transition to work, staying healthy and safe, forming families, exercising citizenship and adherence to national values and principles of governance. Success in this period of transition requires development of human capital of the youth, empowering the youth to productively contribute to sustainable development both nationally and internationally; take up leadership roles, make informed and competent choices, and develop a sense of wellbeing. This Policy recognizes the fact that youth is not a homogenous group. Although young people experience some common developmental issues, their backgrounds, experiences, interests, gender, requirements and cultures are diverse.

Youth Development

This Policy aligns itself with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) human development perspective which emphasizes the richness of human life and focuses on creating fair opportunities and choices for all people. The term Youth Development therefore means improving the lives that the youth lead, giving them more freedom and opportunities to live the lives they value. It means developing the abilities of the youth and giving them a chance to use these abilities to flourish. This Policy therefore intends that the youth lead healthy and creative life, are knowledgeable, and have access to resources needed for a decent standard of living. The Policy also intends to create the requisite conditions that guarantee youth their rights and security, supports their participation in

political and economic life, contributes to environmental sustainability and ensures gender equality.

Government

Consistent with the Constitution of Kenya (2010), the word Government refers to the two levels of government: The National Government and the 47 County Governments. The Policy applies to the two levels of Government.

Stakeholders

These include private sector, development partners, Faith Based Organisations (FBOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Youth Serving Organisations (YSOs) and individuals.

Youth Empowerment

Youth empowerment is both a means and an end, an attitudinal, structural, and cultural process whereby youth gain the ability, authority, and agency to make decisions and implement change in their own and other people's lives both now and in their adulthood while bearing responsibility for the consequences of those decisions and actions.

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Plan of Action endorsed that “Empowering youth means creating and supporting the enabling conditions under which youth can act on their own behalf and on their terms, rather than the direction of others”. These enabling conditions include:

- i) Economic and social based;
- ii) Political will and commitment for mainstreaming youth issues at all levels, adequate resource allocation and supportive legal and administrative framework;
- iii) A stable environment for equity, peace and democracy; and,
- iv) Access to knowledge, information and skills.

Youth empowerment is therefore addressed as a gateway to intergenerational equity, assets enhancement, civic engagement and democracy building and all programs that focus on positive youth development.

Youth Participation

Youth participation refers to the youth having influence on and shared responsibility for decisions and actions that affect the lives of the youth within a context that acknowledges and respects their talents and strengths and supports them in finding ways to deal with the issues that affect them.

Youth Employment

This Policy defines youth employment as a means of providing youth with opportunities for work that are productive and deliver a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for the youth to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment.

Youth Work

The Policy defines youth work as all forms of youth engagement that build personal awareness and support the social, political and socio-economic empowerment of youth. This Policy holds that youth work involves skills and competency development among the youth while enhancing their self-esteem, social connectedness, economic productivity, emotional and intellectual maturity and autonomy as well as supporting their self-empowerment within caring and supportive environment.

Youth Worker

A Youth worker is a suitably trained and knowledgeable individual who undertakes youth work, engages and responds to young people from a place of deep contextual understanding and co-creates with young people spaces and activities that support their agency to organize their lives and engage positively with their communities and the world.

Youth Sector

The Policy defines the youth sector as any section of institution that deals with youth issues.

A Safe Space for Youth

A space occupied by youth that is co-governed by the youth with rules and norms set by young people. A safe space shall be one that enables young people to experience feelings of love, ownership, learning, growth, freedom and social hope. This policy holds that any facility- physical or virtual, earmarked as a youth centre must be a safe space.

Special Interest Groups

The Policy gives special attention to certain groups of youth because of their specific needs. These special groups include: youth with disability (PWDs); street and vagrant youth; youth living with HIV/AIDS; unemployed youth; and out of school youth, incarcerated youth, youth in humanitarian settings, youth living in informal settlements and migrant youth. In each of the targeted youth clusters the Government and organisations working with the youth will be required to give special attention and affirmative action to the special interest groups.

Executive Summary

The Kenya Youth Development Policy (KYDP) 2019 seeks to provide an opportunity for improving the quality of life for the youth in Kenya through their empowerment and participation in economic and democratic processes as well as in community and civic affairs. It also advocates for creation of a supportive social, cultural, economic and political environment that will empower the youth to be active actors in national development. The Policy therefore provides a detailed account of various aspects, key of which are highlighted here under.

Achievements of previous Legislative, Policy and Institutional Frameworks

The Policy has underscored the importance and role that previous legislative, policy and institutional frameworks have been able to achieve in advancing the youth agenda in Kenya. Some of the milestones acknowledged in the Policy are establishment of the Youth Enterprise and Development Fund (YEDF) in 2007; establishment of Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) in 2013; Launch of the Marshall Plan for Youth Employment and Development in March, 2008; establishment of the National Youth Council in 2009; the National Youth Service (NYS) Act (2018) that established the NYS as a State Corporation; and establishment of Affirmative Action Funds.

Policy Goal and Vision

The Policy **Goal** is to promote the holistic empowerment and participation of the youth in socio-economic and political spheres for national development.

The **Vision**: a society where youth have an equal and responsible opportunity to realize their full potential in socio-economic and political aspirations, through honest and hard work.

The **Values** given emphasis in the Policy include patriotism, respect for diversity and ethical values, equity and accessibility, inclusiveness, good governance, mainstreaming youth issues. The values are anchored on the principles of responsiveness by stakeholders to address youth issues, accessibility, equality, participation, integration, access, diversity, empowerment and inclusion among the youth.

Mandate to drive the Youth Agenda

The mandate to drive youth agenda is derived from Executive Order No.1 of June 2018 on Organization of the Government of the Republic of

Kenya. The Policy gives the mandate to drive the youth agenda in the country to the State Department in charge of Youth Affairs, with direct oversight by the parent Ministry.

Youth Strengths, Opportunities and Challenges

The Policy emphasises that the narrative about the youth in Kenya should have a positive component. The Policy has brought out key strengths and opportunities that the youth present. Some of these positive aspects include: their creativity and innovativeness, their potential to become transformative leaders, their productivity, energy and drive, their high level of education,; their readiness to learn, their demonstration of high affinity for networking and entrepreneurship, as well as their ability to learn to use and develop ICT and its applications. These strengths should be harnessed and optimized for the realization of the demographic dividend.

The Policy also highlights the various challenges that youth face such as: unemployment, underemployment and lack of employable skills, poor health, insufficient socio-economic support, drug use and substance abuse; involvement in crime; lack of access to basic services, limited access to ICT especially for those in difficult-to-reach-areas, such as rural areas and indigenous communities; Education and housing and radicalization into violent extremism; among others.

Policy objectives and priority areas

The Policy has articulated the youth empowerment and development objectives within the Kenyan context. The Policy objectives are:

- (i) Realize a healthy and productive youth population;
- (ii) Build qualified and competent youth workforce for sustained development;
- (iii) Create opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods;
- (iv) Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation;
- (v) Nurture value driven, morally upright, ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership;
- (vi) Effective civic participation and representation among the youth;
- (vii) Promote a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind;

- (viii) Support youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development;
- (ix) Promote and develop of entrepreneurial culture among the youth through access to subsidized loans, training, mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubation and partnerships and,
- (x) Support the development of a wide range of ICT-based programmes in local languages, as appropriate, with content relevant to different groups of youth.

The associated priority areas for Policy intervention include:

- (i) Supporting youth development, health, nutrition and wellbeing;
- (ii) Eradicating drugs and substance abuse among youth;
- (iii) Investing in education, training and skills development by ensuring that ICT is fully and appropriately integrated into education and training at all levels and also establishing educational networks for sharing educational resources and promoting e-learning at all levels;
- (iv) Institutionalising and strengthening apprenticeship and internship programmes;
- (v) Addressing youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity;
- (vi) Building capacity of the youth to fully integrate them into the Country's technological transformation;
- (vii) Ensuring sustainable financing of youth programmes;
- (viii) Transforming agriculture to make it attractive to youth;
- (ix) Promoting entrepreneurship and skills training, mentorship, internships, job attachments, business incubation and partnerships for the youth;
- (x) Strengthening frameworks for labour export;
- (xi) Supporting labour management information systems;
- (xii) Supporting creativity, talent identification and innovative development;
- (xiii) Entrenching positive morals, values, patriotism and volunteerism for transformative leadership;
- (xiv) Supporting effective civic participation and representation;
- (xv) Promoting a crime free, secure, peaceful and cohesive Country;
- (xvi) Promoting mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of natural resources and

environment while engaging in eco-entrepreneurship and green jobs;

(xvii) Building capacity of the youth in green processes, technology and waste management; and,

(xviii) Facilitating access to ICT opportunities for the youth.

Under each of the above-mentioned priorities, a number of the Policy provisions and measures have been provided to develop and transform the youth for improved well-being.

Rights, responsibilities and obligations of Stakeholders

The Policy seeks not only to safeguard the rights of the youth, but also to help them to understand and fulfil their responsibilities, for the development of society. It further stipulates the obligations of other stakeholders, including state and non-state actors. Highlights under this section are: Rights of youth; Responsibilities and obligations of the youth, parents and guardians, the State, non-state actors and the private sector.

Policy Co-ordination, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Mechanisms

The Policy provides a mechanism that will support effective implementation, co-ordination, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on youth empowerment and development interventions. The Policy shall be implemented by both National and County Governments. The mechanism will include; - Inter-Ministerial Committees/ Working groups; relevant stakeholders, thematic working groups, Inter-Agency Forums and the State Department in charge of Youth. Each of the players' responsibilities are provided. The Policy implementation mechanism will be operationalized through the integrated implementation plan and annual action plans at national and county levels detailing: Policy priorities, key actions, indicators, timelines and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders.

Recommended Budget for Implementation of the Policy

The Policy proposes that the Government allocates adequate resources in the National Annual Budget to facilitate its successful implementation. It is also expected that the Policy will be revised when need arises. Finally, the Policy is a credible guide and reference tool for effective development and implementation of youth empowerment and development interventions in Kenya.

Chapter 1

1 Background

1. There are many definitions of who the youth are with respect to their age. As examples, the United Nations (UN) defines the youth as any person between age 15 and 24 while the African Union (AU) in its youth charter defines the youth as any individual between 15 to 35 years. The Constitution of Kenya (2010) Article 260 defines youth as “individuals in the Republic who have attained the age of eighteen years; but have not attained the age of thirty-five years”.

2. This Policy adopts the Constitution of Kenya definition. In Kenya, the youth aged 18 to 34 years were estimated at 35 per cent¹ of the total population in 2015/16, and represented 55 per cent of the labour force. This share of potentially productive workforce needs to be fully harnessed and optimized to contribute to the country’s development. This can be partly achieved through including the youth in the design, planning and implementation of programmes and policies that affect them.

3. Youth-related issues are a priority to the government. This is partly because the youth are relatively marginalised in socio-economic outcomes including employment. A majority of the youth remain on the periphery of the country's social, economic and political affairs. The highest rates of labour underutilization are often observed among the youth and many continue to suffer from low education attainment, lack of access to facilities, skills deficits, poor health; and lack of sufficient economic empowerment among out of school youth. In addition, youth with specific needs require enhanced attention including those living on the streets and in informal settlements, those living with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), the girls and women, incarcerated youth, migrant youth, the disadvantaged boy child and those with disabilities.

4. The youth face emerging social-economic and political issues that would require judicious management owing to their potential in affecting or influencing this age cohort including: the role of youth in national cohesion, peace building and conflict resolution efforts; youth radicalization, and the growing influence of Information Communication Technology (ICT) development.

¹ Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2018

5. The Government of Kenya (GOK) and other stakeholders have continued to design and implement various interventions to address the needs of the youth. Some of these interventions include the overarching Kenya Vision 2030 and its associated Medium Term Plans (MTPs); the Sector Plans; the Constitution of Kenya (2010), Devolution and the Big 4 Agenda². A particularly pertinent intervention was the development of the National Youth Policy in 2007. Since then, the changing national, regional and global context called for a comprehensive review of the National Youth Policy developed in 2007. This need to review and update the National Youth Policy in 2007, informed the development of this Policy.

6. The overall objective of the National Youth Policy, Sessional Paper No. 3 of July 2007 was to provide policy framework for addressing issues affecting the youth, notably employment creation, health, education, sports, and recreation, environment, art and culture, partnership and empowerment. However, several changes have occurred in the country since the adoption of this Policy. Key among them was the promulgation of Constitution of Kenya (2010). There has also been emerging social, cultural, economic and political issues affecting the youth.

7. The Kenya Youth Development Policy (KYDP) (2019) is part of the Government policy commitment for a greater cohesive society, equitable, inclusive and participatory economic and social process for sustainable development. The Policy ensures that the youth, the families and communities benefit from its full implementation. The Policy gives cognizance to the critical role that voluntary youth sector and other relevant stakeholders can play in actively supporting its implementation for the country's inclusive socio-economic transformation.

8. The Policy is important in achieving the aspirations of the country and in particular the Kenya Vision 2030. The Policy is written in the context of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) existing sectoral policies, national development plans, international policies and charters to which Kenya is a signatory including: the Charter of United Nations, African Youth Charter, the Commonwealth Youth Charter, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations World Programme of Action for the Youth to the year 2007 and beyond; the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 2030), African Union (AU) 2063 Agenda and the United Nations (UN) Youth Strategy.

² Big 4 Agenda (2018-2022) targets attainment of Universal Health Care, Manufacturing for Job Creation, Affordable Housing and Food Security.

1.1 Rationale of Kenya Youth Development Policy

9. The African Youth Charter, states that every State Party is required to develop a comprehensive and coherent Youth Development Policy. At the domestic level, the Constitution of Kenya (2010) makes various provisions for the youth in Article 55, which requires the State to take measures, including affirmative action programmes, to ensure that the youth have access to relevant education and training; opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life; and to access productive engagement including employment and entrepreneurship.

10. Youth face various challenges that are supposed to be addressed by the government and various stakeholders. To be able to effectively address these challenges, there is need for the government to have a policy framework that brings together all stakeholders and spells what needs to be undertaken. Youth is a valuable resource that can be harnessed for the benefit of all. It is for this reason that, Africa Union recognises youth as partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries in the attainment of the goal and aspirations of Agenda 2063 and the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This Policy aims at consolidating all initiatives that are being undertaken to empower the youth in Kenya.

11. Besides the broad requirement for its development, the Policy is important for the country's development agenda for a number of reasons. Specifically, the Policy shall:

- (i) Enable the development of an integrated framework to improve clarity, coherence and coordination of youth initiatives and programmes in all relevant sectors across National Government, County Governments and by other stakeholders;
- (ii) Establish broad-based strategies and partnerships to provide enhanced opportunities to the youth to maximize their potential;
- (iii) Provide a broad framework in which diverse efforts of stakeholders can be harnessed to maximize impactful investments in the youth;
- (iv) Standardize the provision of services to all the youth including more intensive assistance to disadvantaged youth and youth in humanitarian settings;
- (v) Spell out measures to remove obstacles and promote youth participation in political, economic and social development;

- (vi) Anticipate and counter the risks associated with emerging barriers to youth participation in development through policy and programme interventions;
- (vii) Spell out modalities of tracking and monitoring implementation of the policy;
- (viii) Support Counties Governments in developing county specific Youth Strategies for implementing the Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019); and,
- (ix) Equip the youth with knowledge and skills to use ICT appropriately, including the capacity to analyse and treat information in creative and innovative ways, to share their expertise and participate fully in the information society.

1.2 The scope of the Policy

12. The Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019) applies to National and County Governments, all state organs, state and public officers, the private sector, non-state actors and development partners, youth organizations, youth groups and individual youth.

1.3 Dimensions of youth profile in Kenya

13. The Policy recognises the categories of the youth as listed below, while being cognizant of their unique diversity, expectations, challenges and opportunities. These are:

- (i) Male and female;
- (ii) Educated and uneducated;
- (iii) Formally trained and informally trained;
- (iv) Rural and urban residents;
- (v) In-school and out-of-school;
- (vi) Adolescents and young adults;
- (vii) Physically challenged and able-bodied;
- (viii) Economically engaged or not;
- (ix) Detained and not-detained;
- (x) Migrant and non-migrant;

- (xi) Skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled;
- (xii) Street and vagrant youth;
- (xiii) Youth infected and affected by HIV/AIDs;
- (xiv) Unemployed youth;
- (xv) Incarcerated youth; and,
- (xvi) Youth in humanitarian settings.

1.4 Policy review process

14. The formulation of the Kenya Youth Development Policy was through a consultative and participatory approach. The process involved various stakeholders both at national and county levels. These included the public sector, private sector, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and development partners. Extensive consultative meetings took place with a wide range of stakeholders including the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and county governments. In addition, National and County forums were held targeting youth and youth organizations.

Chapter 2

2 Situational Analysis and Institutional Frameworks

2.1 An overview of youth potential and achievements

15. Kenya has a generally youthful population. According to 2015/2016 Household survey Youth (persons aged 18 - 34) constituted 32 per cent of the population up from 30.4 per cent in 1969 with 49 per cent being male and 51 per cent female. The youth-adult population ratio increased from 62.7 per cent of the adult population in 1979 to 66.7 per cent in 2009. The high proportion of the youth to adult population signifies that Kenya is facing a youth bulge. The youth bulge presents Kenya with immense opportunity of harnessing demographic dividend to invest in sustained development efforts to achieve increased economic, social and political development while at the same time presenting risk and threat to the country's social cohesion and stability if not adequately empowered and supported³. However, according to the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census report, Youth (18-34 years of age) were 13,618,462 or 29 percent of the Kenya's population of 47.6 million. The males were 6,504,514 while females were 7,113,427.

16. In the political sphere, the youth constituted 51 per cent of registered voters in 2017 elections as compared with 46 per cent in 2013. This is a positive development that signals declining apathy and rising interest and participation of the youth in decision making. Consequently, more youth were elected in various positions as follows; Governors; one youth which accounts for 2.13 per cent, Senators; 11 Youth accounting for 17 per cent, Members of National Assembly; 27 Youth accounting to 7.7 per cent, County Women Representatives; 8 youth accounting to 17 per cent, Members of County Assembly; 430 youth accounting to 30 per cent (IEBC). This is very significant increase of youth in leadership as compared to 2013 and previous general elections⁴.

17. In the economic sphere youth are a national resource. They present an opportunity to accelerate economic growth when engaged productively. Their potential is also in education, skills, energy, creativity and innovation. In education, 41 per cent have primary education level, 35 per cent have secondary education level, whereas 20 per cent have up to tertiary education level (college and university). Notably, very few, that is

³ KNBS Census Reports (1969, 1979 2009 and 2019)

⁴ Post-election Evaluation Report. Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) (2017)

1.5 per cent of those with up to primary education have post-primary vocational training and university education. Unemployment amongst the youth stood at 24 per cent in 2015/16 which was down from 26 per cent recorded in 2009. The employment ration for the youth cohort below 24 years however decreased indicative of an increase of economically active individuals within that age group. According to DFID Generation Kenya Qualitative report 2018 Youth view entrepreneurship as a legitimate pathway to sustainable livelihood but have limited access to credit. Government funds dedicated to provide interest-free loans to youth, women and PWD owned SME's in Kenya trail merchant shops, *self-help groups*, *saccos*, friends and mobile money as a preferred source of credit among Kenyans. In general, 74 per cent of youth are subscribed to mobile money platforms⁵.

18. In the social sphere, inclusive access to social amenities by the youth improved over time but was not equitably distributed. 76 per cent of Youth have mobile phones and 80 per cent of all youth access the internet through mobile phones for purposes of networking and communication. Only 7.2 per cent of youth access internet through education centres and a negligible number – 0.4 per cent access through community centres. Involvement in sports and arts is notably dominant with many Kenyans though the participation of young women in sport is significantly lower at 36 per cent compared to their male counterparts at 63 per cent. 34 per cent of households in Kenya are headed by persons within the youth bracket⁶. In setting the national development agenda, the government shall therefore include the youth in relevant planning processes including affordable housing services.

2.2 Challenges affecting the youth

Although the youth present a potential resource that can make contribution to national development; in their current state, the youth experience various challenges.

⁵ KNBS, Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey 2015/2016.

⁶ KNBS, Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey 2015/2016 and Kenya Population and Housing Census 2019.

a) The labour market

19. **The challenge of youth unemployment:** Youth unemployment is partly due to slow expansion of economic activities relative to population growth. Unemployment rate for youth aged 15-34 years excluding those undertaking education and training at the time was 11.9 per cent. Unemployment rate for youth aged 20-24 years was 13.1 per cent in 2009 and 19.2 per cent in 2015/16 relative to an overall unemployment rate of 8.6 per cent and 7.4 per cent, in the respective years for entire labour force (15-64 years). Urban unemployment (11.0 per cent) was higher than rural unemployment (5.6 per cent). For the youth aged 20-24 years the urban unemployment rate was 19.1 per cent in 2009 and 12.7 per cent in 2015/16⁷. The 2019 population and Housing Census shows that the unemployment rate for youth aged 18-34 years was 12.1 per cent.

20. **Youth underemployment:** Some of the working youth are underemployed, on part-time employment, or left idle thereby underutilizing the worker's skills. Under employment among youth aged 15-34 years was estimated as 27.8 per cent in 2015/16. The highest rates of labour underutilization were observed among the youth aged 15-19 years and was estimated at 55.4 per cent against an overall population (aged 15-64 years) underemployment rate of 26.6 per cent in 2015/16. This poses a risk for the idle youth to engage in defiant behaviours and other social challenges.

21. **The challenge of vulnerable employment and working poor youth:** Most employed youth are in vulnerable employment which is characterized by informal working arrangements associated with low productivity, inadequate earnings and difficult working conditions. Although a large share of the youth was engaged in some economic activities (about 49 per cent in 2009 and 41.7 per cent in 2015/16), most are involved in informal activities. About 84 per cent of the employed youth aged 15 to 34 years were in informal employment.

22. The 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census report indicated that youth aged 18-34 years in employment were 8,436,418 accounting for 62 per cent of total youth population and 18 per cent of total Kenya's population. The total youth population (18-34 years) constituted 13,618,462 in 2019 compared to 11,809,518 in 2009. Further, the 2019

⁷ Kenya 2009 Census Data and Kenya Integrated Household Budget survey (KIHBS, 2015/16).

Kenya Population and Housing Census indicated that the youth population, who were not in employment were 5,182,044 [computed by adding total of unemployed youth: 1,647,484 accounting for 12.1 percent and youth seeking work (inactive) 3,534,560 accounting for 26%] of the **total youth population**. The total unemployed youth (12.1%) and youth seeking work (26%) is an indication that 38% of the total youth population in Kenya in 2019 were not in employment.

23. **The challenge of high levels of youth inactivity:** As indicated by the Kenya Population and Housing Census report (2019), there is a large inactive youth population. This was indicated by the 2009 population census that noted that at least one in every ten youth were inactive if those in school are excluded. Overall inactivity rate among the youth in the country was 22 per cent in 2015/16 majority of whom were aged between 19 and 24 years and not engaged in any work or business. The economically inactive population includes individuals who are neither employed nor unemployed. These include the discouraged individuals who are no longer seeking work and the incapacitated. In Kenya, inactivity is largely associated with homemaking activities (or engagement in household related chores) and affects female youth more than the male youth. The category also includes those not in education, employment or training (NEET).

24. **Youth labour migration:** Many highly-skilled young people remain unemployed due to a lack of economic capacity to properly address the growing youth labour force. Often, they resort to taking jobs abroad and in some cases, engage in vulnerable activities.

25. **Skills shortages in the ICT labour market:** According to employers in the country, while there seems to be a sufficient number of young graduates with technical vocational education and Bachelor's degrees in ICT, young workers appear to lack both technical and soft skills. Workers' representatives in the country have expressed concern about the lack of access to training and upskilling for specific technical skills. Interview partners ascertain that in the country, there is a shortage of young ICT specialists. Further, there is a labour shortage of young graduates with specific technical and soft skills required within the ICT industry. In addition, young ICT specialists in the country often lack adequate English language skills.

b) Access to resources

26. **Lack of collaterals and bureaucracies in accessing loans:** Youth especially those from poor backgrounds have no collaterals to get finances

from the financial institutions. The bureaucratic ways on the detailed proposals for the Government funds clearly locks away potential youth. Proper mechanisms to mobilize, train, offer the resources with clear monitoring mechanisms should be in place to ensure no one is left behind because of any inability of any nature. It will also be important to delink youth loans from land collateral requirement.

27. **Health related challenges:** These encompass malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), drug use and substance abuse and associated effects, mental health, other communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as poor access, quality and uptake of health services. Based on the self-reported illness, at any given time, about twenty per cent (19.3 per cent) of the Kenyans population is with some sickness and therefore require health services of which 12.5 per cent and 16.1 per cent are aged between 15-24 and 25-34 years respectively⁸ In 2017, the HIV prevalence rate was 4.8 per cent and new HIV and AIDS infections among the youth constituted 33 per cent of the 52,767 new cases.

28. **Skills mis-match:** There is a disconnect between the courses offered in the higher institutions of learnings and the needs in the job markets. Higher education institutions still offer courses which may not be relevant to the current job market. Even those who offer courses that are practical to the current dynamics, do not properly guide the youth on the career selection and therefore they end up being unemployed for several years even after training. There should be a deliberate effort to inform the youth about the options available and dynamics of the labour market.

29. **The challenge of out-of-school youth:** The country has attained substantial improvement in access to education with a primary and secondary school net enrolment of 91.2 per cent and 51.5 per cent in 2018 while the school age population constitutes about 46 per cent of population. Tertiary education enrolment rate was 13 per cent in 2017. However, the enrolment data implies that about 8.8 per cent and 48.5 per cent of primary and secondary school age population are out of school, respectively. Some youth drop out of school due to inhibitive cultural factors or practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriages, indirect cost of education and poverty, and inadequate implementation of the school re-entry policy in the case of teenage mothers, among other reasons.

⁸ Kenya Household Health Expenditure and Utilization Survey, 2013

30. **Low youth participation in agricultural economic activities.** Agriculture is one of the main activities in the Country. However, youth are not adequately involved in agricultural activities. The average age of farmers was over 62 years in 2017. There is need to develop mechanisms of enhancing youth involvement in agriculture. It will also be important to support the youth to engage in other emerging sectors such as the blue economy.

c) Social issues

31. **Early and unintended pregnancies:** The median age at first sexual intercourse in Kenya was 18.2 years for women and 16.6 years for men in 2015/16. This exposes youth to early unintended pregnancies, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), and Reproductive Tract Cancers (RTCs) which often disrupt their participation in education, training and empowerment activities, and raises the risk of morbidity and mortality. According to the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS, 2014), the teenage pregnancy and motherhood rate in Kenya stood at 18 per cent among girls aged between 15-19 years.

32. **Crime and defiant behaviour:** Due to inactivity and negative influence especially after completing basic education, the idle youth are vulnerable and at a high risk of engaging in crime, joining organized militia, becoming radicalized and engaging in violent extremism.

33. **The challenge of drugs use and substance abuse.** According to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS), (2013) 12.8 per cent of Kenya's young persons aged 13-15 years had used alcohol while 20.2 per cent of primary school children had used at least one of the drugs such as alcohol, tobacco, prescribed drugs, among others. The prevalence rate for alcohol and tobacco use was higher in rural areas but higher for other drugs in urban areas. According to the National Campaign against Drug Abuse (NACADA) the level of drug and substance abuse is startling. Lifetime use of drugs and substances of abuse prevalence for those aged between 17 and 20 years was 18.1 per cent in 2013. Prevalence among boys was higher than that of girls at 20 per cent and 19 per cent respectively. Despite the gravity of the situation and the need for services to address the same, very few drug rehabilitation programs, counselling and re-integration centres are available and financially accessible for the youth in Kenya. The few that are available tend to be located in urban areas. For the youth, drug use and substance abuse is associated with increased risk for early sexual debut, multiple sexual partners, early

childbearing, poor mental health, and an increased risk of aggressive behaviour.

d) Societal environment

34. **Limited participation in economic and political spheres:** Despite the high proportion of youth in the country, youth are the least represented in political and economic spheres due to societal attitudes, socio-cultural and economic barriers, and lack of proper organization, orientation and empowerment.

35. **Limited access to safe public spaces:** safe public spaces offer the youth a platform for social recreation and interaction. The youth often do not have the financial means nor legal standing to own private spaces, and thus are dependent on access to public spaces for a range of activities such as sports and recreation, space to socialize and spend their time productively where they can strengthen and develop their character and talents. However, such spaces are scarce, and where they exist, they are sometimes not accessible, more so for young women.

36. **Limited and poor housing:** Many youth, especially those in the urban areas and those who live in informal settlements, do not have access to decent housing and environments that favour healthy living, often due lack of land ownership.

37. **Poor prison facilities:** As Kenya's prisons are currently operating at over twice their capacity, the conditions have become detrimental to the overall wellbeing of inmates. Majority of those who are incarcerated are the youth who due to lack of economic opportunities are engaged in crime and other defiant behaviours.

38. **The challenge of limited access to information and communication technology (ICT)** which constraints youth from exploiting relevant career, business and education opportunities available especially in rural areas. ICT access costs are high in rural areas while there are also emerging challenges associated with negative use of ICT and social media, there is limited device accessibility and network connectivity, schools have limited technical support, lack of resources for integrating ICT in education. The 2019 Population and Housing Census indicated about half of youth aged 15-24 years and 4 in every 5 youth aged 25-34 years own a mobile phone in Kenya; Less than half of young persons in Kenya use internet, computers, and online purchasing services. For instance, youth gaining access to internet use accounted for 27% of the total Population in 2019. Further, the ownership and use of ICT by youth is higher in the urban areas compared to the rural areas.

39. **Cyber-crime:** Due to advancements in the ICT sector in the country there is an inherent risk of cyber security and crime. Offences are committed against individuals or groups.

40. **Sexual and gender-based violence:** Owing to their vulnerability, the youth are exposed to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). According to KDHS (2014), 7 per cent of girls and 3 per cent of boys aged 15-19 years have ever experienced sexual violence compared to 13 per cent girls and 4 per cent boys aged 20-24. The survey further indicates that only 33 per cent of girls and 20 per cent of boys aged 15-19 years seek help for such cases. Young people who suffer sexual abuse and violence are more likely to be exposed to unintended pregnancy, unsafe abortion, Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS.

41. **Challenge of weak values among youth:** A critical role of values and principles is to bind individuals and institutions in exercising of their powers to achieve shared goals. However, the country faces challenge of weak social fabric, weak cohesion, threats from negative ethnicity and corruption. This has adversely affected the youth hence loss of opportunities and poor values.

42. **Climatic conditions:** Droughts and floods are two common disasters that are associated with extreme climate conditions in Kenya. This is a global problem where Kenya is not an exemption in experiencing extreme weather conditions. This affects youth who depend on agriculture and other weather-related activities as a means of livelihood. The state needs to develop mitigation interventions.

2.3 Legal, Policy, Planning and Institutional Frameworks

43. The Government has put in place various legal, institutional and policy frameworks to address the issues affecting the youth. These include passing legislation and developing policies on youth development. The Government has also established a number of institutions/interventions to specifically handle youth affairs. These include: The State Department in charge of youth, the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project, the National Youth Council, National Youth Service, the Youth Enterprise and Development Fund and the *Uwezo* Fund, among others.

44. The Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019) therefore recognises and draws its framework from, the supremacy of the Constitution of Kenya (2010), which underscores the importance of youth in national development. The implementation of this Policy will also be linked with other relevant national policies such as on education and training, and most significantly, Kenya Vision 2030 and international commitments

(see Table 1). The youth shall consequently, in their roles as actors in state and non-state institutions, effect their patriotic duty of promoting the realisation of national development goals as envisaged in the Constitution.

45. Details on some relevant legal and institutional frameworks are presented below.

(i) The Constitution of Kenya

46. Article 55 holds that the State shall take measures, including affirmative action programmes, to ensure that the youth: access relevant education and training; have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life; access employment are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation; develop their cultural values, languages and practices; and have reasonable access to water, health services and infrastructure; among others. Articles 10 and 27 call for inclusivity, non-discrimination, equality and freedom from discrimination on the basis of age. Further, in addition, Article 100 and 177(c) call for affirmative action on representation of the youth.

(ii) The National Youth Council Act, No. 10 of 2009

47. The Act established the National Youth Council (NYC) to facilitate, co-ordinate, promote, monitor and advocate for youth issues and youth led initiatives under the Ministry in charge of youth. The NYC was established in 2012 to ensure effective coordination of youth related interventions and involvement of the youth in planning, monitoring and evaluation of youth interventions.

(iii) National Youth Policy, 2007

48. The Policy aimed at ensuring that youth play their role in the development of the country. The Policy goal was to promote youth participation in community and civic affairs to ensure that youth programmes are youth centred. It spelt out the strategic areas that must be addressed and implementation mechanisms. The current Policy (Kenya Youth Development Policy, 2019) takes into account emerging issues affecting the youth, and hence supersedes the National Youth Policy (2007).

(iv) The Kenya Vision 2030 and its Medium-Term Plans

49. The Vision envisages responsible, globally competitive and prosperous youth. Among the specific interventions under the vision are: establishment of youth centres, apprenticeship, mentorship, development

of creative industry hubs and youth enterprise financing; and strengthening internships and industrial attachments to enhance employability across public and private sectors.

(v) *Other International Conventions and Treaties*

50. The Policy gives cognizance to the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and relevant international and regional human rights commitments Kenya has signed and/or ratified namely:

- (i) The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966;
- (ii) The International Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, 1966;
- (iii) Convention against Discrimination in Education, 1970;
- (iv) International Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Racial Discrimination, 1972;
- (v) The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, 1979;
- (vi) The African Charter on Human and People's Rights, 1981;
- (vii) The Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989;
- (viii) The African Charter of the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 1992;
- (ix) Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst forms of Child Labour, 2000;
- (x) African Charter on Human and People's Rights, 2003;
- (xi) International Convention against Doping in Sports (UNESCO), 2006;
- (xii) The African Youth Charter, 2006;
- (xiii) UN 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (SDGs), 2015;
- (xiv) Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE) 2006-2015 that provides framework for youth development;

- (xv) World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) that provides framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve situation of youth;
- (xvi) African Youth Charter (2006) and Decade Plan of Action for Youth Development and Empowerment (2009-2018) on Legal and political framework for action on situation of youth in Africa;
- (xvii) International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (1994-2014) and ICPD Beyond 2014; and,
- (xviii) The UN Youth Strategy - 2030.

Table 1: Legal Frameworks on Youth Issues

Year	Intervention	Status and achievements
	National Framework	
1964	National Youth Service Act	Train young citizens to serve by integrating them in nation building
2006	Youth Enterprise and Development Fund Order, 2007	It created the enabling framework for increasing youth employment opportunities through entrepreneurship development in the informal sector in the country.
2007	National Youth Policy, Sessional no. 2 of 2007	It was the first policy on youth development in Kenya which provided the information on youth development programs and intervention in the country. It has been implemented over the years and currently being reviewed.
2007	Women Enterprise Development Fund, 2007	The initiative targets all women, youth and adults.
2009	National Youth Council Act, 2009	This was established as a legal instrument to actualize youth voice nationally and advocate, lobby for the youth and to facilitate the representation of youth and to promote the implementation of coordination of youth servicing was also mandated to provide research advisory services on youth organization nationally. Currently to be amended in line with the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

Year	Intervention	Status and achievements
2010	Constitution of Kenya (2010)	Promulgated in 2010 and gives a platform for the implementation of the national agenda including youth matters
2012	Medium and Small Enterprise Act, 2012	Established to formulate and coordinate policies and harmonize public and private sector initiatives for the promotion of micro and small enterprises. Its implementation currently on-going.
2013	Technical and Vocational Education and Training Act, of 2013	To provide for the establishment of a technical and vocational training system. This currently under implementation with an aim of expanding the youth skills capacity for self-employment and employable skills.
2014	Uwezo Fund (Public Finance Management Act, 2014)	It was established as an affirmative intervention to provide technical and financial support to Youth, Women and Persons with Disabilities in Enterprise development
2015	Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, of 2015	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) is currently under implementation to ensure that the youth, women and marginalized groups get the 30 per cent procurement opportunities.
2015	Employment Policy and Strategy for Kenya Sessional Paper No. 4 of 2013	It has been implemented and reviewed
2016	National Government Affirmative Action Fund (Public Finance Management Act, 2012)	It was created to address the plight of vulnerable groups and it's meant to provide access to financial facilities to women youth and persons with disabilities.
2016	National Employment Authority Act, 2016	This established the National Employment Authority which provides a comprehensive institutional framework for employment management, increasing employment by the youth, minorities and marginalized groups.
2018	National Youth Service Act, 2018	The Act established NYS as a State Corporation.

Year	Intervention	Status and achievements
	International Framework	
1995	World Program of Action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond	Consistent with the Millennium Development Goals, the Program identified interventions for youth development and empowerment.
1998	Lisbon Declaration, 2007	Ensuring that Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019) formulation, implementation and follow-up processes are, at appropriate level. Developing national youth policies and operational programmes, at appropriate levels, to implement the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, taking into account the national priorities, realities and limitations arising from different socio-economic and cultural development contexts; Establishing the necessary policies and programmes by the year 2000 to improve living standards for young women and young men and to permit the effective implementation of national youth policies, of an inter-sectoral nature, foreseen, among others, in the Programme of Action.
2001	Dakar Declaration on Youth Empowerment, 2000	The Dakar World Youth Forum as “a splendid example of young people coming together to work out their own agenda, without waiting for governments to tell them what to do.” The Forum adopted the Dakar Youth Empowerment Strategy, this include concrete recommendations, strategies and tools to empower young people to participate in decision-making and in evaluation of policies and programmes on key youth issues, in order to ensure action at the local, national, regional and international levels.
2006	African Youth Charter, 2006	Was established to ensure the constructive involvement of Youth in the development agenda of Africa and their effective participation in the debates and decision-making processes in the development of the continent. The Charter sets a framework to enable policy makers to mainstream Youth

Year	Intervention	Status and achievements
		issues in all development policies and programmes. It thus provides a legal basis for ensuring Youth presence and participation in government structures and forums at national, regional and continental levels.
2013	East African Youth Policy	Focuses on youth development and empowerment within the East African Countries
2015-2017	Commonwealth Plan of Action for youth empowerment, 2006	The plan contains strategies and tools to empower young people to effectively participate in social, economic, political and cultural spheres of life both in their countries and internationally.
2018	United Nations Youth Strategy, 2030	The Strategy aims to enhance impact and expand action to address the needs, build the agency and advance the rights of young people globally. The Strategy aims to ensure youth are engaged and participate in the implementation, review and follow up of the global agendas and frameworks including the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development.
1994	International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (1994-2014) and ICPD Beyond 2014	The conference articulates the relationships between population development and individual wellbeing. A 20-year Programme of Action that was extended in 2010 continues to serve as a guide to people-centred development progress. The Programme of Action recognises reproductive health and rights, women empowerment and gender equality as cornerstones of population and development programmes.

51. The legal framework on youth issues has undergone immense changes since independence. Table 1 presents an overview on evolution of the national and international legal frameworks on youth issues in the country.

52. The above indicated legal, policy, planning and institutional development led to a more focused service delivery culminating to the following interventions:

- (i) National Youth Policy, 2007;
- (ii) Establishment of Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) in 2013 to specifically enable youth to do business with government where 30 per cent of public procurement in the supply of goods and services in all ministries and departments are reserved for youth, women and persons with disabilities;
- (iii) Launch of the Marshall Plan for Youth Employment and Development in March, 2008. The plan focuses on creation of immediate and medium-term youth employment opportunities. The *Kazi Kwa Vijana* Program was the main initiative under this plan and it aimed to create 500,000 jobs per year for youth in rural and urban areas in labour-intensive public works projects implemented by various ministries;
- (iv) Increase in the annual intake of youth to over 20,000 annually between 2013 and 2016, for the National Youth Service through the 5-point Vision;
- (v) Implementation of the Kenya Youth Empowerment Programme (KYEP) between 2010 and 2016 by the Directorate of Youth Affairs. This was a pilot programme under the World Bank where 20,000 youth were trained and placed on internships to enhance employability;
- (vi) The ongoing plan/intervention to train 280,000 youth between 2017 and 2022 through the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project (KYEOP) funded by the World Bank, and implemented by the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth;
- (vii) Ongoing initiatives to enhance access to finance. Since the inception of the affirmative funds encompassing the *Uwezo* Fund, Women Enterprise Fund and Youth Enterprise Development Fund;
- (viii) The rollout of the Big Four Agenda in 2017. In this plan, the Government will focus and dedicate energy, time and resources over the 5-year period to: affordable housing; universal health care; manufacturing; and food and nutrition security. Investments in these sectors are likely to boost demand for labour and enhance youth employment and youth related services; and
- (ix) Besides these domestic initiatives, the UN General Assembly in September 2015 adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs). Building on the principle of “leaving no one behind”, the Agenda 2030 emphasizes a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development for all. The Agenda has its main objective as: eliminating poverty, making growth inclusive and sustainable, and ecosystems (including the climate) restored. At the global front, it is expected that the youth will be key in rolling out the 17 SDGs by playing their role as: disruptive critical thinkers; creative change agents; innovators; communicators; educators; and leaders.

2.4 SWOT analysis of recent policy interventions

53. The Policy also confirms that although youth in Kenya are faced with a number of challenges, they indeed present great strengths and opportunities that the country should tap into for national wellbeing. The most notable strengths and opportunity that the youth present are: they are the largest population cohort in the country and therefore a major human resource for socio-economic development; majority have received required basic education and a sizable number have tertiary education; they have energy and are available; they are often “first adopters” of new technologies; and they demonstrate high affinity for networking, teamwork and cohesion.

Table 2: SWOT analysis of the youth in Kenya

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Creativity, talent and innovation (ii) Malleable and easily trainable (iii) Quick in embracing ICT (iv) Adaptable to positive peer influence (v) Large youth population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Lack of employable skills due to low education attainment and skills gaps (ii) Weak value systems (iii) Prone to negative peer influence, which can lead to antisocial behaviours including radicalization (iv) Limited capacity to effectively engage in entrepreneurship activities (v) Negative stereotypes among the youth (vi) Limited access of the youth to ICT facilities.
Opportunities	Threats

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Devolved governance structures (ii) ICT advancements (iii) Vibrant social media (iv) Potential to exploit youth demographic dividend (v) Operationalization of Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) (vi) Unexploited talents in sport and arts (vii) Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (viii) Youth as change agents (ix) Untapped socio-economic potential of the Blue Economy sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Vulnerability to engage in terrorism and radicalization (ii) High rates of teenage/early pregnancies (iii) Vulnerability to communicable and non-communicable diseases (iv) Drug use and substance abuse (v) Lack of adequate modern tools and equipment to realize (CBET) (vi) Insecurity (vii) Emerging cultural trends (Harmful cultural practices) (viii) Youth Unemployment (ix) Low transition mechanisms from education to world of work
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Table 3: SWOT analysis of the youth interventions

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Policy Interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) National Youth Council Act 2009 (ii) Constitution of Kenya 2010 (iii) National Employment Authority Act, 2017 (iv) The Affirmative Funds (YEDF, UWEZO) (v) Access to Government Procurement Opportunities Act, 2016 (vi) Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Programme (KYEOP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Weak coordination of youth initiatives (ii) Lack of integrated youth data and information. (iii) Low awareness of Affirmative Funds (iv) Poor repayment of the Affirmative Funds (v) Unclear standards and definition of youth (vi) Weak support from society (vii) Negative perception towards entrepreneurship and self-employment

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vii) Ajira Digital Programme (viii) Presidential Digital Talent Programme (PDTP) (ix) Digital Literacy Programme (DLP) (x) Private Sector Initiatives (xi) National Youth Service (xii) Kenya Vision 2030 (xiii) Big 4 Agenda, 2018-2022 (xiv) SDGs, 2030 (xv) International Youth treaties (African Youth Charter, UN Youth Charter 2030) (xvi) National Youth Service Act (2018). (xvii) International Youth Foundation (IYF). (xviii) Provision of Basic Education is free and compulsory (xix) Financing of tertiary education is subsidised through provision of HELB loans, bursaries and scholarships (xx) MOE policy on 100% transition of learners to reduce drop-out rates in schooling (xxi) MOE promotes access to quality education through affirmative action (xxii) Establishment of a State Department for Post Training and Skills Development to link Industry with Education and Training in development of skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (viii) Negative stereotypes of youth (ix) Lack of focal point for registration of youth groups and organizations (x) Lack of youth mainstreaming strategy (xi) Lack of communication strategy on youth matters (xii) Weak framework for youth development information systems (xiii) High cost of business financing (xiv) Weak awareness and networking among the youth (xv) Weak monitoring and evaluation framework (xvi) Weak collaborations between government, the private sector, development partners and other stakeholders in implementing youth initiatives. (xvii) Inadequate mechanisms in place for meaningful youth engagement and participation in development programmes across sectors
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<p>Institutional Structures (xxiii) State Department for Youth (xxiv) National Youth Council (xxv) Youth serving organizations</p>	
<p>Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Devolved structures of governance, (ii) Involvement in County leadership (iii) ICT Advancement (iv) Vibrant social media (v) Operationalization of Technical Vocational education and Training (TVET) (vi) Sport and Arts (vii) Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (viii) Youth talent and creativity (ix) National Curriculum reform into CBC that aims to produce an engaged, empowered and ethical citizen and offers various pathways that enhance access, retention and transition in education to develop every learners' potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Inhibitive cultural practices such as female genital mutilation (ii) Youth Unemployment

Chapter 3

3 Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019) Framework

3.1 Goals

54. The overarching goal of the Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019) is to promote holistic empowerment and participation of the youth in socio-economic and political development for themselves, the country and the future.

3.2 Aim

55. Ensure adequate youth development and empowerment while harnessing their potential for productive engagement at local, county, national and international levels.

3.3 Vision

56. The Policy envisions a society where youth have an equal and responsible opportunity to realize their full potential and aspirations in socio-economic and political spheres, through honest and hard work.

3.4 Mission

57. To guide the National and County governments and all stakeholders involved in the planning and implementation of interventions and programmes targeting the youth in the country.

3.5 Values

58. Pursuant to the envisioned role of the youth, the following values shall inform aspect of policy programming and drive its implementation:

(i) Patriotism

59. The Policy emphasizes the importance of patriotism among the youth. They should demonstrate a spirit of nationhood, love, respect and pride in the country and be ready and willing to invest their time, skills, energy and good character to make it thrive. Through patriotism, the youth will put the country's best interests first, endeavour to preserve and protect the nation as it currently exists, while eventually working together to make it better.

(ii) Respect of diversity and ethical values

60. The Policy respects the cultural, religious, and social backgrounds of the different communities and conforms to universally recognized human rights, without discrimination based on sex, race/origin, age, ethnic, creed, political affiliation or socio-economic status. Respect-for

individual worth, dignity of all young people regardless of their diversity, ethnicity, physical mental capabilities, social economic background, sex, for right to be informed, heard, for right to determine their own future, destiny and happiness. This also includes recognition of the individual diversity, shared experiences of the people, right principles enshrined in the Kenya Constitution (2010), the universal declaration of Human right, the UN Convention on the right of people with disabilities, the convention of the right of the child, declaration of the right of the child.

(iii)Equity and accessibility

61. The Policy subscribes to the principles of equal opportunities and equitable distribution of opportunities, services, and resources. It also endeavours to promote access to socio-economic and political opportunities for the youth.

(iv)Inclusiveness

62. The Policy underscores the need to promote an inclusive approach to the development of the youth. It seeks to promote equity and equality, including working to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence.

(v) Good governance

63. The Policy seeks to promote the values of good governance, integrity, a just and tolerant society, transparency and accountability. In addition, the Policy serves as a channel to promote values of industriousness, inclusiveness, selflessness, volunteerism and pursuit of good conduct.

(vi) Accountability

64. Accountability implies responsibility for one's activities and resources entrusted to them. The Policy therefore supports accountability among the youth through a supportive environment that will enable youth to harness their abilities and experiences for improved productivity.

(vii) Self-reliance

65. Reliance on one's own capacities and capabilities is fundamental for one to attain identified goals in life. The Policy supports youth to depend on their individual capabilities and judgement while restraining from conformity and false consistency. The Policy therefore inculcates the fundamental principle that youth can change and control their destiny, feel secure and influence their future.

(viii) Honesty and integrity

66. Honesty and integrity are core components for individual development. The Policy therefore encourages youth to stand by what they say they will do and do what is right regardless of the circumstances. The Policy encourages the youth to put personal agendas aside and focus on the greater good of the country. The youth shall also be supported in developing their physical, emotional and intellectual capabilities, skills, talents, strength, abilities, in promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being, and fulfilling their potential, and aspirations while meeting their needs. Families and communities shall ensure conducive environment for active participation, sense of responsibility, caring, capacity to build and attain quality life and relationship with their community, home, world of work and nation at large.

3.6 Principles

67. The Youth Policy seeks to appreciate the stipulation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and especially the National Values and Principle of Governance under Article 10. The Kenya Youth Development Policy therefore becomes a vehicle for prioritizing critical actions aimed at creating an enabling environment for the youth to fully achieve their aspirations in nation building. The Policy addresses key strategies needed to engage the youth in ensuring their active participation and holistic engagement in actualizing National Values and Principles of Governance. The overarching values were based on the principles of responsiveness, access, participation, inclusion, integration, diversity, empowerment and equity. The values are underpinned and informed by the following principles:

- i) Responsiveness: governments, private sector, civil societies, Faith-Based Organizations (FBO) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in all relevant sectors shall respond to the needs and concerns of the youth and act with an aim of harnessing their human potential for sustainable development of the country;
- ii) Access: youth shall be supported and encouraged to access quality services while ensuring equality for opportunity and active participation in society and economy;
- iii) Participation: in cognizance of principle of public participation and constitution youth shall be involved in advocacy, behaviour change, communication, planning and decision-making processes that affect them and wider society;

- iv) Inclusion: The main impediment to youth's active participation and political engagement and socio-economic fears shall be addressed and positively taken to support direct and indirect inclusion of youth in various activities;
- v) Integration: all stakeholders involved in youth activities including government, private sector, civil societies, faith-based organizations (FBO) and NGOs, among others shall be required to cooperate and coordinate their efforts to create synergy in supporting development of youth and helping them realize their full potential;
- vi) Diversity: in designing implementation of the Policy, the diverse background of the young people shall be recognized and respected including their role in the emotional, social, cultural and spiritual development;
- vii) Empowerment: young people shall be empowered to take control of their own lives and destiny and take full responsibilities of their action while influencing their own future and trigger positive change;
- viii) Equality: all youth shall be given equal respect, opportunity, dignity regardless of their experience, ethnic or socio-economic status, physical and mental capacity, sex, age, vulnerabilities and disabilities; and,
- ix) Transparency: Institutions and organizations involved in youth development should operate in a transparent and accountable manner.

3.7 Rights, responsibilities and obligations of stakeholders

3.7.1 Rights of youth

68. The Policy recognizes the importance of youth to enjoy their youthfulness. Irrespective of social status, ethnic origin, sex, the youth have a right to life. These rights as stipulated in Chapter 4 of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) are:

- i) Right to life;
- ii) Quality education;
- iii) Good health;
- iv) Marriage at the legal age of consent;
- v) Protection from abuse, sexual exploitation and trafficking;

- vi) Seek decent and fulfilling employment;
- vii) Adequate shelter, food, clothing and basic services;
- viii) Protection from harmful conditions and cultural practices and exploitation;
- ix) Freedom of speech, expression and association;
- x) Participate in making decisions that affect their lives;
- xi) Protection from social, economic and political manipulation;
- xii) Ownership, secure tenure and protection of property; and,
- xiii) Protection from harmful cultural practices and exploitation.

3.7.2 Responsibilities and Obligations of the Youth

69. The Policy seeks not only to safeguard the rights of the youth, but also to help them to understand and fulfil their responsibilities, for the development of society. Towards this goal, the responsibilities and obligations of the youth have been identified as follows:

- i) Be patriotic and loyal to Kenya and promote the country's well-being;
- ii) Contribute to social-economic development at all levels, including through volunteerism;
- iii) Create and promote respect for humanity, sustain peaceful co-existence, national unity and stability;
- iv) Protect the environment;
- v) Help to support and protect those who are disadvantaged and vulnerable;
- vi) Promote democracy and the rule of law;
- vii) Create gainful employment;
- viii) Take advantage of available education and training opportunities;
- ix) Develop a positive attitude towards work and entrepreneurship;
- x) Lead healthy lifestyles and shun harmful/negative habits (e.g. gambling, misuse of social media, drugs use and substance abuse);
- xi) Avoid indulging in careless and irresponsible sex and risky sexual behaviour; and,

- xii) Take responsible charge of their lives.

3.7.3 Obligations of parents, guardians and caregivers

70. The strong family ties inherited from our traditional societies, which called for mutual respect between the various age groups, have weakened. As a result, signs of rebellion are visible among a number of youth. The Policy spells out obligations for parents and guardians. Parents shall:

- i) Promote responsible parenting;
- ii) Provide positive role models for the youth;
- iii) Provide equal opportunities and access to family to the youth, regardless of their sex;
- iv) Meet basic and material needs of the youth;
- v) Provide guidance and counselling to the youth against harmful habits and practices including gambling, misuse of social media, irresponsible sexual behaviours, drugs and substance abuse;
- vi) Train and socialize the youth into different skills;
- vii) Provide financial support for youth projects;
- viii) Offer room for youth participation at all levels; and,
- ix) Assist the youth to realize their goals and full potential.

3.7.4 Obligations of the state

71. It is the obligation of the State to ensure that all its citizens are served to their expectation. It should carefully plan and be involved in developing the youth to be responsible and available to contribute to the current and future nation-building efforts. Specifically, the State shall:

- i. Be the lead agent in supporting the implementation of the youth Policy. This support should cover all the envisaged initiatives and programmes including: creation of sufficient employment opportunities for the youth, education and training and setting up friendly health facilities for the youth including improved access to mental health facilities and rehabilitation centres;
- ii. Improve access to secure tenure to those in informal settlements;

- iii. Ensure that the youth enjoy their State rights;
- iv. Provide the necessary framework for youth to fulfil their obligations;
- v. Provide quality education and skills development;
- vi. Create a mechanism and opportunities for involvement of youth in internship, and volunteerism;
- vii. Ensure that youth in conflict situations are mainstreamed into national youth initiatives;
- viii. Assist the youth to access subsidized loans to enhance and improve the economic and entrepreneurial development potential through Government Affirmative Action Programs and initiatives; and,
- ix. Put in place mechanisms for provision of psychosocial interventions and initiatives to address issues of social disorders, substance abuse cessation, family/relationship problems, depression, anxiety, social abuse, violence etc among the youth.

3.7.5 Obligations of the Private Sector

72. The private sector shall take part in job creation and employment of the youth, engage in entrepreneurial development, internship, apprenticeship, mentorship/coaching, provision of information and transfer of technology and skills.

3.8 Target youth categories

73. This Policy document is a basis for developing opportunities for all youth in Kenya. However, in addressing the needs of the youth, special attention shall be paid to certain groups, such as young women, because of their specific needs. In each of the targeted youth groups, the Government and organisations working with the youth will be required to give special attention to affirmative action.

3.8.1 Youth with Disability

74. For many youth, disability leads to rejection, isolation and discrimination, hindering their psychological, emotional, social and economic development. Youth with disability require specific strategies to ensure they participate fully in society. Special measures will be put in place to ensure that their needs are adequately addressed. The Policy adopts a developmental approach to youth with disability where their

human rights, participation and inclusiveness are promoted. The Policy advocates greater awareness of the issues faced by youth who are mentally and or physically, visually impaired or have a hearing impairment.

3.8.2 Youth Living in Streets and Vagrant Youth

75. Due to the breakdown of the social fabric, street families have continued to increase in our cities and towns. From street boys and girls, we now have street youth and families. These are people who live and/or work in the streets, many of them due to homelessness. The street youth are especially vulnerable as they lack protection, supervision or direction from responsible adults. The Policy advocates for enhanced rehabilitation and re-integration of street youth in the communities and strengthening of family systems.

3.8.3 Youth Living with HIV/ AIDS

76. The youth continue to be the most affected by the HIV /AIDS pandemic. The youth are exposed to the HIV/AIDS due to multiple factors including: biological, socio-cultural and economic factors. The high rate of early and unintended pregnancies, abortions, school drop-out and sexually transmitted infections confirm that the youth are engaging in unprotected sex early, increasing the risk of HIV acquisition. The Policy advocates for youth-centred models for optimal HIV prevention, universal access to treatment and care services, psychosocial interventions, multi-sectoral coordination and response and coordination, as well as stigma reduction to promote positive living for this target group.

3.8.4 Female Youth and the Boy Child

77. The female youth constitute 52 per cent of total youth. The lower level of education for girls, coupled with retrogressive social and cultural practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and forced early marriages, put the female youth at a disadvantage. Further, youth girls often bear the brunt of early unintended pregnancies and associated consequences including mortality and morbidity and school dropout, HIV/AIDS due to physiological factors and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). These factors have led to low participation and representation of female youth in decision-making. Traditional gender roles also over burden the female youth, limiting their opportunities for progression and self-development.

78. Sexual activity among the youth begins quite early in their life. Over 44 per cent of girls between 15-19 years old have had sexual intercourse. Sex at this age has adverse effects on health, besides other

socio-economic consequences. Studies have shown that most adolescent pregnancies (around 90 per cent) are unplanned. High level of unprotected sexual activity exposes the female youth to the risk of contracting STIs, including HIV/AIDS. Gendered roles and gender stereotyping not only over burdens young women, it also limits personal and professional development opportunities for both young women and men. Female youth should have equal access to employment, training, education, basic services and housing.

79. On the other hand, young men lack strong support systems and platforms to learn from the experienced and exposed members of their community; and assistance to develop holistically. The Policy therefore identifies policy measures for the empowerment of the young women while at the same time strengthening the boy child.

3.8.5 Unemployed and Underemployed Youth

80. Unemployment and underemployment brings along with it social ills such as crime, drug use and substance abuse, migration and thus an increased risk of human trafficking, criminal behaviour and incarceration. Further, unemployment exacerbates vulnerability to radicalisation and violent extremism. Both the Government and non-governmental agencies must address this problem. The unemployed youth should be provided with empowerment opportunities, in addition to access to services, support programmes and opportunities for further training.

3.8.6 Youth not in education, employment and training (NEET)

81. The out of school youth have special needs in terms of access to socio-economic and other opportunities. The increasing disparity between the annual output of school leavers and the job creation in the economy has resulted in high unemployment levels among the youth. Unemployment, which is mainly as a result of rapid population growth and increased pressure on land and other resources, is exacerbated by the imbalance of skills among the youth caused by the education system and over-reliance by Kenya's industries on foreign technologies.

3.8.7 Youth in the Diaspora

82. A sizeable number of Kenyan youth are living in the Diaspora, some irregularly. The youth Policy provides measures to protect the rights of all young people living in the Diaspora and encourage them to participate in national, political, cultural, social and development programmes, and provide measures for and the youth facing challenges in diaspora to return while supporting their full reintegration into society.

The youth in diaspora can be engaged through cultural events and outreach events including the promotion of blue economy skills and knowledge exchanges as well as return and reintegration opportunities;

3.8.8 Youth living in informal settlements

83. A large majority of youth live in informal settlements and settlements. These youth lack access to basic services such as clean water, sanitation, education, safe public spaces and housing.

3.8.9 Youth in emergency situations

84. The needs of youth intensify in humanitarian and fragile settings from burdens related to: malnutrition; disability; unintentional injury; violence; sexual and reproductive health needs (e.g. early pregnancy, HIV and other STIs, and unsafe abortion); water, sanitation and related health needs and mental health, displacement, discontinued education and child labour. The Policy advocates for targeted interventions for youth in emergency response plans.

3.8.10 Youth in learning institutions

85. Youth in learning institutions include the youth undertaking either education and or training programmes.

3.8.11 Incarcerated Youth

86. Incarcerated youth form a huge population in our prisons, remand homes and police cells. Youth are subjected to solitary confinement and face abusive practices such as physical injuries, sexual violence and involvement in drug taking compounding the trauma imposed by their isolation and separation from their families, friend and communities. Some find it difficult to adjust to society after completing their probation as society is not very welcoming.

3.8.12 Youth in conflict situations

87. Whenever we have any conflict, the population that suffers most are the youth as they are displaced, maimed and raped. Youth growing in conflict situations face greater challenges as violent conflict impact them negatively on all dimensions of their lives. Their challenges cannot be ignored hence need to be intervened.

Chapter 4

4 Youth Policy Objectives, Priority Areas and Measures

88. This section focuses on policy objectives, policy priority areas, interventions and measures aimed at empowering and harnessing the potential of the youth while contributing to the Country's sustainable development.

4.1 Objectives of the Kenya Youth Development Policy

89. The overall objective of the Policy is to empower the youth and harness their potential for realisation of sustainable development. The specific objectives include to:

- (i) Realize a healthy and productive youth population;
- (ii) Build qualified and competent youth workforce for sustained development;
- (iii) Create opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods;
- (iv) Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation;
- (v) Nurture value driven, morally upright, ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership;
- (vi) Effective civic participation and representation among the youth;
- (vii) Promote a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind;
- (viii) Support youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development;
- (ix) Promote and develop of entrepreneurial culture among the youth through access to subsidized loans, training, mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubation and partnerships and,
- (x) Support the development of a wide range of ICT-based programmes in local languages, as appropriate, with content relevant to different groups of youth

90. Figure 1: Presents a comprehensive framework for the Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019). The Policy upholds the principal of continuous investment in the development of the youth and improved services and opportunities for long - term impact on the country's development. The main outcome after implementing the Policy is youth who are adequately empowered, healthy, safe, competent, earning decent livelihood, patriotic, upholding ethical values, volunteering their services, effectively participating in decision making spaces and protecting the environment.

Figure 1: Kenya Youth Development Policy Framework



4.2 Policy priority areas

4 The Constitution of Kenya (Article 55 in the Bill of Rights) obliges the state to take measures, including Affirmative Action programmes, to ensure that the youth access relevant education and training; have opportunities to associate, are represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life; have access to employment; and are protected from harmful retrogressive practices and exploitation. The government therefore prioritizes youth policies and interventions that are consistent with the country's development priorities, the Constitution, international conventions and the global trends relating to the youth agenda.

5 The identified measures shall involve both National and County governments; public and private sectors; NGOs; FBOs and other youth stakeholders. The youth transformative agenda will not only target the youth but also formal and informal sectors and institutions dealing with youth issues in both the rural and urban areas. The interventions shall be mainstreamed into the wider sustainable development agenda. The key priority areas for the Policy intervention include:

- (i) Supporting youth development, health, nutrition and wellbeing;
- (ii) Eradicating drugs and substance abuse among youth;
- (iii) Investing in education, training and skills development;
- (iv) Institutionalising and strengthening apprenticeship and internship programmes;
- (v) Addressing youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity;
- (vi) Building capacity of the youth to fully integrate them into the Country's technological transformation;
- (vii) Ensuring sustainable financing of youth programmes, that is, *Ajira* Digital Clubs which help to create awareness on the existence of online work and prepare the youth for the global future work and business environment;
- (viii) Transforming agriculture to make it attractive to youth;
- (ix) Promoting entrepreneurs, training, mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubations and partnerships;
- (x) Strengthening frameworks for labour export;
- (xi) Supporting labour management information systems;

- (xii) Creativity, talent identification and innovative development;
- (xiii) Entrenching positive morals, values, patriotism and volunteerism for transformative leadership;
- (xiv) Supporting effective civic participation and representation;
- (xv) Promoting a crime free, secure, peaceful and cohesive Country;
- (xvi) Promoting mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of natural resources and environment while engaging in eco-entrepreneurship and green jobs;
- (xvii) Building capacity of the youth in green processes, technology and waste management; and,
- (xviii) Building of digital skills and leveraging young people's natural affinity with technology which is a powerful way to help the nation grow and strengthen its economic base and become more competitive in today's globalized markets.

4.3 Realize a healthy and productive youth population

6 Health is a fundamental and cross cutting issue which has an important bearing on youth's wellbeing and capacity to effectively participate in economic, social and political processes; including in education, skills development and participation in the labour market. Nutrition and healthy eating habits support overall wellbeing of an individual. Apart from preventable and communicable diseases such as sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS, new challenges including malnutrition, non-communicable diseases which include cardiovascular diseases (heart attacks and stroke), cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, diabetes, and injuries, among others are also increasingly becoming a major concern among the youth. Mental health problems such as depression, anxiety, propensity to commit suicide, eating disorders and psychosis contribute to youth mental health problems.

7 Drug and substance abuse is another major problem facing the country especially among the youth. Some youth also engage in high-risk behaviour, such as transactional sex and multiple partner relationships, which predisposes them to various health risks including STIs, HIV and AIDS, reproductive tract cancers and early and unintended pregnancies. In addition, the youth are at a particular risk of being exposed to sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation, female genital mutilation (FGM), and early marriages. However, there are limited programs aimed at

addressing the health needs of the youth. Many continuing and emerging issues have come to the fore as a result of advances in information, communication and technology (ICT) and the resultant exposure to materials and practices that influence young people's behaviour. ICTs also have a major role to play in facilitating health services delivery and availability of information on health for youth. To address the health-related challenges, the government shall implement various policy measures and associated interventions.

4.3.1 Develop and implement measures to improve nutrition, physical and mental health and well-being of the youth while mitigating non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

8 The Government with support from stakeholders shall:

- (i) Support promotive and preventive health among the youth through encouraging healthy lifestyles, including healthy eating, nutrition, sports, recreational activities to control occurrence of communicable and non-communicable diseases;
- (ii) Promote the mental health amongst youth including psychosocial support and interventions;
- (iii) Promote youth participation in health decision making processes such as policy formulation, planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of youth health initiatives;
- (iv) Improve the technical and institutional capacity of youth organisations and community-based organisations (CBOs) to enable them effectively advocate and promote health programmes for youth;
- (v) Promote partnerships between the government, civil society organisations (CSOs) and the private sector to invest in youth friendly health facilities; and,
- (vi) Develop, integrate and create awareness on information, education and communication (IEC) materials on youth health in training and empowerment platforms.

4.3.2 Develop and implement measures for providing services, information and education on sexual reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, any retrogressive practices that may be injurious to wholesome health of the youth including FGM and early marriages.

9 The Government with support from other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Strengthen education and information on sexual and reproductive health for the youth and communities, and support youth campaigns aimed at encouraging sexual behaviour change and discouraging teenage and early pregnancies;
- (ii) Promote and establish home and community-based welfare programmes to help youth infected and or affected by HIV/AIDS;
- (iii) Focus on eradicating harmful retrogressive practices including early marriages;
- (iv) Build the capacity of youth peer educators to enhance awareness for health services, promote health seeking behaviour, promote establishment of youth-friendly health services at all levels of the health system;
- (v) Establish and develop youth friendly guidance and counselling units in schools, youth centres, health facilities, non-formal education institutions, vocational and technological training institutions, universities and encourage parents to take a lead role in teaching and counselling their children on responsible sexual behaviour; and,
- (vi) Integrate health components across all youth empowerment platforms.

4.3.3 Strengthen and implement comprehensive and inclusive mental, emotional, psychosocial wellness and spiritual support programmes to facilitate achievement of full youth potential.

- 10 The Government with support from other stakeholders shall:
- (i) Promote youth's mental, emotional and spiritual health through engaging in creative social and economic activities;
 - (ii) Provide tailor made interventions for the youth to enable them develop protective initiatives and eliminate mental health risks;
 - (iii) Facilitate access to counselling and rehabilitation services for youth at risk of mental illness;
 - (iv) Provide psychosocial interventions and initiatives to address issues of social disorder, substance abuse, family/relationships problems, depression and anxiety; and,
 - (v) Integrate mental health and counselling across all youth empowerment programmes.

4.3.4 Develop and implement measures for providing information and education on control of drug use and substance abuse among youth

- 11 The Government with support from other stakeholders shall:
- (i) Design and implement programmes that address drugs use and substance abuse among the youth; strengthen guidance and counselling programmes in learning institutions, health facilities and all other youth spaces to curb drug and substance abuse;
 - (ii) Develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials to sensitize, inform and educate the youth on the dangers of drug and substance abuse;
 - (iii) Buttress campaigns to create awareness on the effects associated with drug use and substance abuse and utilize dance, music and drama to create awareness on dangers of drug use and substance abuse;
 - (iv) Develop and promote youth friendly rehabilitation and re-integration centres and re-integration into the community; and,
 - (v) Involve community and faith based organisations and other youth serving organisations in campaigning and creating awareness on effects of drug use and substance abuse.

4.3.5 Harness Information Communication and Technology platforms in health care delivery targeting the youth

- 12 The government with the support from stakeholders shall:
- (i) Support utilization of ICT and other innovative approaches in delivery of information and services related to youth health ,drug use and substance abuse; and
 - (ii) Utilize ICTs for research on health to gather information on youth friendly facilities services and engagement with youth through relevant mechanisms such as social media and other technology applications.

4.4 Build skilled, competent and disciplined youth workforce for sustained development

13 Youth population dividend can be harnessed through provision of relevant skills, and competencies, which are consistent and aligned with job market requirements. The ICT skills gap among youth is a primary

barrier to youth employment in the digital economy.⁹ Providing Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) as well as imparting life and communication skills can achieve this. Enhanced ICT education will improve the link between theoretical education and workplace training since, there is a weak link between education and training on one hand and needs of labour market on the other. This makes it difficult to fully integrate youth into the labour market. In addition, the youth lack apprenticeship and incubation programmes hence have limited knowledge of actualizing what they learn in training institutions and demands of the industry. The Government will use ICTs as an enabler in providing dignity and financial stability to our youth.

14 The secondary education net enrolment rate was 47 per cent in 2017. This implies that over half of the secondary school-age youth aged 14-17 years were not in school. Further, only 14 per cent of Form 4 graduates attained minimum university entry grade. This leaves out a large number as unskilled youth. A feasible measure therefore is to train the youth through vocational training institutions to provide them with skills and strengthen linkage with the labour market. It will also be important to enhance training in other skills, including information technology.

15 To address the skills deficit, the government will adopt the following measures:

4.4.1 Develop and implement initiatives that utilize both formal and non-formal education¹⁰, training and skills development channels and mutually reinforce and enhance youth educational progress and attainment.

16 The government with support from the stakeholders shall:

- (i) Strengthen education, training and skills development by providing ICT integrated education to improve cooperation between government, education institutions and enterprises;
- (ii) Ensure youth of school going age have access to quality education and training at all levels;

⁹ See Digital Skills and Values Pillar of the Kenya Digital Economy Blueprint, 2019. Available online at: <http://www.ict.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Kenya-Digital-Economy-2019.pdf>

¹⁰ *Non-formal education* refers to any organised educational activity outside the established formal system of education. These initiatives are in some situations credited for being more flexible and responsive to individual labour market needs.

- (iii) Target initiatives to raise level of retention and progression in learning institutions, and attainment of skills relevant to the labour market;
- (iv) Support the youth not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET) by enhancing their skills through technical training programmes to enable them effectively participate in the labour market; and promote life-long and e-learning among the youth;
- (v) Provide career guidance, relevant professional advice, and support youth placement mechanism into industry to ensure smooth transition to the labour market; and,
- (vi) Enhance the role of the National Youth Service (NYS) to rehabilitate, train and engage youth who have limited access to formal education and training to competitively participate in the labour market.

4.4.2 Institutionalize and strengthen apprenticeship and internship programmes

17 The government with support from stakeholders shall:

- (i) Develop and implement industry-specific internship and apprenticeship policy guidelines and initiatives;
- (ii) Promote linkages between education and training, and industry through institutionalised entrepreneurship and apprenticeship initiatives; strong and effective partnerships between learners, training institutions and employers both in public and private sectors;
- (iii) Strengthen and increase access to quality formal and informal Technical, Vocational Education Training (TVET); and,
- (iv) Revitalize employment placement centres targeting the youth with varied competencies and skills.

4.5 Create opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods

18 Youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity are major obstacles to sustainable development. Unemployment entails social exclusion, and is thus one of the social drivers of youth underutilisation and has potential of driving youth criminal activities. Employment creation for the youth is therefore government priority. In this regard, the Government shall encourage new business models and service delivery

paradigms built around freelancing, online work and opportunity swarming.

19 The Government has established Affirmative Action funds such as *Uwezo Fund* and Youth Enterprise and Development Fund (YEDF). These services provide accessible and flexible financial and business development support. There has also been a renewed effort to make agriculture more attractive to the youth with a view to increase the youth participation in agriculture as business. Similarly, ICT has also been focused on as a sector in the economy with high potential. Another initiative is the effort to open up the Blue Economy to provide an alternative source of livelihood. To facilitate youth engagement with these opportunities, the government has developed a programme to orient youth capacities towards entrepreneurship. Youth however lack assets that would act as collateral in accessing loans and other forms of credit. Further, formal public and private sectors have not been growing substantially to create adequate jobs for the mass of unemployed youth. To create more opportunities, the government shall undertake measures to:

4.5.1 Address youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity

20 To address the challenge of youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity, the government shall:

- (i) Accelerate and sustain inclusive macroeconomic and social policies that create decent jobs;
- (ii) Expand investment in productive sectors, key among them agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, blue economy among others for enhanced job creation;
- (iii) Strengthen public finance management systems at national and county levels to ensure public resources are prudently managed and utilised for improved service delivery; improving business environment and creation of employment opportunities;
- (iv) Address the challenge of gambling and sports betting by initiating programmes and activities that encourage sustainable engagements and positive means of livelihoods;
- (v) Support youth entry into both public and private sector employment through strengthening linkage between education and training; and labour market; and,

- (vi) Address challenges youth face when searching for a job through investment in jobs search infrastructure including strengthening the Kenya Labour Market Information System up to county level and enhancing employment services across all counties.

4.5.2 Ensure sustainable financing of youth programmes

21 The government with support from other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Embrace result-based contracting in order to strengthen link between youth and employers;
- (ii) Support development of business infrastructure;
- (iii) Support business sub-contracting to youth-based enterprises;
- (iv) Develop and institutionalize financial market access systems for the youth; and,
- (v) Enhance access to financial support for youth entrepreneurship ventures and enterprises.

4.5.3 Transform agriculture and agri-business to make it attractive to the youth

22 Agriculture is the mainstay of the Kenyan economy and a key livelihood pillar for most of the youth while food and nutrition security is one of the pillars of the Big Four Agenda of the Government. The sector accounts for about 40 per cent of Kenya's total exports and provides both formal and informal employment in urban and rural areas. The sector comprises six subsectors, namely: Industrial crops, food crops, horticulture, livestock, blue economy and fisheries and forestry.

23 However, the agriculture sector in the country is dominated by an ageing population (average age of a farmer was 62 years) and utilize rain fed farming methods. It will be important to integrate use of ICT to assist in establishment of innovative and modern farming methods, value addition, and marketing to achieve improved food security and nutrition. In addition, in rural areas, women, more so young women are at a more disadvantaged position regarding education attainment, access to land, livestock, finance, more demand on their time due to reproductive roles and lower mobility. The Government is determined to ensure that the energy, innovation and passion of the youth are fully and inclusively integrated in the operations of the agricultural sector. The government shall undertake the following measures:

4.5.4 **Position youth at the forefront of agriculture growth and transformation**

24 This will be achieved through boosting youth employment in agriculture and agribusiness. The government with support from other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Increase access to appropriate agricultural education and training; and ensure that youth in diverse agro-ecological zones are provided with training and skills necessary for living and working productively in their respective areas. In addition, provide career guidance to youth at an early age to inform them on job prospects in agriculture including the blue economy;
- (ii) Increase investment in rural farm and non-farm activities and social and economic infrastructure to offer youth attractive job prospects and living conditions; and transmit a positive social and economic image and status of rural areas through education, the media, and other means of communication;
- (iii) Promote access to domestic and global market linkages, mechanization, financial inclusion including review and development financing models and products targeting youth enterprises;
- (iv) Support youth's access and ownership of land for agri-business as well as access to innovative agricultural technologies, including climate change adaptation;
- (v) Strengthen youth's agribusinesses through enhanced coordination, monitoring and evaluation of product development and supply chains in agribusiness activities;
- (vi) Promote innovation and incubation of agricultural technologies, youth access to credit for agricultural development; and,
- (vii) Provide youth with extension services to support growth and development of enterprises.

4.5.5 **Identify and address the fragility and increasing vulnerabilities for youth in agriculture and enterprise**

25 To realise this, the government in collaboration with all stakeholders shall:

- (i) Rebrand agriculture as the unexplored frontier for growth in business opportunities;
- (ii) Specialize by re-directing and training youth to focus on sections of the value chain activities such as production, processing and marketing;
- (iii) Develop innovative financial packages that provide incentives for youth entrepreneurs in the sector;
- (iv) Invest in value addition through processing, branding, quality, individual life improvements;
 - (v) Invest in irrigation and water harvesting technologies to facilitate full time engagement of the youth and shorten waiting time for economic returns;
 - (vi) Digitize agricultural production and marketing information into web-based resources;
 - (vii) Invest in emerging livestock and agricultural technologies;
 - (viii) Profile successful youth role models in agri-business to mentor other upcoming youth;
 - (ix) Review land tenure and use systems to provide adequate security and access to land to encourage youth to invest in land improvements, development and productivity, minimize conflicts and encourage lease arrangements for private and corporate investment for irrigation development; and,
 - (x) Promote the participation of the youth in climate smart agriculture as a viable career opportunity for the youth and as an economic and business option.

4.5.6 Strengthen frameworks for labour export, foreign employment management and diaspora engagement

26 Labour export is one of the strategies for creating additional jobs for the youth. The Policy provides measures to encourage youth to seek employment in other countries and protect their rights. The government in collaboration with stakeholders shall:

- (i) Encourage and support the youth to seek employment in other countries; and participate in diaspora activities;
- (ii) Encourage and support the youth working in the diaspora to participate in national, political, social and development

programmes in the country and create enabling mechanisms to enable them invest locally;

- (iii) Develop and in collaboration with other stakeholders enforce guidelines on employment of Kenyans in foreign countries and accreditation of private employment agencies; and,
- (iv) Through use of ICT set up a portal for youth to easily access labour opportunities locally and internationally.

4.5.7 Take measures to strengthen labour management information systems among the youth.

27 The Government in collaboration with the private sector and other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Implement labour market information system to support decision-making on youth employment opportunities;
- (ii) Establish a one-stop information centre on employment opportunities across counties;
- (iii) Institutionalize tracer studies of graduates to gauge the relevance of learning programmes to the labour market;
- (iv) Revitalize national employment placement centres to cater for youth competencies and skills;
- (v) Develop an effective labour migration policy to curb exploitation of youth employed or seeking employment abroad; and,
- (vi) Promote and implement programmes that target skills development, entrepreneurship, apprenticeship and business incubation among youth.

4.6 Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation

28 The youth constitute a huge pool of untapped talent potential including in sports and performing arts. This creativity potential of the youth could be tapped and nurtured to create alternative pathways of earning a living. Besides their sports prowess, youth in Kenya are creative, innovative and easily adapt to technology changes. The Policy therefore encourages establishment of a network of talent development institutions to support and incubate ideas and talents of the emerging generation of highly creative youth.

29 The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders shall develop structured process of protecting these ideas by enhancing the policy and legal framework on intellectual property rights and patenting. Further the Government will encourage the youth to utilise the ICT in innovating solutions to challenges facing the society and thus make the country an ICT hub in the region and globally. To achieve this objective, the Government shall:

4.6.1 Develop, promote and implement strategies for incubation of new innovations produced by the youth

30 There is need for Government to encourage and motivate the youth to be innovative in developing solutions for challenges besetting the society. To attain this, the Government with the support of stakeholders shall:

- (i) Develop and implement youth talent identification and nurturing policy;
- (ii) Strengthen, support the reward system for participation in sports at national and international levels and implement the National Sports Policy;
- (iii) Encourage private sector participation in the promotion of arts and sports sectors for youth;
- (iv) Identify and promote local and regional recreational opportunities such as outdoor activities, sports and opportunities for enhancing creativity;
- (v) Strengthen and promote co-curricular activities in educational institutions;
- (vi) Set up a structure to register all the innovations made by the youth and assist the youth with space and facilities to develop innovations; and,
- (vii) Encourage youth to be innovators through provision of incentives.

4.6.2 Identify, nurture and develop talents among the youth

31 The Government will establish mechanisms of identifying youth with various talents and actualize them for the benefit of the society. The Government with the support of stakeholders shall:

- (i) Establish youth talent academies across the country and re-engineer the existing ones;
- (ii) Create a database on talented youth and the related industry players to facilitate networking and referral;
- (iii) Support the establishment of innovation hubs at the national and county levels to facilitate identification, incubation and acceleration of youth innovations;
- (iv) Encourage and support volunteerism in sports and co-curricular activities across all counties;
- (v) Establish and rehabilitate creative talent hubs and Youth Empowerment Centres countrywide;
- (vi) Sensitize youth on the value of talents, talent development and commercialisation;
- (vii) Establish a comprehensive talent scouting system including through talent shows in all counties for continuous identification of talent identification and development; and,
- (viii) Enhance the capacity of teachers at school and post- school levels of education and training to identify learners with talents and refer them to the talent identification centres for incubation at an early age.

4.6.3 Enhance the commercialization of talent, patenting and intellectual property rights

32 To encourage the youth with talents to express their creativity, there is need for a framework to protect their ideas from identity theft and plagiarism among other forms of piracy. The Government with the support of stakeholders shall:

- (i) Strengthen the capacity of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) to register and protect innovations developed by the youth;
- (ii) Enhance the implementation of the Copyright Act to create awareness on copyright and enhance the capacity of the youth to value intellectual property rights;
- (iii) Developing mechanism for copyright and patenting for youth innovations and talents; and,
- (iv) Encourage and facilitate access to entrepreneurial activities through Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) by young innovators.

4.6.4 Enhancing the capacity of information, communication and technology in the development of innovations by the youth

33 The online space provides a major platform for the youth to develop their innovations and incubate them. The Government with the support of stakeholders shall:

- (i) Expand the *Ajira Digital* programme to cover the entire country so as to reach as many talented and innovative youth as possible;
- (ii) Incorporate the technology hubs component into the Youth Empowerment Centres countrywide;
- (iii) Enhance the internet connectivity to the rural parts in the country;
- (iv) Facilitate the lowering of connectivity charges to enable as many as possible youth to access internet; and,
- (v) Encourage other players to complement the *Ajira Digital* and set up innovation hubs to provide youth with adequate space and facilities to express their talents and inventions.

4.7 Nurture value-driven, morally upright ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership

34 Family values are the most important forms of values that mould the behaviour, actions and choices of the youth. These are the ideals passed on by parents, guardians and caregivers and have a lasting influence on the youth even in adulthood and include forgiveness, sense of belonging, respect, responsibility and communication, love, team spirit and dialogue, honesty, integrity, commitment, faithfulness and loyalty. Further Article 10 of the Constitution outlines a total of seventeen national values and principles of governance that guide the actions and behaviour of Kenyans. There is need for inter-generational and intra-generational conversations between the youth and elders in society for exchange of ideas on cultural values and mentorship. However, weak family systems and lack of social cohesion among communities cause a threat to upholding values in society. This ultimately leads to corruption, weak appreciation of our diversity, lack of respect and desire to accumulate wealth. To achieve this objective, the Government shall:

4.7.1 Strengthen the family unit as the basic unit of socialization and values transfer

35 The family is the lowest and basic unit in the society where children are first socialized before going into society to attend school and

in adult life. It is through the family that values are inculcated to the children that in turn, have lifelong effects of moulding their behaviour and choices later on in life as youth and adults. The Government with the support of stakeholders shall:

- (i) Entrench values into the school and post- school curricula to inculcate them to the children and youth as they learn;
- (ii) Support the family unit through programmes through the mainstream and social media to encourage parents and guardians to be instrumental in passing the appropriate values to children and youth for a value-based, united and prosperous society;
- (iii) Entrench national values and principles of governance among the youth and build their capacity and to enable them to participate in leadership and community service;
- (iv) Educate and inculcate in the youth culture of patriotism, national cohesion and volunteerism;
- (v) Recognize, involve, support and encourage positive role played by families, FBOs, communities and learning institutions, information and knowledge on the development of positive moral and values among the youth; and,
- (vi) Promote and support integrity of the family unit while strengthening nuclear and extended youth family support structures.

4.7.2 Deepen inter-generational and intra-generational dialogues, mentorship and values transfer to the youth

36 The community elders in any society are the custodians of morals, communal values, traditions and customs and thus require the support of all in their quest to bequeath this wisdom to the youth. The Government with the support of stakeholders shall:

- (i) Encourage the various community elders to establish mechanisms for inculcating the positive morals and values to the youth;
- (ii) Organise youth and cultural exchanges between the various communities for benchmarking, adoption of good practices and mentorship;
- (iii) Develop a framework to institute passage of positive value systems to the youth in a structured manner including through community intergenerational dialogues across the country;

- (iv) Support and promote inter-generational and intra-generational conversations between the youth and adults at all levels, and exchange of knowledge and values; and,
- (v) Strengthen delivery of morals, ethics and values in the learning curriculum at all levels; and SGBV awareness and prevention among the youth should be inculcated in their morals beginning in from early childhood.

4.7.3 Utilisation of ICT and social media space to further entrench the values and morals of the youth

37 Social media is a powerful tool for socialization and passing appropriate values and positive morals as a way to mould individuals' behaviour and actions even in adulthood. The existence of such platforms would assist in addressing the vices that result from poor parenting such as corruption, violence, impatience, gambling and inappropriate accumulation of wealth. The Government with the support of stakeholders will:

- (i) Develop innovative “online values” programmes that ensure that the right online values are instilled in Kenyan children from the moment they begin to use technology;
- (ii) Entrench the utilisation of ICT and social media space to further entrench the values and morals of the youth;
- (iii) Support the ICT and social media space with policy and legal framework;
- (iv) Utilise the mass media such as radio and television to ensure that as many youth as possible are reached with regular messages on national values, positive morals and behaviour;
- (v) Facilitate the lowering of costs for accessing internet in the country;
- (vi) Block sites that promote vices such as violence, gambling, corruption and immoral behaviour of youth;
- (vii) Provide internet and Wi-Fi connectivity in various parts of the country for youth to access internet services; and,
- (viii) Better understand the online habits of children and youth and facilitate identification and development of mechanisms to reduce their exposure to risks and vulnerabilities online; understand the

context in which children become vulnerable and how to enhance child online protection.

4.8 Effective civic participation and representation among the youth

38 As entrenched in the Constitution of Kenya (2010), public participation is key thus the government will ensure youth civic participation and representation to ensure their voices are included in social economic development. To achieve this, the government will use the following measures;

4.8.1 Entrenching values, patriotism and volunteerism

39 The youth have the energy, skills and time that can be harnessed to support socio-economic and political development through volunteerism and internship amongst other opportunities. With such opportunities, the youth find a rare chance to make a difference in the lives of their fellow citizens and society at large. This Policy strongly advocates and encourages all stakeholders to undertake strategic actions to inculcate the culture of volunteerism among the youth. The government shall:

4.8.1.1 Involve the youth in activities that promote volunteerism and community service while developing their sense of patriotism and promotion of national values and principles of Governance.

40 To achieve this objective, the Government with support from other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Support development and implementation of a National Youth Volunteerism Policy Framework and guidelines;
- (ii) Facilitate key stakeholder ownership and support for youth volunteerism;
- (iii) Increase outreach and capacity of the National Youth Volunteer Service;
- (iv) Educate and inculcate in the youth culture of patriotism, national cohesion, values and volunteerism;
- (v) Mainstream youth volunteerism in all sectors of Government at national and county levels;
- (vi) Synergise Community Policing Initiatives (*Citizen participation in security*) with the Youth Volunteerism Policy (2012);
- (vii) Implement a mechanism for monitoring, evaluating and

recognizing the youth who successfully accomplish their roles within the volunteerism programmes;

- (viii) Establish voluntary community service for youth and promote volunteerism;
- (ix) Establish a reward system for recognizing outstanding community service among youth at national level;
- (x) Promote private sector support for youth volunteerism; and,
- (xi) Entrench national values and principles of governance among the youth and build their capacity to enable them to participate in leadership and community service.

4.8.1.2 Developing and implementing strategies that enable the youth to actively participate in voluntary and community initiatives.

41 To achieve the objective, the government with support from stakeholders shall do the following:

- (i) Encourage, nurture and supporting community-based projects, activities and events involving the youth;
- (ii) Encourage the youth to participate in voluntary activities at various levels. It will further seek to promote community service among youth in all spaces and spheres; and,
- (iii) Promote active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity among the youth. This will encourage the youth to take part in activities for their personal and community wellbeing.

4.8.1.3 Support transformative leadership, effective civic participation and representation among the youth

42 Transformative leadership is key for development of any country. Youth with their energy should take up leadership roles in the society, so as their potential can be tapped for the benefit of the society. To realize this, the government commits to;

4.8.1.4 Strengthen participation of the youth in governance and leadership roles

43 To achieve the objectives, the government with support from stakeholders shall:

- (i) Organise periodic forums at national, county and ward levels to receive views and strategies on youth matters;
- (ii) Develop a framework for identification of youth representatives

in Parliament and County Assemblies;

- (iii) Strengthen the role of the National Youth Council towards registration of youth groups and youth serving organizations;
- (iv) Promote youth exchange programmes and mentorship programmes at intra-county, county, regional, national and global levels;
- (v) Initiate a training program to enhance leadership skills among youth in elective positions which involves student leaders/councils in tertiary institutions and universities; and,
- (vi) Enhance linkages with regional and international youth organizations for purposes of enhancing exposure to opportunities.

4.8.2 Awareness raising, listening and supporting the ‘voice of the youth’

44 The youth have specific and unique challenges and issues that require the attention of their parents, caregivers, teachers and the Government. Some of the issues may require policy or legal interventions. There is therefore need to create initiatives and opportunities that enhance youth social and political awareness that enable their voices to be heard while impacting lives of their fellow young people. The government shall implement the following measures:

- (i) In collaboration with the NYC, the government shall hold annual social dialogue with youth at community, ward, county, sub-county, national level to address youth issues; and,
- (ii) Increase political awareness among youth and their constitutional rights.

4.8.3 Supporting youth living in streets

45 It is estimated that over 300,000 youth live on the streets of the major urban centres of Kenya and face a myriad of challenges such as lack of parental care, delinquency, alcohol, drug and substance abuse, sexual exploitation and ill health. This occurrence results mainly from disintegration of the family unit forcing youth to seek alternative ‘homes’ in the streets. Unemployment also results to lack of means to afford any form of settlement which in turn, pushes many youth to the streets. This Policy advocates enhanced re-integration and rehabilitation of youth living in streets in the communities and strengthening of family systems. The government in collaboration with other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Develop rehabilitation and corrective centres targeting children and youth living in streets;
- (ii) Engage children and youth living in streets in environmental management activities as groups; and,
- (iii) Strengthen family and community systems in order to tackle street children challenges especially in urban areas.

4.8.4 Mainstreaming programmes for disadvantaged male and female youth

46 This Policy recognises that there are both disadvantaged male and female youth. This includes: persons forced into early marriages and premature economic activities. The government shall:

- (i) Support disadvantaged and marginalized youth through skills training and empowerment;
- (ii) Support and encourage disadvantaged and marginalized youth to access gainful economic activities; and,
- (iii) Involve disadvantaged and marginalized youth in community service activities.

4.9 Promote a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind

47 Youth have been accused of being the perpetrators of violence and majorly those involved in crime. High level of crime hinders prosperity of a country. Any population which co-exist together peacefully have an end result of development.

4.9.1 Tackling Crime, Supporting Security and Peace Building

48 An increased incidence of crime across the country is a major socio-economic policy concern. This is linked to the growing number of youth who are taking to crime, and those left vulnerable to becoming the targets and recruits of organized networks including traffickers in drugs and persons, especially in major cities and towns. Probable causes of this increase in youth's involvement in criminal activities include; high poverty levels, idleness and disillusionment occasioned by increased unemployment rates despite more youth having access to education. Peer pressure and use of drugs and substances of abuse contribute to crime among the youth. The country's security landscape is also characterized by various conflict drivers such as competition for power, poverty, youth underemployment and unemployment, transnational crime, terrorism,

recruitment of vulnerable youth into militia groups and criminality and proliferation of small arms and light weapons. Enforcement of the existing laws is critical in ensuring peaceful co-existence.

49 The Youth shall be included in the peace building processes in decision making on matters related to peace building. Inclusion and participation of young people enhances their capabilities and affords them the opportunity to improve their lives as well as those of their communities. Further, engagement of youth in these and other constructive processes keeps them constructively pre-occupied thus averting/reducing their vulnerability to involvement in unlawful acts.

4.9.2 Involving the youth in security and peace building processes as stakeholders and decision makers and allowing them to participate in policy processes that affect them.

50 To achieve this objective, the government with support from stakeholders shall ensure the following:

- (i) Working with multi-agency groups, families and communities to engage the youth in promoting peace and secure crime free neighbourhoods. Youth and communities will be sensitized on the need to uphold and promote peace for harmonious living;
- (ii) Supporting inclusion of youth as specific stakeholders in community driven security and peace building initiatives, as they are both largely affected by conflict and instrumental to peace building. Being the larger proportion of the community, the youth are often the main causes and victims of crime and conflict and thus their involvement in this initiative reduces their susceptibility and exposure to such occurrences;
- (iii) Recognizing and including the role of youth led and youth-based peace-building organizations in peace building activities and promoting a culture of peace. The youth form an integral part of the society and as such are best suited in taking up the lead role in matters that most affect them as it gives them a sense of responsibility and belonging;
- (iv) Supporting activities which foster peaceful co-existence and cohesion among communities. The government will support measures to promote cohesive living among youth in cross-border communities and peculiar humanitarian settings such as refugee hosting areas. It will further promote and encourage cross-border

or intercommunity meetings, exchange programs, cultural events and resource-sharing to further the peace agenda;

- (v) Supporting investment in alternative or non-formal education programmes that reach out to school youth, and that include peace building components, and track the situation of those youth after they leave the programme; and,
- (vi) Design and implement livelihood skills programs for youth.

4.9.3 **Curb Radicalization and Violent Extremism**

51 Youth unemployment is very high in Kenya and with a little chance of getting education or sustainable and decent jobs, the youth and especially those in the urban informal settlements are easy prey for terrorist activities. The youth are main targets of extremist organizations and local militia hence have become vulnerable to the offers promised to them. Subscription to criminal gangs, ethnic sects and local militias has been experienced in the country. Terror activities have led to loss of life, pain and suffering to those affected.

52 To mitigate these challenges, the government with support and collaboration with stakeholders shall endeavour to:

- (i) Increase opportunities for education, employment and political participation among youth. This gives the youth more life opportunities thus reducing their vulnerability to possible radicalization and recruitment into violent extremist groups;
- (ii) Promote youth leadership exchange programmes to encourage sharing on values and positive behaviours. This will also involve designing and implementing programmes on countering violent extremism and anti-radicalization aimed at impacting values on the youth;
- (iii) Enhance support to organizations working in the informal settlements on education, youth activities, vocational training and employment. Youth in this form of set-up and its accompanying conditions are more prone to these vices thus the need to support these organizations to deter influence of the youth into the activities;
- (iv) Provide rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for incarcerated youth and investigating terrorist recruitment efforts within the correctional institutions. The government shall put in

place measures to identify and curtail possible radicalization and recruitment of more youth and aid reformed youth fit in the society; and,

- (v) Build resilience by rehabilitating affected communities through development approaches that seek to provide sustainable livelihood pathways and provide a counter narrative to radicalization and violent extremism by ensuring effective implementation of the anti-terrorism policy.

4.10 Support Youth engagement in Environment Management for Sustainable Development

53 The Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides for the right to a clean and healthy environment and includes the protection of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations either through legislation or other measures. Kenya has become prone to climate change effects and disasters such as floods, droughts and other shocks that require interventions by the youth in every stage including prevention, management or recovery. The government commits to take leadership in creating partnerships and networks, including the youth, to scale up and strengthen environmental management programmes in the country.

54 The government with support from stakeholders shall put in place the following measures:

- (i) Promoting mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of the natural resources and environment while engaging in eco-entrepreneurship and green jobs;
- (ii) Sensitizing youth at various levels to participate in management, protection and conservation of the environment. This will include youth in various levels of institutions of learning, out of school youth and at the workplace. Operationalizing environmental clubs in all institutions will also serve to achieve this goal. The youth will also be empowered to play an active role as environmental ambassadors across the country;
- (iii) Building capacity of youth on green processes and technology, waste management and general environmental conservation and management. This will involve training and sensitization of youth both at the individual and group levels on ways of collecting and managing waste to employ technologies to convert waste for useful gain for employment and wealth creation. It will also involve

building their capacity to take advantage of the blue economy as a way of livelihood as they conserve the environment;

- (iv) Supporting high potential value chains in green energy, waste management and alternative prudent natural resources utilization. This measure will entail putting in place mechanisms to promote development and investment in alternative forms of energy such as solar and wind to minimize over-reliance on the natural environment as a source of energy; and,
- (v) Enhancing capacity building for the youth on disaster management to participate in awareness creation, prevention, management and recovery. The government will put in place measures to sensitize youth on potential disasters due to poor or lack of proper environmental management. With this kind of awareness, the youth will be better informed to take cautionary and preventive measures to avert environmental degradation.

4.11 Promote a culture of entrepreneurship among the youth through access to subsidised loans, training, mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubation and partnerships.

55 Youth earning from enterprises are often low and or lack because they duplicate investment ideas in areas that are already either saturated or has limited opportunities. There is need therefore, to enhance their capacity to enable them venture into business areas that are unique to the market to make them reap maximally from their business investments. This can be achieved through entrepreneurship training. The government in collaboration with stakeholders shall:

- (i) Promote education and training, entrepreneurship and apprentice training programmes that are relevant to industry;
- (ii) Enhance entrepreneurship capacity building programs through supporting or expanding internships, mentorships, attachments and business incubation;
- (iii) Review of regulatory framework on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to make it friendly to youth;
- (iv) Ensure access to AGPO at both National and County levels of government.
- (v) Support training and Business Development Services;
- (vi) Enhance the provision of affirmative Action Funds to enhance access to finances and start-ups financing;

- (vii) Create incentives for youth to undertake entrepreneurship instead of seeking white collar jobs;
- (viii) Facilitate formation of networks for youth in entrepreneurship for information and best practices sharing; and,
- (ix) Create mechanism for providing market and market linkages for youth goods and services.

4.12 Support the development of a wide range of ICT-based programmes in local languages, as appropriate, with content relevant to different groups of youth.

For youth to embrace the use of wide range of ICT based programmes, it imperative to enhance support of ICT-centric innovation and skills transfer to improve digital literacy levels.

4.12.1 Enhancing early investment on ICT skills, development of children and interface of youth and Information Communication Technology

4.12.1.1 Renew and update the knowledge and skills of youth to meet the needs of labour market through investment in ICT, development of children at early age and use of information communication technology (ICT).

56 The government in collaboration with the private sector, learning institutions and other stakeholders will harness the benefits of early ICT investment in development of children and ICT through:

- (i) Increase youth labour productivity through investment in ICT development aspects among children during the early age; strengthening training programmes, education and information, communication and technology;
- (ii) Targeted investment in apprenticeship skills development, technology and innovations;
- (iii) Facilitate and support technology exchange and innovation programmes for youth through establishment of technology incubators and research development;
- (iv) Support professional integration of young people through incubation of businesses and funding for the youth programmes;
- (v) Support industrial innovation through ICTs mainstreaming, telecommunication and agribusiness; and,
- (vi) Leveraging existing online training resources e.g. MOOCs

4.12.1.2 Create a conducive environment to reduce the risks involved in venturing into online services and businesses.

- 57 The government and other stakeholders shall:
- (i) Manage and monitor cyber security incidents and create awareness to organizations and individuals on cybercrime and other security issues;
 - (ii) Expand *Ajira Digital* youth empowerment programme to sensitize and train youth on online jobs; and,
 - (iii) Create a fair and competitive environment by enforcing open access to ICT infrastructure.

4.12.2 Enhance access to ICT infrastructure across all counties

58 To increase accessibility of ICT infrastructure the government and other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Create an enabling framework to deploy broadband across the country;
- (ii) Develop and expand ICT Infrastructure across all counties;
- (iii) Ensure availability of a reliable and affordable broadband connectivity to all citizens especially in the rural areas;
- (iv) Encourage Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to create ICT enabled systems;
- (v) Promote digital literacy programs for providing ICT equipment and services to youth;
- (vi) Establish Constituency Innovation Hubs to promote access to ICT among the youth; and,
- (vii) Strengthen digital learning programme in schools to equip youth with digital skills.

59 To enhance capacity building in ICT, the government and other stakeholders shall:

- (i) Build the capacity of the youth in ICT through training for effective integration into the Country's technological transformation;
- (ii) Develop resource centres and libraries for youth to access information and relevant educational materials;
- (iii) Develop incubation centres and mentorship of youth in ICT skills, in collaboration with the private sector, to start businesses and venture in related enterprises; and,
- (iv) Initiate and institutionalize effective capacity building initiatives through internships, mentorship and attachments.

A Summary of the Objectives, Priorities and Strategies

Objective	Priorities	Strategies
Realize a healthy and productive youth population	Promote well being	Promote good nutrition and physical fitness
		Prioritise modalities for mental health support
		Mitigate non-communicable diseases
		Stop new HIV /AIDS infections
	Development of cognitive, emotional and spiritual strength for positive social relationships including social well-being	
	Improve access to information and health services	Information Communication and technology platforms in health care delivery
	Improve access to information and health services	Provide sexual reproductive health information and resources
		Pursue medical cover for all
		Provide youth friendly health service provision
	Enhance protection	Fight retrogressive practices eg FGM
		Control of drug use and substance abuse

Objective	Priorities	Strategies
Build qualified and competent youth	Education attainment	Formal and non-formal education
		Increase access to provision of quality education and training at all levels

workforce sustained economic development for social		Update curriculums to meet labour market needs or (implement CBC) Enforce the 100% transition rates to reduce school drop-out rates	
	Skills development	Promote CBET in vocational and technical training	
		Embed life skills and core business skills training	
		Strengthen apprenticeship and internship programmes	
	ICT integration	Provide early access of ICT knowledge, tools and skills to children	
		Promote digital and distant/mobile learning	
		Enhance access to ICT infrastructure across all counties	
	Create opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods	Job creation	Accelerate macro-economic interventions
			Strengthen labour export and foreign employment management
			Expand online work
Build a strong labour market information system			
Entrepreneurship		Remove entry barriers for youth entrepreneurs	
		Ease the doing of business for young entrepreneurs	
		Ease the doing of business for young entrepreneurs	
		Provide market access	
		Increase and De-risk	

		financing for youth in business
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Objective	Priorities	Strategies
	Entrepreneurship	Promote a culture of entrepreneurship among the youth through training, mentorships, internships, attachments, business incubation and partnerships
	Agriculture	Transform agriculture and agri-business to make it attractive to the youth
		Position youth at the forefront of agriculture growth and transformation
Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for national pride and wealth creation	Talent development	Establish modalities for talent identification
		Nurture youth talent
		Support commercialization of talent
	Support for youth innovation	Strengthen incubation of ideas to market
		Support greater financing for new innovation
		Enhance patenting and intellectual property rights for youth innovators
Nurture value,	Re-socialization	Strengthen the family unit as the basic unit of socialization and value transfer
		Deepen inter-generational

moral, ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership	Mentorship	and intra-generational dialogues, mentorship and values transfer to the youth
		Profile appropriate role models for desired values
		Support transformative youth leadership
	Behaviour change communication	Utilization of ICT and social media space to further entrench the values and morals of the youth
	Entrenching values	Promote strategies that enable youth volunteerism and community service
		Developing the youth sense of patriotism
Promotion adherence to national values and principles of governance		

Objective	Priorities	Strategies
Ensure effective civic participation and representation of the youth	Youth voice and representation	Strengthen National Youth Council
		Enhance youth civic awareness
		Mainstream youth representation in governance bodies
		Create platforms for youth engagement in all sectors
	Youth in	Support youth leadership in public and private and political spheres
		Promote leadership training

	decision making	and capacity building for the youth
		Ensuring youth involvement in policy processes that affect them
Promote a crime free, secure, peaceful and a united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind	Inclusion	Mainstreaming programmes for disadvantaged male and female youth
		Supporting youth living in streets
	Peace building	Involving the youth in security and peace building processes as stakeholders and decision makers
	Tackling crime	Curb radicalization and violent extremism
Support mechanisms for youth to access justice		
Support youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development	Conservation	Environmental protection
		Tree planting
		Awareness creation on cautionary and preventive measures to avert environmental degradation
	Green technology	Building capacity of youth on green processes and technology, waste management and general environmental conservation and management.
	Resilience	Enhancing capacity building of the youth on disaster management.

Chapter 5

5. Policy Coordination and Implementation

5.1 Approaches for implementing the Policy

60 The coordination and implementation of the Policy objectives, priority areas, programmes, projects and activities by all stakeholders shall be based on the following fundamental approaches as guiding philosophy:

- (i) Rights-based approach;
- (ii) Youth mainstreaming;
- (iii) Professional approach;
- (iv) Coordinated approach;
- (v) Evidence basis and knowledge sharing;
- (vi) Youth oriented co-creation; and,
- (vii) Sustainable development.

61 **Rights-based approach:** The Constitution of Kenya (2010) provides that the State shall take measures, including affirmative action programmes, to ensure that the youth— (a) access relevant education and training; (b) have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life; (c) access employment; and (d) are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation. The Policy therefore holds that all organs and agencies of the state have a responsibility to deliver specified rights to citizens aged 18 to 34 years.

62 **Youth Mainstreaming:** The needs, aspirations, opportunities and challenges facing the youth are concerns for the whole society. The Policy therefore aims at ensuring that youth issues are reflected in all sectors of national development, at both the national and sub-national levels, within the public, private sectors and society. The Policy underscores the importance of affirmative action for the youth as a strategy of participation in decision making and empowerment.

63 **Professional Approach:** Noting the centrality of youth work and workers involved in youth related activities, the Policy holds that the activities will be conducted within a framework that upholds ethical practice, coherent competency and professionalism.

64 **Coordinated Approach:** The Policy interventions during the implementation of this Policy cut across various sectors and will be

undertaken simultaneously by multiple partners and stakeholders. The Policy shall ensure adequately coordinated approach to enable proper targeting, prioritization, pooling of resources and monitoring of impact of the various interventions. All stakeholders will therefore align their activities with the coordination framework set out in the Policy.

65 **Evidence based and knowledge sharing approach:** This Policy holds that all stakeholders will, in designing and implementing youth programmes, projects and activities endeavour to act on the basis of evidence-based strategies. In addition, this Policy holds that stakeholders will work to establish a baseline data bank on all areas of focus in order to set a foundation for measuring impact.

66 **Youth Oriented (Co-creation):** This policy emphasises that the young people will be placed at the core of all efforts undertaken in advancement of youth development. Projects, programmes and activities shall be informed and propelled by youth. This Policy therefore adopts the principle of co-creation and anticipates that the youth will be co-creators of solutions and actively engaged as “solvers” where projects and programmes are initiated by youth and decision making is shared among youth and the stakeholders.

67 **Sustainable development:** This Policy upholds the approach of continuous investment in the development of improved services and opportunities for long term impact and development.

5.2 Coordination of the Policy implementation

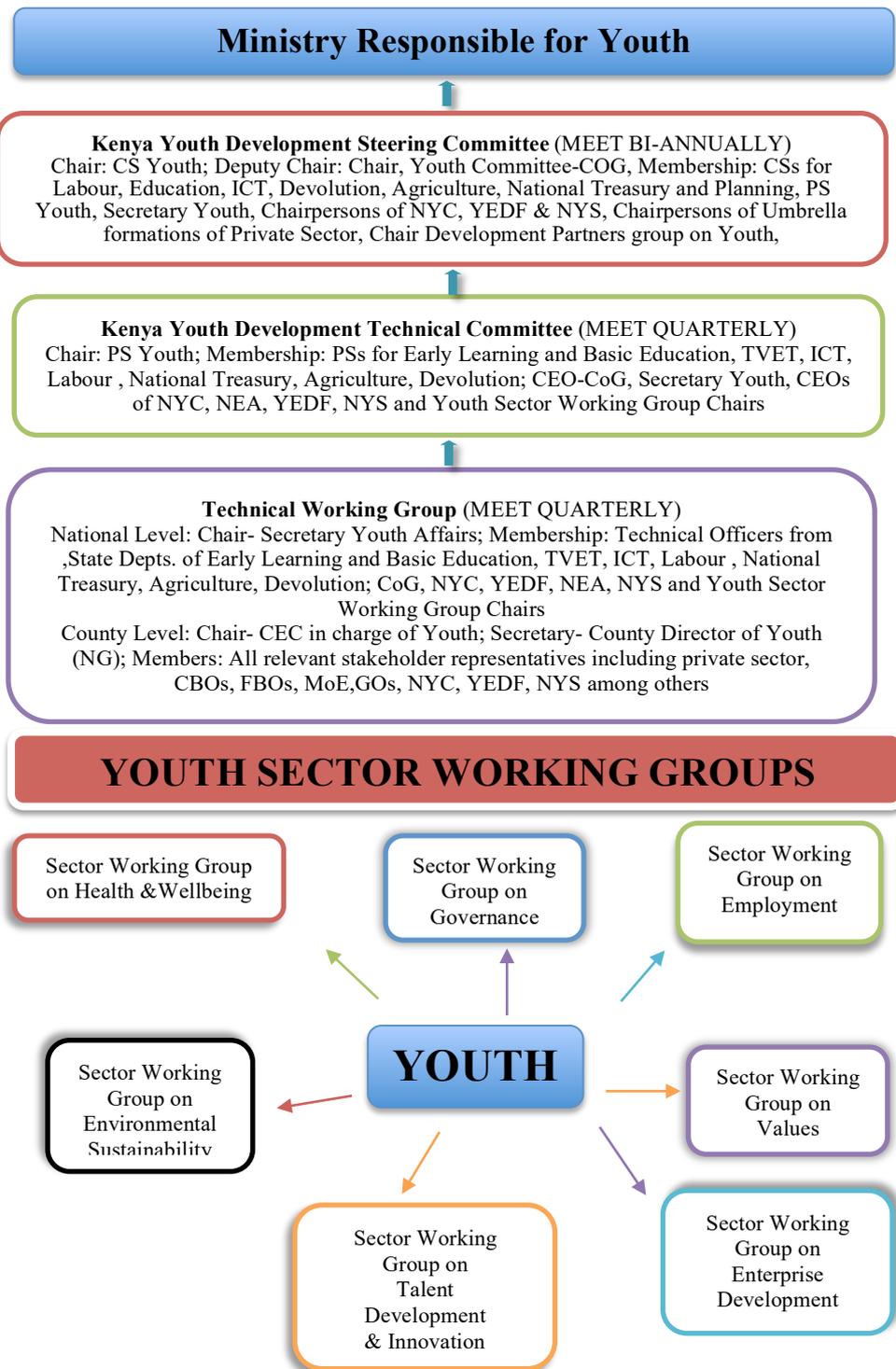
68 The Ministry responsible for youth affairs shall oversee the overall coordination of the Policy implementation and ensure requisite resource mobilization, coordinate and involve stakeholders and coordinate monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. The ministry in charge of youth affairs shall ensure establishment of an overarching legal and institutional framework for implementation of youth programs and activities in the Country.

69 Effective coordination of the Policy is a priority not only to the National Government but also to County Governments and non-state actors who are committed to supporting the youth harness their potential while shaping their own lives and future and promoting their active economic involvement at National, county, sub-national levels including sub-counties, ward and communities.

70 The Policy implementation process shall include development of an implementation plan detailing strategy, activities, target group,

performance indicators, responsibility holders, time lines and resource requirement (both financial and non-financial). The implementation will be undertaken through a collaborative framework involving relevant government MDAs, County Governments, Non-Government Organisations or Public Benefit Organizations, private sectors, FBOs, youth organizations, community-based organizations (CBOs) and all other stakeholders involved in youth affairs (see Figure 2). The implementation plan shall be reviewed and set targets assessed on an annual basis.

Figure 2: KYDP Coordination Framework



5.3 Roles of stakeholders

71 As Figure 2 illustrates, there are many actors involved in youth activities in the country. Improved coordination requires that the responsibilities, mandate and roles of each actor and stakeholder be established and monitored by the Ministry in charge of Youth. Enhanced coordination will be made possible through a defined coordination structure. The structure will include:

- (i) National level: Youth activities will be coordinated by the Ministry in charge of youth affairs;
- (ii) Sectoral level: various ministries, departments and agencies (MDA's) will ensure the mainstreaming and coordination of youth priority areas in their respective sectors;
- (iii) County level: County Governments will mainstreaming youth priority areas in their plans and programmes; and
- (iv) Ministry in charge of youth affairs shall ensure: alignment of youth programs to national development goals including Big 4 Agenda and SDGs; Development of a National Youth Development Index; Reactivation of the Youth Empowerment Centres - which will be the platform for realising the partnerships on youth development programs; Policy Coordination, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting; Affirmative Action on Youth Employability; Implementation of the Labour Market Information (LMI) Initiative for youth; effective management of Affirmative Funds and making them Youth Friendly; and Resourcing & Facilitation of Youth Field Offices.

5.3.1 Roles of State Actors

72 The Policy gives cognisance to the constitutional roles of three arms of government, i.e. the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary; and the two levels of Government. Broadly, the three arms of government and two levels of Government will continue to play a critical role as key institutions supporting the activities of the youth across the whole country.

73 The Ministry in charge of youth affairs will ensure the full implementation of this Policy. In addition it will provide the overall national coordination of sectoral and non-state actors initiatives geared towards the implementation of activities identified in the Policy. Further, the ministry with support from stakeholders will undertake civic education on the Policy, research, monitoring, evaluation and annual reporting on Status of Youth in the Country. The Ministry in charge of youth affairs

will also ensure periodic review of this Policy to ensure its effective implementation.

74 Other state actors, including ministries/departments, state agencies, and semi-autonomous state agencies shall mainstream youth issues into their policies, strategies and activities.

5.3.2 Roles of Non-State Actors

75 Non-state actors include a wide array of entities across the formal and informal sectors and constitute an important category of employers. It shall therefore be important that they embrace the interventions that promote diversity in their workplaces. Non-state actors shall be involved in advocacy, resource mobilisation for youth activities, training, and sensitisation and monitoring. They shall also ensure equity in youth employment practices and participate in implementing the Kenya Youth Development Policy and strategies.

76 Among the non-state actors in the formal sector are the private companies, development partners, civil society and charitable foundations involved in youth activities. Civil society includes Non-Government Organisations (NGO's), faith-based organisations, Community-Based Organisations (CBO's), the print and electronic media, among others. These formal sector operators form an important channel through which interventions targeting youth shall be supported. Further, private sector investors and entrepreneurs will ensure mainstreaming of youth in their employment and investment interventions. The print and electronic media will play an important role in promoting and informing public on various interventions targeting youth by both formal and non-formal institutions.

77 The Policy provides for role of local communities in key government policies aimed at youth empowerment and development. The bottom-up approach that enables the communities to identify interventions targeting youth shall be adopted. Communities shall also ensure provision of safe spaces for youth participation; and peaceful co-existence. Important groups in youth interventions include youth groups, women groups, men groups, community opinion leaders who shall also play a critical role in instilling values among the youth. Table 3 presents a detailed account of specific roles of the various actors involved in youth issues the country.

Table 3: Roles of stakeholders in promoting national cohesion and integration

Stakeholder/Current responsibilities	Roles in Youth Interventions
State Actors	
Executive – Public Service	
At the National level , this includes the entire public sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ensure the full implementation of the Constitution (2010), with emphasis on continuing civic education for optimal people participation and mainstreaming of youth issues in development agenda; (ii) Provide visionary leadership for all development interventions, e.g. <i>Kenya Vision 2030</i> and its successive Medium Term Plans while prioritising youth issues; (iii) Ensure implementation of the Policy, starting with its entrenchment and mainstreaming into all national policies, strategies and interventions; (iv) Ensure equitable employment and deployment in public service while giving special attention to the youth, women, marginalised communities and minorities, including people with special needs; (v) Uphold the rule of law, and support effective public resource utilisation while creating conducive environment for private sector development and job creation; (vi) Develop appropriate monitoring and evaluation frameworks for the Policy possibly linked to the Planning ministry’s National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation framework; and (vii) Implement the findings of the monitoring and evaluation work through cross-sectoral and multiagency approach.
At the County level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Develop strategies and enact county assembly legislation that reflects the needs of the county and its entire population, including the youth, marginalised groups and minorities; (ii) Develop an integrated county development plan reflecting the priority needs of the

	<p>diverse categories of the youth, including the marginalised and minority groups;</p> <p>(iii) Integrate Youth initiatives in all county departments, their plans and strategies;</p> <p>(iv) Ensure that public hiring/recruitment reflects the socio-ethnic face of the County; and</p> <p>(v) Design and conduct effective civic education on issues affecting the youth.</p>
Executive – Statutory Bodies, Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs), Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices	
Statutory bodies, SAGAs, constitutional commissions, and independent offices	<p>Statutory bodies, SAGAs, constitutional commissions, and independent offices shall:</p> <p>(i) Ensure equitable employment across all diversities such as gender, age, ethnicity and persons with special needs;</p> <p>(ii) Promote mainstreaming of youth interventions in the institutional strategies; and</p> <p>(iii) Promote research in youth issues to support implementation of the Policy with evidence.</p>
Judiciary	
At the national level, the Judiciary is responsible for the dispensation of justice through the:	<p>(i) The Judiciary shall ensure respect for the rule of law across the country;</p> <p>(ii) Improving the accessibility of judicial services by the youth;</p> <p>(iii) Conducting civic education to make judicial processes more user-friendly for the youth; and</p> <p>(iv) Promoting effective and widespread frameworks for alternative dispute resolution.</p>
Legislature	
Parliament – the National Assembly and the Senate	<p>(i) Oversee the full and timely implementation of the Constitution and ultimately provisions targeting youth;</p> <p>(ii) Ensuring the Executive at National and County levels espouses equity as a basis for national development;</p> <p>(iii) Ensure the timely passage of any bills arising from the adoption of the Policy; and</p>

	(iv) Exploit any opportunities available for the effective implementation of the Policy.
County Assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Promote full implementation of the Constitution (2010) at the County level; (ii) Domesticating the Policy; (iii) Domesticating national legislation that affect the youth; (iv) Ensure the County Assembly reflects the diversity of the county and that they address youth issues; (v) Ensure that laws and other county level frameworks, including employment, promote inclusion; and (vi) Monitor and evaluate the performance of the County Executive to ensure it promotes equitable development while mainstreaming the youth issues.
Private Sector	
The formal private sector generates majority of the opportunities for youth engagement. The operations cover productive and services sectors such as manufacturing, industry and services. Through its umbrella bodies, such as the FKE, KAM and Kenya Private, KEPSA, and COTU it works closely with government in policy-development; and is a major employer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Create opportunities for youth engagement; (ii) Develop specific mechanisms for mainstreaming youth issues and for monitoring adherence to agreed goals; (iii) Espouse recruitment practices that enable the entire youth in Kenyan labour market to feel represented; and wherever feasible, target youth, women, persons with disabilities, marginalised groups and minorities; (iv) Mainstream youth issues spelt out in the Policy in the design and implementation of targeted corporate social responsibility for youth; and, (v) Offer skills and partnerships to excluded groups as a means of enabling them to enter into mainstream economic activity.
Development partners – bilateral and multi-lateral	
Development partners support public investment spending across all sectors through financing projects,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Support the country to implement the Policy; (ii) Assist in monitoring and evaluation of performance regarding policy interventions; and, (iii) Diversify focus to non-traditional areas that

and or technical assistance.	can open up hitherto marginalised parts of the country while opening opportunities for youth.
Civil Society	
General Civil society will continue to be involved in a wide range of activities targeting the youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Continue its work of mobilisation and sensitisation on the Policy; (ii) Continue to support community- and faith-based organisations working on youth issues; (iii) Continue to monitor all arms of the government on matters affecting the youth; (iv) Rationalise interventions to focus on the needy areas and special interest groups including the youth; and, (v) Establish and strengthen referral mechanisms for youth with drug and substance abuse problems.
Faith-Based Organisations	<p>Faith-based organisations shall contribute to the implementation of the Policy by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Espousing the provisions of the Constitution in their activities; (ii) Applying the religious approach to uphold morals and values among the youth; (iii) Providing youth with role models; (iv) Establish partnerships with Faith Based Organisations (FBOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) to institute programs targeting physical, mental and spiritual wellness of youth; and, (v) Championing the rights of the voiceless youth and participating in capacity building initiatives that promote youth development, empowerment and socio-economic engagement.
Community-Based Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Espouse the national values and principles of transformative leadership contained in the Constitution; (ii) Assist in mobilising citizens to support youth initiatives; and (iii) Champion a revamped system of community leaders that also promotes representation across various age groups,

	dialogue and peace building.
Print and Electronic Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Espouse the contents of the Constitution, specifically the national values and principles of governance and the Policy in their programmes; (ii) Ensure objective, balanced reporting on youth issues; (iii) Correct undesirable misconceptions and misrepresentations; (iv) Use respective platforms to educate citizens on contents of the Policy and its strategies across counties up to grassroots levels; and, (v) Assit in adentifying minorities and marginalised individuals and communities for interventions through Policy.
Individual Citizens including youth	
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Read and understand the Constitution, and the various legislation relating to youth issues; (ii) Respect the Constitution and the laws emanating from it; (iii) Participate in design, implementation and monitoring of youth initiatives; (iv) Acquire and promote national values and patriotism; (v) Espouse respect for, and positively and vocally appreciate diversity and harmony; (vi) Espouse respect for human rights and basic needs including supporting implementation of the Policy (vii) Be fully accountable for own conduct; (viii) Participate fully in the governance of their locality, such as through civic education and citizen forums targeting youth; (ix) Respect and nurture the environment; and, (x) Uphold value systems in society including trust, patriotism, hard work, among others.

78 The Policy shall be implemented by National, County Governments and non-state actors. It is expected that the Ministry which has the oversight role in the implementation, will map and collate a

database on stakeholders supporting and facilitating youth initiatives, activities and programs in the country. Further, the Ministry in conjunction with thematic working groups will institutionalize roles of each stakeholder in the country and formulate a calendar of events in every year. The Ministry will expect that all stakeholders will account for and report on their specific activities on a regular basis.

Chapter 6

6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment

79 The implementation of the Policy will be monitored regularly by ministry in charge of youth affairs and will utilize annual reporting framework to report progress. An evaluation will also be conducted every 3 to 5 years to assess impact of the Policy and benefits accruing for the youth.

80 The Policy is underpinned on the principles of integration and cooperation. Hence monitoring, evaluation and assessment shall be undertaken through strong partnership between national and county governments, private sectors, development partners, Informal Sector, NGOs, CSOs, FBOs, other stakeholders and the youth. For effective monitoring and coordination of the Policy, the Ministry in charge of youth will develop its monitoring and evaluation framework modelled around the National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES).

81 The framework will be replicated at the County Level where the ministry in charge of youth affairs will be represented by the County Director of Youth Affairs (CDYA). The government shall create an inter-agency framework at national, county and grassroots levels for implementation, coordination monitoring, evaluation and reporting on youth empowerment and development interventions (see Figure 2).

82 To facilitate the implementation, coordination and monitoring the government will develop a National Youth Development Index to track and measure impact of youth initiatives. All relevant MDAs and 47 counties will be involved in monitoring and evaluation processes.

Chapter 7

7. Resource Mobilization and Financing for Youth Policy

83 Resources and support required for implementation of this policy shall be mobilized from both public and non-state actors with twin objective of strengthening their support and commitment as identified by the Policy.

84 The interventions and initiatives identified in this Policy shall be supported through mobilization of monetary and non-monetary resources from National Government, County Governments, private sector, development partners, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Faith Based organizations (FBOs), communities and individuals, among other stakeholders. All funding sources and strategies will be required to balance between the short- and long-term goals. A sectorwide approach shall be adopted at national and county levels in planning, budgeting, programming, implementing, monitoring and evaluating youth initiatives.

85 The Policy implementation mechanism will be operationalized through annual action plans detailing: policy priorities, key actions, indicators, timelines, responsibility, and estimated budgets. The Government shall allocate adequate resources in the annual budget to youth programmes and activities as contained in the Medium-Term Plan III.

Chapter 8

8. Communication, Publicity and Information

86 The Ministry in charge of youth in National and County Governments shall develop mechanisms using formal and informal channels, print and electronic media in developing a robust and multi-faceted communication strategy for the Policy and the programme activities to all relevant stakeholders. This will also include capacity building of youth organizations on the Policy and the roles in implementation, monitoring and evaluation and impact assessment.

87 The Ministry in charge of youth shall facilitate the communication of results for youth interventions annually.

88 The Ministry in charge of youth shall develop an Annual Presidential Report on The Status of Youth in the Country.

Chapter 9

9. Policy Review

89 The Kenya Youth Development Policy and its implementation framework were developed through a consultative process while giving cognizance to the dynamic nature of issues that affect the youth. Consequently, the Policy shall be reviewed as the need arises to take into account emerging issues on youth development and empowerment, and sustainable development; and to remain relevant to the dynamics in socioeconomic environment and development priorities.

Appendix Table 1: Kenya Youth Development Policy Implementation Matrix

Policy Objective 1: Realize a healthy and productive youth population				
Outcome: A healthy and productive youth population				
Policy objective focus	Strategies	Activities	Indicators	Responsibilities
1. Investment in youth development, health and nutrition.	i) Develop and implement measures to improve nutrition, physical health and well-being of the youth starting from early age while mitigating non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	(i) Invest in programmes supporting promotive and preventive health among the youth including nutrition, recreational activities. (ii) Promote youth participation in key decision making such as in policy formulation, advocacy, budgeting, planning, implementation and monitoring for health	i) The percentage of youth involving in sporting and recreational activities. ii) Number of youth with disability supported. iii) Proportion of malnourished youth supported. iv) No. of counties with frameworks for involvement/Participation of youth in policy, advocacy, budgeting, planning, and implementation for health	National Government, County Governments, Private Sector, FBOs NYC, NCPWDs, NGOs, Development Partners, YSOs, NYS
	ii) Develop and implement measures for	(i) Strengthen education and information on sexual and reproductive health for the youth (ii) Promote and establish home and	i) Number of education, communication and training programmes	National Government, County

	<p>providing services, information and education on sexual reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and any retrogressive practices for the youth</p>	<p>community-based welfare programmes to help youth infected and or affected by HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>(iii) Establish and develop youth friendly guidance and counselling units in schools, youth centres, health facilities, non-formal education institutions, TVET institutions, universities</p> <p>(iv) Mount awareness initiatives for parents and guardians on how to take a lead role in teaching and counselling their children on responsible sexual behaviour.</p>	<p>developed and delivered to youth by County</p> <p>ii) Proportion of learning institutions by level with effective guidance and counselling programmes iii) Number of health components integrated across all youth empowerment platforms.</p>	<p>Governments, Private Sector, FBOs NYC, NCPWDs, NGOs, learning institutions, Development Partners, YSOs, NYS</p>
<p>iii) Strengthen and implement comprehensive and inclusive mental, emotional and spiritual support programmes to facilitate achievement of full youth potential</p>	<p>(i) Design and implement programmes on youth's mental, emotional and spiritual health and supporting the youth to engage in creative social and economic activities;</p> <p>(ii) Design and implement interventions for the youth to enable them to develop protective initiatives and eliminate mental health risks;</p> <p>(iii) Provision of counselling and rehabilitation services for youth at risk of mental illness; and,</p> <p>(iv) Integration of mental health component across all youth empowerment programmes</p>	<p>(i) Design and implement programmes on youth's mental, emotional and spiritual health and supporting the youth to engage in creative social and economic activities;</p> <p>(ii) Design and implement interventions for the youth to enable them to develop protective initiatives and eliminate mental health risks;</p> <p>(iii) Provision of counselling and rehabilitation services for youth at risk of mental illness; and,</p> <p>(iv) Integration of mental health component across all youth empowerment programmes</p>	<p>Number and proportion of youth's mental, emotional and spiritual health development initiatives</p>	<p>National Government, County Governments, Private Sector, FBOs NYC, NCPWDs, NGOs, Development Partners, YSOs, NYS</p>
<p>iv) Develop and implement</p>	<p>(i) Conduct campaigns to create awareness on the effects associated with drug and</p>	<p>(i) Conduct campaigns to create awareness on the effects associated with drug and</p>	<p>i) Number of youth affected by drug use</p>	<p>National Government,</p>

	measures for providing information and education on control of drug use and substance abuse among youth	substance abuse (ii) Develop and promote youth friendly rehabilitation and re-integration centres across counties; (iii) Mounting campaigns and creating awareness on effects of drug use and substance abuse including through use of ICT; and, (iv) Re-integration of rehabilitated youth back into community.	and substance abuse and integrated back to society ii) Number of drug control programmes by county.	County Governments, Private Sector, FBOs, NGOs, INGOs, NYC, YSOs, CBOs, Development Partners, NACADA
	v) Establishment of youth health friendly services at all levels of health systems.	(i) Establish affordable rehabilitation centres targeting youth (ii) Strengthening guiding and counselling units in learning institutions at all levels. (iii) Developing materials for capacity building of the youth peer educators.	Number of youth with various health issues supported	National Government, Counties Private Sector, FBOs, YSOs, NGOs, INGOs, NYC, CSOs, CBOs
Objective 2: Build qualified and competent youth workforce				
Outcome: Qualified and competent youth workforce for sustained development				
2. Develop and implement initiatives that utilize both formal and non-formal	1) Strengthening Education, skills development and competencies	(i) Supporting uptake of ongoing education and training programmes and ensure higher levels of retention and progression. (ii) Supporting youth not in education, employment, training (NEET) to enable	i) Number of youth not in academic institutions supported ii) Number of technical training institution in	National Government, County Governments, TVET Institutions, Private Sector,

<p>education: training and skills development channels and mutually reinforce and enhance youth educational progress and attainment</p>		<p>them effectively to participate in labour market.</p> <p>(iii) Strengthen TVET institutions to develop market-oriented skills</p> <p>(iv) Create networks to link employers, training institutions, youth and stakeholders to produce market-oriented labour</p> <p>(v) Revitalizing National Youth Service (NYS) to rehabilitate, train and support effective engagement of youth in society.</p>	<p>the country</p> <p>iii) Percentage of students in training institutions</p>	<p>NYS, YSOs, NGOs, Jua Kali Informal Sector, Affirmative Action Funds, FBOs</p> <p>NYC, NYS</p> <p>CBOs</p>
<p>ii) Institutionalize and strengthen apprenticeship and internship programmes</p>	<p>(i) Develop and implement industry-specific internship and apprenticeship policy guidelines and initiatives;</p> <p>(ii) Institutionalise entrepreneurship and apprenticeship initiatives; strong and effective partnerships between learners, training institutions and employers both in public and private sectors;</p> <p>(iii) Strengthen and increase access to quality Technical, Vocational Education Training (TVET); and</p> <p>(iv) Revitalize employment placement centres targeting the youth with varied competencies and skills.</p>	<p>(i) Develop and implement industry-specific internship and apprenticeship policy guidelines and initiatives;</p> <p>(ii) Institutionalise entrepreneurship and apprenticeship initiatives; strong and effective partnerships between learners, training institutions and employers both in public and private sectors;</p> <p>(iii) Strengthen and increase access to quality Technical, Vocational Education Training (TVET); and</p> <p>(iv) Revitalize employment placement centres targeting the youth with varied competencies and skills.</p>	<p>Number of youth undergone through apprenticeship training and skills development annually</p>	<p>TVET Institutions, Private Sector, NYS, YSOs, NGOs, Jua Kali Informal Sector, Affirmative Action Funds, Ministry of Education, FBOs</p> <p>NYC, NYS</p> <p>CBOs</p>
<p>iii) Enhancing early investment on</p>	<p>(i) Strengthening training, education and information, communication and technology</p>	<p>(i) Strengthening training, education and information, communication and technology</p>	<p>i) Number of technical training institutions in</p>	<p>National Government,</p>

	<p>ICT development for youth interface of youth Information Communication Technology</p>	<p>programmes across all counties</p> <p>(ii) Support public private partnerships in ICT programmes including technology incubators and research development</p> <p>(iii) Integration of ICT in training at all levels</p> <p>(iv) Investment in apprenticeship skills development, technology and innovations</p> <p>(v) Target NEET youth through ICT mechanisms across all counties,</p> <p>(vi) Enhance systems for Lifelong learning for smooth transition to the labour market.</p> <p>(vii) Expanding <i>Ajira Digital</i> empowerment programmes.</p> <p>(viii) Protecting the youth in communication and technology from online threats such as hacking, identity theft, online fraud and phishing attacks.</p>	<p>the country</p> <p>ii) Percentage of students in training institutions</p> <p>iii) Number of industry specific courses established by TVETs</p> <p>iv) Number of youth in <i>Ajira Digital</i> empowerment programme.</p>	<p>County Governments, Technical Training Institutions Private Sector, FBOs, NGOs, Health, NYS, CBOs</p> <p>ICTA, Security Agencies,</p> <p>Private Sector, TVETs, FBOs</p>
<p>iv) Enhance access to ICT infrastructure across all counties</p>	<p>(i) Enforcing open access to ICT infrastructure.</p> <p>(ii) Encourage Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to create ICT enabled systems;</p> <p>(iii) Promote Digital Literacy Programs for providing ICT equipment and services to youth;</p> <p>(iv) Establish Constituency Innovation Hubs to</p>	<p>i) Proportion of youth accessing ICT by county.</p> <p>ii) Proportion of youth utilising <i>Ajira</i> and other related digital platform</p>	<p>National Government, County Governments, ICTA, NPS, Parliament, Development Partners, Security</p>	

		promote access to ICT among the youth; and (v) Strengthen digital learning programme in schools to equip youth with digital skills	Agencies, Private Sector, FBOs, NYC, CBOs
v) Capacity to building youth into the country's Information, Communication and Technology sector	(i) Building capacity of youth in ICT through training (ii) Providing equipment and smart classrooms. (iii) Initiation of capacity building programmes through internships, mentorship and attachments.	i) Number of youth trained in ICT ii) Number of equipment and smart classrooms established. iii) Number of capacity building programmes through internships implemented.	National Government, County Governments Private Sector, ICTA, FBOs, PSC, YSOs, <i>Ajira Digital</i> , Presidential Digital Talent Programme, Digital Literacy Programme, NYC, CBOs
Objective 3: Create opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods			
Outcome: Opportunities created for youth			
3. Address youth unemployment,	1) Ensure quality job creation for the youth	(i) Accelerate and sustain inclusive macroeconomic and social policies that create decent jobs;	Proportion of youth employed, underemployment and
			National Government, County

underemployment and inactivity		<p>(ii) Expanding investment in productive sectors, key among them agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, blue economy among others for enhanced job creation;</p> <p>(iii) Strengthen public finance management systems at national and county levels to ensure public resources are prudently managed and utilised for improved service delivery; improving business environment and creation of employment opportunities;</p> <p>(iv) Support youth entry into both public and private sector employment through strengthening linkage between education and training; and labour market; and</p> <p>(v) Address challenges youth face when searching for a job through investment in jobs search infrastructure including strengthening the Kenya Labour Market Information System and enhancing employment services across all counties</p>	inactivity by county and sector	Governments Private Sector, ICTA, FBOs, PSC, YSOs, <i>Digital, Ajira</i> NYC CBOs
ii) Enhance financial services for youth programmes	<p>(i) Embrace result-based contracting in order to strengthen link between youth and employers;</p> <p>(ii) Support development of business infrastructure;</p> <p>(iii) Support business sub-contracting to youth-</p>	<p>i) Number of youth SMES linked to the market (business to business; business to market, business to finance;</p> <p>ii) Type and number of</p>	National Government, County Governments, Private Sector, FBOs NYC, NGOs,	

		<p>based enterprises;</p> <p>(iv) Develop and institutionalize financial market access systems for the youth; and</p> <p>(v) Enhance access to financial support for youth entrepreneurship ventures and enterprises</p>	<p>smart agriculture initiatives managed by the youth</p> <p>iii) Number of mechanised agriculture production system</p> <p>iv) Proportion of land leased by youth for agri-business across counties</p>	<p>INGOs, Affirmative Action Funds, Commercial Banks, Development Partners, YSOs, SACCOs, CBOs</p>
<p>iii) Position youth at the forefront of agriculture growth and transformation</p>	<p>(i) Increase access to appropriate agricultural education and training.</p> <p>(ii) Increase investment in rural farm and non-farm activities</p> <p>(iii) Promote access to domestic and global market linkages, mechanization, financial inclusion</p> <p>(iv) Support youth's access and ownership of land for agri-business</p> <p>(v) Promote innovation and incubation of agricultural technologies</p> <p>(vi) Provide youth with extension services</p>	<p>i) Number of successful youth role models in agribusiness who can mentor others.</p> <p>ii) Number of youth who are practicing agriculture as a viable career opportunity.</p> <p>iii) Proportion of youth who are investing in blue economy</p>	<p>National Government, County Governments, Private Sector, FBOs</p> <p>NYC, NGOs, INGOS, Affirmative Action Funds, Commercial Banks, Development Partners, YSOs, SACCOs, CBOs, KIPPRA</p>	

<p>iv) Identify and address the fragility and increasing vulnerabilities for youth in agriculture and enterprise</p>	<p>(i) Rebranding agriculture as the new unexplored frontier for growth in business opportunities (ii) Invest in value addition through processing, branding, quality, individual improvements (iii) Digitize agricultural production and marketing information into web-based resources (iv) Invest in emerging livestock and agricultural technologies (v) Review land tenure and use systems to provide adequate security and access to land to encourage youth to invest in land improvements, development and productivity</p>	<p>i) Proportion and profile of not in education, employment and training (NEET) ii) Number of youth with special needs in entrepreneurship and employment activities.</p>	<p>National Government, County Governments Private Sector, ICTA, FBOs, PSC, YSOs, <i>Ajira Digital</i>, NYC CBOs</p>
<p>v) Strengthen frameworks for labour export, foreign employment management and diaspora engagement</p>	<p>(i) Encourage and support the youth to seek employment in other countries; participate in diaspora activities (ii) Encourage and support the youth working in the diaspora to participate in national, political, cultural, social and development programmes in the country (iii) Enforce guidelines on employment of Kenyans in foreign countries and accreditation of private employment agencies (iv) Set up a portal for youth to easily access</p>	<p>Number of youth employed abroad.</p>	<p>National Government, County Governments Private Sector; Kenya Embassies</p>

		labour opportunities locally and internationally	Proportion of businesses managed by the youth	National Government, County Governments Private Sector, ICTA, KIPPRA, FBOs, PSC, YSOs, Ajira Digital, NYC CBOs
vi) Promote a culture of entrepreneurship among the youth through training mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubation and partnerships	(i) Promote education and training, entrepreneurship and apprentice training programmes that are relevant to industry; (ii) Enhance entrepreneurship capacity building programs through supporting or expanding internships, mentorships, attachments and business incubation; (iii) Review of regulatory framework on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to make it friendly to youth; and (iv) Ensure access to AGPO at both National and County levels of government. (v) Training and Business Development Services			
vii) Strengthen labour management information systems among the youth	(i) Establish a one-stop information centre on employment opportunities across counties (ii) Institutionalize tracer studies of graduates to gauge the relevance of learning programmes to the labour market (iii) Operationalize national employment placement centres (iv) Promote and implement		Proportion of youth accessing opportunities through the labour management system by County	National Government, County Governments Private Sector, ICTA, FBOs, PSC, YSOs, Ajira Digital, NYC CBOs

Objective 4: Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation				
Outcome: Youth talent, creativity and innovation identified and developed				
4. Strengthen creativity, talent identification, and intellectual property rights for youth innovators	i) Develop, promote and implement strategies for incubation of new innovations produced by the youth	(i) Develop and implement youth talent identification and nurturing policy; (ii) Strengthen, support the reward system for participation in sports at national and international levels and implement the National Sports Policy; (iii) Encourage private sector participation in the promotion of arts and sports sectors for youth; (iv) Identify and promote local and regional recreational opportunities such as outdoor activities, sports and opportunities for enhancing creativity; (v) Strengthen and promote co-curricular activities in educational institutions; (vi) Set up a structure to register all the innovations made by the youth and assist the youth with space and facilities to develop innovations; and (vii) Encourage youth to be innovators through provision of incentives.	i) Number of talented youth identified in all counties who are in the data base. ii) Number of national youth talent centres iii) Number of youth in sport. iv) Number of innovations developed by the youth v) Number of copyrights/ patents arising from youth innovations	National and County governments; sports academies; sports organisations, youth groups; Education institutions, KIPi, Private sector, development partners, Kenya Films Associations, Youth
	ii) Identify nurture and develop	(i) Establish youth talent academies across the country and re-engineer the existing ones;	i) Number of integrated youth recreational	National and County

				<p>programs.</p> <p>ii) Types of co-curricular activities in educational institutions.</p> <p>iii) Number of regional and local recreational opportunities to enhance sports and creativity.</p>	<p>governments; sports academies; sports organisations, youth groups; Education institutions, KIPi, Private sector, development partners, Kenya Films Associations, Youth</p>
talents among the youth	<p>(ii) Create a database on talented youth and the industry players to facilitate networking and referral;</p> <p>(iii) Support the establishment of innovation hubs at the national and county levels to facilitate identification, incubation and acceleration of youth innovations;</p> <p>(iv) Encourage and support volunteerism in sports and co-curricular activities across all counties;</p> <p>(v) Establish and rehabilitate creative talent hubs and Youth Empowerment Centres countrywide;</p> <p>(vi) Sensitize youth on the value of talents, talent development and commercialisation;</p> <p>(vii) Establish a comprehensive talent scouting system including through talent shows in all counties for continuous identification of talent identification and development;</p> <p>(viii) Enhance the capacity of teachers at school and post-school levels of education and training</p>				
iii) Enhance the commercialization of talent	<p>(i) Strengthen the capacity of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPi) to register and protect innovations developed</p>			<p>i) Number of patents issued for the youth</p> <p>ii) Proportion of youth</p>	<p>National and County governments;</p>

	<p>patenting and intellectual property rights</p>	<p>by the youth;</p> <p>(ii) Enhance the implementation of the Copyright Act, No. 18 of 2014 to create awareness on copyrights and enhance the capacity of the youth to value intellectual property rights;</p> <p>(iii) Developing mechanism for copyrights and patenting for youth innovations and talents; and</p> <p>(iv) Encourage and facilitate access to entrepreneurial activities through Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) by young innovators.</p>	<p>accessing opportunities</p> <p>AGPO</p>	<p>sports academies; sports organisations, youth groups; Education institutions, KIPi, Private sector, development partners, Kenya Films Associations, Youth</p>
<p>iv) Enhancing the capacity of information, communication and technology in the development of innovations by the youth</p>	<p>(i) Expand the <i>Ajira Digital</i> programme to cover the entire country so as to reach as many talented and innovative youth as possible;</p> <p>(ii) Incorporate the internet hubs component into the Youth Empowerment Centres countrywide;</p> <p>(iii) Enhance the internet connectivity to the various regions in the country;</p> <p>(iv) Facilitate the lowering of connectivity charges to enable as many as possible youth to access internet;</p> <p>(v) Encourage other players to complement the</p>	<p>Proportion of youth utilising the ICT opportunities</p>	<p>National and County governments; sports academies; sports organisations, youth groups; Education institutions, KIPi, Private sector, development partners, Kenya Films</p>	

		<p>Ajira Digital and set up iHubs to provide youth with adequate space and facilities to express their talents and inventions; and</p> <p>(vi) Provide policy and legal support to this sector.</p>		<p>Associations, Youth</p>
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Objective 5: Nurture value driven, morally upright, ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership				
Outcome: Value-based, moral, ethical generation of patriotic youth				
5. Strengthening family unit for effective socialisation and values transfer	<p>i) Strengthen the family unit as the basic unit of socialization and values transfer</p>	<p>(i) Strengthening moral delivery and values in the learning activities</p> <p>(ii) Mainstreaming morals among the youth from childhood</p> <p>(iii) Instilling morals among the youth</p>	<p>i) Number of institutions providing guidance and counselling services.</p> <p>ii) Number of programmes run to instil morals</p> <p>iii) Increased number of youth engaged by FBOs</p> <p>iv) Number of guiding and counselling programmes designed and delivered to the youth.</p>	<p>National Government County Governments</p> <p>Private Sector, FBOs, YSOs, CSOs,</p> <p>NYC, NYS,</p> <p>Pre-school, School Tertiary Institutions and Universities.</p>
	<p>ii) Deepen inter-generational and intra-generational dialogues, mentorship</p>	<p>(i) Participation of the youth in governance roles</p> <p>(ii) Holding exchange programmes among the youth</p>	<p>Proportion of youth in governance and management levels</p>	<p>National Government County Governments,</p> <p>Private sectors, FBOs</p> <p>NYC, YSOs,</p> <p>CBOs, NGOs, INGOs, CSOs</p>
	<p>iii) Utilisation of</p>	<p>(i) Develop ICT application promoting values</p>	<p>i) Number of</p>	<p>ICT</p> <p>National</p>

	ICT and social media space to further entrench values and morals among the youth	among the youth	application promoting values among the youth ii) Number of youth centres with internet connectivity	Government County Governments, Private sectors, FBOs NYC, YSOs, CBOs, NGOs, INGOs, CSOs, Ministry in charge of ICT
iv) Strengthening participation of the youth in governance and leadership roles	(i) Promote youth exchange programmes and mentorship programmes at intra-county, county, regional, national and global levels (ii) Developing training programme for student leaders and councils in middle level colleges and universities		i) Number of exchange programmes ii) Number of student leaders training iii) Number of training materials developed	Middle level colleges and universities
v) Awareness raising, listening and supporting the voice of the youth	(i) Hold annual cultural dialogue youth at community ward, county, sub-county, national level to address youth issues; and (ii) Increase political awareness among youth and their constitutional rights		Number of awareness initiatives held by level	Community, ward, county, sub-county, national levels
Objective 6: Effective civic participation and representation among the youth				

Outcome: Effective civic participation and representation among the youth			
6. Transformation of leadership, mentorship, effective participation and representation among youth	i) Creation of mechanisms that promote effective participation, leadership and inclusive engagement of the youth	<p>(i) Develop and implement the National Youth Development Act.</p> <p>(ii) Review of National Youth Council Act to include and represent the youth.</p> <p>(iii) Develop and implement a reporting framework by the national and county governments for the affirmative action for the youth.</p> <p>(iv) Designing a national framework and program for capacity building of young leaders.</p> <p>(v) Promoting effective engagement of the youth at all levels of government.</p>	<p>i) Number of youth who are leaders in both public and private sectors</p> <p>ii) Number of developed Quarterly, Annual, bi-annual, quarterly, reports</p>
	ii) Entrenching values, patriotism and volunteerism	<p>(i) Mainstreaming National Youth Volunteerism Framework in all sectors of government at National and County Levels.</p> <p>(ii) Outreaching and capacity of the National Youth Volunteer Service</p> <p>(iii) Encourage youth to volunteer as a way to give back to the society</p>	<p>i) Proportion of youth involved in volunteering work</p> <p>ii) Number of sectors where youth volunteer</p> <p>iii) Number of community youth voluntary undertaken per year</p>
			<p>National Government, County Governments, Private Sector FBOs, NYS, NYC, YSOs, CBOs, Pre-school, School Tertiary Institutions and Universities.</p> <p>National Government, County Governments, YSOs, Private Sector, FBOs, NYC, NYS, NGOs, INGOs, CBOs, Development Partners</p>

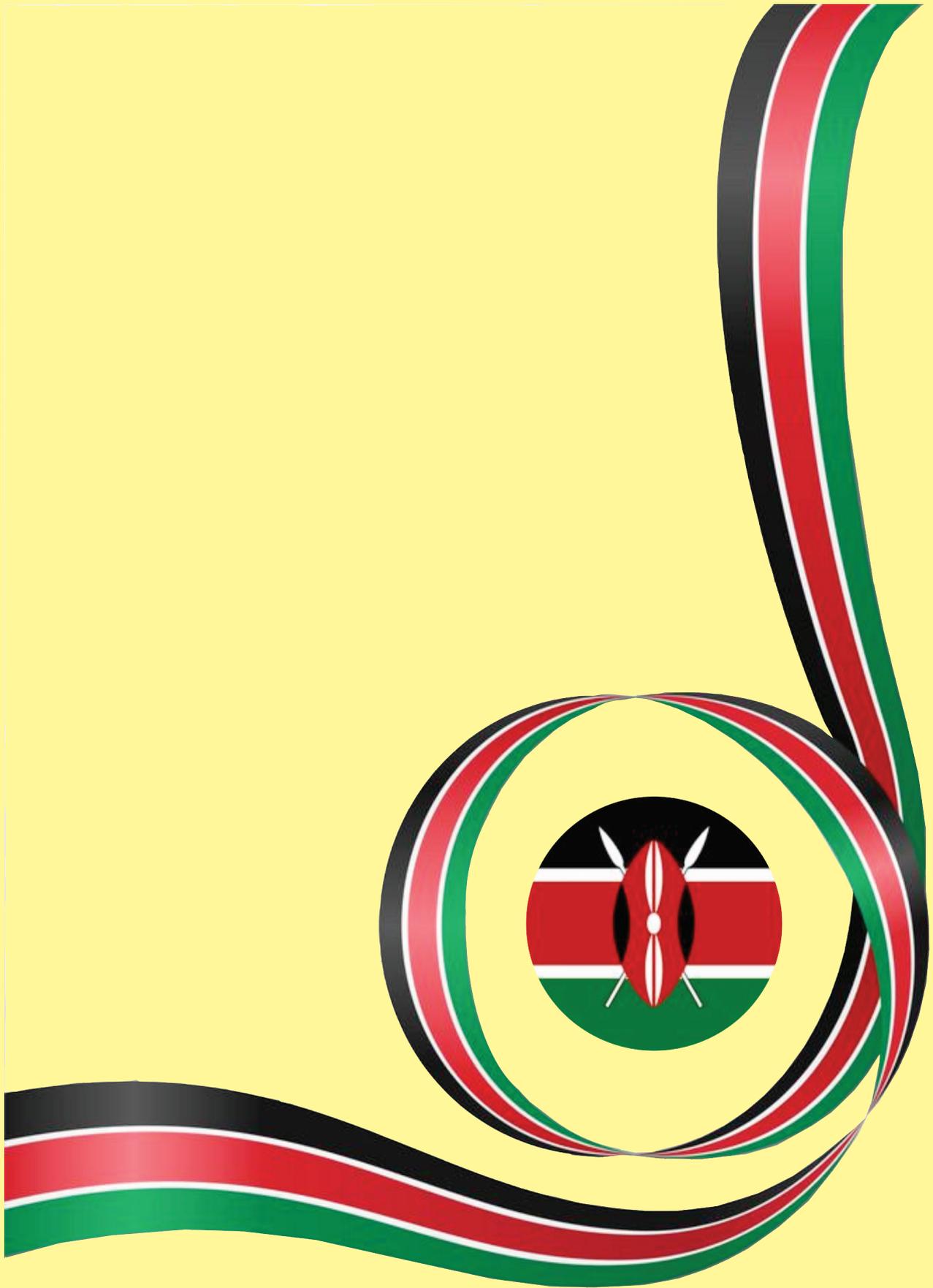
	<p>iii) Support voluntary participation in community activities</p>	<p>(i) Encouraging Youth projects, activities and events in community. (ii) Creating equal opportunity for the youth in education, training and labour market. (iii) Promoting active citizenship social inclusion and solidarity among youth.</p>	<p>i) Number of youth in community projects ii) Number of projects requiring youth' involvement implements iii) Impact of youth voluntary work</p>	<p>National Government, County Governments, NYS, Private sector FBOs NYC, NGOs, Development Partners, YSOs, CBOs</p>
<p>iv) Youth mainstreaming and inclusion in policy, planning and budgeting processes</p>	<p>(i) Sensitize and build capacity of the private sector and civil societies. (ii) Conducting youth audit on budget. (iii) Integrating public sector performance framework. (iv) Increasing political awareness among youth on their constitution rights. (v) Holding youth annual dialogue at all levels. (vi) Supporting street youth to acquire the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes for their self-advancement (vii) Mainstreaming programmes for</p>	<p>i) Number of youth in decision making levels at both public and private sectors. ii) Number of public and private sector organisations with youth at critical decision-making levels iii) Number of youth and youth serving organisations supporting the voice of the youth.</p>	<p>National Government County Governments, YSOs, NGOs, CSOs, INGOs, Development Partners, Private Sector FBOs, NYC CBOs</p>	

		disadvantaged male and female youth (viii) Inclusion of youth in humanitarian settings into targeted programs.		
Objective 7: Promote a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind				
Outcome: A crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya				
7. Tackling and supporting security and peace building	i) Working with multi agency, families, communities, FBOs and learning institutions to promote peace and secure crime free neighbourhood ii) Mobilize resources for awareness creation and outreach programmes for the youth.	(i) Including the youth as critical stakeholders in security and peace building activities. (ii) Enhancing effective participation and involvement of youth in community driven security and peace building initiatives.	i) Number of youth in marginalized groups engaged in security and peace building activities at community level. ii) Number and type of activities promoting peace and culture at community level.	National government County governments Private sector FBOs NYC CBOs
Involving the youth is	i) Increasing opportunities	(i) Rehabilitating radicalised youth	i) Number of youth sensitised on need to	National Government,

<p>security and peace building initiatives</p>	<p>for education, employment and political participation for the youth.</p> <p>ii) Sensitising youth on need to curb radicalisation and violent extremism.</p> <p>iii) developing of programmes to curb radicalisation and violent extremism</p>	<p>(ii) Vocational training and youth employment</p> <p>(iii) Preventing and disrupting transnational criminal networks such as perpetrators of violent extremism</p> <p>(iv) Employment of counter narrative to radicalisation and violent extremism</p>	<p>curb radicalisation and violent extremism</p> <p>ii) Number of institutions dealing with de-radicalisation of youth and curbing violent extremism</p> <p>iii) Number of programmes to curb radicalisation and violent extremism</p>	<p>County Governments, Development Partners, NGOs, Private Sector FBOs, NGAO, Security Agencies, Parliament, NYC, NCTC, CBOs</p>
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Objective 8: Support youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development			
Outcome: Youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development			
8. Support youth engagement in environmental management	<p>i) Capacity building for youth on environmental conservation and protection of the environment</p> <p>ii) Building capacity of youth in green processes and technology, waste management and</p> <p>iii) protection, conservation of the natural resources and environment while engaging in entrepreneurship and green jobs</p>	<p>(i) Participation of the youth in management and conservation of the environment.</p> <p>(ii) Capacity building on environmental management.</p> <p>(iii) Proportion of youth engaged in green jobs</p>	<p>i) Number of youth and youth groups that participate in environmental management.</p> <p>ii) Number of youth and youth groups that are ambassadors in environmental management across the country.</p> <p>iii) Number of youth owned income generating activities related to environmental management</p> <p>iv) Number of trees planted</p> <p>v) Number of reports on the impact of youth activities on environmental management</p>
			<p>National Government, County Governments, Private Sector FBOs, NYC, Development Partners, INGOs, CBOs, YSOs, Parliament</p>

	iv) Mainstreaming and relaunching and implementing annual tree planting programme in context of “ <i>planting our future</i> ”			
Objective 9: Strong Coordination and monitoring of the KYDP				
Outcome: Coordinated implementation of the KYDP programmes and activities				
9. Monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment	i) Designing KYDP programmes on annual basis ii) Coordinated, mainstreamed and effective monitoring framework for KYDP	(i) Annual programmes (ii) Quarterly and annual reporting (iii) Implement Youth Development Index	i) Proportion of national budget allocated to the youth (Target 2.5%) ii) Quarterly, annual monitoring reports. iii) Youth Development Index Report	Ministry in charge of Youth MDAs County Government



Ministry of ICT Innovation and Youth Affairs