** **

 **MANDERA COUNTY YOUTH DRAFT POLICY 2022**

**THEME**

**“Mandera Youth and Meaning Participation”**

 **NOVEMBER 2022**

Contents

[FOREWORD 4](#_Toc121235500)

[PREFACE 5](#_Toc121235501)

[ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 6](#_Toc121235502)

[LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS 7](#_Toc121235503)

[DEFINITIONS OF TERMS 9](#_Toc121235504)

[EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 11](#_Toc121235505)

[CHAPTER 1.INTRODUCTION 12](#_Toc121235506)

[1.1 Background 12](#_Toc121235507)

[1.2    Rationale 13](#_Toc121235508)

[1.3 Guiding Principles and Values of the Policy 14](#_Toc121235509)

[1.4 Rights, Responsibilities and obligations of youths 15](#_Toc121235510)

[1.5 Scope of the Policy. 16](#_Toc121235511)

[1.6. Alignment of the Policy 16](#_Toc121235512)

[CHAPTER TWO: SITUATION ANALYSIS 19](#_Toc121235513)

[2.1 Introduction 19](#_Toc121235514)

[2.2 County situation of the youth 20](#_Toc121235515)

[2.3 Youth Categories in Mandera County. 20](#_Toc121235516)

[2.4: Challenges facing the Youths in MANDERA County 23](#_Toc121235517)

[2.5 Youth County Interventions and Achievements 26](#_Toc121235518)

[2.6   Strengths, Weakness Opportunities And Threat [Swot] Analysis 27](#_Toc121235519)

[CHAPTER 3: YOUTH POLICY FRAMEWORK 30](#_Toc121235520)

[3.1 Introduction 30](#_Toc121235521)

[3.2 Vision, Mission, Rallying call and Values 30](#_Toc121235522)

[3.3 Youth Policy Objectives, Priority areas, Measures/Strategies and Interventions 30](#_Toc121235523)

[CHAPTER: 4 YOUTH POLICY COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK 34](#_Toc121235524)

[4.1 Introduction 34](#_Toc121235525)

[4.2 Implementation and Coordination mechanisms 34](#_Toc121235526)

[4.3 Enablers (ICT, transport, skills and development, making markets work etc) 34](#_Toc121235527)

[4.4 Flagships (Asks for County Government, National Government, private sector, non-state actors) 36](#_Toc121235528)

[4.5 Resource Mobilization and Financing of the Policy 37](#_Toc121235529)

[4.6 Implementation matrix 37](#_Toc121235530)

[4.7 Roles of stakeholders 41](#_Toc121235531)

[CHAPTER 5: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING 43](#_Toc121235532)

[5.1: Introduction 43](#_Toc121235533)

[5.2: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning 43](#_Toc121235534)

[CHAPTER 6: COMMUNICATION, PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION 44](#_Toc121235535)

[6.1: Introduction 44](#_Toc121235536)

[6.2: Communication, Publicity and Information 45](#_Toc121235537)

[6.3: Publicity and Policy information sharing 45](#_Toc121235538)

[6.4 Policy Review 46](#_Toc121235539)

[CONCLUSION 46](#_Toc121235540)

[Annex 1: Implementation matrix 47](#_Toc121235541)

## ****FOREWORD****

A focused and integrated approach to; youth resilience, empowerment and the participatory approach involving all stakeholders, will no doubt result in the emergence of a generation of well educated, healthy, positive and focused young population, who are not only economically productive, but are also socially responsible citizens contributing to the task of nation-building. We have an immense potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power and energy toward good ends and champion it towards a prosperous future.

The MANDERA County Youth Policy is a comprehensive document that lays out the vision of the County Government of MANDERA for the Youth of MANDERA. It also lays out concrete implementation plans on how the County Government of MANDERA will realize this vision.

The youth of MANDERA, like other youths across the world, are growing up in a digital era characterized by economic uncertainty, and major technological change, impacting immensely their personal and socio-economic development. It is imperative on governments to secure their future. In the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt, “We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.” Indeed, the vision of the MANDERA County Youth Service Policy, 2018 is to empower the youth with the necessary tools to cope with the ever uncertain and dynamic nature of the future. The Policy seeks to ensure that all young women and men are given meaningful opportunities to reach their full potential, both as individuals and as active participants in the society that we hold dear.

**H.E. MOHAMED ADAN KHALIF**

**Governor, MANDERA County**

## ****PREFACE****

The county Youth Policy comes in the face of a myriad of challenges facing the youth in county. Although the number of organizations dealing with young people has increased over the years, the lack of a comprehensive policy makes it difficult for these groups to effectively address these challenges.

The county Youth Policy is aimed at ensuring the youth play their role, alongside adults, in the development of the county. The policy's goal is to promote youth participation in community and civic affairs and to ensure that youth programmes are youth centered. The policy proposes guidelines and strategies that can be used to facilitate participation of the youth in county development.

The policy also spells out the strategic areas that must be addressed in order for Mandera’s young people to effectively play their role in county building. These are: Employment creation, health, education and training, sports and recreation, the environment, art and culture, the media and participation and empowerment.

## ****ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS****

The Department of Youth and Sport would like to acknowledge the outstanding effort that has been put in the development and publication of this policy. The Department is particularly grateful to the National Youth Council for the commitment, drive, time and effort they put in the development of the survey instruments, the stakeholder engagement processes and the final drafting of this policy. Our sincere gratitude goes to United Nations Development programme (UNDP) who facilitated the various aspects of this work and all the necessary support that made the exercise possible.

The Department appreciated for their immense contribution to the entire exercise particularly for leading and coordinating the compilation of the entire document. The Department wishes to thank the County Assembly Sectoral committee on Education for their invaluable support provided, without which this work would not have been successful.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AMREF – African Medical and Research Foundation

AIDS – Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

 HIV – Human Immuno-deficiency Virus

AGPO- Access to Government Procurement Opportunity

AYC- African Youth Charter C.O- Chief Officer

CBO - Community Based Organizations

HELB – Higher Education Loans Board

CDF- Constituency Development Fund.

 CECM- County Executive Committee member

CIDP- County Integrated Development Plan

CWLCC- County Workplace Learning Coordination Committee

FGM- Female Genital Mutilation

ICT - Information Communication Technologies

 ILO - International Labour Organization

KEPSA- Kenya Private Sector Alliance

KNBS - Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

ME- Monitoring and Evaluation

MC-YP - MANDERA County Youth Policy

MY-CSP - MANDERA Youth Community Service NGO’s - Non-Governmental Organization

MoE- Ministry of Education

NGAAF- National Government Affirmative Action Fun

NWLCC- National Workplace Learning Coordination Committee

NYP - National Youth Policy

NYS- National Youth Service

S.D.G- Sustainable Development Goals.

SACCO- Savings and Credit co-operative

 SME- Small Micro Enterprise

STI- Sexually Transmitted Infection

TVET- Technical Vocational and

VTC- Vocational Training Centre

WPAY- World Programme of Action for Youth

Y-ACT – Youth in Action

## DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

**County Executive Committee Member** means the County Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs in the County;

**Disadvantaged youth** includes youths who are economically disadvantaged and one or more of the following;

1. Who are out-of-school youth including those that are unemployed,
2. Who are orphans,
3. who are unlikely to proceed to institutions of higher learning,
4. who are former juvenile offenders or at risk of delinquency,
5. who are persons living with disability,
6. who have completed college and are yet to get meaningful employment,
7. Who are persons living with HIV/AIDS.

**Engaged/Enlisted youth** means a youth that meets the criteria established and was successful in his or her application

**Formal education:** is a structured educational system, from general education including higher education, which may also include special vocational training programs.

**Workplace Learning Beneficiary** means a youth that meets the criteria established and was successful in his or her application

**Informal education:** is a lifelong ongoing educational process, whereby person without special efforts, by environmental influence and on a daily experience unintentionally gains attitudes, values, skills and knowledge.

**Non-formal education** is any scheduled, voluntary program of individual and social education, which is not part of the formal educational programs and is designed to develop competencies (knowledge, skills and attitudes).

**Out – of - School Youth** means an individual who has not completed college or the equivalent thereof and is not enrolled in secondary school or any institution of higher learning

**Youth**: means the collectivity of all individuals in the County who have attained the age of Eighteen years; but have not attained the age of Thirty- five years; and

**Youth Services** includes an engagement of a successful youth applicant by the county departments in county infrastructural development, agricultural projects, disaster response, peace ambassadors, social work and community service

## ****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****

The MANDERA County Youth Service Policy is intended to provide an enabling framework for the development and empowerment of youth in a comprehensive, coordinated and multi-stakeholder manner.

National investment in youth development since independence has contributed significantly to economic growth helping lift thousands of people out of abject poverty. Despite these milestones, there are still large pockets of neglect, underperformance and underinvestment in this sector especially at the County level.

Stronger; global, Regional, National and County level action is needed to reinforce weak youth oriented engagements, enhance robust policy practices to open opportunities to new players, to develop a “job-ready” talent pool amid persisting inequality and marginalization, to nurture global citizens and support wider economic progress for the entire youth sector.

This policy is consistent with the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and is aligned with major regional and international conventions and agreements that the Government of Kenya is party to. It is based on a set of six guiding principles and values that have influenced its design and direction. These principles and values lay the foundation on which the goals, objectives, main policy pillars and strategies of the policy have been formulated.

The MANDERA County Youth Policy goal seeks to Collate, synergize and centralize efforts and interventions in empowering youths in MANDERA County

Several strategies are outlined in compliance with the multi-sectorial nature of the Youth Policy. The policy pillars outlined in the implementation matrix relate to a range of activities that should be implemented by various stakeholders in the state and non-state sectors in order to achieve the policy goals and objectives.

## ****CHAPTER 1.INTRODUCTION****

### **1.1 Background**

The Constitution of Kenya 2010, under Article 55, provides that the state shall take measures including affirmative action to ensure that the youth access relevant education and training, have access to employment opportunity, are involved in the social and economic life of the Country and are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation.

The Global Youth Development Index ranks Kenya 31 amongst the 49 commonwealth countries on youth development index. This ranking reflects on the status of youth development in the country, when this index is cascaded down to the county level the true status of youths is revealed. According to the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey 2015 – 2016 (KNBS), the net enrolment ration in Primary Schools is high at 82.4% and this drops down to 37.5% in Secondary Schools. The transition from Secondary School to higher learning institutions is even poorer. This shows that there are a lot of school dropouts and the MANDERA County Government must urgently intervene to curb the level of youth unemployment in MANDERA.

The devolved system of governance exposed the immense skill gap in MANDERA County. There are certain areas of expertise, which are greatly lacking in the county for example Specialized Doctors, Electricians, Lawyers and Engineers amongst others.

The International Labour Organization estimates youth unemployment in Kenya at 22.1% in 2017. It is however important to note that the United Nations definition of the youth is those who are between 18-24 years and the Kenyan definition of the youth is as encapsulated under the Constitution of Kenya 2010 which defines the Youth as those who are below the age of 35 years. The percentage of the youth who are unemployed is therefore more than 22%. These high statistics aren’t the only challenge facing the youth in most Kenyan counties. In the peripheral counties of Northern Kenya, the high unemployment rate is further compounded by the high poverty rates. MANDERA County is ranked as the second poorest county in Kenya. These region’s problems are further aggravated by the erstwhile unstable and warring border areas.

This has led to an inherited generational burden in MANDERA County which has further pushed the youth into despair and obscurity. The youth in MANDERA have further been pushed back from effective participation by the traditional decision-making systems like the council of elders. This has discouraged the meaningful participation of youths in critical processes thereby denying them a sense of responsibility and ownership of the governance and development systems. This has diminished their role in their respective communities.

 Due to past marginalization of the region – there has been little avenues of escape from this vicious cycle – with education being accessible only to those with the financial means; coupled with a new sedentary often described as a new meaningless and purposeless urban lifestyle, for most nomadic youths in MANDERA, the 21st century is a disillusioned time. Those with some level of literacy on the one hand can no longer fit back into the traditional system of herding and other agro-pastoral economic ventures- the region’s main economic activity. This youth demographic, on the other hand do not qualify for white collar jobs since most do not have the requisite academic qualifications.

The high youth unemployment rate has resulted in youth delinquency being at an all-time high. Crimes and drug abuse have become rampant. On the other hand, a rapidly changing family mores and retrogressive traditional social structures in the urban and rural areas has further compounded the youth problems.

This Policy seeks to ensure that MANDERA County invests in the youth and approach the challenges faced by the youth from a holistic and practical perspective.

### **1.2**    **Rationale**

Interventions of improving the state of the youth has been fragmented with many different stakeholders undertaking these interventions in isolation and

with little centralized or coordinated modalities. The 2019 Kenya National Youth Policy draft recognizes that the aspirations and hopes of youths cannot be left in the hands of a single stakeholder. There is a need for all stakeholders to play a collaborative role**.**

The policy draws its aspirations from existing local, national and international level strategies and frameworks including; the Sustainable Development Goals which offer a great opportunity to the articulation of youth empowerment initiatives through both explicit and implicit references to youth throughout its 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

### **1.3 Guiding Principles and Values of the Policy**

The following principles shall guide the County Government in implementing and managing this policy;

#### **1.3.1 Equal Opportunity and fairness**

Affording equal opportunities to Youths through equity and fairness in the selection, recruitment and retention process irrespective of their diverse backgrounds. This policy and any institution that will be established as a result of its implementation shall not discriminate against any beneficiary based on gender, race, religion, ethnicity, political inclination or any other grounds that may give rise to any form of alienation. Fair competition and merit shall be the basis of selection and recruitment of beneficiaries.

#### **1.3.2 Professionalism**

Professionalism in ensuring that the youths engaged are provided with and acquire the practical tools and necessary support to change the state of the youth.

#### **1.3.3 Transparency and accountabilit**

Transparency and accountability shall be upheld in the implementation of the policy objectives.

#### **1.3.4 Relevance and quality supervision**

Relevance and quality supervision through ensuring provision of appropriate and relevant solutions that are commensurate with the beneficiary’s needs and qualifications.

#### **1.3.5** **Adherence to National Values and Principles of Public Service**

Adherence to national values and principles of the Public Service as enshrined in Articles 10 and 232 of the Constitution respectively and County Government programs and activities.

### **1.4** **Rights, Responsibilities and obligations of youths**

The policy seeks not only to safeguard the right of the youths, But also to help them to understand and fulfill their responsibilities and obligations of the youth have been identified as follows.

#### **1.4.1 Rights of youths**

The policy recognizes the importance of the youths to  enjoy their youthfulness irrespective of social status , ethnic ,origin and sex the youth have a right to life. These rights are further stipulated in chapter 4 of the constitution of Kenya (2010) are

* Right to life
* Quality Education
* Good health
* Protection from abuse, sexual exploitation and trafficking
* Marriage at the legal age of consent
* Freedom of speech, expression and association
* Ownership, secure tenure and protection and exploitation
* Protection from harmful cultural practices and exploitation
* Seek decent and fulfilling employment
* Participate from social, economic and political manipulations

#### **1.4.2 Responsibilities and obligations of youths**

The policy seeks not only to safeguard the right of the youths, But also to help them to understand and fulfill their responsibilities and obligations of the youths have been identified as follows.

1. As a youth one should be patriotic to social economic development at all level , including through volunteerism
2. Those who are capable should protect and support those who are disadvantaged and vulnerable
3. A youth should promote democracy and the rule of law.
4. A youth should not always keep on depending on government employment but ruther create gainful employment
5. Take advantage of available Education and training opportunities
6. Develop a positive attitude towards work and entrepreneurship
7. Avoid indulging in careless and irresponsible sex and risky sexual behavior
8. Lead healthy lifestyles and shun harmful/negative habit like gambling and misuse of social media

### **1.5 Scope of the Policy.**

The Mandera County Youth Policy applies to the Mandera County government, the private sector, development partners, youth organizations, youth groups and individual Youth in Mandera County

#### **1.5.1: Policy Goal**

Promote the holistic development and participation of the youth in socio-economic and political wellbeing for themselves, their communities, county and their future

### **1.6. Alignment of the Policy**

The Mandera County Youth Policy aligns itself to several policies and acts of law that exist in the country. They include:

#### **1.6.1 The Constitution of Kenya**

The Kenyan Constitution under Article 55 recommends that the state takes 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;
* Access employment, are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation;
* Develop their cultural values, language and practices;
* Have reasonable access to water, health services and infrastructure.

Through this policy, the Department also draws some of its core mandate from the devolved system since Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) and vocational training centers, two crucial components in the process of youth empowerment, are devolved functions. Thus, the Constitution obligates the County Governments to take measures to ensure that the youth are supported in all spheres of life.

#### **1.6.2 Vision 2030**

Vision 2030 provides a solid bedrock from which most policies and programmes targeting the youth in Kenya are drawn from. Vision 2030 has identified clear visions including the provision of adequate and appropriate technical, vocational, entrepreneurial and life skills training to the youth, secondly, V2030 seeks to develop capacity in sports management and training in the country for an effective sporting environment as a means of meaningful youth engagement. These visions offer both credence and opportunity for this policy and for MANDERA County’s youths

#### **1.6.3 Kenya National Youth Policy**

The  Kenya  National  Youth  Policy  is  cognizant  of  the  fact  that  youth empowerment needs a special attention and affirmative action. It also recognizes that this affirmative action can best be implemented through proper contextual awareness hence the need for such policy at the county level to address the myriad of challenges peculiar to the region.

#### **1.6.4 Mandera County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022**

The Mandera County Second Generation Integrated Development Plan CIDP 2018-2022 through the Department of Education, Skills Development, Youth and Sports outlines the aspirations of the MANDERA youth and has given prominence to all efforts geared towards empowering youths in MANDERA County.

## ****CHAPTER TWO: SITUATION ANALYSIS****

### **2.1 Introduction**

The Global Youth Development Index ranks Kenya 31 amongst the 49 commonwealth countries on youth development index. This ranking reflects on the status of youth development in the country, when this index is cascaded down to the county level the true status of youths is revealed. According to the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey 2015 – 2016 (KNBS), the net enrolment ration in Primary Schools is high at 82.4% and this drops down to 37.5% in Secondary Schools. The transition from Secondary School to higher learning institutions is even poorer. This shows that there are a lot of school dropouts and the MANDERA County Government must urgently intervene to curb the level of youth unemployment in MANDERA.

The devolved system of governance exposed the immense skill gap in MANDERA County. There are certain areas of expertise, which are greatly lacking in the county for example Specialized Doctors, Electricians, Lawyers and Engineers amongst others.

The International Labour Organization estimates youth unemployment in Kenya at 22.1% in 2017. It is however important to note that the United Nations definition of the youth is those who are between 18-24 years and the Kenyan definition of the youth is as encapsulated under the Constitution of Kenya 2010 which defines the Youth as those who are below the age of 35 years. The percentage of the youth who are unemployed is therefore more than 22%. These high statistics aren’t the only challenge facing the youth in most Kenyan counties. In the peripheral counties of Northern Kenya, the high unemployment rate is further compounded by the high poverty rates. MANDERA County is ranked as the second poorest county in Kenya. These region’s problems are further aggravated by the erstwhile unstable and warring border areas.

This has led to an inherited generational burden in MANDERA County which has further pushed the youth into despair and obscurity. The youth in MANDERA have further been pushed back from effective participation by the traditional decision-making systems like the council of elders. This has discouraged the meaningful participation of youths in critical processes thereby denying them a sense of responsibility and ownership of the governance and development systems. This has diminished their role in their respective communities. Due to past marginalization of the region – there has been little avenues of escape from this vicious cycle – with education being accessible only to those with the financial means; coupled with a new sedentary often described as a new meaningless and purposeless urban lifestyle, for most nomadic youths in MANDERA, the 21st century is a disillusioned time. Those with some level of literacy on the one hand can no longer fit back into the traditional system of herding and other agro-pastoral economic ventures- the region’s main economic activity. This youth demographic, on the other hand do not qualify for white collar jobs since most do not have the requisite academic qualifications

### **2.2 County situation of the youth**

Kenya has a young population, out of its 47.6 million constituents; a whopping 75.1 percent are below the age of 35. Consequently, her median age is approximately 20 years (KNBS Census, 2019). The youth definitively, account for 29 percent of her entire population. It thus can be concluded that Kenya is experiencing a youth bulge. Despite the promise brought forth by devolution, the country’s population growth rate has not been commensurate with the amount of opportunities generated by the economy. The few existing positions have been occupied by the significantly older generation, as a result, most of the young population feel excluded in economic, political and social spheres of life.

Mandera County is found in an area that has a lot of challenges. The county is classified as marginalized. The situation of young people in this county is dire. They lack access to jobs, they take drugs such as miraa and codeine, they are easily recruited into terror cells and they are killed extra judicially by security forces. They are victims of archaic traditions that do not give them a chair at the table. Their opinions are shunned and their value is not appreciated.

### 2.3 Youth Categories in Mandera County**.**

This policy document is context specific and deliberate in its programs of developing opportunities for the MANDERA youths. The following target youth groups have been identified based on their specific needs.

#### **2.3.1: Unemployed youth**

The combined burden of a youth bulge and shrinking job market has left millions of young people jobless, under-employed and excluded from economic opportunities across the world. The presence of large numbers of unemployed youth is increasingly seen by most national and international actors as strongly co-related to other social issues like crime, drugs and substance abuse, apathy and social disharmony within communities. In MANDERA County the youth comprise at least 60% of the population (KNBS). In this context, breaking down of social norms and the high poverty rates further confounds the story of unemployment with MANDERA County being listed as one of the poorest counties. Further, the ethnic diversity in the county, strains the little resources the County receives annually with at least 14 different communities competing for a share of the little resources. Policy and decision makers must consider more than academic and educational capacity to meet the interests of all the ethnic groups.

The needs of the unemployed youth keep increasing with every graduation from colleges.

The unemployment rate is similar for those with secondary school and tertiary level educational qualifications. This problem is further exacerbated by imbalance of skills among the youths.

#### **2.3.2: Out of School Youth**

The out of school youth targeted by this policy include those who have never attended school or those who dropped out before they learnt how to read and write. These group includes young herders who have abandoned livestock and migrated to towns or are scattered in small hamlets across the county.

To holistically intervene in the youth sector, this group should be targeted with such programmes as peace ambassadors, apprentices in various sectors.

#### **2.3.4: School dropouts**

A higher number of school dropouts are visible within most urban centers in MANDERA County. In the present context the school dropouts are 66% based on the survey done by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics 2015/2016 considering primary school enrollment and secondary school enrollment.

#### **2.3.5: Youths living with disability**

The MANDERA youth living with one or another form of disability have been overlooked and are lumped under the general disabilities’ organization. There are no specific programmes that target the disabled youth in MANDERA County.

#### **2.3.6: Talented and gifted youths**

The focus on formal education has led to the overlooking of talent development and in MANDERA as is with many other areas in Kenya, talented youth have not been accorded the necessary support to exploit their talents. There is need to design programs that specifically target talented youth and harness their capabilities in sports and arts.

#### **2.3.7: Female Youth**

Female youth in Kenya are 52% of total youths. In MANDERA County girls face the challenges of early marriages, FGM and a high divorce rate especially in the urban centers. Many girls find themselves in precarious situations, in the absence of meaningful employment. Many are forced into early marriage by societal pressures and cultural perceptions. The assumption that marriage is a refuge from economic hardship is a fallacy that often ends disastrously for young girls who are left with the burden and struggles of parenthood oftentimes-single motherhood.

#### **2.3.8:  Youth Organizations**

Youths in various areas within the county have formed self-help groups, associations, football clubs to spear head their own development. At the national level there are also youth organizations like National Youth Council and the Youth Bunge that plays an important role in enhancing youth participation. These groups, clubs, associations and forums should be strengthened through supportive interventions.

#### **2.3.9: Target youth policy Audience**

MANDERA County Youth Policy recognizes the demographic significance of youth and the need to integrate the youth voice at all levels. Youth mainstreaming entails youth concerns and experiences are an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that youth benefit equally.

In this regard, the target audience for the Mandera County Youth policy are the following –

* The County Government of Kenya, both the executive and Assembly arms
* The National Government ( Executive, Legislature and the judiciary)
* NGOs/Civil Society
* International Agencies
* Media
* Private Sector (Corporates)
* Professional Associations
* Academia
* Youth and Youth Serving Organizations/ Companies
* Religious Serving Organizations

### **2.4: Challenges facing the Youths in MANDERA County**

#### **2.4.1 Limited sports and Recreational Facilities**

MANDERA County is growing and with most of its small towns transitioning to busy urban centers, most of the open spaces have been taken up by individual constructions. It is now imperative for the County Government to step in and ensure that there are social amenities that are available to the youth in all the wards. The recreational facilities will ensure that the youth are not idle and encourages cohesion amongst the youth from diverse backgrounds.

#### **2.4.2 Retrogressive Cultural Practices**

Retrogressive cultural practices are still rife in MANDERA County. Some of the retrogressive cultural practices are; early marriages, female genital mutilation, Moran(ism), and lack of involvement of the youth in decision making. Some of these cultural practices have been rendered illegal through various legislations yet they are still being practiced. There is need for sensitization of the community with regards to the harmful effects of these retrogressive cultural practices. The stakeholders must come together in order to ensure that the young people in MANDERA are not disadvantaged by these practices.

#### **2.4.3 Low Literacy Levels**

There is huge illiteracy level in MANDERA County. This is attributable to the fact that MANDERA is the second poorest County in Kenya and due to cultural practices that over time has led to low enrolment levels in Schools. The County Government must intervene by encouraging not only enrolment in schools but also through financial assistance to students who are already in schools in order to improve transition rates and to enhance learning outcome.

#### **2.4.4 High Level of Unemployment**

Young people in MANDERA constitute a very small percentage in the formal and informal workforce in MANDERA. This is due to limited specialized training. The county government must take a pro-youth approach in the creation of employment opportunities for the youth. This is through vocational training courses.

Mentorship and provision of funds to harness entrepreneurial culture in the county. The county also must map out the courses that are most needed in the county, at the national level as well as globally with a view of targeted approach as regards required trainings. This will ensure that the youth are trained in areas where there is a great market for employment.

#### **2.4.5 Drug and Substance Abuse**

There is rampant drug and substance abuse in MANDERA County. This is attributable to idleness, peer pressure and porous borders. The County Government has to put in place mentorship and counseling sessions that target those who are drug addicts and others who are potentially at risk so that they are reintegrated back into the society as responsible and economically active members of the society. The Government also must work closely with the security officers to ensure that the drug menace in MANDERA County is curbed.

#### **2.4.6 Lack of Specialized Skills**

The youth lack specialized skills and qualification. There is huge human resource gap in certain fields. The County Government must make deliberate effort to map those specialized areas and provide opportunities for the youth to be trained in those areas. The government can partner with national and international institutions to ensure the Youth in MANDERA access training opportunities.

#### **2.4.7 Radicalization and Involvement in Crimes**

Due to unemployment, many youths in MANDERA have been recruited into extremist organizations and are involved in other forms of crime. The County Government with other stakeholders must create employment opportunities for the Youth as well as mentorship and empowerment opportunities so that they became responsible and economically active members of the society.

#### **2.4.8 Lack of Access to Financial Resources**

The youth who have entrepreneurial skills lack initial capital to start their business. They also lack the technical know how to manage any funds that might accrue. The County Government must intervene and ensure that funds are invested in the targeted areas with potential returns and that the youth must be capacity built on how to manage funds. The County Government should provide platform for different stakeholders to engage in order to pool resources aimed at provision of financial resources to the youths

### **2.5 Youth County Interventions and Achievements**

#### **2.5.1 Youth Interventions**

* Access to county ward bursary to improve access and retention in learning institutions, estimately One hundred and twenty thousand shillings per ward per annum (120,000 kshs).
* Establishment of new Vocational Training Centers, modernization of existing centers and provision of modern equipment to keep up to date with the technological advancements. This helps youths who were unable to continue with their education learn TVETs programmes in order to cub the unemployed youths get self-sustaining jobs that are theirs. It also helps cub youths who are addicted to drugs and other substance abuse since it makes them busy in their day to day activities.
* Support youth and women to access government opportunities through the Establishment of KYEOP by county government, youth enterprise fund and Uwezo fund. This funds gives youths and women get empowered by using the little money accorded to them by the government by starting news business activities that can help them where necessary.
* Engagement of youths in agribusiness through partnership with WFP. Since our youths are mostly jobless if engaged in agribusiness it can help the unemployment rate in our societies and youths in particular.
* .Participation in youth leadership forums in partnership with UNDP. If youths are involved in funds from donors directly it can help them secure SMEs in several counties Mandera County been one. The youths in Kenya need this monies by themselves if given the opportunity to access where necessary.
* Lobby for partnership and collaboration with stakeholders and women groups in every sub county. Sub counties need to have self help groups to cub the rate of unemployment in our county. Since devolution is in place, by now more than 200 youths groups would have been assisted by this money meant for them but unluckily it ends in the wrong hands.
* PWDs can also have to access county and national goverment opportunities through the establishment of KYEOP, Uwezo funds and other funds from the county government in every subcounty

#### **2.5.2: Achievements**

**The following are the achievements realised in the county as far as Youth Empoweremnt is concerned.**

* 740 housing units for the IDPs built and in use. 239 more were constructed for the most
* vulnerable members in all the sub-counties bringing the total number to 979.
* 117 most vulnerable members benefited from the toilet construction programme
* especially along the riverine as a way of environmental protection and restoring their
* dignity as human being.
* 83 groups and individuals supported with assorted IGA equipment comprising of
* freezers, sewing machines, car wash equipment, motor bikes, beauty equipment,
* incubators, donkey carts etc.
* 391 PWDs supported with assorted mobility kits comprising of Wheel chairs, motorized
* wheel chairs, crutches, white cane etc.
* The county government supports six orphanages inform of grants every financial year.. So far, we have disbursed Ksh 55.5 million shillings since
* the inception of the programme.
* countywide youth and other stakeholders’ sensitization on Drug and substance abuse. The programme so far engaged 730 stakeholders comprisingof youth, elders, women, religious leaders, security service providers and business.

2.6   Strengths, Weakness Opportunities And Threat [Swot] Analysis**.**

**The SWOT analysis of the Youths in Mandera is captured as follows**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Positive** | **Negative** |
| **Internal** |   **Strength**          * Creativity, talented and Innovation.
* Flexible and easily trainable
* Affirmative action
* Formation of women group at the grassroots level
* Quick in embracing ICT
* Youth department
* Cash transfer programmer for the people with disabilities
* A youthful political leadership, bringing youth voices to decision making platforms.
* Ethnic diversity [Multiplicity of ethnic identities coexisting in Madera and represented in its leadership]
* Strong community structures enjoying local support to resolve conflicts and influence leadership
* Existing and practice indigenous cultures provides strong identity for youths and women

       | **Weakness*** Lack of employable skills due to low education attainment and skills gaps.
* Lack of fund for the exits/en trance group
* Ignorance
* Understanding poor
* Inadequate facilities
* Poor parental guidance
* FGM
* Rapping case
* Lacto of special need center
* Limited funding
* Poor infrastructure
* Early marriage
* Negative stereotypes among the youth.
* Drug abuse
* Limited capacity to effectively engage in entrepreneurship activities.
* Weak value systems
* Growing youth population
* High school’s dropout
 |
| **EXTERNAL** |    **POSITIVE** | **NEGATIVE** |
|  | **Opportunities*** Availability of technical vocational education and training.
* Uwezo funds
* Procurement considerations
* Funds for special groups i.e. pad
* Create social awareness on issues concerning women.
* Capacity building to develop entrepreneur skills of women, youth and PWD.
* Increasing employment and earning opportunities for youth aged between 18-29 [keep]
* Unexploited talented in sports and arts.
* Development partners
* Devolved funds
 | **Threats**1. Lack of consistency in security patrols.
2. Food security.
3. Drug use and substance abuse.
4. Youth unemployment.
5. Climate change. [i.e. agriculture, health, road and public service]
6. Reintegration and rehabilitation.
7. Sub Clan clash.
8. Hive/aids
9. Lack of employment opportunism
10. Cultural berries
11. Corruption
12. Illiteracy
13. Cultural practices e.g. divorce
14. insecurity
 |

CHAPTER 3: YOUTH POLICY FRAMEWORK

### **3.1 Introduction**

The youth policy framework has all the features required in order to realize empowered and effectively engaged youth, working for a better Mandera County. In this chapter the vision, mission, rallying call and values are well elaborated in order to give a wide coverage of the policy framework.

### **3**.**2 Vision, Mission, Rallying call and Values**

#### **3.2.1 Policy Goal**

Promote the holistic development and participation of the youth in socio-economic and political wellbeing for themselves, their communities, county and their future.

#### **3.2.2 Vision**

A MANDERA society where young people are holistically empowered to realize their full potential in their socio-economic affairs and political aspirations.

#### **3.2.3 Values**

The values given emphasis in the policy are Patriotism, respect of cultural belief systems and ethical values, equity and accessibility, gender inclusiveness, participation, integrity and accountability

#### **3.2.4: Rallying Call**

The rallying call of the Mandera County Youth Policy is maximizing youth potential in Mandera County

### **3.3 Youth Policy Objectives, Priority areas, Measures/Strategies and Interventions**

#### **3.3.1 Youth Policy Objectives**

The overall objective of the policy is for young people in Mandera County to have decent living conditions, the power to shape their lives and influence over developments in the County.

The following are the specific objectives of the Policy.

* To improve youth empowerment through workplace learning programmes and volunteerism geared towards Labour activation
* To create a youth friendly space for meaningful youth engagement through information service provision, guiding and counseling
* To enhance access to quality higher education by youths in MANDERA County
* To enhance TVETs’ enrolment by youths in MANDERA through improvement of VTCs infrastructure and curriculum; and strengthened post-training support
* To identify and nurture artistic and sporting talents in the county
* To enhance youth entrepreneurship through technical and fiscal aids; and enhancement of innovations and access to incubation opportunities
* To promote a peaceful and secure, crime free environment for the youth through youth led peace and policing process.
* To support and create a conducive environment for youths in matters sexual rights, reproductive health

#### **3.3.2 Youth Policy Statements; Youth Priority Areas; Measures/Strategies; Respective Interventions**

##### **3.3.2.1 Youth Policy Statement**

The statements of the Mandera county youth policy are the following.

1. To initiate, strengthen and streamline all programmes and services targeting the youth;
2. To promote social, economic and political empowerment of the youth;
3. To build youth’s capacity through relevant training and information sharing
4. To promote growth in the development of the youth through actions that protect; empower and prepare them for adulthood;
5. To provide psycho-social support and other services to youth in conflict situations, difficult circumstances and to the disadvantaged (marginalized) groups;
6. To increase youth involvement in decision--making, leadership, community based and other development programmes;
7. To mobilize resources for youth programmes and projects at all levels.

##### **3.3.2.2 policy priority areas and interventions**

The strategic priority areas and action points are designed to fulfill the policy vision, mission, and objectives described above are critical to the effective implementation of this Mandera County Youth Policy. The strategic areas and action points are as follows

1. Realization a healthy and productive youth population;
2. Building qualified and competent youth workforce for sustained development;
3. Creating opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods
4. Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation;
5. Nurturing value driven, morally upright, ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership;
6. Effective civic participation and representation among the youth;
7. Promotion of a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind;
8. Supporting youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development;
9. Promote and develop of entrepreneurial culture among the youth through access to subsidized loans, training, mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubation and partnerships
10. 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:
11. Supporting youth development, health, nutrition and wellbeing;
12. Eradicating drugs and substance abuse among youth;
13. 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;
14. Institutionalizing and strengthening apprenticeship and internship programmes;
15. Addressing youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity;
16. Building capacity of the youth to fully integrate them into the Country’s technological transformation;
17. Ensuring sustainable financing of youth programmes;
18. Transforming agriculture to make it attractive to youth;
19. Promoting entrepreneurship and skills training, mentorship, internships, job attachments, business incubation and partnerships for the youth;
20. Strengthening frameworks for labour export;
21. Supporting labour management information systems;
22. Supporting creativity, talent identification and innovative development;
23. Entrenching positive morals, values, patriotism and volunteerism for transformative leadership;
24. Supporting effective civic participation and representation;
25. Promoting a crime free, secure, peaceful and cohesive Country;
26. Promoting mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of natural resources and environment while engaging in eco-entrepreneurship and green jobs;
27. Building capacity of the youth in green processes, technology and waste management; and,
28. 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.

## ****CHAPTER 4: YOUTH POLICY COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK****

### **4.1 Introduction**

The overall coordination of the youth activities in the County shall be anchored in the office of the Governor. The Department responsible for youth affairs shall ensure establishment of effective institutional framework for collaboration of all stakeholders in implementation of youth activities and programmes in Mandera county . The Department of youth will also guide establishment of a youth economic movement led by youth from the village to county level.

The implementation of this policy will depend on a sound institutional framework, adequately coordinated implem            entation support, effecting resource mobilization and funding, effective programme monitoring; and active political, administrative and technical support for the translation of goals, objectives and strategies

outlined in the Policy into actual programmes at all levels of society. A concerted and coordinated effort is required by the County Government, non-government and private institutions, churches, youth groups and community organizations to address youth issues in a comprehensive way

### **4.2 Implementation and Coordination mechanisms**

This policy shall be implemented through the Interdepartmental implementation committee who are also tasked with the responsibility to coordinate, Monitor, evaluate and report on its implementation.

### **4.3 Enablers (ICT, transport, skills and development, making markets work etc)**

One stop safe space for youths. They can receive reliable and real-time information. The youths will benefit from a full time Counselor and enjoy access to computers, Internet and other resources.

The Key components are

1. Youth empowerment and Resource centers.
2. Libraries and Information hubs at the Youth empowerment and resource centers.
3. Youth in civic participation, governance and leadership.Skill development, mentorship and leadership guidance programmes.
4. Talent hub.
5. Counseling and guiding Centre.
6. Indoor games and sporting facilities at the empowerment center

The County scholarship fund has greatly eased the financial burden for most families and helped many young people access tertiary level of education. There has been suggestions and request for the scholarship scheme to be expanded in order to cover and support students in secondary education.

The Key components are

1. Educational Scholarship opportunities.
2. Higher Education in MANDERA County.
3. Higher education institutions in MANDERA

The Vocational Training Centers offer a unique opportunity but must take into consideration existing resources and formulate their teaching curriculums with specific context and resource based and more courses to be introduced.

The Key components are

1. ICT and related Skills Development Programs.
2. Skill development of youths in TVET.
3. Business and labor activation within the county.
4. Sports and Entertainment. There has been an increase in sporting interest since the onset of devolution. This has however been bogged down with challenges of sporting facilities and sometimes irregular football leagues.

The Key components are

1. Sporting events within the county.
2. Music Production.
3. Talent Development

Small and Medium enterprise development is a leading employer of young people and an engaging medium through which the creativity and energies of youths can best be use in ways that make meaningful economic contribution to their own wellbeing. Youths in business face diverse challenges like limited access to market information, inadequate market infrastructure and entrepreneurial skills. Even when they get access to this information, they are faced with other challenges like inadequate policy frameworks to support the youths in business and low levels of value addition, limited access to startup capital and business nurturing and idea incubation support services.

The Key components are

1. Youth enterprise development.
2. Business incubation

### **4.4 Flagships (Asks for County Government, National Government, private sector, non-state actors)**

The flagship youth projects refer to key programmes and initiatives which have been identified

as key to accelerating young peoples economic growth and development as well as promoting

their common identity by identifying their talents and using them well for their own benefits and

those of Mandera County. Generally, flagship projects should encompass wide scope of fields

such as infrastructure, education, science, technology, arts and culture as well as activities that

ensure peace is achieved within Mandera County.

Unfortunately, there are no any flagship projects that have been initiated by the County Government for the past ten years. The youth docket has been neglected with no enough

Budgetary allocation.

Non-state actors only engage in small sports tournament activities which happens once in a while

and hence lack the organizational level that's required to benefit every youth in the county.

There are still quarrels on who should manage the one stop youth centre that has been proposed.

This policy urges the County Government to get its priorities right as far as youth people are

concerned. The department has not been given the attention that it deserves.

### **4.5 Resource Mobilization and Financing of the Policy**

The attainment of the goals and objectives of this Policy hinges on the effective mobilization of resources, for the implementation of policy related programs. It is envisaged that these resources will come from the following sources;

1. The County Government will be responsible for the provision of adequate resources for its implementation through the annual appropriation;
2. The County Government shall mobilize adequate human and material resources to the programme for implementing the Policy;
3. The County Government shall also mobilize community support, as well as support in cash and kind from private organizations in the country;
4. External support shall also be mobilized, including technical and financial

inputs, to ensure the successful implementation of the MANDERA County Youth Service Policy.

### **4.6 Implementation matrix**

#### **4.6.1 Policy Mandate and Institutional Arrangement**

Policy implementation committee shall be constituted by the CEC for Education,Skills development, youth and sports

#### **4.6.2 Implementation structure**

A multi stakeholder implementation committee shall be constituted and will comprise of the following as members.

1. The County Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs in the County who shall be the Chairperson;
2. County Director Youth Services who shall be the Secretary of the Committee
3. Chief Officer responsible for matters Trade and Enterprise Development
4. Chief Officer responsible for youth and sports affairs.
5. Chief Officer for arts and Culture
6. Chief Officer responsible for education affairs.
7. Chief Officer for Health.
8. The Chief Officer responsible for Finance in the County
9. Two youth members of opposite gender appointed by the County Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs in the County;
10. One person responsible for Youth affairs in the office of the governor.
11. Coordinator National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF).
12. Chairs of National Government Constituency Development Fund (CDF) from each sub county.
13. One civil society representative.
14. Director for human resource management, MANDERA County.
15. National government Head of Labour services, MANDERA County.

The county Executive Committee Member responsible for Youth affairs shall appoint the committee members.

The Committee may co-opt with approval from the county Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs such other members as it deems necessary.

The Committee shall with the approval of the County Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs regulate its own procedures.

The committee shall meet on a regular basis; a minimum of once per quarter and not more than three times in a quarter.

The Committee shall with the approval of the County Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs regulate its own procedures.

The Committee may seek the assistance of the Directorate of Human Resource in recruitment, selection and placement of engaged youths.

The committee shall meet on regular basis; a minimum of once per quarter and not more than three times in a quarter.

#### **4.6.3 The Functions of the Committee**

The Functions of the Inter- Departmental Committee shall be to;

1. Identify opportunities and programs in the state and non-state sectors for the empowerment of the youth;
2. With the assistance of the Directorate of human resource, place youth in formal, informal and any other relevant workplaces.
3. Facilitate through continuous training and other activities of education of youth including recommendations to enroll in the Technical and Vocational Education Training Institutes;
4. In collaboration with other stakeholders, prepare and submit a status report each year to the CEC member responsible for youth affairs in the County who shall transmit it to the County Executive Committee and the County Assembly;
5. Improve effective youth participation in all structures of decision-making.
6. Carry out such other roles necessary for the implementation of the objectives of this policy/program and perform such other functions as may be assigned to them by the CEC member responsible for youth affairs in the County.

#### **4.6.4 Policy implementation action Plan**

The policy implementation mechanism will be operationalized through an action plan detailing; Policy priorities, Key actions, indicators, timelines, responsibility and estimated budget per year.

#### **4.6.5 Mobilization of Resources**

The attainment of the goals and objectives of this Policy hinges on the effective mobilization of resources, for the implementation of policy related programs. It is envisaged that these resources will come from the following sources;

1. The County Government will be responsible for the provision of adequate resources for its implementation through the annual appropriation;
2. The County Government shall mobilize adequate human and material resources to the programme for implementing the Policy;
3. The County Government shall also mobilize community support, as well as support in cash and kind from private organizations in the country;
4. External support shall also be mobilized, including technical and financial inputs, to ensure the successful implementation of the MANDERA County Youth Service Policy.

#### **4.6.5 Data and Research**

The MANDERA Youth Policy recognizes the primacy of research, data and information dissemination to comprehensive development, empowerment of young people and their full integration in the county and national affairs.

The following are possible strategies for data and research:

* Promote the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of socio-economic and demographic data on youth development, data pertinent to the implementation of this Policy;
* Ensure that data collected and analyzed on youth issues are disaggregated by age, sex, geographical area and other attributes;
* Promote relevant policy-oriented research on key youth issues;
* Establish and continuously update statistical database and information system on youth development at both national sub-national levels
* Meaningfully involve all youths and youths with disabilities, young women and young people in rural areas in the planning, generation and dissemination of data;
* Promote a culture of reading and seeking information among youth
* Promote the exchange of ideas and information on regional and international youth issues.

### **4.7 Roles of stakeholders**

The following are the Stakeholders and their Roles

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stakeholder** | **Roles** |
|  |  |  |  |
| County | Government | • | Policy formulation and implementation |
| (County | Assembly, | • | Establish and develop institutional structures for effective |
| Executives | & | Youth policy implementation |
| Directorates) | • | Provide resources for effective formulation, implementation, |
|  |  | monitoring and evaluation of the policy |
|  |  | • | Promote capacity development of youths as espoused |
|  |  | • | Ensure access to information (dissemination) and feedback |
|  |  | mechanisms |
|  |  | • | Establish MANDERA County Workplace Learning Coordination |
|  |  | Committee |
|  |  | • Promoting policies and legislation geared to youth |
|  |  | development |
|  |  | • Strengthen and support coordination for the implementation |
|  |  | of the policy |
|  |  | • Provide technical support and information for the |
|  |  | implementation of the policy |
|  |  | • |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| National | Government | • | Regulate and co-coordinate Youth activities and programmes |
| (Executive, | Legislature, | in the country |
| Judiciary and National | • | Support enforcement of policy or initiatives that will bolster |
| Youth Council) | this policy |
|  |  | • | Invest in research and development of youth-geared policies |
|  |  | • | Legislate on youth development issues |
|  |  |  |
| NGOs/Civil Society | • | Act as a link between the Youth, government and donor |
|  |  | organizations |
|  |  | • | Provide alternative development solution to Youth issues |
|  |  | • Assist in policy implementation through education and |
|  |  | advocacy |
|  |  | • Sensitize and mobilize Youth participation and representation |
|  |  | in policy formulation process. |
|  |  | • Lobby for legislation on issues affecting the Youth at the |
|  |  | national and county levels |
|  |  |  |  |

## CHAPTER 5: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

### 5.1: Introduction

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

The processes of planning, monitoring and evaluation make up the Result-Based Management (RBM) approach, which is intended to aid decision-making towards explicit goals

Planning helps to focus on results that matter, while M&E facilitates learning from past successes and challenges and those encountered during implementation.

M&E systems if developed together with all key stakeholders will encourage participation and increased ownership of the Mandera County Youth Policy.s

### 5.2: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

The constitution through different articles including 10, 56, 174, 195, 201, 203, 225, 226 and 227 stipulate that monitoring and evaluation is an important part of operationalizing any government activities.

To ensure transparency, integrity, information access and accountability principles as well as value for money, at County level Mandera CIDP 2018-2022 has put up an extensive monitoring and Evaluation framework chapter to guide, monitor and for compliance to the standard of transparency, integrity, accountability and value for money set by the constitution. This is in addition to the National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES) which is the reporting system from National, County and sub-County levels.

In line with the above legal instruments the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy Framework purpose is to develop a more credible and consistent framework for strengthened accountability, quality improvement and informed decision-making in in inclusivity of the youths in major county government undertakings, as well as to contribute to the professionalization of the monitoring and evaluation functions of the county governance. Monitoring and evaluation of policy can be carried out by all interested actors. Official policy evaluations themselves need to be monitored to ensure that the terms of reference are clear and specific about the gender issues that will be evaluated.

The objective of monitoring is to ensure compliance with the guidelines, goals and principles outlined in the Youth Policy. Evaluation is concerned with assessing the extent of achievement of the set goals and targets. The importance of monitoring and evaluation is to ensure successful implementation of the youth policy. Monitoring and evaluation shall be an essential strategy for the delivery of the Youth Policy.

The county will use corporate evaluations and decentralized evaluations. Corporate evaluations involve independent assessments conducted and/or managed by the county government Monitoring and Evaluation Section at the request of the governor, or at the request of other county departments for the purpose of providing independent evaluation of projects or other undertakings. Such evaluations will be undertaken internally (conducted by the Monitoring and Evaluation Section) or externally (in which case expertise outside the Institute would be retained). Decentralized evaluations are self-assessments conducted by the county’s programs, offices and departments.

The framework is held up by the principle of inclusivity, equity and fairness. Thus, monitoring and evaluation will be done following collaborations by the county government and private sectors, informal sectors, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, youths and other stakeholders.

## CHAPTER 6: COMMUNICATION, PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

### 6.1: Introduction

This chapter looks at the communication and information sharing about the Mandera County Youth policy to all stakeholders and especially the Youth who are the beneficiaries of the policy

### 6.2: Communication, Publicity and Information

The purpose of communication plan is to defined what and who is needed to be aware of and inform bout the policy , how and how often information would be distributed, and who would be responsible for the distribution. Effective communication of the policy will help l clarify the goals and objectives of the policy. The various channels that the policy communicated and publicized are those that are the most common in Mandera. These channels include Public Barazas, radio talk shows, social media platforms and roundtable discussions among others.

### 6.3: Publicity and Policy information sharing

This policy shall be implemented through the Interdepartmental implementation committee who are also tasked with the responsibility to coordinate, Monitor, evaluate and report on its implementation. Publicity of the policy shall be done through various channels.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED** | **TARGET GROUP** | **CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION** | **MESSAGE** | **TIMELINE** |
| Dissemination of the policy | Youth  | Radio, round table discussions, eventsYouth Empowerment CentersSocial media online platforms | Message through posters “Maximizing youth potential in Mandera County | Continuous done by the ministry concerned. |
| Benefits of the policy to the Youth | Youth | Radio, round table discussions, eventsYouth Empowerment CentersSocial media online platforms | Message through posters “Maximizing youth potential in Mandera County | Continuous done by the ministry concerned. |

### 6.4 Policy Review

The formulation of the Mandera County Youth 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 Organizations (FBOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and development partners. NYC gave the youth an online platform where they could give their views. The process therefore did not discriminate on anyone during its formulation.

The responsibility of implementing this policy shall be vested in the Department of Education, Skills Development, Youth and Sports. This Policy will be reviewed after every two years or as need arises. The Department or the Inter- Departmental Committee will make such proposals/ recommendations for review of this Policy.

## CONCLUSION

The youth can no longer be termed as leaders of tomorrow. They must be seen as today's leaders. Planning cannot continue without involving the youth, especially those who are in difficult circumstances, in all the sectors of the economy. The youth have a right to participate in issues

that affect their life and to exploit their full potential. They also have responsibilities that must not be relegated to the older generations.

This policy seeks to provide an opportunity for improving the quality of life for the Youth. It will cater for all categories of youth.

The policy seeks to promote youth participation in democratic processes as well as in community and civic affairs. It also advocates creation of a supportive social, cultural, economic and political environment that will empower the youth to be partners in development.

## Annex 1: Implementation matrix

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Objective 1:Outcome 1: |  |
| **Strategies** | **Activities** | **Outputs** | **Key performance Indicators** | **Timelines****2023-2027** | **Budget (2023-2027**) | **Responsibility** |
|  -Development and implement measures to improve nutrition, physical health and well-being of the youth starting from early age while mitigating non- communicable diseases (NCDs. | -Invest in programmes supporting promotive and preventive health among the youth including nutrition, recreational activities. |  | -The percentage of youth involving in sporting and recreational activities.  |  |  | National governmentand county government. |
| - providing services, information and education on sexual reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and any retrogressive practices for the |  -Establish and develop youth friendly guidance and counselling units in schools and youth centres health facilities. |  | - Number of youth with disability supported. |  |  | National government and private sector. |
| -Develop and implement providing service information and eduction on sexual reproductive health. | -Social awareness and initiatives for parents and guardians on how to take a lead role in teaching and counselling their children. |  |  -Proportion of malnourished youth and children below 5years supported. |  |  | -private sectors nyc, ncpwd |
| -strenghthen and implement comprehesive and inclusive,mental emotional and spiritual support programes to facilitate achievement of full youth potential. | -provision of counceling and rehabitation service for youth of mental illness and integration of mental health component across all youth empowerment programes. |  | -Number of health components integrated across all youth empowerment platforms.  |  |  | National government and county government. |