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**REBUPLIC OF KENYA SAMBURU COUNTY**

**Samburu County Youth Policy (2022)**

**Samburu county youth on the table**

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Foreword (Governor)

The youth are the strength, wealth and drivers of innovation in Samburu County. Deliberate and systemic efforts are necessary to appropriately equip and empower them to attain and realize their full potential and turn, drive the attainment of development objectives set out in vision (2030); and international commitments which include African Union Agenda (2063).

We're therefore delighted as County Government, to roll out the Samburu County Youth Development Policy (SCYDP) (2022). 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.

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 digital skills and leverage young people's natural affinity to technology which is powerful in helping the County 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 County 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 job-ready workforce across all sectors of the County, 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 County because of our diversity.

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 coordinated approaches guided by national values and principles of governance.

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

We are confident that all the 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 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 larger society; private sector, the county government; 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 to potential in County building, in line with the Constitution and all regional and Intervention conventions and charters signed relating to the youth.

# 

Jonathan Lati Leleliit

**Governor Samburu County**

# Preface

The Constitution of Kenya (2010) has made 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; access employment; and are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation. 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 County Youth Development Policy has been informed by the current reality that the greatest wealth of a nation is its people and the youth constitute a big percentage of its citizens. For continuity, it would be prudent to ensure the youth are actively engaged in development issues in the county. It is in this regard that this policy document takes cognizance of the need to ensure the youth are able to track and measure their impact towards initiatives, programmes, projects and activities at various levels.

This policy document will also provide the institutional, coordination, communication, monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure there is effective implementation of identified policy objectives and measures. Mechanisms to ensure the framework is rolled down from the national to the ward (grassroots) levels have been highlighted in this policy document and it will take the support and collaboration of all stakeholders to bring it to fruition.

A policy document that is inclusive, that involves participation of the youth themselves and support from relevant stakeholder’s guaranteed success since consultations, discussions, meetings, participatory and validation forums constitute its final completion.

# Acknowledgements

Appreciation to the Samburu Youth Task force led by John Erisen Lengerded, and consisting of Lempushunah Hirma, Ruth Ekiru, Lengaina Henry, Leseketeti Frank, Lekamario Venancia, Ezaura Moreen and Isaac Namoyi. Our appreciation goes to the National Youth Council and UNDP for their continued support in the development of the Samburu youth policy 2022

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

**AGPO** - Access to Government Procurement Opportunities

**AIDS** - Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome

**CBO** - Community Based Organization

**CSO** - Civil Society Organization

**COVID-19** - Coronavirus Disease

**CIDP** – County Integrated Development Plan

**EYASGSS** – Department of Education, Youth Affairs, Sports, Gender and Social Services

**FBO** – Faith Based Organizations

**GoK** – Government of Kenya

**HIV** – Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus

**ICT** – Information Communication & Technology

**IEC** – Information, Education and Communication

**KYDP** – Kenya Youth Development Policy

**KYEOP** – Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project

**M&E** – Monitoring and Evaluation

**NGOs** – Non-Governmental Organizations

**STIs** – Sexually Transmitted Infections

**SWOT** – Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

**SDGs** – Sustainable Development Goals

**VTC** – Vocational Training Centre

**WPAY** – World Program of Action for Youth

# Definition of Terms

***Youth***

The Policy defines a Youth as a person aged 18 years and who has not reached the age of 35 years [Kenya Constitution 2010]. Further, the Policy directs that the term “youth” will not be used interchangeably with other terms such as *“young people”, “young persons”, “young* *women”, or “young men”;* terms which are relative, ambiguous and normally misdirect focusfrom the real youth.

With respect to age, a youth will be defined as a person, male or female, in the age bracket of 18 to 34 years.

***Youth Empowerment***

Empowerment is connected to the acquisition of power in order to agree or contribute to desired change. 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 peoples’ lives both now and in their adulthood while bearing responsibility for the consequences of those decisions and actions.

**Government**

Consistent with the Constitution of Kenya (2010), the word Government herein refers to the two levels of government: The National Government and the County Government of Samburu.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Samburu Youth Development Policy, 2022 seeks to provide an opportunity for improving the quality of life for Kenyan youth through their 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 equal partners in the county’s development. The Policy therefore provides a detailed account of various aspects, key of which are highlighted here under.

**Policy Goal, Vision, Objectives and Values**

**Goal i**s: to promote the holistic participation of the youth in socio-economic and political well-being for themselves, the county and the future.

**Vision** is: an empowered and productive youth population with equal opportunities for socio-economic development of the county.

**Main Objective is**: to achieve youth mainstreaming and streamline the county government’s initiatives on youth empowerment. All are encouraged, by this policy document, to take affirmative action for the youth as a strategy of participation and empowerment while harnessing their potential.

**Values:** the values given emphasis in the Policy include: patriotism, respect of diversity andethical values, equity and accessibility, inclusivity, good governance, sustainability and mainstreaming of 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**

Derived from County Government Organization Structure 2013 under the department of youth, culture and sports.

**Youth Strengths, Opportunities and Challenges**

The Policy emphasizes that the narrative about the youth in Samburu 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, they are educated; their readiness to learn, and they demonstrate high affinity for networking and entrepreneurship. These strengths should be harnessed and optimized for the realization of the demographic dividend.

The Policy highlights the various challenges that youth face such as: unemployment, underemployment and lack of employable skills; increasing school and college drop-out rates, limited sports and recreational facilities, abuse and exploitation; gender based violence; limited participation in County development agenda; limited financial access and security; land ownership and use; Poor market linkages; political goon-ship; limited access to information and communication technology; lack of talent development programs; poor health services, insufficient socio-economic support, drug use and substance abuse; involvement in crime; education and housing; radicalization and violent extremism; and retrogressive cultural practices.

**Policy objectives and priority areas**

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

1. Realize a healthy and productive youth population;
2. Build qualified and competent youth workforce for sustained development;
3. Create opportunities for youth to earn decent and sustainable livelihoods;
4. Develop youth talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation;
5. Nurture values, morals, ethical generation of patriotic youth for transformative leadership;
6. Effective civic participation and representation among the youth;
7. Promote a crime free, secure, peaceful and united Kenya where no young Kenyan is left behind; and
8. Support youth engagement in environmental management for sustainable development.

The associated priority areas for Policy intervention include:

1. Supporting youth development, health, nutrition and wellbeing;
2. Eradicating drugs and substance abuse among youth;
3. Investing in education, training and skills development;
4. Institutionalizing and strengthening apprenticeship and internship programmes;
5. Addressing youth unemployment, underemployment and inactivity;
6. Building capacity of the youth to fully integrate them into the County’s technological transformation;
7. Ensuring sustainable financing of youth programmes;
8. Transforming agriculture to make it attractive to youth;
9. Promoting entrepreneurs, training, mentorship, internships, attachments, business incubations, financing and partnerships;
10. Strengthening frameworks for labour export;
11. Supporting labour management information systems
12. Supporting creativity, talent identification and innovative development;
13. Entrenching positive morals, values, patriotism and volunteerism for transformative leadership;
14. Supporting effective civic participation and representation;
15. Promoting a crime free, secure, peaceful and cohesive County;
16. Promoting mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of natural resources and environment while engaging in eco-entrepreneurship and green jobs; and
17. Building capacity of the youth in green processes, technology and waste management.

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 Coordination, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Mechanisms**

The Policy provides a mechanism that will support effective implementation, coordination, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting on youth empowerment and development interventions. The Policy shall be implemented by the County Government. The mechanism will include relevant stakeholders, thematic County Technical Working Groups, Inter-Agency Forums and the County Department in charge of Youth. Each of the players’ responsibilities are provided. The Policy implementation mechanism will be operationalized through the County Integrated Development Plan and Annual Work plans at the county level detailing: Policy priorities, key actions, indicators, timelines and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders.

**Recommended Budget for Implementation of the Policy**

The Policy proposes that the County Government allocates at least 2.5 per cent[[1]](#footnote-1) of the County 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 Samburu County.

# CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

## Background

Samburu County lies in the heartland of Kenya, within the arid and semi-arid northern region; it encompasses an area of roughly 21,000 km2 and is the 10th largest of Kenya’s 47 counties, in terms of geographical size. The counties bordering Samburu include Marsabit to the North & Northeast, Isiolo to the Southeast and South, Turkana to the Northwest, Baringo to the Southwest and Laikipia to the South. The county is divided into three sub counties that are Samburu North, Central and East with Maralal being the capital town. Administratively, the county has 15 wards and 108 villages.

Samburu community has three main livelihoods that include pastoral (57%) mainly in Samburu East and North, agro pastoral (37%) and casual waged labor (6%). It is the third poorest county in the country with a poverty index of 75.8% (KNBS 2015) and among the highest in child poverty incidence (3-6 dimensions) at 78% giving an indication of high vulnerability compared to children from other counties.

According to the 2019 Population and Housing Census, the population of Samburu County was 310,327 with 51% of young people aged 35 years and below, adolescents and youth aged10-19 at 26% (approximately 80,686). The 2019 census report indicates literacy among the youth is 41.6 percent though this rate is expected to increase due to county government policies in free primary education and early childhood education (ECDE). Adolescent and youth rural to urban migration is increasing in Maralal, Baragoi, Wamba and Archers Post due to pursuit for education, social economical activities and other social amenities. It is estimated that 85 percent of youth live in disadvantaged rural settings that bear several challenges including poor access to clean drinking water, good health care, education, good housing, economic empowerment and political representation.

There has been an increase in social crimes, drug and substance abuse, unplanned pregnancies and STIs among the young people. According to 2020 DHIS county statistics, teenage pregnancies have risen to 3,500, loosely translated to a pregnancy rate of 28% among girls compared to 26% in 2019. A 2019 UNICEF funded adolescent nutrition study conducted in two wards in Samburu East Sub revealed that about 22.7% of adolescents aged 10-19 years were underweight with a Global Acute Mulnutrition (<-2SD), which is a measure of moderate malnutrition.

Samburu County has a rich heritage of cultural norms and practices, some which are positive while others are inhibitive predisposing youths to various health, political and social challenges. Some of the inhibitive cultural practices include FGM, Mbolore, Lororani, early sexual debut, child marriages, toxic masculinity, idlness and reliance on indigenous herbs resulting in poor health seeking behavior. There is male dominance in most community matters and decision making, meaning the girls and women play subservient roles and have less decision-making power in the community and household levels.

## Rationale for the county Youth Policy

Youth refers to both age and the quality of youth-hood. The generally accepted definition of youth captured by the United Nations, The African Youth Charter and The Kenyan Constitution is ‘the collectivity of individuals who have attained the age of 18 and have not exceeded the age of 35’. It is the stage in life between childhood and adulthood. Youth represents the period in which individuals transition from childhood to adulthood and are able to take actual control of their lives. It is therefore a critical stage requiring both social, economic and legal backing from the government and other stakeholders.

Before the coming into force of the 2010 Constitution, the youth were a highly neglected part of the Kenyan society in terms of the laws put in place to ensure their protection and representation. For instance, the most notorious clause in this law was the anti-discrimination clause, Section 82, which excluded age as a ground for discrimination. In this law, age was only mentioned as a cap for retiring from and qualifying for certain positions or as a justification for the limitation of certain rights.

The youth-related provisions in the current Constitution are far-reaching. Notably, it substantively mentions the word ‘youth’ nine times. The Constitution in Article 21 acknowledges the youth as a vulnerable group in the society. Under Article 27, it recognizes age as one of the bases in which discrimination by the state or individual is prohibited. This is a development from the former Constitution as above-mentioned, as it left out age from its anti-discrimination clause. The youth are recognized as a special interest group in addition to children, persons with disabilities, older members of the society and minority/marginalized groups. Each of these groups have an exclusive Article in the law addressing its issues.

For the youth, it is Article 55 which obligates the state to take measures such as developing affirmative action programs to ensure that the youth is able to access relevant education and training, are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation and have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic spheres of life and access employment. Additionally, to ensure diversity and youth representation, the law creates special seats for the youth in the national assembly, the senate and the county assembly.

Despite of existence of the National Youth Policy, Samburu County has unique practices undermining youths which are specifically practiced by Samburu community. This has been attributed to a number of factors including cultural i.e., moranism, child beading, infidelity, FGM, night dances, child marriages, social i.e., GBV, rural to urban migration, drug and substance abuse, unprotected sex, risky sexual behaviors, insecurity, peer influence, illiteracy, early sexual debut, unemployment, poverty, lack of comprehensive sexuality education, multiple sexual partners, political, i.e., lack of political representation, inadequate resource allocation, inadequate meaningful youth engagement in decision making geographical, climatically i.e. droughts and famine, flooding, soil erosion .

Samburu county youth (18-34 years old) account for 51% of the population of Samburu County (Kenya Housing and Population Census 2019). Their health and well-being is therefore an asset in the development of the county. Evidence has demonstrated that this population also contributes greatly to high teenage pregnancy and STIs. Adolescents and youth present a myriad of challenges including high rates on drugs and substance abuse, sexual and gender-based violence, high rates of unemployment among others. Underneath these challenges are harmful cultural and religious practices that impede efforts to address them. This policy captures the spirit of the Constitution of Kenya, National youth policy, National Adolescent sexual reproductive health policy, Kenya SRH policy and County Integrated Development Plan (2022– 2027).

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE POLICY**

1. Samburu County Youth Policy will be useful for the county government in planning, programming, budgeting and implementing the policy to youth issues and others.
2. The policy will hold the service providers to account and responsible for the execution of the policy. There is a greater call for a multi- sectorial and multi-pronged approach to holistically respond to the needs of young people while addressing the social determinants like job and business opportunities, retention in school among other.
3. The Samburu County Youth Policy will also help to coordinate different stakeholders and relevant groups on issues relevant to the youth and to create awareness on gender equality and freedom from discrimination in relation to youth.
4. It will also help the Samburu County government in affirming action initiatives which will ensure that the youth are benefiting from such initiatives and in analyzing performance in relation to youth employment.
5. Similarly, the Samburu County Youth Policy will help the government in coordinating development of standards for the implementation of policies for progressive realization of the rights of the youth spelt out in Article 55 of the Constitution.
6. The Samburu County Youth Policy also seeks to provide an opportunity for improving the quality of life for the youth through their participation in economic and democratic processes as well as in community and civic affairs.
7. It also advocates for the creation of a supportive social, cultural, economic and political environment that will empower the youth to be partners on County development.
8. This will eventually free the Samburu County Youth from discrimination pertaining to the them.

## Guiding Principles for the Youth Policy

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 are based on the principles of responsiveness, access, participation, inclusion, integration, diversity, empowerment and equity. The values are underpinned and informed by the following principles:

1. Responsiveness: governments, private sector, civil societies, Faith Based Organizations (FBO) and Non-Governmental Organizations (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;
2. Access: youth shall be supported and encouraged to access quality services while ensuring equality for opportunity and active participation in society and economy;
3. Participation: in cognizance of principle of public participation and constitution youth shall be involved in advocacy, behavior change, communication, planning and decision-making processes that affect them and wider society;
4. 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;
5. Integration: all stakeholders involved in youth activities including government, private sector, civil societies, and faith-based organizations
6. (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;
7. 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;
8. 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;
9. 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,
10. Transparency: Institutions and organizations involved in youth development should operate in a transparent and accountable manner.

## Rights, Obligations and responsibilities of the Youth

### **1.4.1 Rights of youths**

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:

1. Right to life;
2. Quality education;
3. Good health;
4. Marriage at the legal age of consent;
5. Protection from abuse, sexual exploitation and trafficking;
6. Seek decent and fulfilling employment;
7. Adequate shelter, food, clothing and basic services;
8. Protection from harmful conditions and cultural practices and
9. exploitation;
10. Freedom of speech, expression and association;
11. Participate in making decisions that affect their lives;
12. Protection from social, economic and political manipulation;
13. Ownership, secure tenure and protection of property; and,
14. Protection from harmful cultural practices and exploitation.

### **1.4.2 Obligations and responsibilities of the Youth**

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:

1. Be patriotic and loyal to Kenya and promote the country’s wellbeing;
2. Contribute to social-economic development at all levels, including through volunteerism;
3. Create and promote respect for humanity, sustain peaceful coexistence, national unity and stability;
4. Protect the environment;
5. Help to support and protect those who are disadvantaged and vulnerable;
6. Promote democracy and the rule of law;
7. Create gainful employment;
8. Take advantage of available education and training opportunities;
9. Develop a positive attitude towards work and entrepreneurship;
10. Lead healthy lifestyles and shun harmful/negative habits (e.g. gambling, misuse of social media, drugs use and substance abuse);
11. Avoid indulging in careless and irresponsible sex and risky sexual behavior; and,
12. Take responsible charge of their lives.

## 1.5 The scope of the Policy

This policy applies to Samburu county government, private sector, development partners, youth organizations, youth groups and individual youths in Samburu County.

* ***Goal***-To promote the holistic empowerment and participation of the youth of Samburu in socio-economic and political spheres for the County’s development.
* ***Main Objective****-*To mainstream youth issues in all sectors of the County development within the public, private sectors and civil society organizations*.*

## 1.6 The Youth Policy Development Process

The process of developing this Policy was inclusive. It involved the youth themselves, several partners and stakeholders through consultative and participatory processes comprising county public participation forums, county stakeholder validation forums, expert consultations, technical team forums, executive meetings, and technical services and professional facilitation by relevant policy teams.

The preparation of the Samburu 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 organizations, community based organizations and development partners. Extensive consultative activities took place with a wide range of stakeholders including the ministries and directorates in charge of youth issues at the national and county governments.

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## 1.7 Alignment of the Youth Policy

The policy gives support to other national and international laws and treaties which aims at ensuring youth issues are reflected in all sectors. These include:

**(i)The constitution of Kenya**.

Article 10 and 27 which calls for inclusivity, non-discrimination, equality and freedom from discrimination on the basis of age. In addition, 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 and economic spheres of life, access employment, are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation, develop their cultural values, language and practices.

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

The act established the National Youth Council. (NYC) to facilitate, coordinate, promote, monitor and advocate for youth issues and youth led initiatives under the ministry in charge of youths. The NYC was established in 2012 to ensure effective coordination of youths related interventions and involvement of the youth in planning, monitoring and evaluation of youth interventions.

**(iii)Kenya Youth Development Policy of 2007**.

The policy aimed at ensuring the 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 centered. It spelt out the strategic areas that must be addressed and the implementation mechanisms. The current policy takes into account emerging issues affecting the youths.

**(iv)The Kenya Vision 2030**.

The vision envisages responsible, globally competitive and prosperous youth. Among the specific interventions under the vision are establishment of youth centres, mentorship, development of creative industry hubs and youth enterprise financing.

**(v)Other International Conventions and Treaties.**

The policy recognizes 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). African Charter on Human and People's Rights (2003).

(ii). African Youth Charter (2006).

(iii). UN 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (SGDs) 2015.

(iv). Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE) 2006-2015, that provide framework for youth development.

(v). World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY). That provides framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve situations of youths.

(vi). African Youth Charter (2006) and decade plan of action for youth development and empowerment (2009-2018) on legal and political frameworks for action in situation of youths in Africa.

(vii). Ministry in charge of youth affairs.

The ministry was established in December 2005 to address youth concerns in the country in realization that the government was not going to achieve the millennium development without dealing with many socio-economic challenges facing the Kenyan youth

## 1.8 Organization of the Policy document

Describe how this policy document is organized probably in chapters and what each chapter talks about.

# CHAPTER TWO SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

## 2.1 Introduction

## 2.2 County Situation of the Youth

**Adolescent Archetypes**

This section describes the typical character, actions, motivations and environment that represent the primary audience of adolescent boys and girls. The archetype helps to create a better understanding of the audience so that the services directed to them are relevant and effective in planning and programming.

Female Audiences

Nasieku, 10–14 years, rural

Nasieku is unmarried and is not yet in school. Her main domestic chores include fetching water, firewood and herding. She enjoys playing (skipping rope), beadwork, singing, chatting with friends and sharing stories and being in public spaces such as markets. She also likes perfumes and anything that is colourful (particularly, red) and bright. She dislikes undergoing FGM, forced marriages, being beaded by a man she does not like, herding cattle and being restricted from doing activities she enjoys such as dances and singing. Her aspirations are to go to school, to be a mother and have children, and to be married to a rich young man who has many cows.

Typical day: She wakes up by 6.00 am to help her mother prepare morning tea. She will drink milk and then go on to herd goats either alone or with a sibling/friend. As she herds, she will also be chatting with her friends, or socializing with male herders, or beading. In the evening, her main activities will include milking and sorting the animals (young from the older ones). Her dinner will mainly comprise of milk, ugali, meat and porridge. After dinner, she will enjoy night music around the boma because she is not circumcised. She will typically sleep in her grandmother’s house where she may enjoy folk stories from her grandmother before sleeping.

Naserian, 15–19 years, rural

Naserian, a 19-year-old young woman, is married with two children. She is a primary school dropout. Naserian likes beadwork, singing, socializing with female friends and sniffing tobacco. She dislikes forced marriage (because she went through the experience), being in a polygamous marriage (she is the third wife), drunkenness and being restricted from doing what she desires. Her main fears revolve around divorce or being separated from her husband, physical violence from her spouse and the risk of HIV infection. She aspires to have a stable family with many children that are successful in what they do. She also desires to have many animals, which symbolizes wealth in her community.

Typical day: Naserian wakes up by 6.00 am in readiness for the numerous household chores that are her responsibility to include: lighting the fire, preparing tea and serving her family, sorting the animals, escorting the animals outside the home (to be herded by the young boys/girls in the homestead), cleaning the compound and shelter for the goats, fetching water and going to the market to try sell her beadwork. She occasionally joins her female friends to sing to tourists when the opportunity arises. This allows her to make a little money. She will also ensure she has fetched firewood for cooking the evening meal. In the early evening, she will go home to settle the young goats in their sleeping areas, milk the goats/cows/camels, prepare supper and clean the calabashes for milking the next morning before she sleeps at around 10.00 pm.

**Male Audiences**

Losieku, 10–19 years, rural

Losieku is not married and he is a primary school dropout. He has not yet undergone the circumcision ritual, but he looks forward to being a Moran to gain community respect. He enjoys participating in cultural ceremonies and bonding with peers in social groups within manyattas. He also likes singing and listening to cultural music on his smart phone radio. He loves personal grooming - to be clean and smart. He does not like any restrictions on his life. He fears being HIV infected and the effects of drought on his family. His typical days are dominated with herding livestock for long periods of time. Subsequently, his access to any health information and services is very limited.

Moran, 15-19 years

Lemaiyan is a Moran. He is unmarried but has beaded one of the girls in his community. In his community, he is highly valued, almost as a ‘demigod’ because of the protective role he plays in his community. He is held in high regard, probably more than his peers who are educated or school going. Lemaiyan likes the recognition and status he has in the community and he is keen to retain the heroism that comes with being a Moran. Subsequently, he does not like ill-health as it depicts weakness. He takes a lot of herbs to sustain his strength and words off any disease. Some of the other things Lemaiyan does not like include being demeaned, failure, restrictions, lack of control and hardship. He hates famine as it contributes to the loss of animals which symbolize loss of wealth; and also, it heightens the risk of death of the very community he seeks to protect. He does not enjoy farming as it takes up valuable time and makes him dirty.

He is very conscious of his image and this is evidenced by how he carries himself with pride and walks with an identifiable poise. He seems to have a sense of entitlement over everything desirable. He enjoys several things including: being clean and smart, wearing brightly coloured regalia and body perfumes, mobile technology (he owns a smart phone and several memory cards that allow him to download movies, photos and music by local/other contemporary artists, etc.) and wealth and materialism. He has a deep value for his community’s culture and is bound by its expectations over his life. He however somewhat embraces modernization as depicted by his consumption of digital media information. He enjoys flirting and socializing with women but has a domineering attitude towards the female fraternity over all aspects of their life due to the culturally accepted superiority.

Lemaiyan has fears including impregnating a girl, which goes against cultural norms, losing in war, poverty and death. He aspires to be wealthy, marry many wives, have many life adventures, and to acquire physical skills that help him to build wealth.

Typical day during the dry season: He takes on the role of provider for the household. He wakes up at 5am, scans the surrounding community area to ensure it is secure against potential enemies/hazards and mitigates, if necessary. He then goes to herd the livestock, during which time, he chats with his age set peers, flirts with girls, waters and milks the animals, composes and sings songs and charts his life plans. Lemaiyan and his peers cook one meal in a day where they mix blood, milk and maize flour.

Typical day during the rainy season: Lemaiyan and his fellow morans go back to the manyatta since there is now plenty of food for the livestock. Their days are comprised of the following activities: relaxing, bathing, chewing miraa, focusing on their body hygiene and image, flirting with girls, engaging in any business ventures e.g., being a tour guide, visits to the towns, and participating in evening dances. During this time, they are highly predisposed to risky sexual behaviour as their interactions with girls/women is more based on the recreational activities.

## 2.3 Youth Categories

**An overview of youth opportunities and potential in the county**

(**I) Enterprise Development Initiatives**

With the high levels of unemployment, the youth can be encouraged to venture into

enterprises as a source of livelihood and ultimately creating employment.

**Policy Concern**

Enterprise development is the best alternative solution for sustainable livelihoods for youth

in samburu however, entrepreneurship ecosystem conducive for youth to start, grow, and sustain their businesses is still lacking. Youth businesses collapse in the initial stages or are never launched at all due to lack of start-up capital, lack of market information, lack business development services, inefficiencies in AGPO.

**Policy Statement**

The county government will put in place measures to support youth enterprise

development through capacity enhancement, funding, linkages, and facilitation.

**Policy Interventions**

Based on the challenges faced by the youth in this area, the Policy provides the following Intervention:

* 1. Build capacity of youth in enterprise to design, launch and grow sustainable enterprises
  2. Ensure fair implementation of AGPO within Samburu County
  3. Conduct Annual Youth Market Fairs to showcase youth innovations and products
  4. Create market linkages for youth enterprises
  5. Review and subsidize business licensing fees for youth enterprises
  6. Establish a County Youth Revolving Enterprise Fund accessible at sub-county level

**(II)Skills Development, ICT and Employment**

The increasing youth population offers the county an opportunity to turn the

demographic dividend into jobs and economic growth by developing appropriate

skills through quality and relevant job-market specific training opportunities.

**Policy Concern**

Mismatch of skills and labour demands, coupled with uncoordinated efforts to

address youth unemployment and underemployment create a need for concerted

efforts to understand youth dynamics amidst socio-economic spheres, the key

players and the value of collaboration, networking and partnerships.

**Policy Statement**

The Samburu County Government seeks to create an enabling environment for youth in the county to achieve economic self-reliance through skill development, leveraging on ICT and decent employment.

**Policy Interventions**

The Policy provides the following interventions for creating decent employment for youth in Samburu:

1. Develop and implement a labour market information system to provide youth with real time information on employment opportunities by creating an online database for the youth
2. Streamline internships and apprenticeship opportunities in public and private sectors within Samburu County in collaboration with relevant authorities
3. Mainstream industry relevant competency-based education and training
4. Strengthen and increase Vocational Training Centres
5. Establish and equip One-Stop Youth information centres at sub-county level with relevant infrastructure as Employment Placement Centres to cater for youth competencies and skills
6. Recognize structured work exposure opportunities as relevant work experience in the labour market
7. Develop resource centres, youth desks and libraries for youth to access information and relevant educational material
8. Leveraging ICT for civic education and public participation

**(III) Patriotism and Volunteerism**

National volunteerism policy should be customized by Samburu county government for implementation in collaboration with the national government.

**Policy Concern**

Youth have the skills, energy and time that can be harnessed to support national

socio-economic and political development through volunteerism opportunities. In

such opportunities, the youth find a rare chance to make a difference in the lives of

their fellow citizens and for personal growth as well.

**Policy Statement**

The County Government of Samburu will put in place measures that encourage

patriotism by developing a Samburu County youth volunteerism strategy paper.

**Policy Interventions**

This is an initiative that the Policy strongly advocates for and hence encourages all stakeholders to undertake the following actions to embed the culture of volunteerism among the youth:

i. Customize the National Volunteerism policy through a strategic paper

ii. Establish County Youth Service

iii. Provide a youth volunteerism framework in the county

iv. Facilitate all stakeholder ownership and support for youth volunteerism

v. Educate youth on the value of patriotism, national cohesion and volunteerism

vi. Mainstream youth volunteerism in all sectors of County Government

vii. Enhance Youth volunteerism in community and neighborhood associations

viii. Establish a mechanism for monitoring, evaluating and recognizing the youth

who successfully accomplish their roles within the volunteerism programmes.

**(IV) Identification and Development of Talent and Creativity**

The youth possess a wealth of creativity and the energy which, when properly harnessed, have the potential to enable generation of meaningful, dignified incomes. By mainstreaming the engagement of youth and their creativity in all spheres of county development, the county would be providing opportunities for their meaningful contribution, participation and exercising their civic duty, while ensuring the self-actualization and fulfilment of the individual.

**Policy Concern**

The creative economy in Samburu has potential which is yet to be optimally harnessed. The youth of Samburu have talent which needs to be nurtured and encouraged, platforms should be created where youth of this county will have safe and protected spaces where they can express and showcase their creativity.

**Policy Statement**

Samburu County Government will ensure appropriate mechanisms enabling the identification, development, showcasing and commercialization of skills and talent in youth participating in the creative and cultural industry.

**Policy interventions**

1. Develop mechanism for monetization and commercialization of artistic and sports talents.
2. Establish tax incentives and waivers for the players in the talents, arts and sports industry.
3. Develop a strategy for youth talent identification and nurturing.
4. Capacity build creatives on property and intellectual rights
5. Protect safe spaces where the youth generate, nurture, develop, showcase their ideas and engage in skills building and networking.
6. Build strategic partnerships with the state and non-state actors like the private sector, civil society, media among others to create a vibrant ecosystem for creativity to enable a thriving creative and cultural industry.
7. Establish, rehabilitate, and equip creative talent hubs in all sub-counties.
8. Sensitize on the value of talent and talent development.
9. Establish a comprehensive talent scouting system in all sub- counties for continuous identification of talent
10. Liaise with stakeholders in talent identification and development
11. Create a database on the participants in the creative sector to facilitate networking, referral, and data-driven interventions.

(V) **Environment Management for Sustainable Development**

Our environment should be our concern for sustainable development to be achieved. Climate change is now a global conversation and Samburu County has not been left behind and the young people can play a critical role in ensuring climate change is combated.

**Policy Concerns**

Samburu County recognizes the need for a sustainable environment. Issues to do with Solid Waste Management, air pollution, greening of the town and protections of forests and water catchment areas requires considerations.

**Policy statement**

Samburu County Government will ensure there are mechanisms that support youth engagement in the development, protection, conservation of the natural resources and environment while engaging in circular jobs.

**Policy Interventions**

Some actions that will be taken to achieve this are:

* + 1. Develop and implement the human resource training strategy in green processes and technologies
    2. Invest in the conversion of waste to wealth initiatives.
    3. launch and implement the 2 million tree planting campaigns with youth taking an active role and empower youth as environment ambassadors across the county
    4. Build capacities of youth on green energy, waste management and general environmental conservation and management
    5. Identify high potential value chains in green energy, waste management and alternative prudent natural resources utilization.
    6. Educate and support youth to take advantage of green jobs and carbon credit opportunities

**(VI) Leadership, Participation and Representation**

Effective participation of the youth in leadership and governance is necessary for the realization of the CIDPs, Big Four Agenda and Vision 2030 aspirations**.** Youths need to be natured and supported in agendas enhancing active citizenry.

**Policy Concerns**

Youth inclusion and engagement is one challenge that many institutions and other decision-making organs including Samburu County Government will have to contend with. In many situations involving youth development that ordinarily should be driven by the youth, the opposite is true. This scenario has therefore made it necessary for the inclusion of affirmative action plans to get the youth to be part of decision-making processes. This policy will therefore make deliberate attempts at bridging the gaps of youth inclusion, participation and engagement in the implementation of this policy.

**Policy Statement**

The County Government of Samburu will establish the County Youth Advisory Committee to provide advisory services to the County on youth participation and representation.

**Policy Interventions.**

Establishment of a Youth Advisory Committee composing of all the stakeholders undertaking youth initiatives which will undertake the following functions;

The committee shall give advice to Samburu County Government on Youth issues.

The committee shall advise on resource mobilization for youth programmes.

The committee shall advocate for youth issues and ensure they are mainstreamed in all County Functions including Policy Making & Budgeting Processes

The committee shall promote social research and development

The committee shall provide mechanisms for youth representation in the county affairs.

The committee shall support the oversight for implementation of the Youth Policy

## 2.4 Challenges affecting the various categories of youth in the county

### **2.4.1 Unemployment**

Today, Kenya’s youth unemployment rate stands at 65 percent, among the highest in the world. Three in five unemployed Kenyans are 15 – 35 years old. The situation is exacerbated by a shrinking economy, political instability, and pervasive income inequality. Significantly, youth are engaged in the informal sector, which is largely unregulated and subjects’ workers to low earnings and long hours, without any formal contract. Suffering under a slow-growing economy, youth, whether well-educated or uneducated, have increasingly turned to crime and violence, serving as watu wa mkono (handymen) to the ruling elite and intimidating and harassing their political opponents.

Violence during Kenya’s disputed 2007 elections left approximately 1,133 people dead and 650,000 displaced from their land. Many of these atrocities were committed by youth.

### **2.4.2 Drugs and Substance Abuse**

Drug and substance abuse is a growing social challenge among the youth today and the problem is caused by a variety of reasons some which include: peer pressure, pressure from academics and unemployment, poor parenting, easy accessibility to alcohol, poor parenting, lack of responsible role models in society and negative social media influence.

## 2.5 County Youth Interventions and Achievements

This youth policy therefore builds on the achievements realized as articulated above, especially since promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. With devolution now being part of Kenya’s governance architecture, the County Governments are expected to also advance the gender equality agenda specifically in the County Integrated Development Plans, the Medium Term Plans, Annual Development Plans, Annual Budget Plans as well as customizing or enacting relevant laws and policies that will advance this agenda within their various contexts but in harmony with the national laws.

It is in this context and mandate that the County Government of Samburu has developed this policy to address gender equality based on the realities and experiences of the communities in Samburu County, who are mainly pastoralists and heavily patriarchal. It is expected that this policy will provide policy guidance to not only all departments of the County Government but also to development partners, so that together, we can walk the gender equality journey purposefully, and towards the vision articulated in this policy.

## 2.6 Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis

Description of recent policy interventions strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

**STRENGTHS**

1. Well informed: On what's going on having or showing much knowledge about a wide range of subjects and having Clear mandate of the department of gender.

2.Knowledge: They have the knowledge of knowing the availability of adequate legislations in the country i.e. National Gender policy, sexual offences Act, Anti-FGM Act, prohibition against domestic violence Act, children Act and Matrimonial and property Act among others.

3. Innovativeness: This is whereby young people instigate potential solutions to a problem, often one that they have identified as a group and take responsibility for developing and implementing a solution together.

4. Talents of different kinds among the youths whereby most of them are creative nowadays.

5. Resilience: The youths of today have the ability to bounce back from difficult times in life.

6.Rich Culture whereby everything needed is available eg social media, network etc

7.Youth groups that helps them get updated in case something comes up an activity that involves them to work.

8.Belonging to the age bracket 18-34 years.

9. Political Goodwill which is easily built up with the public.

**WEAKNESS**

1.Politically manipulation hence causing Low visibility of the department at the county level.

2.Drugs and substance among the youths

3.High level of illegality due to lack of inadequate funding.

4.Unemployment among the youths where a person actively searches for employment but is unable to find work.

5.Shy to speak out.

6.Selfishness of lacking consideration of other people.

7.Corruption in the society this is the dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, typically involving bribery.

8.Climatic Change in the society eg heavy rains hence causing floods.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

1.Empowerment whereby you have authority or power given to you to do something anywhere.

2.Development of partners who are willing to support. .

2. Receptive and willing community to accommodate change.

3. Affirmative action programs i.e. AGPO and supportive funds

4. Good number of willing volunteers in the country.

5.Youth internship in the counties.

6.Scholarships either within the country or outside offered to the youths.

7.Youth Tenders in the counties

8.Workshop done countywide or in the countries.

9.Campaigns on enrolment and retention of children in schools which has picked up.

**THREATS**

1.Cyber Crimes which has caused addiction to cyberbullying, sexual solicitation, and child pornography, which results in negativity in youth

2.Drugs and Substance which is the main among our youths.

3.Unemployment which may be caused by Corruption, Low level of education, Government offering contracts to foreigners’ firms or the emergence of non-certified colleges and universities.

4.School Dropout due to lack of fees or bad influence of friends.

5. Lack of Youth Policy whereby the council of elders and the society looking at the department as going against culture.

6.Povery: Poverty include not only lack of material or monetary resources but also structural and systemic factors that impact on people’s capabilities, opportunities and agency in political, social and economic spheres.

# CHAPTER THREE YOUTH POLICY FRAMEWORK

# *Introduction*

## 3.1 Vision, Mission, Rallying call and Values

**Mission**

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.

Rallying Call

Kazi Kwa Vijana

Values

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 county to the State Department in charge of Youth Affairs, with direct oversight by the parent Ministry.

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

### **3.2.1 Youth Policy Objectives**

1. To initiate, strengthen and streamline all programs 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 programs;
7. To mobilize resources for youth programs and projects at all levels.

# CHAPTER FOUR YOUTH POLICY COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

**Introduction**

## 4.1 Implementation and Coordination mechanisms

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 programs in Samburu County.

The Department of youth will also guide establishment of a youth economic movement led by youth from the village to county level. Implementation of Samburu

County Youth Policy requires a multi-sectorial approach and therefore there is need for coordination at national, county assembly, sub- county, ward within the county several departments like health, education finance and department of Gender, culture, social services, youth and sports and village

This policy implementation will on a sound institutional framework, adequately coordinated implementation support, effecting resource mobilization and funding, effective program monitoring; and active political, administrative and technical support for the translation of goals, objectives and strategies outlined in the Policy into actual programs at all levels of the community

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

1. **Harnessing in technology.**

The youths are among the low-income populations that require access to information on industry requirement for improved employability and the provision of digital skills training will allow them to have the knowledge to use ICTs to access information on the relevant job skills needed in the labor market.

1. **Education and training programs**

Initiatives or extracurricular instruction that target the skills gap can focus on anything from employability skills to job hunting and interviewing to entrepreneurship to vocational education (including opportunities in the green economy). Ideally, in the future, these kinds of education will be embedded into national curricula, tackling the skills gap.

1. **Youth access to capital**

For young people keen to get start-ups funded, they don’t have to rely on banks alone. Crowd funding sites and networks give young people all over the world the chance to get the support they need to build their enterprises and increase their incomes. With more programs targeted to provide incomes being created every day, the future is getting brighter for aspiring entrepreneurs.

1. **Universal internet access and greater availability of cheap tech**

With programs like Facebook’s Internet.org working towards free internet access to key sites and Computer Aid providing IT education across the county, this solution to the digital divide is coming along. However, infrastructure development (electrical grids, etc.) is obviously key to this goal.

1. **Skills matching**

The private sector, government and education systems need to start collaborating to determine what knowledge and skills young people should be taught in order to find rewarding work. Considering businesses are suffering from the skills mismatch, too, they need to take a more active role in promoting appropriate education and skill-building for young people from an early age.

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

Flagships is a strategic action born to respond to a particular challenge. Same as action plan in policy development.

Examples Include:

**Affirmative action policy**:

The policy will ensure that the youth have a 30 per cent representation in appointments to public service, management and development committees, political, social and economic sectors. The needs of the youth will therefore be implemented to increase their representation and participation.

**Revision of education and training curriculum**:

This will be conducted at all levels of learning to improve the production of skills that are demand-driven. Further, the curriculum will teach behavioral and life skills in order to impart positive character traits that will help the youth to make appropriate choices in life.

**Revitalization of Youth Polytechnics:**

This will facilitate the training of young people in technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skills in an effort to increase their productivity and equip them with skills to participate fully in productive activities. In addition, they will also be equipped with creative skills to deal with advances in technology.

Increase of allocation to secondary and tertiary level bursary programmes:

The increase in allocation of funds will greatly increase the opportunities particularly for destitute young people to continue with education irrespective of their poor background. It will also reduce the burden on parents who are unable to pay for their children’s secondary and tertiary education.

**The Youth Enterprise Development Fund:**

The youth will benefit from accessing this Fund since effective mechanisms will be put in place for easier access to credit and collateral. In addition to accessing the Fund, the youth will be effectively equipped with appropriate skills to creatively engage in economically viable activities.

**Youth Empowerment Centre:**

Centres will be rehabilitated or established in every constituency in the county. The purpose of such centres will be to creatively engage young people with a view to tap young talent and create opportunities for them.

A further purpose of these centres will be to minimize the prevalence of drug and substance abuse among the youth. The centres will be equipped to provide services such as counseling and health services, ICT facilities, library and information services, performance and training facilities in music, dance and the performing arts. The centres will also provide basic literacy and continuing education opportunities for school leavers in each constituency

## 4.4 Resource Mobilization and Financing of the Policy

Resources and support required for implementation of this policies shall be mobilized from both public and private sectors with twin objective of building human and physical capabilities of the youth including voluntary youth sector, skills development, and developing competencies to support development of young people. Targeted steps will be undertaken to engage with the private sectors with a view to strengthening their support and commitment to youth especially in such areas as further education, skills development, entrepreneurship and labor market participation.

The interventions and initiatives identified in this Policy shall be supported through mobilization of monetary and non-monetary resources from the 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. The ultimate goal will be to create empowered youth and promote intergenerational equity.

Consequently:

* 1. The achievement of the objectives of this policy framework is pegged on an effective mobilization of resources;
  2. The County governments with support from non-state actors shall be responsible for the provision of adequate resources for the implementation of this policy;
  3. The Ministry in charge of youth at County level shall be responsible for mobilizing both human and material resources to ensure that the policy framework is adequately and sufficiently implemented;
  4. County Government, through the Ministry in charge of youth shall mobilize community support, as well as support in cash and kind from non-state actors in the country towards implementation of the Policy; and
  5. County Government shall also mobilize external support, both financial and technical in a bid to ensure effective and efficient implementation of this Policy framework.

At County level, the ministry in-charge of Youth Affairs shall coordinate the youth initiatives. This will also include management of related data and information for effective sharing with all stakeholder at various levels. The Policy implementation mechanism will be operationalized through annual action plans detailing: policy priorities, key actions, indicators, timelines, responsibility, and estimated budgets.

## 4.5 Roles of stakeholders

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| S/No | **Stakeholders** | **Roles** |
|  | **The County Government of Samburu** | • Allocate financial resources for implementation of this Samburu county youth policy.  • Improve fiscal responsibility |
|  | **Department of medical services, public health and sanitation** | • Adapt and implement the AYFS guidelines  • Build youth friendly centers at sub-county and ward levels  • Support the implementation of the beading policy through existing health systems (facility-based health workers, community health workers, CHVs, other health practitioners and teachers) to educate the community on the health implications related to the beading practice  • Establish a position for two youth health champions (male and female) who will educate, guide and promote good health among the morans (young warriors) and girls at the community level  • Provide appropriate support tools to the health facilities and to the CHVs for effective service delivery by enhancing reachability  • Recruit and build capacity of morans and shanga girls as CHVs to reach out to their counterparts  • Conduct surveys on AYFS uptake specifically by morans and shanga girls |
|  | **Department of culture, social services, gender, sports and youth affairs.** | • Support and implement the beading policy, AYFS Guidelines and other line policies.  • Support civic education of shanga girls on their menstrual hygiene management  • Support the provision of both sophisticated and reusable sanitary towels to the school-going and shanga girls  • Support women empowerment programs to make reusable sanitary towels to be sold to shanga girls at cheaper prices  • Support morans and shanga girls targeted programs on youth.  • Adopt and domesticate youth policy.  • Support and initiate behavioral change programs on teen pregnancies, child beading, child marriages, FGM and GBV  • Create a strong liaison and be an avenue where youth-led initiatives share ideas, support and collaborate in programs  • Support and implement the gender policy  • Mobilization of out-of-school youth to access these government services.  • Support provision of services to the youths at different levels, including at youth empowerment centers and other youth empowerment platforms  • Advocate for resource allocation at all levels to ensure implementation of the youth policy.  • Strengthen youth empowerment platforms to effectively respond to youth needs  • Build safe places and rescue centers at county and sub-county levels to respond to GBV and other social or health related abuses |
|  | **Ministry of interior and national government coordination.** | * Provide security in conflict prone areas * Reinforce the implementation of the beading policy, FGM, gender and other policies in line with their mandate * Establish reliable reporting systems on GBV, perpetrators of teenage pregnancies, child beading, early marriages, FGM, and other sexual exploitation and abuse practices. |
|  | **Finance, Economic Planning and ICT** | * Support utilization of ICT in delivery of information * Regulate media content on sexual and reproductive health information and other information that might erode the characters of youths. * Create ICT hubs at ward levels for youths and deploy mentors at each hub to facilitate utilization of digital learning platforms for the youths. |
|  | **County assembly** | * Legislative authority in the enactment of the policy * Support meaningful engagement of adolescents and youths (educated and low literacy) in public participation activities on policy and budget development * Approve the budget and expenditure of the Samburu County Youth Policy * Lobby for the fiscal allocations to enable implementation of the Samburu County Youth Policy. * Enact laws to enable adolescents and young people to perform their social responsibilities. |
|  | **Media** | * Advocate and create public awareness on matters related to youths * Regulate media content for adolescents and youth * Carry out workshops to sensitize the locals on the need for and importance of youth involvement and assistance. * Provide radio airtime and avenues for youths, policy makers, decision makers and experts for dialogues on youth and development. |
|  | **NGOs, CSOs, FBOs, CBOs and Private sector** | * Support provision of services to the youths and information to adolescents and communities * Support research and youth policy formulation and dissemination * Support sustainable programs seeking to empower adolescents and youth * Meaningfully involve adolescents and youth in policy formulation, program design, implementation, research and monitoring and evaluation * Advocate and mobilize resources for Samburu County Youth Policy dissemination and implementation. * Support special and targeted interventions aimed at empowering marginalized and vulnerable adolescents and youth * Support capacity building of service providers on provision of services to the youths. * Support establishment of youth service delivery points |
|  | **Youths** | * Champion adolescent and youth health interests through existing relevant structures at all levels * Participate meaningfully in research and program implementation as articulated I this policy and other guidelines. * Participate in decision making and planning processes in all matters involving youths and their communities. * Participate meaningfully in creating awareness for available opportunities for youths. * Access and utilize the services for youths. * Provide feedback on the provision of youth services. * Participate meaningfully in public participation to advocate for budgetary allocation for Samburu County Youth Policy implementation. |
|  | **Communities, families and individuals** | * Create awareness on the service availability for youth and adolescents * Support youth and adolescents in accessing and utilizing of government and private sector opportunities. * Resource mobilization for youth programs support * Participate in planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of this youth policy at all levels * Effective parental guidance to adolescents and youths about their rights and responsibilities. * Involve morans and shanga girls in decision making at the community level |
|  | **Training and research institutions** | * Develop skills and competencies for youth through trainings to enable them access information on YFS, economic empowerment and * Integrate YFS in their training curriculums. * Meaningfully engage youth in research on YFS and other of their mandate. * Generate information for decision making including guidelines/policies revision and or development. |

# CHAPTER FIVE MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

## 5.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with how the policy will be monitored evaluated and frame in order to acquire the best for Samburu county youth at large

## 5.2 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework

Resources and support required for implementation of this policies shall be mobilized from both public and private sectors with twin objective of building human and physical capabilities of the youth including voluntary youth sector, skills development, and developing competencies to support development of young people. Targeted steps will be undertaken to engage with the private sectors with a view to strengthening their support and commitment to youth especially in such areas as further education, skills development, entrepreneurship and labor market participation.

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. The ultimate goal will be to create empowered youth and promote intergenerational equity.

# CHAPTER SIX COMMUNICATION, PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

## 6.1 Introduction

The Ministry in charge of youth in Samburu County shall develop mechanisms using formal and informal channels, print and electronic media in developing a robust and multifaceted communication strategy for the Policy and the program 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.

## 6.2 Communication channels (radio, TV, local language, barazas, online platforms)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Channel | Youth  18yrs- 34yrs | PWDs | Literate & Semi-literate, Youth | Rural | Urban & Informal settlements | Communication Plan |
| Radio | Youth |  | Literate |  | Urban and informal settlements | The county youth affairs ministry shall engage with the youth via the national and local radio stations. |
| Local language | Youth | PWDs | Semi-literate | Rural |  | Samburu and Turkana languages shall be the best form of communication when publicizing and sharing the policy among the youth in the rural areas. |
| Barazas | Youth | PWDs | Both literate and semi-literate | Rural |  | This shall involve round table discussions by youth in disgnated areas within the county. |
| Social media online platform | Youth | PWDs | Literate |  | Urban and informal settlements | Posters shall be shared on facebook, twitter and the county youth affairs website for the youth to be notified of the policy |
| Television | Youth | PWDs | Literate |  | Urban and informal settlements | The concerned ministry shall notify the youth of upcoming events that will need their engagement in implementing the county youth policy. This take place via national TV station like Citizen TV. |

## 6.3 Publicity and Policy Information Sharing

The youth in Samburu County shall acquire information concerning the policy through channels like radio, television, barazas and social media platforms including the County youth affairs website.

For the stakeholders, the youth policy information will be shared in newspapers and gazette in the county magazine.

## 6.4 Publicity and Policy Information Sharing

A County government of Samburu shall establish mechanisms to facilitate public communication and access to information in the form of media with the widest public outreach in the county, which may include—(a) television stations; (b) information communication technology centers; (c) websites; (d) community radio stations; (e) public meetings; and (f) traditional media.

Alternatively, the youth in Samburu County shall acquire information concerning the policy through channels like radio, television, barazas and social media platforms including the County youth affairs website.

For the stakeholders, the youth policy information will be shared in newspapers and gazetted in the county magazine.

## 6.5 Policy Review

The Samburu county youth policy and its implementation framework was developed though a consultative process and shall be implemented in a five-year period of 2023-2028. The policy acknowledges that our society is dynamic, hence there shall be a mid-term review after 2.5 years or when any need arises, so as to include any emerging current and future needs that may have occurred in the society. This will also include monitoring progress and any significant changes that the county and the country may have experienced.

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# 7.0 CONCLUSION

At the inception stages of devolution, it was challenging to reinforce the principle of meaningful public participation to achieve shared prosperity as a county. The diverse efforts to rearrange power relations of the community social structures and devolved government structures motorized participatory governance. Youths have been at the periphery and in counties like Samburu, youths have been relegated to decision making cadres and processes. This has created a huge gap between the old and the youths, consequently the voice of the youths missing at the decision making tables. This policy goes a long way to address the myriads of challenges youths face including being a hallmark for youth participation in all the decision making processes involving them and their communities.

# Annex 1: Implementation matrix

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective 1: Provide the means for young people to obtain respectable jobs and enduring livelihoods**  **Outcome 1: Youth opportunities are established** | | | | | |  |
| Strategies | Activities | Outputs | Key performance Indicators | Timelines  2023-2027 | Budget (2023-2027) | Responsibility |
| Ensure the establishment of high-quality jobs for youth | * Increase the pace and sustainability of inclusive macroeconomic and social policies, make decent jobs * Strengthen the county public finance management systems to ensure that public resources are prudently managed and used for improved service delivery; improve the business environment; and create job opportunities. * Encourage youth employment in both the public and private sectors by strengthening the link between education and training and the labor market. * Address the challenges that young people face when looking for work by investing in job search infrastructure, such as strengthening the Kenya Labor Market Information System and improving employment services across all counties. |  | 1. Workforce participation, underemployment, and inactive rates by ward and industry |  |  | * County Governments * Private Sector * FBOs * Ajira Digital * NYC * CBO |
| Improve financial support for youth programs | * Adopt result-based contracting to solidify the link between youth and employers. * Aid in the creation of business operations. * Encourage business procurement to youth-led enterprises. * Create and legitimize youth financial market network data. * Improve access to financial assistance for young businesses and startups. |  | 1. How many young SMEs are connected to the market (business to business; business to market, business to finance)      1. Nature and number of youth-led smart agricultural initiatives      1. How many agricultural production systems are mechanized? |  |  | * County Governments * Private Sector * FBOs * Ajira Digital * NYC   CBO |
| Place youth at the forefront of agricultural growth and transformation. | * Improve access to agricultural education and training. * Invest more in rural farm and nonfarm activities. * Encourage youth access to and the possession of land for agribusiness. * Encourage agricultural advancements and incubation. * Offer youth advisory services. |  | 1. Number of agribusiness-related effective young role models who can mentor others. 2. Number of young people who are using agribusiness as a career option. 3. Percent of the total of young people investing in the blue economy |  |  | * County Governments * Private Sector * FBOs * Ajira Digital * NYC * CBO * Ministry of Agriculture |
| Improve the mechanisms for managing foreign employment, exporting labor, and engaging the diaspora | * Encourage and aid young people in participating in diaspora activities and looking for work abroad. * Encourage and assist young people who are working abroad to get involved in the county's economic, cultural, social, and development programs. * Enforce the laws governing Kenyans working abroad and the authorization of private employment agencies. * Create a site so that young people can readily access jobs both locally and abroad. |  | 1. Youths employed overseas in number. |  |  |  |
| Pinpoint the deteriorating conditions and growing risks facing young people in agriculture and business | * Revamping agricultural production as the new underexplored frontier for job creation * Invest in productivity improvement via processing, marketing, quality, and individual advancement. * Convert agricultural production and marketing data into web-based resources. * Spend money on new livestock and farming systems. * Review land tenure and use systems to ensure secure environment and access to land in order to encourage young people to make investments in farmlands, growth, and profitability. |  | 1. Percentage and demographics of those not in school, work, or training (NEET)      1. Number of youths participating in entrepreneurial and job activities that have special needs. |  |  |  |
| Encourage young people to be entrepreneurs through coaching, mentoring, workshops, attachments, business incubation, and collaborations. | * Endorse industry-relevant development and skills, entrepreneurship, and apprentice training programs * Expand entrepreneurial capacity building programs by assisting or broadening entry level jobs, coaching, attachments, and business incubation * Review the regulatory framework for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to make it more youth-friendly. * Eliminate barriers to AGPO at both the national and county levels of government. * Enterprise Advancement and Education Programs |  | 1. Percentage of young people managing enterprises |  |  |  |
| Boost youths' access to labor management information systems | * Encourage and support young people in their quest for knowledge, * work in other countries; participate diasporic activities. * Support and encourage the youth who are involved in participation of the diaspora in national, political, cultural, social, and developmental aspects in the country's programs. * Implement employment policies of Kenyans living in other countries and private employment accreditation agencies * Create a platform for youth to easily access both domestic and international job prospects. |  | 1. Percentage of youths using the labor management system to access prospects, broken down by wards |  |  |  |

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)