

 **Republic of Kenya** **Turkana County**

**Turkana County Youth Policy (2022)**

 **An empowered *youth population to enhance social-economic growth and development of the county***

 **November 2022**

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# Foreword

In 2010, Kenya ushered in a new constitution that envisaged far reaching reforms with a view to achieving more accountable, effective and inclusive governance. Devolution, as intended, has improved service delivery by bringing government closer to the people and their ability to control their own affairs through legislation and policy formation or domesticating national policies to contextualize and give tools for better guidance.12 years on accountable, effective and inclusive Youth in the devolved system has been elusive. However, it has not eluded Turkana County that the Youth are a diverse demography on whose shoulders the society will either flourish or fail, depending on how the environment is prepared to integrate them into the society.Thus, why my county’s priority is to ensure we consistently develop county Youth legislation to give life to the Youth devolved opportunities. The Turkana Youth Policy will aggregate Turkana Youth voices and represent their interests; it will enable the Youth to pursue their aspirations and be positive contributors and bring together partners to jointly develop a vibrant youth ecosystem

The National Government developed an extensive national Policy (Kenya Youth Development Policy 2021) which marked a major step in the continued effort to articulate and address the concerns of youth in Kenya. It detailed issues affecting youth and became an integral part of development plans, programs and policy documents on various issues concerning youth through the identified priority areas.

The policy whose main objectives area is to domesticate and contextualize Kenya Youth Development Policy, a national Youth policy and as a measure of  Article 55 of the Constitution (2010)  which mandates the State to take measures, including affirmative action programs, to ensure that youth have access to relevant education and training, as well as opportunities to associate, be represented, and participate in political, social, economic, and other spheres of life, as well as access to productive engagement, such as employment and entrepreneurship.

In furtherance of Youth inclusion and participation, the Turkana County government has allocated funds and seeks partners to fund various programs. The department of Youth has undertaken different initiatives such as innovation centers, Vocational Training centers and capacity building programs. The initiatives are in collaboration with county partners including UNDP.

According to Turkana County Integrated Development Plan The CIDP II is based on a strategic restructure of departmental sectors that include: Agriculture, Pastoral Economy and Fisheries; Education, Sports and Social Protection; Finance and Economic Planning; Health and Sanitation; Infrastructure, Transport and Public Works; Lands, Energy, Housing and Urban Areas Development; Office of the Governor; Tourism, Culture and Natural Resources; Trade, Gender and Youth Affairs; Public Service and Disaster Management; and Water, Environment and Mineral Resources.

During 2018-2022, Turkana County will increase our focus on research and information for development, encouraging all of our technical departments and partners to provide all data into a centrally managed data platform that allows visually accessible information for robust planning.

These approaches will also serve our Resource Mobilization Framework, ensuring that the government and development partners are communicating and working in a coordinated and coherent way, taking into account evidence and managing adaptively to collectively take impact to scale for the women, men and youth of Turkana.

The next five years will see a transformation in how Turkana does business. We are dedicated to strengthening our capacities both substantively and in our governance, enhancing the resilience of our natural resource base and socio-economic and cultural dimensions. We are increasing synergies and reach by working together across sectors, with communities, with research and academia, with the national government and with development partners and private investors. Join us in continuing to build Turkana County together

H.E. JEREMIAH EKAMAIS LOMOTUKAI NAPOTIKAN,

GOVERNOR

# TURKANA COUNTY Preface

The Turkana Country Youth Development Plan articulates the vision and mandate of the State Department of Youth Affairs in conjunction with the County Government until year 2027. It contains the shared vision, mission, rallying call and core functions; of objectives, policy priorities, resource mobilization and requirements that we require between 2023-2027.

In developing this plan, we have recognized the county's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to youths. In which the County Governments have been able to fully appreciate some of the challenges facing this youth.

While many youths are facing challenges the most experienced one is access to employment for most lack the opportunity to a humble and decent living. It is this problem that drives the youth into drugs and crime as a sign of despair to them. This issue of creating employment opportunities for the youth both informal, formal and self-employment needs therefore to be addressed urgently with the resources and commitment. Another focus is HIV/ AIDS has also been part and is at a rise that needs more input due to negligence of the youth.

There is need for a plan in investing in building the capacity of a Kenyan youth by addressing their specific needs in terms of education and training, skills development, and employment as an imperative way in which the County Assembly have ascended into bill. This plan offers an understandable ambitious rationalistic roadmap to address this and other challenges facing young people as a whole.

Finally, it is our anticipation that just as Ministry and County engages key stakeholders in preparing process of this CYDP; it will continue to plead for the full engagement of all relevant stakeholders as well move to actualize the strategies and activities outlined in the document. Towards the end this document implementation matrix becomes a critical component of the plan, and all identified activities will be translated into the day-to-day assignments of the County Youth Department. The County should continuously review its operations process to facilitate the smooth implementation of this strategic plan. When it comes to finances the County, Assembly is allowed to review and increase the budget allocation in implementation matrix. We are confident that by implementing this plan will be addressed in a holistic manner as the entire range of Youth Development.

**Acknowledgements**

The Turkana County Youth Policy outlines the goals and initiatives that the Turkana County Government and stakeholders will implement to guarantee the development, effective participation, and empowerment of the county's youth. This Policy emphasizes the desired need to see young people positively contribute to national and county development by creating an enabling environment that allows youth to attain their full potential.

Amazingly, the policy development journey of this policy has taken just 1 year demonstrating the commitment of the County leadership’s priority to include and involve the Youth. The process of collecting and collating information, consultations with stakeholders and validation has been just as interesting and fulfilling as compilation of the policy itself.

The preparation of wholesome document became inevitable, and it was supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) under the Consolidating gains and deepening Devolution in Kenya Program, The National Youth Council, and the County Government of Turkana County through the Department of, Youth, Sports, Culture Gender and Social Services.

Profound gratitude goes to the selected youth from the 30 wards of the county who collected information and liaised with different groups and departments to ensure the Youth voices were captured with a view of soliciting ideas for inclusion in the Policy. The professional colleagues at the National Youth Council (NYC), the County Executive Committee in charge of Youth, the various institutions and stakeholders who participated in consultation and validation processes to our support staff without whose contribution and dedication the accomplishment of this milestone would not have been possible.

**Abbreviations and Acronyms**

AGPO                 Access to Government Procurement Opportunities

AIDS                 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

CBO                  Community Based Organization

CEC                   County Executive Committee

CHV                   Community Health Volunteer

CSO’s                Civil Society Organizations

FBO                   Faith Based Organization

HIV                    Human Immunodeficiency Virus

IEC                     Information Education and Communication

ICT                    Information and Communication Technology

KEPSA               Kenya Private Sector Alliance

UNPD United Nations Development Program

KYDP                Kenya Youth Development Policy

NEET                 Not in Education Employment and Training

NGO                  Non - Governmental Organization

NYC                   National Youths Council

PWD’S               Persons with Disabilities

SDG’s                 Sustainable Development Goals

STI’s                   Sexually Transmitted Infections

TVET                   Technical Vocational Education and Training

TWG                   Technical Working Group

VCT                    Voluntary Counseling and Testing

WHO                   World Health Organization

YECs                    Youth Empowerment Centre

# Definition of Terms

Borrowed from the Kenya Constitution 2010 which defines a Youth as an individual who has attained the age of 18 years but has not attained the age of 35 years.

**Youth Empowerment**

An attitudinal, structural and cultural process whereby youth gain the ability, authority and agency to make decisions and implement change in their own and other people’s lives both now and, in their adulthood, while bearing responsibility for the consequence of those decisions and actions.

**Youth Development**

It means improving the lives of the youth lead, giving them more freedom and opportunities to live the lives they value. Also, developing the abilities of the youth and giving them a chance to use these abilities to flourish.

**Government**

According to the constitution of Kenya (2010), the word Government refers to the two levels of Government: The National Government and the 47 County Governments, However, according to this draft policy, it refers to Vihiga County Government.

**Stakeholders**

Include Private sector, development partners, Faith Based Organizations (FBOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non- Government Organizations (NGOs), Youth Serving Organizations (YSOs) and Individuals.

**Youth Participation**

An act of youth having influence and shared responsibility on decisions and actions that affect their lives. It also acknowledges and respects their talents, strength and supports them in finding ways to deal with issues that affects them.

**Youth Employment**

A means of proving youth with opportunities for work that is productive in order to deliver fair income, security in the workplace and social protection. It also enhances better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for the youth to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment.

**Youth Sector**

Refers to any organization or institution that deals with youth related issues.

**Youth Work**

All forms of Youth engagements that build personal awareness and support the social, political and socio-economic empowerment of the youth**.**

**Safe space for the Youth**

A space occupied by the youth that is co- governed by the youth with rules and norms set by young people. It enables young people to experience feelings of love, ownership, learning, growth, freedom and social hope.

**Youth event**

Any contest, competition. Tournament or game open to participate and attend by persons regarded as Youth.

**Private Sector**

Part of the National Economy that is not under direct Government control.

#

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The youths are an invaluable resource for the advancement of a nation, often acting as key agents for social change, economic expansion and technical innovation. Deliberate and systematic efforts are therefore necessary to appropriately equip and empower them to attain and realize their full potential and in turn, drive the attainment of developmental objectives set in Kenya Vision 2030, and international commitments which include United Nations Strategy for the youth 2014, African Union Agenda 2063, and SDGs 2030.

The vision and energies of the youths are essential for the continued development of society which they live in. It is through these that the County Youth Policy of Turkana County has been rolled out, to ensure long term solutions for Turkana County youth to participate in and take opportunities available in the county. The policy further expresses the collective concern of all stakeholders to harness and optimize the strengths and opportunities that the youth present while addressing personal and structural barriers that affect their productivity.

It is noteworthy that this policy recognizes the previous policies that have been developed. For instance, the Kenya Youth Development Policy 2019, the National Youth Council which is a national body representing the voice of the youth, affirmative action funds that continue to target the youth, women and persons living with disabilities as an economic empowerment strategy.

Turkana county youth policy has analyzed the current situation of the youth, the challenges which they have been facing such as lack of employment for the well-educated, lack of special educational facilities for PWDs, non-inclusion in the major decision-making processes, early pregnancies and marriages, high level of school dropouts, HIV/AIDS, minimal training and mentorship programs, SGBV and lack of enough capital for entrepreneurs.

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, promote accessible markets for the entrepreneurs, quality education in all the learning institutions that can be accessed by everyone including the PWDs, facilitate building of 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, inclusion of youth in public participation and major decision-making tables to give them a fair share of resources.  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 sports and talent, creativity and innovation for wealth creation is critical for a job-ready work force across all sectors of national and global economy and this has been given due consideration in this policy. The policy has outlined strategies that contribute to a crime free, drug addiction free and secure Turkana County.

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 right based, professional, mainstreamed, sustainable and co-ordinated approaches guided by national values and principles of governance.

The Policy provides for its implementation, co-ordination framework at the county and sub-county levels through the County Government administration structures, department of youth affairs down to the informal actors such as the legislators, courts, bureaucracies, pressure groups and grassroots community organizations. The Policy also provides for institutional, communication, monitoring and evaluation frameworks to ensure effective implementation of the identified Policy objectives and measures.

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

**CHAPTER ONE**

# INTRODUCTION

## Background

Introduction

Youth comprises approximately 35% of Kenyan population. In Turkana County total population of people aged 15-35 is 344,300 and thus 43% of the County’s population. Turkana is a youthful County. Nearly a decade ago, Kenya adopted a devolved system of government that resulted into 47 units of government at across the country. These units became centers of devolved Services. The central Government devolved funds to the administrations in the scenter’s to bring development to closer to the people.

Population

Rapid population growth has resulted in Turkana County having an extremely youthful population. At the time of 2019 census almost half of the County's population is below age of 19. This youth-dominated population profile indicates the needful urgent investment in education, nutrition, water and health. Population distribution by special a head group is important for planning purposes. It helps policy makers put in place strategies to address age specific needs and issues such as mortality for children below age 5, education for school age person, labor force and dependent population.

Administrative divisions

Devolution has created lot of excitement in the counties including many expectations. It has, in common parlance brought development closer to the people. County administrations headed by the Governor and the County Executive Committee (CECs) are oversight by County Assembly (CA). The constitution thus requires public participation in development projects and other government engagements with the youths, incorporate their views on the county development agenda.

Challenges

It's unfortunate that even with a devolved government system a large percentage of the youths in Turkana County is unemployed and feel marginalized terms of faces stoop opportunities, representation and participation. This are challenges that nearly all the 47 devolved administrative units are grappling with. To successful counter our situation there is need for a structured way of engaging with the youth thus the need for County Youth Policy test will facilitate youths’ engagement with their government.

Previous Governments on Youth Empowerment

The County administration, the CECs and county Assembly came into office following the 2013 elections. The first devolved governments operate without clear structure with which to engage the youths. Then came the second administration that came into office following 2017 elections. Term of this administration ended some months ago with little recognition of the youths in the country. This policy intends to serve as basis for youth engagement within the county of Turkana for the next coming generations.

We envisage the Cabinet Secretary Youth Affairs to collaborate with County Youth Directors to guide the youth’s agenda for the years to come due to dynamism in leadership. Circumstances change, new generation emerge, the population dynamics change leading to a desire to review this policy at some point or even to develop a complete new one that will serve the priorities of the youths in the county. The focus of this policy is on government engaging with the youths, to listen to their voices and incorporate their aspirations in the development and administrative agenda of the County.

**THE COUNTY OF TURKANA**

**Geography and Climate**

Turkana County is situated in Northwestern of Kenya. It borders West Pokot and Baringo Counties to the south, Samburu County to the Southeast and Marsabit County to the East. Internationally it borders South Sudan to the North, Uganda to the West and Ethiopia to the Northeast.

The total area of the County is 77,000km². The County is administratively divided into 7 sub-counties, 17 divisions, 56 locations that are further sub-divided into 156 sub-locations. According to Kenya Households Census of 2019, Turkana County has a population of 922,210 people and 164,519 household. It has four major towns including Kakuma, Lokichogio, Loki char and Lodwar where the County Headquarters are located.

The County is an arid and semi- arid and is characterized by warm and hot climate. The temperatures range between 20°C and 42°C with a mean of 32°C. The rainfall pattern and distribution are erratic and unreliable in both time and space. There are two rainfall seasons: The long rains (akiporo) between April and July, Short rains between October and November and ranges between 52mm and 480mm annually with mean of 200mm. The driest period (Akamu) are January, February and September. Rainfall distributed on an East West gradient with more rainfall in Western parts and other areas of higher elevations.

The County is home of scenic mountains ranges which Loima, Lorengippi, Mogila, Songot, Kalapata, Loriu, Kailongol and Silale hills. The mountains ranges because of their high elevation, are normally green, covered with dense bushes and high woody cover. The ranges support important economic activities like honey production, grazing during dry seasons, wood and charcoal production. There are also water catchment sources thud supporting gum Arabica growing and small household shambas. The Jill's in the county consist of Tepes Hills in Kibish, Lokwanamor Hills and Lorionotom Hills in Kaikor, Pelekech Hills in Kakuma and Loima Hills in Loima characterized by large forest.

Lake Turkana is the largest and most saline of the Rift Valley lakes. Its length estimated at 250km makes it the world's largest desert lake. There is no outlet, with reduced inflows and high evaporation, this results into depositing of salt in the soil and capping on the surface. The water level is subject to three to four meters seasonal fluctuations. River Omo from Ethiopia, which is permanent drains in to LakeTurkana. Fishing is major economic activity for the people living near the Lake River Tarach, Kerio, Kalapata, Malimalite and Turkwel are major rivers in the county.

The County has total road network of 5,496.2 Km of which 488.5 Km are bit unhand 5007.7 Km earth surface. Air transport in the county in the county is not very developed. There is only one airport in Lokichoggio and 22 airstrips across the county.

The main economic activity is nomadic pastoralist is nomadic pastorally. This has accompanying challenges of insecurity, including conflicts with neighboring nomadic pastoralist tribes over pasture and water. Cattle, camels, donkeys, sheep and goats are major source of income for the Turkana residents.

Fishing is practiced in Lake Turkana with Nile Perch and Tilapia being fish species. Basket weaving is also major income generating activity in the county especially among women in lodwar and other urban centers. The main agricultural activities practiced in the county include livestock farming, fishing and food crop farming through irrigation mainly for subsistence.

The County is also source of electric power in Kenya. Turkwel Hydropower situated in Southwest of Turkana County produces hydroelectric power which is connected to the national power which is connected to the national power grid at Lessors. The County is current subject of crude oil exploration and has potential for geothermal solar and wind energy.

## Rationale for the Turkana County Youth Policy

1. Development of this policy aims at actualizing Article 55 of CoK that mandates the state to take measures, including affirmative action programmes, to ensure that the youth have access to relevant education and training; opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life; and to access productive engagement including employment and entrepreneurship. In Turkana County government.
2. This policy aims at domesticating the existing KYDP and cascading it down to Turkana County specific thematic priority area concerns for the youth. The priority set forth in this policy align with the county priority areas highlighted in the CIDP 2018-2022 and the national Vision 2030 blueprint.
3. This policy addresses the challenges faced by the youth of Turkana county ranging from truancy from school, increased dependency rates due to poverty, exit of expert youth from the county, marginalization of youth in governance, exclusion from policy and developmental societal discourse which has created political disengagement, lack of youth-friendly health services, drug and substance abuse, non-inclusive nature of peace negotiations and security matters, lack of adequate employable skills and lack of financial and technical support to Youth programmes.
* The policy should aim at:
1. Supporting counties in development of specific youth strategies for implementing the Kenya Youth Development Program
2. Providing a broad framework in which diverse efforts can be harnessed to maximize impactful investments in the youth
3. Coordinate youth affairs and evaluate effectiveness of various county government policies, action plans and strategies in regard to youth issues to ensure youth centric plans and actions
4. To standardize provision of services to all youth including more intensive assistance to disadvantaged youth and youth in humanitarian settings
5. Establish broad-based strategies and partnerships to provide enhanced opportunities to the youth to maximize their potential.
6. Establish a working framework of Youth Empowerment Centers to work closely with both the county administration and the county assembly in ensuring the potential of the County’s Youth is realized
7. Anticipate the risks associated with emerging issues to youth participation in development and counter the risks through policy and programmed interventions. The risks include dynamic technological advances; labor underutilization, income polarization; and radicalization; and
8. Suggest an implementation mechanism and strategy

## Guiding Principles for the Youth Policy

In accordance with the chapter six of the Kenyan constitution, Turkana County Youth Policy will be.

* Consistent with the purposes and objectives of the policy.
* Demonstrate respect for the women, Men and Youth of Turkana County.
* Brings honor and dignity to the County and National level.
* Promote public confidence in the integrity of the Policy.
* Responsibility to serve the Turkana youth rather than the power to rule them.

### **Guiding Principles of Turkana County Youth Development Policy**

* Objectivity and impartiality in decision making, ensure decisions are not influenced by nepotism, tribalism, other improper motives or corrupt practices
* Selfless service based solely on public interest, demonstrated by, Honesty in execution of duties.
* Accountability to the Youth for decisions and actions.
* Discipline and commitment in service to the Youth.

We the Youth of Turkana County though this policy in association with other persons will act in a manner that avoids.

* Any conflict between personal interest and public or official responsibilities.
* Compromising any public or official interest in favor of personal interest.

## Rights, Obligations and responsibilities of the Youth

Youth policies, recognizes the importance of youth to enjoy their rights and carry out their responsibilities and obligations regardless of their ethnicity, social status gender or sexual orientation.

Youth rights are stipulated in Chapter 4 of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and are as follows.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Right of youth | Responsibilities and obligations of youth |
| 1.Acess to quality education and trainings | * Take advantage of relevant skills trainings and entrepreneur development programs available.
* Contribution to the social economic development of the country.
 |
| 2.Fredoom of expression speech and association | * Being patriotic to our country.
 |
| 3.Right to vote and participate in politics | * Exercising democracy and abiding by the rule of law.
 |
| 4. Protection from harmful behavioral practices cultural practices and exploitation. | * Adopting a healthy lifestyle by avoiding risky behavior such as Drug abuse, prostitution and gambling.
* Advocating to end early marriages.
 |
| 5.Protection from any form of sexual abuse and exploitation | * Avoid engaging in risky and irresponsible sexual act.
 |
| 6.Equal access to employment opportunities | * Seek for decent and fulfilling employment opportunities as well as embracing entrepreneurship.
 |
| 7.access to adequate to basic needs (clothing’s shelter and food) | * Helping and supporting the disadvantage and vulnerable groups in the society.
 |
| 8.Acess to quality health care services | * Protect the environment and its surroundings
 |
| 9.Right to life | * Advocating for peace to ensure peaceful co-existence stability and national unity
 |

## The scope of the Policy

**Vision**

We The Youth of Turkana County aspire to be socially empowered citizens living a peaceful, socially, equitable and culturally sensitive environment.

**Mission**

To facilitate social, environmental, economic and equitable transformation of the Turkana People.

## The Youth Policy Development Process

Turkana County Youth Policy explore mechanisms of engaging people aged 15-35 within the county. However, developed with limited resources and still yet to be implemented by the County administration. The policy will be scrutinized and revised occasionally in order to not only make it current but also to conduct a detailed situational analysis.

The policy is thus based on original information obtained from Kenya Youth Development Policy (KYDP) and East Africa Youth Policy data. It has incorporated situational analysis drawn from current study conducted by the National Youth Council, a team that captures current gaps and opportunities for the youths in the country.

## Alignment of the Youth Policy

Turkana County recognizes that to facilitate social, environmental, economic and equitable transformation of the Youth, women and men of Turkana, it must employ a system approach that recognize the interconnected nature of its different development dimensions, ensuring that they are all progressing in support of each other. As part of this the county has established youth priority development policy guided by Kenya Youth Development Policy. These initiatives were drawn from broad consultations with the Youth of Turkana County and have been intentionally linked to contribute to the national Vision 30 and African Agenda 2063 and international goals (SDGs). The proposed priorities are articulated through sectoral plans, public participation outputs, sectoral flagship and cross-sectional transformational flagship.

## Organization of the Policy document

**Cover Page**

We have the Title of the document. It's about a policy by Turkana Youth for the Turkana Youth.

We also have organizations that collaborated to facilitate the drafting of the policy. The National Government, The County Government and the National Youth Council respected by their logo.

We also have the theme Pamoja Tujijenga, together as the Turkana County Youth We call for togetherness so as to achieve our goals and objectives.

**Chapter 1: Introduction and Background.**

General information on Turkana County, the geographical, climate, administration, population, socio cultural and economic dimensions, Transport and communication, physical features Health and Education.

**Chapter 2; Situational analysis.**

The focus on the Youth of Turkana County based on categories, dimensions, youth profile, target audience, the challenges, opportunities, Weaknesses and strengths of the Turkana Youth.

**Chapter 3; Vision, Mission, Rallying call and Values.**

The expectations, The objectives and the thriving force for the establishment of the Turkana County Youth Policy. The policy statements, strategies and the way forward for the Youth in the county for the period 2022-2027.

**Chapter 4; Policy Coordination and Implementation framework.**

Turkana County Youth Policy will be implemented by the County government through National Youth Council and the County Department of Youth Affairs and in collaboration with development, civil society and private sectors. Implementation oversight and Coordination will come from National Government supported by County government. National Government will provide resources to implement the policy. The policy will be priorities opportunities to add or improve existing coordination activities.

**Chapter 5; Evaluation and Learning.**

Tracking progress towards the achievement of Turkana County Youth Policy projects and programmer outlined will be undertaken through monitoring and Evaluation systems. Analysis of the results will demonstrate whether the projects and programmes implemented are leading to intended outcomes impacts and benefits for the County Youth population.

**Chapter 6; Communication, Publicity and Information.**

How the Youth in Turkana County were involved in the policy drafting. The mode and medium of communication. The channels used to reach the youth within the county.

A number of mediums was used, including social media platforms, internet, radio and TV stations, public baraza and meetings.

**Chapter 7; Conclusion**

The summary of the Turkana County Youth Policy, the whole project in brief explaining the Why, Where, what, Who, When and How the whole Youth Policy was drafted.

**CHAPTER TWO**

# SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

## Introduction

The youth of Kenya are currently estimated at 35% of the total population representing the highest workforce dividend that needs to be harnessed and optimized. They should be included into the designing, planning and implementing programmes and policies that affect them.

The responsibility of ensuring that the aspirations and hopes of the youth are met cannot be left in the hands of a single stakeholder. Everyone in the community, both young and old, must play their role.

Specific to Turkana, some of the emerging socio-economic and political issues affecting the youth include the role of youth in national cohesion, peace building and conflict resolution efforts, youth radicalization and the growing influence of ICT development.

The developing of this policy endeavors to address issues affecting the youth by providing broad-based strategies that can be used to give them meaningful opportunities to reach their maximum potential. It provides a broad framework within which all stakeholders, including the private and public sector and civil society can contribute to youth development.

The National Government has put in place various strategies to address the issues affecting youth in the country. These include passing legislation and developing policies on youth development.

## County Situation of the Youth

Kenya has generally youthful population. According to 2015/2016 Household survey youth (persons aged 28-34) constituted 32 percent of the population up from 30.4 percent in 1969 with 49 percent being male and 51percent female. The youth adult population ratio increased from 62.7 percent of the adult population in 1979 to 66.7 percent in 2009. According to the 2019 Kenya population and housing census report, youth (18-34yrs of age) were 13,618,462 or 29 percent of Kenya’s population of 47.6 million. The males were 6,504,514 while females were 7,113,427.

Turkana County has a population of 344,300 youth, 182,770 being male and 161,530 being female, 56,710 living in urban areas and 287, 590 living at rural areas. The youth bulge presents Kenya with an immense opportunity of harnessing demographic dividend to invest in sustained development efforts to achieve increased economic, social and political development while at the same time presenting risk and threat to the country’s social cohesion and stability if not adequately empowered and supported. Status based on key indicators.

## Youth Categories

This policy is a basis for developing opportunities for all the youth in Turkana. However, in addressing the needs of the youth, special attention shall be paid to certain groups because of their specific needs. In each of the targeted youth groups, the county government and organizations working with the youth will be required to give special attention and affirmative action.

1. Youth with Disability
2. Youth infected with HIV/AIDS
3. Female youth and Boy child
4. The unemployed and underemployed youth
5. Youth with underlying conditions i.e., mental illness
6. Youth in conflict situations i.e., lacking ID/documentations
7. Youth living in informal settlements
8. Youth in emergency situations
9. Youth not in education, employment and training

### **Dimensions of Youth Profile in the County**

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

(i) Male and female.

(ii) Educated and uneducated.

(iii) Formally trained and informally trained.

(iv) Rural and urban residents.

(v) In-school and out-of-school.(vi) Adolescents and young adults.(vii) Physically challenged and able-bodied.(viii) Economically engaged or not.(ix) Detained and not detained.(x) Migrant and non-migrant.

(xi) Skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled.(xii) Street and vagrant youth. (xiii) Youth infected and affected by HIV/AIDs. (xiv) Unemployed youth.

(xv) Incarcerated youth.(xvi) Youth in humanitarian settings.

### **Target Youth Policy Audiences**

The policy target audience is the key component of the communication plan.

1. Unemployed and under-employed. These are the highest priority targeted audience therefore strengthening their relationship with the county government is the starting point of a proper communication plan. There are numerous issues to this audience: Unemployment, use of drugs and substance abuse, unwanted pregnancies, insecurity among others.
2. Youth out of school. This audience have special needs in terms of access to information about socio-economic and other opportunities. The increasing disparity between the school leavers and the job creation in the economy has resulted in high unemployment levels among the youth
3. Youth in school. This includes the youth undertaking education or training programs. Therefore, they have access to information which are underutilized and therefore needs to be sensitized and empowered through communication.
4. Boy child. Young men lack support systems and platforms to learn from the experienced and exposed members of their community and assistance to develop holistically. The communication policy therefore identifies measures for empowerment and strengthening the boy child.
5. Girl child. They form the highest percentage of the youth. The lower level of education for girls coupled with social and cultural practices such as forced early marriages, put the female youth at a disadvantage. These factors have led to low participation and representation of female youth in decision making. Therefore, the communication policy aims at advocating for their rights as well as empowering them.
6. Youth with disability. Disability leads to rejection and discrimination therefore hindering the youth with disability their emotional, social and economic development. The communication policy therefore brings about strategies to ensure they participate fully in society

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

The following are the available opportunities for the youth of Turkana County as identified by the policies.

Access to county ward bursary to improve access and retention in learning institutions.

Availability of county internship and volunteering opportunities for fresh graduates and junior professionals.

access to relevant education and exposure which provides an advantage in skills, creativity, and innovation.

Support to youth to access government opportunities through establishment of a youth Fund specifically dedicated to certified youth groups at county level

Establishment of mechanisms for strengthening the current participatory decision-making processes at the county level in order to increase youth participation in matters of governance and development

Provision of support to technical training institutions within the County for purposes of imparting skills and knowledge to the youth.

Ensuring youth get equal opportunity and treatment in employment, health, and sports activities.

Lobby for partnership and collaboration with other stakeholders

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

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

1. **The labor markets**
2. The challenge of the youth unemployment
3. Youth underemployment
4. The challenge of vulnerable employment and working poor youth
5. The challenge of high level of youth inactivity
6. Youth labor migration
7. Skills shortage in the ICT labor market
8. **Access to resources**
9. Lack of collaterals and bureaucracies in accessing loans
10. Health related issues
11. The challenge of out-of- school youth
12. **Social issues**
13. Early and unintended pregnancies
14. Crime and defiant behavior
15. The challenge of drugs uses and substance abuse
16. **Societal environment**
17. Limited participation in economic and political spheres
18. Limited and poor housing
19. The challenge of limited access to information and communication technology (ICT)
20. Sexual and gender-based violence
21. Challenge of weak values among youth
22. Climate conditions

## County Youth Interventions and Achievements

Explanation of measures that have been initiated by the county government to actualize constitutional directives and implement national policies and directives. Also, the explanations of other interventions initiated by the county government to support the youth agenda.

### Youth interventions

The term youth has varying definitions according to the context to which it’s being used. The World Health Organization (WHO) categorizes the youth into three categories: adolescents (those between the ages of 10 and 19 years), youth (from ages 15 to 24 years) and young people (from ages 10 to 24 years) (WHO, 2011). The United Nations defines youth as persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years. Under AU the African Youth Charter, a Youth is a person between 15 and 35 years. The 2010 Kenyan constitution defines the term Youth as all individuals who have attained the age of 18 years but have not yet attained the age of 35 years (article 260).

Kenya has a generally youthful population. According to the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census report, Youth (18-34 years of age) were 13,618,462 which are 29% of Kenya's population. According to KNBS 2019 census, Turkana County has a total population of 926,976 out of which, 43% (344,300) account for the Youth. 55% of the population is aged between 1-17 years and these accounts for the highest population in Turkana County. From these statistics, it is evident that the county has a youthful population. The Youth form part of the critical mass that can be relied on to advance the growth and development interests of the county which include economic growth, social change and innovation in technology. Therefore, it is important for the county government to tap the youth’s energy.

Youth form part of the critical mass that can be relied on to advance the growth and development interests of the county which include social change, economic growth and innovation in technology. The county government should take advantage of its youth population by devising long term solutions that cumulatively deliver on the youth agenda. Some of the programs that the county is committed to delivering on in aid of the youth comprise provision of access to affordable and youth friendly financial services for agri-preneurship as well as establishing an innovative information and knowledge sharing platforms that exhaustively taps into the potential that youth in Turkana County possess.

### Achievements

* + 1. Access to county ward bursary to improve access and retention in learning institutions each ward receiving 10M per year
		2. Establishment of new Vocational Training Centers, modernization of existing centers and provision of modern equipment to keep up to date with the technological advancements
		3. Support youth to access government opportunities through the Establishment of biashara fund by county government, youth enterprise fund and Uwezo fund.
		4. Engagement of youths in agribusiness through partnership with WFP
		5. Participation in youth leadership forums in partnership with UNDP
		6. Lobby for partnership and collaboration with stakeholders

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

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

**SWOT analysis of youth**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Strengths** | **Weaknesses** |
| (i)Creativity, talent and innovation(ii) Adaptable to positive peer influence(iii) Large youth population | (i)Lack of employable skills due to low education attainment and skills gaps(ii) Weak value systems(iii) Prone to negative peer influence, which can lead to antisocial behaviors including radicalization(iv) Limited capacity to effectively engage in entrepreneurship activities(v) Negative stereotypes among the youth (vi) Limited access of the youth to ICT facilities |
| **Opportunities** | **Threats** |
| (i) Devolved governance structures(ii) ICT advancements(iii) Vibrant social media(iv) Potential to exploit youth demographic dividend(v) Operationalization of Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET)(vi) Unexploited talents in sport and arts(vii) Access to Government Procurement Opportunities(viii) Youth as change agents(ix) Untapped socio-economic potential of the Blue Economy sector | (i)Vulnerability to engage in terrorism and radicalization(ii) High rates of teenage/early pregnancies(iii) Vulnerability to communicable and non -communicable diseases(iv) Drug use and substance abuse(v) Lack of adequate modern tools and equipment to realize (CBET)(vi) Insecurity (vii) Emerging cultural trends (Harmful cultural practices)(viii) Youth Unemployment(ix) Low transition mechanisms from education to world of work |

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

 **CHAPTER THREE**

# YOUTH POLICY FRAMEWORK

## Introduction

This Framework aims to ensure the Turkana County Youth have consistent, relevant and up-to-date governance document. The framework applies to all stakeholders involved in the drafting of this policy

**A vision**

To empower Youths of Turkana County to be citizens living in a peaceful, socially, economically and culturally sensitive environment.

A **mission**

To facilitate social, environmental, economic and equitable transformation of the Turkana generations.

**A Rallying calls**

Together we can move towards a better future.

**Values**

* Teamwork
* Integrity
* Inclusion
* Professionalism
* Dignity and Justice

## Youth Policy Objectives,

The county Youth Policy aims to provide a favorable environment where youth development is mainstreamed into the various focus areas of county development and formulation of operative strategies for implementing this policy document.

The Objectives are.

1. To encourage youths to take internships and other opportunities in the county government.
2. To support existing youth enterprises i.e., Groups, Businesses.
3. To promote youth participation in community service, volunteer, peace building and leadership.
4. To integrate and mainstream youth interventions in sectorial and macro activities across all departments.
5. To influence change in mindset and transform attitudes and perceptions of youth and society on socio-economic and political matters.
6. To efficiently and effectively consolidate and synergize stakeholder efforts towards youth empowerment.

## Priority areas, Measures/Strategies and Interventions

These statements should be specific to the policy and answer questions such as these: benefits of the policy. They describe the specific aims and goals of the policy.

The objectives and priority areas or themes should be informed by the background including the challenges faced by the youth.

### Youth Policy Objectives

* + 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 programmer.
		7. To mobilize resources for youth programmes and projects at all levels.

### Youth Policy Statements; Measures/Strategies; Respective 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 Turkana County Youth Policy. The strategic areas and action points are as follows:

**Education, Training and Capacity Building**

The county government of Turkana County shall put in place measures to support youth Education, and relevant Trainings through capacity enhancement, funding, linkages and facilitation specifically.

1. Advocate for increased accessibility to Education both formal and non-formal and career guidance.
2. Support vocational training and establishment of internship and apprenticeship to enable the youth to acquire a range of skills and essential tools.
3. Mobilize and sensitize the youth, parents and school authorities to take advantage of available education and training opportunities at all levels
4. Promote creation of Youth Empowerment Centers (YECs) in all sub-counties and

establish a working framework of Youth Empowerment Center.

The policy aims at promoting of creation Youth Empowerment Centers and establish a working framework in the county to serve as a platform which will enable the youth to realize their potential.

Youth Empowerment Centers are modelled to be a ‘One Stop Centers to address the diverse and dynamic needs of the youth. The establishment of Youth Empowerment Centers is a unique response to challenges facing the youth such as inadequate capacity and access to ICT services, guidance and counseling on drugs and substance abuse, HIV-AIDS prevention among others.

The YECs shall be responsible for promoting and nurturing youth talent, they will also serve as a platform for integrating services such as entrepreneurship training, information provision, ICT, counseling, games, community mobilization and networking, making the YECs to be hubs for all County Government activities and services involving the youth in the county.

The YECs shall enable the youth to access information and acquire practical relevant skills for employment; the *Youth Empowerment Centers shall also lay the framework for the youth advisory committee* to work with the county executive and the county assembly in ensuring that the youth programmes are fully implemented within the county.

This is a Kenya Vision 2030 flagship programmed

**Employment And Enterprise Development**

Advocate for formulation and implementation of an appropriate Contextualized Turkana County Employment Policy that addresses and responds to the concerns of the youth such as: Discrimination on the basis of age, gender inequality, experience and exploitation through under payment.

1. Promote income generating activities among the youth by supporting appropriate Micro Credit Financial Institutions that extend credit facilities to the youth.
2. Promote youth enterprise development through enterprise education and establishment of information services.
3. Provide youth who are farmers with market information, link with markets and agricultural extension services.
	* 1. **Youth Involvement, Participation and Leadership**

The county government of Turkana County shall commit to undertake activities and initiatives that promotes meaningful youth participation and representation through but not limited to the following interventions:

* + - 1. Advocate for increased effective youth empowerment, representation and participation in key positions
			2. Decision-making, leadership and management at all levels of County Government through establishment of affirmative action mechanisms.
			3. Train, promote and support youth, champions for peace and conflict resolution by inclusiveness of youth in peace negotiations and security matters in the county
			4. Promote establishment of County Youth Advisory committee whose chairperson is a youth and advisor to the governor on matters youth
			5. Advocate for realization of the rights of all youth including the Youth with disabilities and ensure their participation in all Youth programmes.

The information in this section answers the question as to why the policy exists. Key areas that may be addressed include:

• Legal or regulatory reasons

• Description of conflict or problem the policy will resolve

• Overall benefits if there is a state or federal law with which this policy is aligned, it may also be specifically referenced in this section.

**CHAPTER FOUR**

# 4 Youth Policy Coordination and Implementation Framework

## 4.1 Introduction

Coordination of the youth activities in Turkana 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 Turkana County. It will also guide establishment of a youth economic movement led by youth from the ward to county level.

Implementation of this policy will depend on adequately coordinated implementation support, effecting resource mobilization and funding, effective programs 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 society. A coordinated effort is required by National and County Governments, non-government and private institutions, churches, youth groups and community-based organizations to address youth issues comprehensively.

The multi-sectoral focus of the Turkana County youth policy translates that coordination among different organs of the state is an essential factor for its success. The Department of Devolution, County Administration and National Youth Council will primarily play an advocating role in the implementation of the Policy. The success of this Policy will depend upon the commitment and passion of all the stakeholders both in public and private sector to build a strong, prosperous and sustainable Turkana.

## 4.2 Implementation and Coordination mechanisms

Coordination Mechanism facilitates two types of coordination.

The first type of coordination concerns the effective communication and administration among different governmental levels – namely national, regional and local levels – to design or implement energy efficiency policies or concrete measures (vertical coordination). For instance, a coordination mechanism could be a formal or informal forum through which governments on different levels either formulate common energy policies or coordinate their different approaches. On the implementation level, a coordination mechanism could define the flow of information on implemented energy efficiency measures among the different governmental layers in order to define steering structures for a certain programmed or review its effectiveness.

The second type of coordination concerns the effective communication and administration between measures, schemes of programmes at the same level (horizontal coordination). An example could be coordination among energy saving initiatives in different departments at a local level (spatial, environmental, energy department, etc.). The coordination mechanism also facilitates the distribution of funding and financing among the different governmental levels to implement energy efficiency measures.

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

The ICT department of the County level should start a workforce solution to train Youths for effectively,
Hence Youths should be given a position

Skills - most of the youths in the county are skillful and have a potential capability to show up their skills.
The county government should give an opportunity to the youths to present their skills and innovation.
Thus gives them a platform for them to be part of the Synergy.
The youths should be grouped to enhance lack employment hence yet they should be part and parcel time that champion for the development especially during this devolution period.

Market - county government should eradicate the issue of giving jobs through backdoors and should advertise in order the youths to participate in the exercise.

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

The following should put in place to assist the youth Devolve their affairs.
Here will be full integration and harmonization of issues affecting the youth into every aspect of public policies and programmes across all ministries and government agencies. This will produce more focused, responsive and youth-oriented strategies as follows.

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: Centers will be rehabilitated or established in every constituency in the country. The purpose of such centers will be to creatively engage young people with a view to tap young talent and create opportunities for them. A further purpose of these centers will be to minimize the prevalence of drug and substance abuse among the youth. The centers 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 centers will also provide basic literacy and continuing education opportunities for school leavers in each constituency.

Establishment of a Sports Lottery Fund: The Fund will provide a tool for raising funds targeting sports development. It is estimated that the lottery fund will have the potential to inject more than Ksh 500 million into the sports budget annually. The funds raised will then be used for the less developed sports in the country and to supplement the budgets of major sports events.

One billion tree planting campaign under the “Trees for Jobs Programme”: This Campaign will be implemented order to engage the youth, address the global campaign on environmental conservation and help increase the forest cover of the country.

Roads 2000 and other Labor-intensive public projects: The Roads 2000 project is currently underway under the implementation of the Ministry of Roads and Public Works. The objective of this project is to create short-term labor-intensive employment for young people

## 4.5 Resource Mobilization and Financing of the Policy

Considering the importance of resources in funding programmes and projects geared
towards youth participation and inclusion, there is need to have joint efforts in
ensuring that this is achieved.
The County Government of Turkana need to work in partnership with YSOs, NYC and regional and international actors in resource mobilizing for programs and projects geared towards youth inclusion and participation. The county should form a partnership with these institutions with the following key interventions;
I) Establish and strengthen institutions dealing with youth development and empowerment through institutional capacity building programmes and ensure coordination and networking at all levels.
Ii) Institute and strengthen capacity capacities to gather, analyze, disseminate and use youth related data and set up a data bank.
III) Advocate for increased resource allocation and support for youth programmes and activities.
iv) Lobby for integration of youth concerns and priorities into county, planning and budgetary provisions through coopting youth in each sector working group.

## 4.6 Implementation matrix

Is also called an action plan matrix Strategies
Activities
Outputs
 Key performance indicators
Timeline
2023-2027
Responsibility

Youth empowerment and participation in all processes of national development and all structures of decision making.

-Organize joint sports, culture trade fairs for all youth groups.
-Develop a database with integrated information system on youth groups.
-Promote best practices among all YSOs, CBOs and youth groups.

-Report on youth groups.
-Integrative information system on youth issues.

-Number of youths benefitting on this groups.
Updated database to track youth affairs.
-Youth participation in culture, sports, fair and art.

Starting January 2023 continuous.
Youth groups, county governments, CBOs, NYC, YSOs, human resource, finance.

Youth education and training
-To improve the quality of training programs and improve transition within the education system, thus providing quality affordable and accessible formal and non-formal education.
-Equip youth with relevant skills, knowledge and attitude for labor market.
-Create database of all training and learning institutions and the programs they offer
-Incorporate training on basic job skills and entrepreneur skills in training.
-Expand loan and bursary scheme to cover students in tertiary institutions.
-Free meal and free education in all ECD institutions with in the county.
-Youths to be trained on areas relevant to the current job market.
-Enhance the capacity of independent youth.
-Improve access to education.
-Program audit report and recommendations implemented.
-Database on training programs.
-Number of youths reached and benefitting from the program.
Starting 2023 continuous
Ministry of education, Ministry of sports, gender, culture and art, F.BO, NGOs, UNICEF, County governments.

Youth and information
Establish communication and information channels for the youth.

-Establish county youth website on youth development and encourage youth to participate interactive forums, chart room to discuss youth issues.
-Rationalize and establish county youth office and help desk.
-Create information reliant networks among the youth partners with private sector and stakeholders to develop youth information centers in every ward.

-Development partners reached.
-Improve access to information by the youth.
-Youth empowered with skills information and communication
-Enlighten and sensitized youths.

-Number of functional youth information centers.
-Effective information, education and communication services to the youth.
-Number of IEC material or tools created and implemented.
-Number of percentages of youth reached.

Starting January 2023-2024

NGO, NYC, civil society, Ministry of education, private sector and other stakeholders, human and finance resources, technical support.

Youth and environment
-To increase participation of the youth in the protection, preservation, conservation and improvement of the environment.
-increased awareness amongst the youth on environmental issues.
-Promotion of climate change
Promotion of agricultural services.

-Mobilize, sensitize register youth organizations and network them for effective participation.
-Formation of 4K Club and Young Farmers Club and out of school youth environmental organization.
-Collaborate with NEMA and other stakeholders for forestry improvement.
-Increased tree planting.
-Training the youth and YSO in innovative forms of agriculture e.g., hydroponics.

-Set aside knowledge on modernized agriculture and agricultural value chain.
-Increased agribusiness activities.
-Increased awareness on conservation amongst the youth.
-Increased innovation in environmental management.
-Better informed youth on environmental issues and legislation.
-Increased knowledge on climate change activities.

-Number of youths involved in environmental projects.
-Number of schools actively promoting Young Farmers Club and youths participating.
-Number of programs related to climate change.

Starting April 2023-2024

NEMA, civil society, climate change county committee, NGO, CBO, FBO, UNEP, schools, UN-HABITAT, barazas, learning institutions, ministry of education, NARIGP, ASSDP

Youth and health
-Contribute to reduce the rate of HIV/AIDS and STD infections among the youth.
-Improve mental and psychological health among the youth.
-Improve youth participation in provision of community health services.
-Communication on youth health issues.

-Train peer educators on counseling skills on HIV and AIDS to educate the youth.
-Encourage socialization, peer counseling and guidance on matters of mental health thus conducting community-based campaigns.
-Train youth in basic health.
Incorporate the youths in community health campaigns.

-Reduce rate of HIV AIDS among the youth.
-Active participation by the youth in HIV and AIDS, community health programs.
-Care and support services for infected and affected youth mostly mental issues.
-Increased information and knowledge on health among the youth.

-Number and percentage of youths visiting VCT centers.
-Inclusion of more CHVs to be youths.
-Number of peer educators trained.
-Number of community-based campaigns held and number of youths in attendance.
-Number of youths benefitting, and programs initiated.

Starting January 2023 continuous

Technical support, NGO, FBO, CBO, Youth Service Organizations, county government, ministry of health, human and finance resources.

Youth crime and drugs
-Promote research in crime, drug and substance abuse among the youth.
-Promote and establish home and community-based welfare programs to address the needs of youths addicted to drugs.
-To promote justice, security and safety of the youth.

-Conduct baseline survey in crime, drugs and substance among the youths.
-Involving relevant agencies and stakeholders.
-Initiate and establish programs and projects that reduce drug and substance.
-Establishing, identifying centers of advocacy.

-Data on crimes, drugs and substance abuse.
-Empowerment programs initiated.
-Rehabilitation centers establishment.
-Establishment of guidance and counseling units.
Area mapped.
Support systems.

-Data bank to be created on crimes, drugs and substance abuse among the youth.
-Number of workshops and seminars held.
-Number of empowered programs enhanced.

Starting January 2023 continuous

Youth groups, NACADA, USAID, CBO, FBO, NGO, UNICEF, media, County government, ministry of health, barazas.

## 4.7 Roles of stakeholders

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

(i)National level: Youth activities will be coordinated by the Ministry in charge of youth affairs

(ii) Sectoral level: various ministries, departments and agencies (MDA’s) will ensure the mainstreaming and coordination of youth priority areas in their respective sectors

(iii) County level: County Governments will be mainstreaming youth priority areas in their plans and programmes

(iv) Ministry in charge of youth affairs shall ensure alignment of youth programs to national development goals including Big 4 Agenda and SDGs.

Development of a National Youth Development Index; Reactivation of the Youth Empowerment Centers - which will be the platform for realizing the partnerships on youth development programs; Policy Coordination, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting; Affirmative Action on

Youth Employability; Implementation of the Labor Market Information (LMI) Initiative for youth; effective management of Affirmative Funds and making them Youth Friendly and Resourcing & Facilitation of Youth Field Offices.

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

The Ministry in charge of youth affairs will ensure the full implementation of this Policy. In addition, it will provide the overall national coordination of sectoral and non-state actors initiatives geared towards the implementation of activities identified in the Policy. Further, the ministry with support from stakeholders will undertake civic education on the Policy, research, monitoring, evaluation and annual reporting on Status of Youth in the Country. The Ministry in charge of youth affairs will also ensure periodic review of this Policy to ensure its effective implementation.Other state actors, including ministries/departments, state agencies, and semi-autonomous state agencies shall mainstream youth issues into their policies, strategies and activities.

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

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

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

Executive Public Service.

National Level

i) Ensure the full implementation of the Constitution (2010), with emphasis on continuing civic education for optimal people participation and mainstreaming of youth issues in development agenda.(ii) Provide visionary leadership for all development interventions, e.g., Kenya Vision 2030 and its successive Medium-Term Plans while prioritizing youth issues.

(iii) Ensure implementation of the Policy, starting with its entrenchment and mainstreaming into all national policies, strategies and interventions.(iv) Ensure equitable employment and deployment in public service while giving special attention to the youth, women, marginalized communities and minorities, including people with special needs.(v) Uphold the rule of law and support effective public resource utilization while creating conducive environment for private sector development and job creation.

(vi) Develop appropriate monitoring and evaluation frameworks for the Policy possibly linked to the Planning ministry’s National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation framework; and(vii) Implement the findings of the monitoring and evaluation work through cross-sectoral and multiagency approach.

County Level

(i) Develop strategies and enact county assembly legislation that reflects the needs of the county and its entire population, including the youth, marginalized groups and minorities

(ii) Develop an integrated county development plan reflecting the priority needs of the diverse categories of the youth, including the marginalized and minority groups.

(iii) Integrate Youth initiatives in all county departments, their plans and strategies.

(iv) Ensure that public hiring/recruitment reflects the socio-ethnic face of the County.(v) Design and conduct effective civic education on issues affecting the youth.

Executive – Statutory Bodies, Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs), Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices.

Statutory bodies, SAGAs, constitutional commissions, and independent offices shall:

1. Ensure equitable employment across all diversities such as gender, age, ethnicity and persons with special needs.
2. . Promote mainstreaming of youth interventions in the institutional strategies
3. Promote research in youth issues to support implementation of the Policy with evidence.

Judiciary

At the national level, the Judiciary is responsible for the dispensation of justice through the:

1. The Judiciary shall ensure respect for the rule of law across the country.
2. Improving the accessibility of judicial services by the youth.

Conducting civic education to make judicial processes more user-friendly for the youth.(iv) Promoting effective and widespread frameworks for alternative dispute resolution Legislature Parliament – the

National Assembly and the Senate

(i)Oversee the full and timely implementation of the Constitution and ultimately provisions targeting youth.(ii) Ensuring the Executive at National and County levels espouses equity as a basis for national development.(iii) Ensure the timely passage of any bills arising from the adoption of the Policy;

 (iv) Exploit any opportunities available for the effective implementation of the Policy.

County Assemblies

1. Promote full implementation of the Constitution (2010) at the County level.
2. Domesticating the Policy.
3. Domesticating national legislation that affect the youth.
4. Ensure the County Assembly reflects the diversity of the county and that they address youth issues.
5. Ensure that laws and other county level frameworks, including employment, promote inclusion; and
6. Monitor and evaluate the performance of the County Executive to ensure it promotes equitable development while mainstreaming the youth issues.

Private SectorThe formal private sector generates majority of the opportunities for youth engagement. The operations cover productive and services sectors such as manufacturing, industry and services. Through its umbrella bodies, such as the FKE, KAM and Kenya Private, KEPSA, and COTU it works closely with government in policy development; and is a major employer.

(i)Create opportunities for youth engagement.

(ii) Develop specific mechanisms for mainstreaming youth issues and for monitoring adherence to agreed goals.(iii) Espouse recruitment practices that enable the entire youth in Kenyan labor market to feel represented; and wherever feasible, target youth, women, persons with disabilities, marginalized groups and minorities.(iv)Mainstream youth issues spelt out in the Policy in the design and implementation of targeted corporate social responsibility for youth; and,(v) Offer skills and partnerships to excluded groups as a means of enabling them to enter into mainstream economic activity.

Development partners – bilateral and multi-lateralDevelopment partners support public investment spending across all sectors through financing projects,

(i)Support the country to implement the Policy.(ii) Assist in monitoring and evaluation of performance regarding policy interventions. (iii) Diversify focus to non-traditional areas that can open up hitherto marginalized parts of the country while opening up for the youth.

Civil SocietyGeneral Civil society will continue to be involved in a wide range of activities targeting the youth

(i) Continue its work of mobilization and sensitization on the Policy.

(ii) Continue to support community- and faith-based organizations working on youth issues.(iii) Continue to monitor all arms of the government on matters affecting the youth.(iv) Rationalize interventions to focus on the needy areas and special interest groups including the youth; and,(v) Establish and strengthen referral mechanisms for youth with drug and substance abuse problems.

Faith-Based Organizations

Faith-based organizations shall contribute to the implementation of the Policy by:(i) Espousing the provisions of the Constitution in their activities.(ii) Applying the religious approach to uphold morals and values among the youth.

(iii) Providing youth with role models.

(iv) Establish partnerships with Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to institute programs targeting physical, mental and spiritual wellness of youth; and,(v) Championing the rights of the voiceless youth and participating in capacity building initiatives that promote youth development, empowerment and socio-economic engagement.

Community-Based Organizations

(i)Espouse the national values and principles of transformative leadership contained in the Constitution.(ii) Assist in mobilizing citizens to support youth initiatives; and(iii) Champion a revamped system of community leaders that also promotes representation across various age groups dialogue and peace building.

Youth(i)Read and understand the Constitution, and the various legislation relating to youth issues. (ii) Respect the Constitution and the laws emanating from it.(iii) Participate in design, implementation and monitoring of youth initiatives. (iv) Acquire and promote national values and patriotism.(v) Espouse respect for, and positively and vocally appreciate diversity and harmony.(vi) Espouse respect for human rights and basic needs including supporting implementation of the Policy(vii) Be fully accountable for own conduct.(viii) Participate fully in the governance of their locality, such as through civic education and citizen forums targeting youth.(ix) Respect and nurture the environment; and,(x) Uphold value systems in society including trust, patriotism, and hard work, among others.

**CHAPTER FIVE**

# Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

## 5.1 Introduction

The implementation of the youth policy will be monitored regularly by the Ministry in charge of youth affairs and will utilize two-month reporting framework to report on progress. An evaluation will also be conducted every 2-5 years to assess impact of the youth Policy implementation. This is an important guide to the development of the County Integrated Development plan (CIDP). The objective of monitoring is to ensure compliance with the guidelines, goals and principles outlined in the Youth Policy. Evaluation will assess the extent of achievement of the set goals and targets.

## 5.2 Monitoring,

The implementation of the youth policy will be monitored regularly by the Ministry in charge of youth affairs and will utilize two-month reporting framework to report on progress. An evaluation will also be conducted every 2-5 years to assess impact of the youth Policy implementation. This is an important guide to the development of the County Integrated Development plan (CIDP). The objective of monitoring is to ensure compliance with the guidelines, goals and principles outlined in the Youth Policy. Evaluation will assess the extent of achievement of the set goals and targets.

## 5.3 Evaluation

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

## 5.4 Learning Framework

To facilitate the implementation, coordination and monitoring the county government will develop a County Youth Development Index to track and measure impact of youth initiatives.

**CHAPTER SIX**

# Communication, Publicity and Information

## Introduction

Matters of public information and communication channels in Turkana County has had its traditional outlook since time immemorial. It’s this view that makes communication approach in Turkana County unique and interesting. Majority of people from Turkana County converse in a polite and friendly manner. From a very young age, residents from this Northern County of Kenya are taught to respect hierarchy, defer to elders and superiors, and to speak in a deliberate manner. They generally contemplate what they will say before they speak, ensuring their words are considerate.

People from Turkana are, on the whole, mild-mannered and very polite, and they appreciate these qualities in others. One should use “please” and “thank you” often in Turkana language

Hospitality is important in Turkana culture so the people living in in Turkana, and greetings in particular are viewed as a key part of social interaction. When greeting an elder or high-ranking person, it’s customary to grasp the person’s right wrist with your left hand while shaking hands, although this behavior is practiced less and less frequently. When meeting a Turkana child, it is common to put your hand on the child’s head.

As stated in Kenyan Constitution, Section 87 of Part VIII of the Act recognizes that timely access to information, data and documents and other information either relevant or related to policy formulation and implementation is one of the main principles influencing citizen participation in the management of a county government. Section 96 of the Act expressly makes provision for the right of access to information at the county levels which provides that; -.

Every Kenyan citizen shall on request have access to information held by any county government or any unit or department thereof or any other state organ in accordance with Article 35 of the Constitution.

Every county government and its agencies should designate an office to be used to ensure access to information as required by sub section (1).

Every county government should enact legislation to ensure access to information (subject to national legislation).

Well, in Turkana Civil society organization are in the fore front to make sure that the above legal rights are enjoyed across all people living in Turkana

## Communication channels (radio, TV, local language, barazas)

1. Official County website

This site is the primary communication vehicle as it shall acts as transparent, information portal, providing a convenient manner for the youth to obtain the information. It shall enhance that the youths receive information in a timely and convenient manner.

2. Social media

Social networking tools serve as quick and easy way to obtain public opinion and keep youths updated and informed. It also engages youths, introduce new services and publicize upcoming events.

There are different types of networking tools available for the county government to use, these are: - Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Social Networking tools serve as a quick and easy way to obtain public opinion and keep the youth updated and informed. Social networking benefits include the following:

• Ability to build trust, relationships, and establish open lines of communication.

• Ability to allow the Turkana County government to be proactive and not reactive to youth needs and concerns.

• Ability to drive traffic to the county web site and to keep citizens updated and informed.

• Ability to engage youth, introduce new services, publicize upcoming events, reach a new demographic, and more.

Wherever possible, links to more information should direct users back to the Turkana County’s official website for information, forms, documents or online services.

3. Organized events

Face to face is preferred as more personable form of interfacing with the youth because the body language and eye contact amplifies trust. Communication may include, but is not limited to:

• One-on-one Meetings

• Youth forums

• Conferences

• Public events

4 Televisions and Radio

These traditional forms of communication are available in almost all homesteads and are thus preferred as a means of reaching a wider youth audience. County of Turkana shall continuously relay youth related information through radio and TV programs. These programs include:

• Public service programs-these are unpaid for and seek to reinforce information

• Documentary-this shall provide case study to encourage and empower the youth.

• Feature programs-this shall concentrate on particular youth programs thus influencing youth to action.

5. Youth Advocacy tool kit - This shall give the youth of Turkana the skills and important information they need to stand up for their rights.

## Publicity and Policy Information Sharing

The ministry in charge of youth in Turkana County Government shall develop mechanisms using formal and informal channels, print and electronic media in developing a robust and multi – faceted communication strategy for policy and the programmed activities to all relevant stakeholders. This will also include capacity building of youth organizations on the policy and the roles of implementation, monitoring and evaluation and impact assessment.

The ministry in charge of youth shall facilitate the communication of results of youth intervention annually and shall develop an Annual Presidential Report on the state of the youth in the Turkana County.

## Policy Review

The Turkan County Youth Policy Development and its implementation framework were developed through a consultative process while giving cognizance to the dynamic nature of issues that affect the youth in the county.

Consequently, the Policy shall be reviewed as the need arises to take into account emerging issues on youth development and empowerment, and sustainable development; and to remain relevant to the dynamics in socioeconomic environment and development priorities.

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# CONCLUSION

Policy makers should consult wide and carry out enough public participation to make sure that indigenous based communication approach is used when drafting various policies, bills and laws regarding communication in Turkana County. There has been tremendous growth feedback regarding on how to improve communication in Turkana County not just by ensuring accessibility to some communication gadgets but also ensuring that the right infrastructure is in place to create enabling environment for use of all standard channels of communications like radio, television and even print media.

# Annex 1: Implementation matrix

|  |
| --- |
| Education, Training and Capacity Building |
| Overall Objective | To build youth’s capacity through relevant training and information sharing |
| Outcome/Results | Informed and active youth in the development of the county |
| Outcome indicator/s | Number of fully functioning innovation centers in Turkana County |
|  |
| Recommendations | Objectives | Activities | Indicators/outputs | Timelines | Key actors |
| Advocate for increased accessibility to Education both formal and non- formal and career guidance | Increase educational spaces to acquire relevant skills and guidance | Develop career guidance and mentorship platformsDevelop curriculums and training materialsDesign and implement county mentorship systemCreating equal opportunity for all, young people in education, training and labor market. | Number of curriculums and materialsNo of youth linked to county mentorshipNo of youth employed/ linked to markets |  |  |
|  |  | Promoting digital literacy programs |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Support vocational training and establishment of internship, volunteers and apprenticeship to enable the youth to acquire a range of skills and essential tools; | Provide platforms for gaining experience for employment | Mainstream county internship and volunteerism through enactment of laws, policies and regulations Creating enabling environment for creation of youth employment.Promotion of relevant industry education skills | Designed and enacted policies and laws Number of interns and volunteers in the county Fully funded internship and volunteer county programs |  |  |
| Mobilize and sensitize the youth, parents and school authorities to take advantage of available education and trainingopportunities at all levels | Create awareness on existing platforms to acquire relevant skills and knowledge | Conduct each ward sensitization forumsPrint and distribute IEC materials Community radio forums | No of sensitization forums in wards, on radiosNo of IEC materialsdistributed |  |  |
| Promote creation of youth empowerment centers in all sub- counties to enable youth access information and acquire practical relevant skills for employment | Safe space, conducive, innovation youth centers for talent and knowledge development | Establish fully equipped youth innovation centers in all the sub- countiesPromote life-long and e-learning for the youth. | No of fully equipped innovation centers |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Equipping youths with skills required to cope with technological changes.Increasing youth productivity through education and technology.Supporting integration of youth through incubation of businesses. |  |  |  |

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| --- |
| Employment and Enterprise Development |
| Overall Objective | To empower the youth population economically for better livelihoods |
| Outcome/Results | Empowered economically active youth population |
| Outcome indicator/s | Number of policies designed to create employment and reduce barriers |
|  |
| Recommendations | Objectives | Activities | Indicators/outputs | Timelines | Key actors |
| Advocate for formulation and implementation of an appropriateContextualized Tana River | Appropriate and contextualizedemployment policy that | Enactment of employment policy | Enactment of policy |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Employment Policy that addresses and responds to the concerns of the youth such as: Discrimination on the basis of age, gender and experience and exploitationthrough under payment; | removes identified barriers | Dissemination and implementation of the policy |  |  |  |
| Promote entrepreneurship culture and other income generating activities among the youth bycredit facilities to the youth; | Promote robust alternative income generating activities | supporting appropriate Micro Credit Financial Institutions |  |  |  |
|  |  | Matching occupation skills, competencies through promotion of research skills and competencies. |
|  |  | Establishing the proportion and profile of youth not in education, employment and training (NEET)Promote youth enterprise development through enterprise education and establishment of informationservices; |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Enhancing linkages between industry and training instructionsCoordinating evidence-based capacity programmes for the youthCreating entrepreneurshipcurriculum that involves the change of mindset |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Provide youth who are farmers with market information, link with markets and agricultural extension services.Conduct marginality mapping and apply *No-One- is- Left- Behind* approach | Transform livelihoods through agriculture and agri-businessA mapping and solid understanding of different youth groups and their dynamics is | Promoting youth participation in agriculture and value addition in agribusiness.Supporting youths to access land and inputs for agribusinessPromoting agriculture livestock and innovation. Link youth farmers with marketsEnsuring accountability to all the funds provided by the |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | needed to ensure funding allocation is not biased and supports the variety of youth networks more equally | government agencies and stake holdersPromote fair and equality on allocation of resources among the various youthnetworks |  |  |  |

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| --- |
| Youth Involvement, Participation and Leadership |
| Overall Objective | To increase youth involvement in decision--making, leadership, community based and other development programmes; |
| Outcome/Results | Youth centered and led decision making |
|  |
| Recommendations | Objectives | Activities | Indicators/outputs | Timelines | Key actors |
| Advocate for increased effective youth representation and participation in key positions of decision-making, leadership and management at all levels ofCounty Government through | Enhance youth representation and participation in county process and management | Promote establishment of County Youth Advisory committee whose chairperson isa youth and advisor | Established county youth advisory boardYouth inclusion legislation |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| establishment of affirmative action mechanisms; |  | to the governor on matters youth |  |  |  |
|  | Promote enactment of county youth inclusion legislation |
| Train, promote and support youth champions for peace and conflict resolution in the county; | Support youth involvement in peace and reconciliation process | Training youth peace ambassadorsEncouraging Youth projects, activities and events in community. | No of ambassadors trained No of trainingsNo of youth led community initiative |  |  |
|  |  | promoting active citizenship social inclusion and solidarity among youth |  |
| Advocate for realization of the rights of all youth | Realize the rights of youth. | Supporting initiatives on integrating youths with special needs and other vulnerable groups | No of events and workshops towards attaining rightsNo of dialogue forums held |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Increasing political awareness among youths and their constitution rights.Holding youth annual dialogue at all levels (county, sub-counties and wards) Supporting Streetyouth |  |  |  |