



DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, CULTURE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

BUSIA COUNTY

YOUTH POLICY



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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AU – African Union
CEC - County Executive Committee
CIDP – County Integrated Development Plan
COK – Constitution of Kenya (2010)
CSOs – Civil Society Organisations
FGM - Female Genital Mutilation
FBO – Faith-Based Organisation
ICT- Information and Communication Technology
KNBS – Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KYDP – Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019)
LAPSET - Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport Project
NIMES - National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System
NGO – Non-Governmental Organisation
RTC - Reproductive Tract Cancers
SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals
STI - Sexually Transmitted Infections
SRHR - sexual, reproductive health rights
TVET - Technical Vocational Education and Training
UNDP – United Nations Development Program
WHO - World Health Organization
WPAY - World Programme of Action for Youth
YECs - Youth Empowerment Centre
ACFTA- African Continental Free Trade Area
EAC - East African Community

FOREWORD

In 2010, Kenya ushered in a new constitution that envisaged far-reaching reforms to achieve more accountable, effective, and inclusive governance. Devolution, as intended, has improved service delivery by bringing the government closer to the people and their ability to control their affairs through legislation and policy formation or domesticating national policies to contextualize and give tools for better guidance and governance.

9 years on accountable, effective, and inclusive Youth in the devolved system has been elusive. However, it has not eluded Busia that the Youths are heterogeneous 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 Busia Youth Policy is a well-contextualized document that is supported by my office and will aggregate Busia Youth voices and represent their interests, it will enable the Youth to pursue their aspirations, be positive contributors and bring together partners to jointly develop a vibrant youth ecosystem which will be more youth-friendly and will ensure that the voices of the youth are heard.

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's 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, representation, and participation, the Busia county government has mobilized and allocated funds to support various youth programs and initiatives, it is in this regard that my government seeks and appeals to our able and motivated partners to fund our various youth

programs to enable the youth to realize their full potential. The department of Youth Affairs has undertaken different initiatives such as the establishment of innovation centers, Vocational Training Centers, and capacity-building programs for the youth. The initiatives are in collaboration with county partners including UNDP who have contributed towards the draft of this Busia county youth policy.

My whole political career has been dedicated to pursuing the vision of turning Busia county into a transformative and progressive county sustainable and equitable in development thus making it to be a key player in the economic growth of the country by shaping, empowering, motivating the youth who are tomorrow's leaders to maximize the opportunities available to them to better their lives and have a voice. The day and age of massive inequality, discrimination in terms of gender, experience, and age, unbalanced government policies that do not include the youth is far long gone, Busia county youth policy is the masterpiece that will change this narrative as it advocates for youth inclusion, representation, and participation in the realization of youth potential.

There is no other time to wait for, this being an election year the youth need to feel they are part of the conversation by having a profound youth legislation framework for their affairs. The key is to be bold right at this moment and choose to reinvent our policies by starting new conversations in support of the Busia county youth policy 2021.

According to the County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022, the county government shall mainstream youth issues by developing policies and programs to achieve sustainable and equitable socio-cultural and economic empowerment for all county residents, particularly marginalized and minority groups, including youth and other groups.

It is expected that this Policy will strengthen the efforts to establish a platform for coordination throughout the county and trigger further allocation of adequate resources to support youth-based programs and initiatives for the youth to realize their full potential.

I, therefore, encourage all county stakeholders to become acquainted with the Busia County Youth Policy document to guarantee that we are all conversant and reading from the same script and, as a result, adhering to the defined priority interventions for the promotion of youth welfare in the county.

H. E Sospeter Odeke Ojaamong' MGH.
Governor,
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUSIA.

PREFACE

The Department of Sports, Culture and Social Services has undertaken measures that enable youth of Busia to be citizens with democratic outlook, professional competence, skill and ethics so that they can actively, effectively and efficiently participate in and benefit from the county's ongoing activities that are aimed at enhancing accelerated development, attaining democratic system and good governance. In order to realize this mission, there was need to fill in institutional and policy gap that existed in the past to this effect Busia County Youth Policy has been formulated.

This policy which has been formed by current realities in the county places an obligation on the youth to be value driven, agile protagonists of their own development and not merely recipients of government and or other development partners support

Youth are a priority of the County Government as they will continue to be the engine of growth and prosperity of our County, in recognition that they form the largest cohort of our population. For this reason, the Government of Busia County will not relent in its efforts to give the sector the maximum attention it deserves. The policy focus on key sectors for better results and also recognizes youth employment creation as a growing challenge and also attempts to provoke other County Departments with the opportunity to restructure and realign their implementation, coordination and monitoring mechanisms for effective service delivery to the youth. Clearly, now, more than ever before, is the time to collectively nurture horn and proactively redirect the enterprising efforts of the Youth into the productive base of the county development.

The County Government of Busia will encourage initiatives to enhance collaboration between industry and training institutions to promote empowerment, innovation and entrepreneurship. It is my sincere hope therefore, that the policy is a reflection as much as possible of what the Youth of Busia want and I challenge County and its stakeholders to mobilize all their energies towards the realization of the Policy objectives. The process of developing this policy has been consultative, participatory and inclusive in terms of the involvement of key stakeholders and has been spearheaded by the County Department of Sports, Culture and Social Services, with diligent support from the National Youth Council, their special roles and efforts are recognised and appreciated.

I urge our various development partners, private sector, civil society organizations and all other stakeholders in general to continue to extend their interventions in support of the Youth particularly in the areas of employment

creation, capacity building, development and empowerment. The policy is indeed a complement to our development drive as we move forward in harmony to transform Busia County.

Dr. Janet N. Manyasi,
County Executive Committee Member,
Sports, Culture and Social Services,
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUSIA.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Policy underscores the desired need to see young people contribute positively to National and County development through the creation of an enabling environment which allows for youth to reach their full potential. The formulation of this Policy has seen my Department together with other stakeholders actively engage the youth and interested parties with a view of imploring ideas for inclusion in the Policy.

This Policy therefore reflects the commitment by the County Government of Busia to meeting the needs and aspirations of young people as expressed by the youth themselves drawn from 35 wards in the county. The Policy has been developed in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and aims to mainstream the youth of Busia by systematically integrating their issues into all development programmes and projects at all levels and within all sectors, and at both public and private institutions and to harness their talents and energies as well as to address the challenges affecting the youth. The Policy document is a dynamic document which will be continuously reviewed after every five years in order to meet the realities on the ground.

The Policy document aims at incorporating their programmes and provides an overall sense of coordinated approach in tackling youth issues in the County. Efforts have been made to build on the existing programmes and avoid the tendency to reinvent the wheel. The Department of Sports, Culture and Social Services (DSCS) where youth Directorate is domiciled will essentially play a catalytic and coordinating role in the implementation of the Policy besides undertaking specific programmes and projects to supplement the overall efforts.

The success of this Policy will depend upon the commitment and passion of all the stakeholders whether in the public or private sector. This is an investment which will see Busia benefit immeasurably and it is my hope that all stakeholders will rise to this immense opportunity. The Department of Sports, Culture and Social is confident of the capabilities and the talents of the Busia

Youth and expects that they will do their best to build a strong, prosperous, sustainable and vibrant Busia county.

The Department takes this opportunity to thank His Excellency Hon. Sospeter Odeke Ojaamong, MGH Governor- County Government of Busia, Republic of Kenya for providing an enabling environment and Political goodwill during the process of developing of the policy. We also appreciate the able leadership of Hon. Dr. Janet Manyasi -County Executive Committee Member Sports, Culture and Social Services, County Legal Advisor, Member of County Assembly, County Assembly Research, State Department of Youth Affairs, KLRC, KIPPRA, KEPSA, KAM, CSOs, MSMEs, Development Partners, Youth of Busia and many and other Stakeholders.

We express our sincere gratitude to United Nations Development Program (UNDP) under the Consolidating gains and deepening Devolution in Kenya Program and The National Youth Council Kenya for their deep commitment by providing financial, professional and technical support in the process of formulating the policy.

The Department also calls on all parties to contribute towards the implementation of the policy.

Mr. Joe Maurice Odundoh
Chief Officer
Sports, Culture and Social Services,
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUSIA.

1.0 BACKGROUND

Article 1 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 declares that all sovereign power in Kenya vests in the people. The people exercise their power directly or indirectly at two levels of government through their elected representatives in Parliament and County Assemblies, the executive and the judiciary and Constitutional commissions to which the power is delegated. Article 6 the Constitution divides Kenya into 47 devolved units in which the devolved sovereign power shall be exercised at the county level.

The counties and their governments and the national government are distinct and interdependent. The upshot of this is that the fundamental and constitutional rights guaranteed by the Constitution are to be enjoyed equally at the two levels of Government.

The devolved system of Government introduced in Kenya with the promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, has great promise for more balanced and equitable development for all parts of the Country and the people. However, the promise so far has had mixed results and fortunes especially for the people of the County.

Busia County (40) in Western, Kenya is one of the 47 counties into which the territory of Kenya is divided, in accordance with Article 6 (1) and the First Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya (2010). Before devolution, the County fell in the former Western Province of Kenya. It covers about 1,700 square kilometers making it one of the smallest counties in area. It is divided into 7 sub-counties, 35 Wards, 60 administrative locations, and 181 sub-locations. The County borders Kakamega County to the east, Bungoma County to the north, Siaya County to the south, and Busia District, Uganda to the west.

1.1 Busia County Demographic Composition and Labor outlook

Kenya Population and Housing Census Report 2019 the population of Busia County was 893,000 in 2019 constituting 1.7 % of the population of Kenya with a labor force of 400,017. The County had a population density of persons per square kilometer and an average household size of 4.5 persons. The Youth Population is 186,731 (20.9 %). Unemployment level is high at 66.7%. In this context, the County Government of Busia will build a youth database through

this policy, which will assist the county public service board in determining the actual number of young people in the county.

The AU the African Youth Charter defines a Youth as a person between 15 and 35 years of age. On the other hand, both the United Nations and the World Health Organization define a youth as any person between the ages of 15 and 24.

In Kenya, Article 260, the Constitution defines the term youth to mean all individuals who have attained the age of 18 years but have not yet attained the age of 35 years.

2.0 SITUATION ANALYSIS

2.1 Overview And Situation Analysis Of The Economic And Social Activities In The County

The County is essentially an agricultural county without any significant manufacturing or industry and with no known mineral resources. Lake Victoria borders Busia County to the west. However, the County's share of Kenya's portion of the Lake is very small and does not permit for significant engagement in commercial fishing on it.

Moreover, due to the relatively high population density coupled with anachronistic land tenure and use policies, farming is carried out on small-scale land holdings by peasants using old technology.

The local population has no capital and find it difficult to access credit to facilitate engagement in trade and commerce. As a result, both poverty and unemployment levels are high standing at 70% and 66% respectively.

Despite it being a border county with high potential for trans-boundary and international trade, few local people in the County are engaged in meaningful trade or commerce and many, especially the youth, feel excluded in the economic, political, and social spheres of life.

The main economic activities in which the youth could be and are currently engaged include agriculture, trade and commerce, fishing, jua kali artisanship

and boda boda motor cycle transport business. With support the youth in Busia could and should be involved in tourism sports and creative performance.

2.1.1 Agriculture:-

Good weather conditions throughout the year, coupled with generally rich and fertile soils, provide a good environment for agriculture that can thrive and support cultivation of numerous crops in the County for both subsistence and cash. Among them are maize, beans, sweet potatoes, millet, cassava, cotton, tobacco, and sugar cane.

There is potential for intensive dairy farming and other animal farming, horticulture and fruit farming. However, intensive farming is capital intensive that requires training and acquisition of specialized skills.

Exploitation of the full agricultural potential of the County for increased production and productivity is constrained by the small land holdings, lack of capital and use of antiquated technology especially among the youth.

Further, the land tenure system and land use policy also prohibit to effective participation by the youth in commercial agriculture. Where cash crop farming such as in sugar cane farming is practiced, the youth are hardly involved as most do not own the land.

The Government should establish mechanisms and strategies to facilitate the youth to own and exploit land so that they can more effectively participate in the economic development of the County.

2.1.2 Fishing: -

Fishing is one of the main economic activities especially in the southern part of the County. Over 3,000 fishermen depend directly on the lake while close to 50% of the communities and businesses in Bunyala and Samia indirectly

depend on the fish trade. Fishing is done both on Lake Victoria and in fish dams and ponds.

The County and National governments have been pushing the construction of fish dams and ponds in various parts of the county, particularly in North Teso, where fishing has become popular. However, this type of fish breeding necessitates a large initial investment, which most young people lack.

Fish capture in Lake Victoria is estimated at 5,000 metric tons of fish annually with an ex-vessel (beach) value of over Kshs 700 million. Most of the fish captured is retailed in Busia county fish retail markets. Nevertheless, some is exported to other counties generating further turnover of Kshs 1.2 billion in the county economy.

With adequate funding and assured security on the lake, availability of refrigeration facilities and assured market fish sector has potential for development and growth to employ many youth.

2.1.3 Trade and Commerce

Busia County forms the Kenya/Uganda border on the Kenyan side and has two of the busiest customs offices and crossings into and from the interior of East and central Africa along the Northern corridor.

The people of Busia County have not benefited much from this corridor and the trade and business that it generates. The participation of the youth in trade along the corridor has largely been limited to hawking, petty business and smuggling of small items yet the potential for more lucrative trans-boundary and international trade through Busia and Malaba border points is great.

Moreover, there are plans to open yet another customs border crossing at Mulwanda and thereby expanding further the horizons for trans-boundary and trans-national trade.

Busia County is well connected with excellent road, rail and water transport system that greatly facilitate the trade. Furthermore, the County is internet-

connected and has everything going for it to position itself as a transport and ICT hub in which the youth could tap into.

2.1.4 Tourism, Sporting and Artistic Performing Activities

Busia County neighbours Mt. Elgon, Bungoma and Kakamega which have, together with Busia, produced excellent and world-class athletes and sportspersons in virtually every field. The County has produced footballers like JJ Masiga, McDonald Mariga, Victor Wanyama; there have been athletes like the late Dan Amke, Omanyala; pugilists like Robert Wangila and many others. The County is also a hub of performing artists like Papa Shirandula, talented musicians.

The potential in these sectors exists; all that is required is investments in talent identification, fostering, nurturing, and development. The county can take advantage of this by utilizing the various sporting facilities to foster and showcase the abilities. In addition, the County should promote sports and sporting activities to help combat the problem of youth alcoholism, drug misuse, and substance abuse.

Busia County has been included in the second batch of counties that will benefit from the modern stadium where the youth will be major beneficiaries because they will endeavor to tap their sporting talents and empower them economically and socially. The national government will also partner with other donors to construct a youth sports academy.

2.2 DIMENSIONS OF YOUTH PROFILE AND TARGET AUDIENCE IN BUSIA COUNTY

2.2.1 Dimensions of Youth Profile in Busia County

While recognizing their unique diversities, expectations, challenges, and special needs, this policy recognizes the categories of youth in Busia County as listed below as the identification of target youth audiences is a key component of this Policy:-

- a) Male and Female;
- b) Educated and Uneducated;
- c) Formally trained and informally trained;
- d) Rural and urban residents;
- e) In-school and out of school;
- f) Skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled;
- g) Physically challenged and able-bodied;
- h) Migrant and Non-migrant;
- i) Economically engaged or not;
- j) Minorities
- k) Employed and unemployed
- l) Married youth/youth headed families/youth parents/

2.2.2 Target Youth Audiences

1. **Unemployed and under-employed:** These are the highest priority targeted audience and, therefore, strengthening their relationship with the County Government is the starting point of a proper communication plan. There are numerous issues to this audience including unemployment, use of drugs and substance abuse, unwanted pregnancies, insecurity among.
2. **Youth out of school:** This audience has 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 in their emotional, social, and economic development. The communication policy, therefore, brings about strategies to ensure they participate fully in society.
7. **Minorities:**

3.0 CHALLENGES AFFECTING THE YOUTH IN BUSIA COUNTY

Youth population of any country, Kenya included, is an important resource. When engaged productively, the youth present an opportunity to accelerate the economic growth of the county.

The issue then is, how does and what systems and mechanisms exist within Busia County that ensure that the youth in the County enjoy the rights and that their needs are addressed to productively involve and engage in social and economic transformation of the County? It is equally a pertinent question as to the mechanisms existing within the County to enable the youth to County participate in making decisions that affect them.

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

1. Youth unemployment and underemployment:

The Report on the 2019 National Census and Population shows that Kenya's total youth population (18-34 years) was 13,618,462, of which 5,182,044 were not employed. As noted earlier according to the same report, the youth population of Busia County as of that date was 186,731 (20.9 %) with unemployment level a high of 66.7%. Even worse is the fact that general poverty levels in the County are high standing at 70%.

In 2019, Busia County had a primary school pupils population of in its schools. Regrettably the transition rates are very low as only about transitioned to secondary schools. After this level of education, transition to universities is even lower.

Unfortunately, entry to tertiary institutions of learning where skills in different fields would be honed and sharpened is extremely low. Historically, vocational training in Vocational Training institutions in the county has generally been shunned and looked down upon by both the parents and the

learners. The result is a paucity of adequately skilled and equipped local labor force.

2. Youth labour migration:

Youth unemployment is partly due to the slow expansion of economic activities relative to population growth and lack of skills and training to engage in other occupations. Some, if not most, of the working youths are underemployed, on part-time employment, or left idle thereby under-utilizing the worker's skills.

Many youth emigrate to other counties and especially to urban areas in those counties where they work as unskilled laborers on construction sites or watchmen. Those who remain the county engage in occupations such as boda boda riders, bus and matatu stage conductors and guides or idlers. A few will engage in jua kali shades as artisans.

Being that Busia County is classified as a rural region and is strategically at the border of Kenya and Uganda many young people leave to seek education and thereafter employment in other regions/counties/ Countries like Nairobi, Kisumu, and Uganda. Busia

County is facing a dilemma due to a local shortage of skilled manpower, forcing it to employ outsiders. While the county would like to hire more locals, the number of Youth with the requisite academic qualifications and technical skills to deliver is not adequate. (CIDP, Pg. 57).

3. Social exclusion:

Social exclusion is often perpetuated by formal institutions (policies and laws) and informal ones (traditional systems, societal attitudes) and often lead to less political developmental participation of the youth.

Most societies regard the youth as a group that lack experience and expertise hence are rarely given opportunity to better themselves or even give their opinions. The older generation has the majority of the opportunities in

decision-making and employment due to the perception that they have more wisdom and are more experienced

4. Lack of collateral and bureaucracies in accessing loans:

Youth especially those from poor backgrounds have no collateral to get finances from the financial institutions. The bureaucratic ways on the detailed proposals for the Government funds lock away potential youth. Proper mechanisms to mobilize, train, offer the resources with clear monitoring mechanisms should be in place to ensure no one is left behind because of any inability of any nature. It will also be important to unlink youth loans from land collateral requirements.

5. Skills mismatch:

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

6. Health-related challenges:

These encompass malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), drug use and substance abuse and associated effects, mental health, other communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as poor access, quality, and uptake of health services. In 2019, the HIV prevalence rate was 9.9 percent being the highest rate in the western region. This has proved to be a challenge for most youth in the county.

7. Multiple Roles of Youth in Intercommunal violence, Crime, and defiant behavior:

Due to inactivity and negative influence especially after completing basic education, the idle youths are vulnerable and at a high risk of engaging in crime, joining organized militia groups/ gangs, becoming radicalized and engaging in violent extremism. While young people are particularly susceptible to violence and crime they are also disproportionately burdened by social and economic insecurities and are often victims of violence, political unrest, and crime themselves.

8. Early and unintended pregnancies:

Busia is the leading in teenage pregnancy which is 21 percent compared to the national prevalence of 18 percent. Busia County was also leading in median age for the first sex for women between 20-49 yrs. which stands at 17 years. The county again also leads with a median age at first marriage at 18 years, meaning that 50 percent of women get married aged 18 years (Dr. Janerose Ambuchi, County Director of Medical Services the World Contraception Day, 2017).

This exposes youth to early unintended pregnancies, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), and Reproductive Tract Cancers (RTCs) which often disrupt their participation in education, training, and empowerment activities, and raise the risk of morbidity and mortality.

9. Limited participation in economic and political spheres:

It is often the case that in a less educated population, many youths will shy away from participating in the decision-making of policies as they believe they cannot make informed decisions. This is often linked to a lack of enough civic education in the rural regions. This has left many youths feeling disenfranchised and frustrated as a result this has impacted the youth negatively hence affecting the social cohesion of the community.

10. Limited access to safe public spaces:

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

11. The challenge of limited access to information and communication technology (ICT):

In the rural setting, youths have less access to information as compared to their urban-based colleagues. This in turn leads to them being unable to participate in any important online engagements. The youth cannot exploit career, business, and education opportunities available because they lack access to ICT, due to unavailability especially in rural areas, and high costs. It is for this reason that this policy has advocated for the establishment and equipping of youth empowerment centers with modern hub techs to each sub-county to be that platform that will provide information to the youth in rural areas.

12. Drug and substance abuse:

There is an increase in drug and substance abuse among the youth. Most of these drugs are smuggled from the neighboring country through the border.

13. Lack of financial and technical support for youth programmes:

The scarcity of funds and resources from government agencies and other stakeholders to fund various youth programs is a major challenge for the youth in the county. The youth cannot realize their full potential as they lack the capital to engage in economic developing activities such as startup businesses, ICT innovations, sports, and community-based volunteer activities (CIDP pg. 56 & 57).

3.1 AN OVERVIEW OF YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES AND POTENTIAL IN BUSIA COUNTY

This policy document concerns itself with rights, freedoms, needs and issues of the youth in Busia County. However, because aging is a process and not an event, the Policy also touches and concerns the rights of younger people or children as defined under the Children Act that are also guaranteed and protected by the Constitution.

From the overview of the economic and employment situation analysis above, this Policy surmises the prospects and potential for economic engagement of the youth in Busia is bright. The County Government, the private sector and other stakeholders could co-operate and collaborate to harness the youth potential and engage them in the abundant opportunities available.

ICT & Innovation sector; Juakali industry which majority of youth work in; Fishing sector; Bodaboda sector; youth representation, participation, and empowerment in the social sphere and Youth inclusion -inclusive access to social amenities by the youth has improved over time but is not equitably distributed.

According to 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 technology innovation. Therefore, the county government needs to tap the youth's energy.

Kenya has a young population, out of its 47.6 million constituents, a whopping 75.1 percent are below the age of 35. Consequently, her median age is approximately 20 years (KNBS Census, 2019). The youth definitively, account for 29 percent of her entire population. It thus can be concluded that Kenya is experiencing a youth bulge.

Slow growth rates of the county's economy are compounded by historical marginalization, negatively impact on the youth prospects of the county. As a result, 67.6 % percent of the county's workforce (400, 017) is unemployed, culminating in a 76.9 percent poverty rate. Being the Gateway to East and Central Africa as categorically stated in their motto, Busia County has two border Points; Malaba and Busia which boosts positively the County's business environment for private enterprises. By design, this aspect makes the county government an important player in employment creation, governance and leadership, and social inclusion.

The policy is premised on the following ratified instruments Lisbon Declaration (1998), United Nations Youth Strategy 2030 (2018), Common Wealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment 2015, Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention No. 111 (1958), Human Resources Development Convention, No. 142 (1975), African Youth Charter (2006), and Dakar Declaration on Youth Empowerment Strategy (2001).

Youth-related issues are a priority to the Busia county government. This is partly because the youth are relatively marginalized in Socioeconomic outcomes including employment. A majority of the youth remain on the periphery of the country's social, economic, and political affairs. The overall objective of Busia Youth Policy 2021, is to provide a framework for addressing issues affecting the youth, notably employment creation, youth inclusion, participation, representation health, education, sports, art, partnership, and empowerment.

The youths in Busia are full of energy and have the potential to succeed yet are the most vulnerable part of the population in the county, so guidance is key and with this policy, it will be easy to know where and how to engage them to improve their productivity in the county. If a favorable legal ground for youth is established, they can invest their efforts, knowledge, and skills in those aspects knowing it's reliable. Youth need real access to opportunities to enable them to participate in the political processes of their counties and contribute to practical solutions that advance both social and economic development.

This policy document is informed by the following intentions: Adoption of a positive attitude that eliminates the marginalization of youth in government whilst also strengthening the concept of participatory development among the youth and; Recognition of the needs, problems faced, aspirations, and innovations of youth; and Leveraging Youth capacities as the main asset to economic, social, and political development across the county of Busia.

To achieve the above-stated goals of this policy, joint inter-sectional and cross-sectoral efforts, including intergovernmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector, and other stakeholders are essential. Service provision for sustainable development of youth requires coordination in programs and decision making in both the public and private sectors, and procedures for monitoring and evaluation must be developed

4.0 POLICY PRIORITY AREAS

4.1 POLICY PRIORITY AREAS AND INTERVENTIONS

The policy identifies strategic priority areas and interventions to address the challenges identified in the situation analysis and meet the objectives of the policy. The strategic areas and action points are as follows:

4.1.1 PROMOTION OF QUALITY EDUCATION, AND TRAINING.

The county government of Busia will put in place measures to support quality education and training to enhance the capacity of the youth to effectively participate in social and economic development. This will be realized through funding for strategic skill sets required by the County by promoting internship and attachment opportunities and apprenticeship programs, employment of qualified trainers and instructors; improve infrastructure in learning institutions. The County will promote linkages between the training institutions and the industry to enhance the skills and competences and of the trainees through internships and attachment. Specifically, the County will;

- i. Provide career guidance in all learning institutions in the county.
- ii. Mobilize and sensitize the youth, parents, and school authorities to available education and training opportunities at all levels within the County especially the vocational and technical training institutions.
- iii. Partner with different stakeholders to invest in education and develop required skills and capacities in the County.
- iv. The County Government of Busia will equip and operationalization of the existing vocational training institutions

4.1.2 YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND INNOVATIONS IN ALL SUB-COUNTIES.

Youth empowerment is predicated upon enhancing the capacity of the youth to act for themselves, make decisions and respond to challenges facing them. The County will endeavor to promote creativity and innovation among the youth. Further, the County government will enhance the adoption and use of

information and communication technology for job and wealth creation for the youth.

The County will establish and/or collaborate and cooperate in the establishment of youth empowerment and innovation centers at County, Sub-county and ward levels.

The Youth empowerment centres will be useful platforms to provide:

- a) access to ICT services and entrepreneurship training,
- b) guidance and counseling on drugs and substance abuse, HIV-AIDS prevention among others.
- c) promote and nurture youth talent.
- d) provide platform for integrating services for community mobilization and games, and networking among the youth.
- e) It shall serve as research centre as well house and build innovative ideas before linking with relevant partners
- f) be the hubs for all County Government activities and services involving the youth in the county.
- g) enable the youth to access information and acquire practical relevant skills for employment.

A policy, legal, regulatory framework will be established to manage, coordinate and fund the centers.

4.1.3 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT – PEOPLES CHARTER ON JOBS NOW BUSIA

Youth unemployment is a serious challenge in the County. It is compounded by the complex composition of the youth profiles (in the situation analysis). Among the youth are actually parents of other youth and this category requires special and different interventions.

The policy aims at addressing the challenges experienced by the various profiles of the youths identified in collaboration with stakeholders and development partners.

The policy advocates for:

- i. Formulation and implementation of an appropriate Contextualized Busia Employment Policy that addresses and responds to the concerns of the youth such as Discrimination based on age, gender inequality, experience, and exploitation through underpayment;
- ii. Promotion of income-generating activities among the youth by supporting appropriate Micro Credit Financial Institutions that extend credit facilities to the youth;
- iii. Promotion of youth enterprise development through enterprise education and establishment of information services by equipping the youth empowerment centers with modern and advanced tech hubs.
- iv. Provision of youth who are farmers with market information, link with markets, and agricultural extension services for better farming.
- v. Encourage the youth to participate in Agri-business
- vi. To ensure youth realize their fully potential the county will set strategy and mechanisms to subsidize business permits for the youth
- vii. The County Government of Busia will initiate and operationalize Busia Youth Development and Empowerment Fund this will promote the youth to venture in business related activities

4.1.4 YOUTH INVOLVEMENT, PARTICIPATION, AND LEADERSHIP

The county government of Busia will commit to undertake activities, programmes, and initiatives that promote meaningful youth participation and representation through but not limited to the following interventions:

- i. Advocate for increased effective youth empowerment, representation, and participation in key positions in the government.
- ii. Inclusion of youth in decision-making, leadership, and management at all levels of County Government

through the establishment of affirmative action mechanisms;

- iii. Train, promote, and support youth, a champion for peace and conflict resolution by the inclusiveness of youth in peace negotiations and security matters in the county
- iv. Advocate for the realization of the rights of all youth including the Youth with disabilities, the marginalized and ensure they have equal participation in all Youth programmes
- v. The County Government will initiate legislation to create the Busia Youth Service to promote national values and encourage youth volunteerism.

4.1.5 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The county government shall put measures to promote and develop the agricultural sector by the establishment of processing plants and millers, modernizing the sugar industries and enacting policies to protect coffee farmers and making sure they earn better income on the exportation of coffee, this will create vast job opportunities and enhance employment for the youth.

Agriculture is the major economic activity in Busia County and the climatic condition of the region favors the production of Robusta coffee. Busia is the only county in Kenya that produces Robusta Coffee. The uniqueness of Busia County in the production of Robusta coffee gives it a strategic advantage as an investment hub for the production of instant coffee. Plans to increase the number of farmers from the current 1500 farmers to 5000 will lead to increased production and offer a ready market for the crop instead of importing from neighboring countries.

There is a need for a rice processing plant at Magombe Rice Irrigation Scheme in Bunyala Sub County. The rice harvest is sold to other millers in Mwea and

other regions in Kenya and Uganda. The same rice is sold in local supermarkets in Busia County after undergoing value additions.

Other available investment opportunities include food processing, canning industry, greenhouse farming, oil production from seeds and groundnuts, and the vegetable processing industry.

Fish cage farming is becoming more popular in the county. Investment opportunities here include fish processing plants to minimize fish exports and cold storage facilities.

The county is home to Busia Sugar Industry and West Kenya Sugar Industries. Investment in water conservation and Irrigation farming will enhance agricultural production.

4.1.7 HEALTH PROGRAMMES

The County Government of Busia will develop appropriate programmes and actions to mitigate health challenges facing the youth including sexual reproductive health rights(SRHR), drugs and substance abuse, psychosocial, Mental health, and interventions to realize a healthy youth population through but limited to the following interventions:

- i. Provide access to quality health services which are youth-friendly at affordable price
- ii. Create awareness on universal healthcare such the NHIF
- iii. create a safe and supportive environment for counseling teenage mothers for their growth and development
- iv. promote awareness on sexual reproductive health among the youth
- v. Build partnerships and coordination among stakeholders involved in youth health and development;
- vi. Establish counseling and rehabilitation centres to address Mental health challenges among the youth by providing psychological

4.1.8 YOUTH, SOCIETY, AND CULTURE

The County Government of Busia shall put in place programmes and actions to strengthen social cohesion through cultural diversity. Towards achieving the commitment, the County Shall;

- i. Promote respect for various cultural, religious, and political differences and identities and instill the spirit of tolerance and unity in diversity among the youth;
- ii. Advocate for a conducive socio-cultural environment that involves the youth and protects them against harmful traditional practices, beliefs, and cultural-based gender discrimination and practices;
- iii. Support the rehabilitation of youth who conflict with the law through the establishment of rehabilitation centers with proper guidance and counseling as well as mentorship programmes.
- iv. Collaborate with the youth, Youth Servicing Organizations; Parents, and the Community on rehabilitation of drug abusers focusing on social reintegration in the community.
- v. Encourage youth artistic and cultural expression through the support of arts and cultural festivals, competitions, and other activities that promote the cultural heritage, identities, and national pride;
- vi. Increase awareness, protect and safeguard the rights of the youth as well as their obligations to the community and communities' responsibilities to them;

4.1.9 BUSIA YOUTH SERVICE

The County Government will initiate legislation to create the Busia Youth Service to promote national values and encourage youth volunteerism. The legislation will lead to the enactment of the Busia Youth Service Act by the Busia County Assembly. The act shall be known as THE BUSIA COUNTY YOUTH SERVICE ACT, 2022

This Act of the County Assembly of Busia will give effect to Articles 55 of the Constitution; to make provision for the establishment of the Busia Youth Service Board and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto. The Busia Youth Service Board will be chaired by the CECM responsible for the time being in charge of youth affairs.

The Busia youth service shall champion the spirit of volunteerism as well as implement the directives of the H.E the president of the republic of Kenya.

The Busia Youth Service will be established to fulfil the following objectives

- i. to inculcate a culture of self-worth and dignity, hard work, diligence, self-reliance and entrepreneurship among the youth;
- ii. Reduce youth poverty, unemployment and helplessness;
- iii. promote participation of the youth in development programs including agriculture, health, forestry, urban development, and environmental rehabilitation;
- iv. provide for the maintenance of a database of all trained Busia youth;
- v. provide necessary training to facilitate increased employment of the youth in the county government and county government projects;
- vi. to ensure participation of the youth in youth empowerment programs;
- vii. provide for coordination and collaboration with other government agencies and to support implementation of this Youth policy in the county;
- viii. to facilitate employment of the youth in the private sector; inform and educate the residents in Busia county on the need to empower the youth and the harmful economic and social consequences of their alienation;

- ix. facilitate and enhance community participation in youth related matters;
- x. to conduct research and implement effective measures to empower the youth in the county;
- xi. to provide awards, scholarships and prizes to deserving youth;
- xii. to provide a mechanism for addressing unique youth needs; and
- xiii. to give effect to the constitutional values and principles in so far as affirmative action for the youth is concerned.

4.1.10 RECREATION, SPORTS, AND LEISURE

In promoting physical wellness and activeness of our youth in sports and talent county Government shall promote sports, recreation, Leisure activities, creative arts and develop models that appeal to young people through achieving the following objectives;

- i. Advocate for formulation and implementation of a County Sports legislation that addresses sports for all;
- ii. Encourage organizations to promote development of sports, traditional and modern sports facilities, for recreations and competition among the youth;
- iii. Promote sports, recreation, and leisure activities and develop models that appeal to young people;
- iv. Preserve and promote the positive traditional sport.

4.1.11 CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

The Busia County Government will develop strategies to educate the youth on effects of climate change and encourage youth to participate in environmental preservation, conservation, and restoration of natural resources an.

The following interventions will be used to encourage eco-preneurship and green jobs as part of the initiative:

- v. create awareness on the dangers of environmental degradation and effects of climate change.
- vi. Promote youth participation in tree development, nurseries and tree planting campaigns such as Greening Kenya led by the NYC and advocated by H.E the president of the Republic of Kenya
- vii. Advocating use of clean and renewable energy to conserve the natural resources- - soil, forest, biomass, water, wildlife, wetlands, etc. through such activities as afforestation, reforestation, and proper waste management by the youth
- viii. Educating the youth on carbon print.
- ix. enacting strict laws and imposing severe punishment to any person burning charcoal for business purposes.

4.1.12 YOUTH SERVICE DELIVERY

This policy shall also establish the County Youth Advisory Committee for increased effective youth representation and participation in key positions chaired by the CEC in charge of youth affairs.

The committee shall have a Secretary who shall be elected at the county level with oversight from the National Youth Council to be the Youth delegate representative of the county

The committee shall have a minimum 15 of members and a maximum of 35 each to represent ward and shall be in charge of the following sectors; Sports and entertainment, Creation and innovation, rehabilitation centers, ICT centers, Academia, CSOs, organized youth community-based organizations, national council of people living with disabilities, minority and marginalized group, faith-based organizations. Each member shall be elected by the youth of his ward for a term of three years' subject to re-election when the term ends. The elected youth shall serve for a maximum of two terms. The minimum requirement to contest for any youth post shall be a holder of a bachelor's degree from a recognized institution in Kenya.

The ministry of youth affairs shall be responsible for conducting the election in all the wards in the county. The CEC in charge of youth affairs shall chair quarterly meetings to review the progress of the council. The Quorum in meetings of the council shall be two-thirds of all the members present. The CEC shall at any given time call for a special meeting to address urgent matters concerning the youth. The council shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of every year.

The elected youth shall be subject to chapter 6 of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and the leadership and integrity Act 2012 whose purpose is to ensure that all state and public officers respect the values, principles of leadership, and requirement of the constitution

The youth advisory committee shall act as a forum for the county government, stakeholders, and NGOs to meet and discuss issues relating to youth affairs and development. The establishment of the County Youth Advisory/ Coordinating committee aims at a strengths-based vision for youth and defines the following goals:

1. Promote coordinated strategies to improve youth outcomes in the county
2. Promote evidence-based and innovative strategies for youth empowerment
3. Promote youth engagement and partnerships.
4. Support the oversight for implementation of the youth policy
5. Shall ensure inclusion of youth issues in key functions of the county and budget-making processes as well as strengthen the youth organizations for effective representation in the county matters.
6. The council shall ensure 5% of the representation is by youth in Government leadership positions.

It further introduces four cross-cutting initiatives:

- I. Develop a shared language on youth topics; such as youth employment, representation, and inclusivity in social, economic, and political programmes
- II. Assess and disseminate models of collaboration and participation of youths in different leadership positions
- III. Centralize and disseminate information from the national government to the county government through the youth empowerment centers in the county
- IV. Promote data collection and evaluate the performance of the youth empowerment centers through oversight of the county government.

4.1.13 MANAGEMENT, COORDINATION, AND PARTNERSHIP

The County Government of Busia in addition to the establishment of Youth Advisory Committee to act as the principal body for youth matters including inclusion and representation. The county shall also develop an exclusive directorate to enhance management coordination and partnership with different 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 to gather, analyze, disseminate and use youth-related data to set up a data bank for future reference.
- III. Advocate for increased resource allocation, mobilize funding and support for youth programmes and activities;
- IV. Lobby for integration of youth concerns and priorities into the county, planning, and budgetary provisions through co-opting youth in each sector working group.

5.0 BUSIA COUNTY GOVERNMENT INTERVENTIONS

Since the year 2013, the Government of Busia County has, by different policy and other ways, instituted measures to put into effect and actualize the constitutional directives and implement national policies and programs concerning the youth. In each County Integrated Development Plan and other planning documents, the County Government has consistently included projects and programs intended to benefit the youth.

The County Government has also partnered, cooperated and collaborated with the national level of government, development partners and other stakeholders to promote in the County projects, programs and activities meant to benefit the youth in different sectors of the economy.

i. Education, skills, literacy, and infrastructure

The County has 638 primary schools and 162 secondary schools with a population of over 252,057 pupils and 52,488 students respectively, 25 Vocational Training Centers and 3 university constituent colleges located in Amagoro, Nambale Market, and Alupe Sub-County Hospital.

According to the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census, 75.3% of the population, aged 15 years and above in Busia County can read and write which is 4.7 % below the national target. In a move to plug the technical gap the county Government of Busia has intervened with the following measures:

ii. Technical Training Centres

Empowering and restructuring the vocational training and technical centers. the county government planned in 2013 to construct one technical training institute per constituency.

The 60 Technical Training Institute are situated in the following Constituencies: Okame Technical Training Institute in Teso South 0 95% complete; Chemasir Technical Training Institute in Teso North 0 55% complete; Nambale Technical Training Institute in Nambale – 58%

Complete; Budalangi Technical Training Institute in Budalangi 0 95 % Complete; Dr. Daniel Wako Murende Technical Training Institute in Matayos 0 55% complete; and Butula Technical Training Institute in Butula Land has already been purchased.

iii. Vocational Training Institutes

The county government has also established new Vocational Training Centers, modernization of existing centers, and provided modern equipment to keep up to date with the technological advancements

There are 25 vocational training centers in the county. There are 1,799 males and 1,273 females taking various courses in these institutions.

iv. Laptop Programme in Primary Schools

In Busia County, 415 schools have been installed with digital literacy. 17 schools are yet to have the installation done. The total number of devices installed is 31,024. This is a move by the County Government to ensure that youth are equipped with digital knowledge from the early stages.

v. Busia Internship and apprenticeship Policy

The county government has established Busia County Internship Policy - This policy on internship has been customized by the County Government of Busia to provide guidelines on engagement of interns in the Busia County Public Service as provided for in the Constitution 2010 and other relevant Laws and Statutes. The government has prioritized job creation and youth employment to achieve economic, social, and political development and also to secure the prosperity of the county.

vi. Youth Empowerment And Social Inclusion

Busia County like any other county in Kenya has a youthful population. this population has a significant challenge in the nation at large as it has resulted in unemployment, increased crime, drug and substance abuse, health issues, and

other symptoms of social disorder due to unfulfilled needs. Limited involvement of youth in gainful employment and economic participation as well as their exclusion and marginalization from the decision-making process and policies is a threat to the stability of the nation.

vii. Other Intervention Measures

The county government of Busia has put in place specific initiatives to empower the youth including: reservation of tenders, construction of youth empowerment centers in every sub-county; ;Support youth to access government opportunities through the Establishment of Inuka fund by county government, youth enterprise fund, and Uwezo fund.; The county government has organized events for the Participation of youth in leadership forums in partnership with UNDP; Engagement of youths in agribusiness through a partnership with World Bank, where youth can learn more on trade and entrepreneurship.; Lobby for partnership and collaboration with stakeholders; The county government established new sports and recreational centers as well as renovating and modernizing the existing centers to enhance sports, art, and culture among the youth.

viii. Youth Groups with Special Needs

The 2019 National Population Census reported a disability prevalence rate of 2.7% compared with the rate of 5.3% in 2009. Since 2013, the County Government has advocated for and taken measures to take into account the needs of youth with special needs in budgeting, employment and other matters. In the Financial Years 2016-17 to 2021-21, the County Government allocated KES 24.0 million and KES 36.9 billion respectively to support persons with disabilities. This represents just 0.1% of the cumulative county budget. Through cash boost for development projects, funding from the Uwezo funds, the vulnerable and marginalized can access affordable finances and business development support for economic development. The 30% procurement set aside for youth women and people living with disabilities is enabling them to access government tenders and contracts.

5.1 SWOT ANALYSIS OF COUNTY INTERVENTIONS

| | Positive | Negative |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Internal | <p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Creativity, talent, and innovation ii. (ii) Flexible and easily trainable iii. (iii) Quick in embracing ICT. iv. Vibrant youth with high skilled knowledge and technical knowhow on modern technologies v. Ethnic diversity (Multiplicity of ethnic identities coexisting in Busia and represented in its leadership) vi. Strong community structures enjoying local support to resolve conflicts and influence leadership, youth inclusion in peace negotiations. vii. Harnessing youth potential, youthful political leadership, and bringing youth voices to decision-making platforms viii. Existing and practicing indigenous cultures provide a strong identity for youth, women, and elders. | <p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Lack of employable skills due to low education attainment and skills gaps (ii) Weak value systems (iii) Prone to negative peer influence (iv) Limited capacity to effectively engage in entrepreneurship activities (v) Negative stereotypes among the youth (vi) Early marriages |

| External | Opportunities | Threats |
|----------|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) ICT advancements (ii) Vibrant social media (iii) Potential to exploit youth dividend (iv) Availability of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) (v) Unexploited talents in sport and arts (vi) Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (vii) Cross-border trade/enterprises (viii) Favourable climate and fertile land for agriculture (ix) Partnership opportunities with both state and non-governmental institutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Vulnerability to engage in terrorism and radicalization (ii) Drug use and substance abuse (iii) Insecurity (iv) Emerging cultural trends v) Harmful cultural practices) (vii) Youth Unemployment (viii) Climate change (ix) Reintegration and rehabilitation gaps |

6.0 SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy will be applicable in all youth mainstreaming activities in the Busia County Government comprising the committees and executives. The private sector and YSOs and Non-profit organization in youth space may use the policy.

The Busia Youth Policy holistically covers all interests, needs and affairs of the youth under the Constitution and other legislative, regulatory and policy matters in the County which the Constitution requires state organs, state and public officers and all persons in Kenya to be bound by.

6.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE BUSIA YOUTH POLICY

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

6.2 POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Busia county government to foster and encourage youth empowerment, coordinating timely communication, engaging the youth, and informing them about available opportunities.

It is the policy of the Busia county government to:

- a. Initiate affirmative action programs to ensure that the 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.

- b. Encourage youth to communicate openly with county government and other stakeholders about policies, programs, services, and initiatives that affect them.
- c. Deliver prompt, accurate, and responsible services that are sensitive to the needs and concerns of the youth and respectful of youth rights.
- d. Establish a platform for coordination throughout the county and trigger further allocation of adequate resources to support youth-based programs.
- e. Provide the youth with timely, accurate, clear, objective, and complete information about its policies, programs, events, services, and initiatives.

The county government of Busia seeks to ensure youth empowerment and inclusion and recognizes that there may be limited resources to promote youth activities that have far-reaching benefits to the growth of the county.

County government press/communication resources may be used to publish youth issues from other stakeholders when the issues are pro-youth development and empowerment.

7.0 THE RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES OF BUSIA COUNTY POLICY

The development of Busia County's Youth Policy is premised upon and justified by, among others, that:

Article 10 of the Constitution directs that the national values and principles of governance stated thereunder bind all state organs, state officers, public officers and all persons whenever they do any of the matters outlined in the Article that include making or implementing public policy decisions or enacting, applying or interpreting any law. Among the values and principles are patriotism, national unity, participation of the people in decision-making, non-discrimination, protection of the marginalized and social justice.

Chapter Four, among other Chapters of the Constitution, elaborately sets out, in different Articles, the rights and freedoms to be enjoyed by all people, including the youth, in Kenya and broadly states how the rights and freedoms shall be protected.

However, the Constitution leaves to the state organs, state and public officers the details of how, when and where these rights are to be enjoyed at the national and County levels through their policies, laws and regulations.

The Constitution directs state organs, state and public officers and all persons to take into account and consider interests and needs of, among others, the youth while making policies, enacting laws and regulations and providing services including education and training, opportunities to associate, representation, and participation in political, social, economic, and other spheres of life, as well as access to productive engagement, such as employment and entrepreneurship.

Whereas the national level of Government has established mechanisms for the enjoyment enforcement of the rights and freedoms by the youth as set out in the Kenya Youth Development Policy 2019 and the Kenya National Youth Council Act 2014, no similar policy legal or regulatory framework exists in Busia County.

Accordingly, the Policy establishes and provides a necessary and appropriate framework and mechanism and tool within which to guide the Government to mainstream and deal with youth affairs, interests and needs and bind all state organs, state officers, public officers and all persons in Busia County to adhere to the Constitution in terms of Article 10 of the Constitution.

To give effect to the provisions of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 regarding the rights and freedoms of the youth and provide a framework for strategies to;

- a) Identify and address specific challenges that the youth in Busia County face.
- b) involve the youth in the County to participate in decision-making in matters concerning them and contextualize the youth's issues in the Busia County-specific sectoral areas in accordance with the Busia

CIDP 2018-2022 and the county focus areas in the National Vision 2030 Blueprint;

- c) provide for a participatory and inclusive mechanism by the youth to arrive at relevant, appropriate and sustainable solutions in social, economic, and political affairs of the County through specific requirements and programs;
- d) Coordinate youth affairs and evaluate the effectiveness of various County Government policies, action plans, and strategies in regards to youth issues to ensure youth-oriented plans and actions are established;
- e) Provide a framework within which to develop an integrated system to improve clarity, coherence, and coordination of youth initiatives and programmes across County Government Departments and other stakeholders;
- f) establish a framework for government/private sector/civil society co-operation and collaboration to develop broad-based strategies and partnerships to provide enhanced opportunities to the youth to maximize their potential;
- g) establish a mechanism to anticipate and identify issues and risks associated with youth participation in development and provide policies and programmes for intervention; and
- h) provide a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the implementation of the policy
- i) Empowered youth for sustainable development in Busia
- j) To Integrate holistic and sustainable youth development programs geared to empower youth for self-reliance.

8.0 BUSIA YOUTH POLICY FRAMEWORK

8.1 VISION

Empowered youth for sustainable development in Busia

8.2 MISSION

To Integrate holistic and sustainable youth development programs geared to empower youth for self-reliance.

8.3 RALLYING CALL

VIJANA TUWAJIBIKE

8.4 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- (i) Leave no one behind- Busia county youth tailored its messages programs, timing, and channel to reach all the youth.
- (ii) Proactive- this communication policy attempts to allow the county government of Busia to talk to the youth population directly rather than relying on other stakeholders to work for them.
- (iii) Listen to the youth population and stakeholders and integrate their feedback when possible and thereafter respond to youth requests for information.
- (iv) Strong and consistent messages- a successful communication plan is built on strong themes and is more effective. The communication plan should support in force and reflect on the goals of the youth policy.

9.0 LEGAL, POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

This policy is guided largely by the Constitution and other national and international instruments and policies and initiatives on youth empowerment to which Kenya is a party, including but not limited to:

- a) Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment;
- b) The African Youth Charter, 2006;
- c) Kenya Vision 2030
- d) Dakar Declaration on Youth Empowerment (2000); and
- e) Kenya Youth Development Policy (2019);
- f) Busia CIDP (2018-2022);
- g) World Program of Action for Youth (WPAY);
- h) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) -2030

The County Government shall, through the Department concerned with youth affairs, and in collaboration with other stakeholders, including the youth in the decentralized County units, establish a framework and mechanism to enable the youth in the County to effectively and continuously participate and be involved in decision-making in all matters pertaining to the youth in the County.

The County Government shall, in a participatory process, enact a law or laws pertaining to governance and guide matters relating to youth and put into effect the Constitutional provisions dealing with the rights, interests and needs of the youth in the County.

The County Government shall ensure that the rights, interests and needs of the youth in the County are adequately catered for in every Department and County entity in the County by:

- a) establishing and maintaining a county youth desk;
- b) having a budget line for youth activities and programs;
- c) establishing the County Youth Advisory Committee that shall be representative of all youth interest group
- d) maintaining a mechanism to implement, monitor and evaluate the policies, law, projects and programs pertaining to youths in the County;
- e) developing and implementing strategies to assist in identifying, nursing and nurturing talents and skills of the youth in the County and developing them to realize their full potential to participate in the social and economic affairs of the County;
- f) providing training, training facilities and centers for equipping the youth with special knowledge and skills for the social and economic development of the County; **and**
- g) creating sporting, recreational and social support systems and facilities at community and village levels

for the benefit of the people and especially the youth in the County.

The County Government shall ensure that youth in the county participate in and undertake a minimum specified percentage or fraction of public contracts undertaken by the Government, particularly in relation to agriculture and civil works construction through policy and necessary legal and regulatory measures.

With the aim of promoting the active participation of the youth in the County in economic activities and increasing their employment and empowerment, the County Government shall collaborate with the private sector and civil society to promote inclusion of the youth in economic undertakings by the private in the County

The County Government shall, either through its own initiatives or in collaboration with the private sector and other partners: identify and create strategies and programs to financially support the youth to effectively participate in economic undertakings within and outside the County in order to create wealth and promote the spirit of entrepreneurship in the County.

9.1 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The responsibility for this Policy shall lie and fall under the Department and the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for matters relating to youth within the County Government

Recognizing that youth affairs are cross-cutting, there shall be established mechanisms by the County Government and, under the inter-Governmental Relations Act to facilitate cooperation and collaboration on youth affairs in the County.

The Executive Committee Member responsible for youth affairs shall, in collaboration and co-operation with other stakeholders, in accordance with such legal or regulatory framework as may be established for that purpose, have established the Busia County Youth Advisory Committee with the

primary object of advising the County Government on youth matters in the County and on such other matters as shall be specified in such framework

Busia County Youth Advisory Committee shall have representatives from the Youth in the County, the Government and private sectors, the civil society, faith-based organizations and representatives of commerce and industry in the County.

It shall be the responsibility of Executive Committee Member responsible for matters relating to youth to collaborate with other stakeholders and establish or promote the establishment of partnerships between the youth in the County and elsewhere.

10.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The constitution through different articles including article 10, 56, 174, 195, 201, 203, 225, 226 227, chapter 6, leadership and integrity Act 2012 stipulate that monitoring and evaluation is an important tool in holding accountable any government activities. To ensure transparency, integrity, information access, and accountability principles as well as value for money. At County, level B CIDP Busia 2018-2022 has put up an extensive monitoring and Evaluation framework chapter to guide, monitor and for compliance with the standard of transparency, integrity, accountability, and value for money set by the constitution. This is in addition to the National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES) which is the reporting system from National, County, and sub-County levels.

In line with the above legal instruments, the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy Framework's purpose is to develop a more credible and consistent framework for strengthened accountability, quality improvement, and informed decision-making in the inclusivity of the youths in major county government undertakings, as well as to contribute to the professionalization of the monitoring and evaluation functions of the county governance. Monitoring and evaluation of policy can be carried out by all interested actors. Official

policy evaluations themselves need to be monitored to ensure that the terms of reference are clear and specific about the gender issues that will be evaluated.

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

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

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

10. POLICY REVIEW

The formulation of the Busia Youth Inclusion Policy has been drafted through a consultative and participatory approach. Various stakeholders from both the national and county levels were involved in the process. The development of the policy was centered on the youth, with 35 youth from each ward being trained and participated in drafting and data collection. Other stakeholders included the public sector, private sector, Non-Governmental Organizations

(NGOs), Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and development partners. Extensive consultative meetings took place with a wide range of stakeholders including the Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) and county governments. In addition, National and County forums were held targeting the youth and youth organizations.

The youth policy will be reviewed every two years to determine the progress of implementation. This is important to guide the development of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP).

11.0 BUSIA COUNTY GOVERNMENT YOUTH COMMUNICATION PLAN AND STRATEGY

11.1 INTRODUCTION

A good communication plan is essential for any county government to disseminate crucial information out to its youth population and other stakeholders involved in youth affairs. Understanding what communication channels and tools are available to the county government and which are used or preferred by the youth population is essential for making sure information reaches out to the youth.

The youth population has access to various communication channels ranging from traditional forms of media, word of mouth, online social media platforms, and other online sources. County governments need to be aware of youth description and distribution channels to provide information as seamlessly as possible.

There are so many issues regarding the youth that needs to be shared: upcoming events, new programs, sustainability initiatives, important updates, and other youth-based programs. Busia county government has the opportunity to share such happenings as a means of empowering and sensitizing the youth to take part in them.

Busia county government recognizes the value of youth involvement, the wealth of information and resources that the youth possess. It is vitally important to increase youth understanding, ideas and values so that they can be utilized to make informed decisions about their life.

This proposal communication plan will aid the county government in empowering the youth and maintaining trust between the youth and other stakeholders: including the county government, national government, and others.

11.2 COMMUNICATION TOOLS

I. Online Social media platform

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

There are different types of networking tools available for the county government to use, these are: -Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Flickr, 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 Busia county government to be proactive and not reactive to youth needs and concerns.
- Ability to drive traffic to the county website 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 County's official website for information, forms, documents, or online services.

II. Official county website

This site is the primary communication vehicle as it shall act as a 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.

III. Organized events

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

- One-on-one Meetings
- Youth forums
- Conferences
- Public events

IV. Television 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.
- The County of Busia 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 a case study to encourage and empower the youth in the whole country.
 - Feature programs- this shall concentrate on particular youth programs thus influencing youth to action.

V. Youth Advocacy tool kit

This shall give the youth of Busia the skills and important information they need to stand up for their rights.

12.0 POLICY COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This policy outlines that overall coordination of the youth activities in the County shall be anchored in the office of the Governor. The primary coordination will be entrusted to a youth advisory committee to oversee the implementation process, advise relevant stakeholders, and ensure effective implementation of the policy and other county plans with the support of a youth directorate anchored within the department responsible for youth affairs, as well as coordinate and cooperate with other relevant County departments and National Government Agencies such as state departments of youth, the National Youth Council, and other affirmative action agencies. In Busia County, there is a framework for all stakeholders to collaborate in the implementation of youth activities and programs.

The Youth Advisory Committee shall be constituted of youth, representative of relevant line departments as well as representative of other stakeholders such as CSOs, faith based representative and private business associations.

The Committee shall in partnership with the Youth directorate and line Department;

- a) Promote coordinated strategies to improve youth programs outcomes in the county
- b) Promote evidence-based and innovative programming strategies for youth empowerment
- c) Promote youth engagement and coordinate activities by different partners within the county.
- d) Oversee implementation of the youth policy and advocate for more programs towards empowerment of youth.
- e) Shall ensure inclusion of youth issues in key functions of the county and budget-making processes as well as strengthen the youth organizations for effective representation in the county matters.

It further introduces four cross-cutting initiatives:

- i. Develop a shared language on youth topics; such as youth employment, representation, and inclusivity in social, economic, and political programmes
- ii. Assess and disseminate models of collaboration and participation of youths in different leadership positions
- iii. Centralize and disseminate information from the national government to the county government through the youth empowerment centers in the county
- iv. Promote data collection and evaluate the performance of the youth empowerment centers through oversight of the county government.

The implementation of this policy will depend on a sound institutional framework, adequately coordinated implementation support, effecting resource mobilization and funding, effective programme monitoring; and active political, administrative, and technical support for the translation of goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the Policy into actual programmes at all levels of society. A concerted and coordinated effort is required by all stakeholders that is the County Government, non-government and private institutions, churches, youth groups, and community organizations to address youth issues comprehensively

13.0 IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

| EDUCATION, TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
| Promotion of quality education and training | 1.1 Modernizing and equipping existing vocational training institutes to cope with the technological advancement | Increased number of youth with skills and knowledge in the development of the County | No. of youth trained | Develop career guidance and mentorship platforms | Capacity assessment report | CECM Education |
| | 1.2 Champion for more internship, volunteer-ship, apprenticeship programs. | Increased number of modernized vocational training centres | No. of modernized vocational centres | Hire qualified trainers | Training reports | |
| | 1.3 Champion for digital e-learning programmes for the youth in each and every ward | Increased number of e-learning programs within the County | No. of e-learning programs introduced | Renovate and modernize training facilities within Busia County | | |
| | 1.4 Design and implement county mentorship system | | | Subsidized polytechnic fees to encourage more admission of the youth. | | |
| | 1.5 Promote creation of more youth empowerment centres in all subcounties to enable youth to access information and acquire practical relevant skills for | Increased number of YECs | | | | |

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| | employment | | | | | |
| | 1.6 Champion for platforms that link the Youth to both public and private sector | Increased number of platforms that link the youth to both public and private sectors | No. of platforms that link the youth to public and private sectors | Develop a workplan for linkage activities | Report per activity | |
| | 1.7 sign, formulate policies and laws that promotes quality education and training | Increased number of laws, policies that enhance education and training | No. of policies and laws formulated. | Plan for consultative meetings with county legislative members | Meeting Reports | |
| EMPLOYMENT AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT | | | | | | |
| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
| Promotion of inclusive employability and enterprise development | 1.1 Advocate for formulation and implementation of an appropriate employment policy that creates a level playing field for youth in Busia irregardless of their age, ethnicity, status background, etc. | Increased number of employment policy developed by Busia County for the youth | Number of policies developed | Consultative meetings with county legislative members | Meeting Reports | |
| | 1.2 Promote entrepreneurship culture by organizing exhibition, career fares where youth can showcase their innovation skills | Increased number of exhibition organized by the County Government | No. of exhibitions held | Develop a workplan for Exhibitions to conducted annually | Workplan | |
| | | | | Plan for consultative meeting with county CEC of finance for budget allocation for exhibition | Meeting Reports | |

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| | 1.3 Facilitate job placement for the youth within the county in conjunction with other government agencies e.g NITA | Increased number of youth employed through Busia County Government in partnership with other government agencies | No. of Youth employed | Mapping for the number of unemployed youth in Busia County | Data Reports | |
| | | | | Consultative meeting between county NYC youth representatives, county public service board and private sector stakeholders | Meeting Reports | NYC youth rep & CEC Youth ,Chair Psboard |
| | 1.4 Supporting integration of youth through incubation of businesses. | | | | | |
| | 1.5 Advocate for subsidized business permits for the youth in the county | Increased number of youth in entrepreneurship that will increase income generation among the youth | No. of newly registered business for the youth | | | |
| | 1.6 To initiate and operationalize busia youth development and empowerment fund. | Increased credit facilities that promotes SMEs for Youth in Busia County | No. of Credit facilities given out | Mapping for SMEs and innovative ideas that needs financial boost | Data Reports | |
| | 1.7 Champion for an initiative that matches occupation skills, competencies through the promotion of research skills and competencies. | Improved skill set and competencies through capacity building initiatives | Number of capacity building initiatives | Conduct capacity building trainings that promotes skill set & competence matching | Training reports | NYC youth rep & CEC Youth |

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| | | | | Conduct training on access to agricultural information and extension services that increase awareness on agribusiness value addition | | CEC agriculture NYC youth rep |
| | 1.9 Advocate for accountability for Youth Empowerment funds provided by the government agencies and stakeholders | Improved accountability of Youth Empowerment Funds | Percentage level of accountability | Monitoring and Evaluation review of Youth Funds | Evaluation reports | CEC Youth |
| | | | Audit review for the Youth Funds | Audit reports | | |

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT, PARTICIPATION, AND LEADERSHIP

| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| To enhance active youth involvement and participation in leadership | Promote the establishment of County Youth Advisory committee whose chairperson is a youth and advisor to the governor on matters related to youth | Existence of a functional County Youth Advisory committee | Number of youth representatives in the Youth Advisory committee | Mapping out of Youth representatives | | |
| | Train, promote and support youth champions for peace and conflict resolution in the county; | Increased number of Youth Peace champions | Number of youth peace champions trained on | Mapping for Youth Peace Champions | | |

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| | | | ways to promote peace and conflict resolution | | | |
| | Facilitate and coordinate Youth projects, activities, and events in the community. | Increase number of Youth project activities in Busia County | No of youth-led community projects | Identify existing youth project activities | Monthly and quarterly reports | County Yputh representative and County Dept. for youth |
| | promoting active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity among youth including those with special needs and other vulnerable groups | Improved active citizenship and social inclusion of Youth in Busia County | Number of Youth trained in Busia County | Training of youth on active citizenship through dialogue forums at all levels (county, sub-counties, and wards) | Training reports | County Dept. for youth |
| AGRICULTURE SECTOR | | | | | | |
| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
| To promote youth active participation in the agricultural sector through abgribusiness value chain | 1.1 Provide youth farmers with market information, link with markets and agricultural extension services; | Increased number of informed youth on market and agricultural extension services | Number of youth who has access to market and agricultural extension services information | Mapping of youth involved in agricultural activities | | |

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| | 1.2 Equip the youth with agriculture equipment and machinery | Increase number of youth equipped with farming machinery and tools | Number of youth equipped with farming machinery and tools | Mapping of youth involved in agricultural activities Conduct training of youth on machinery use in collaboration with the County agricultural extension officers & other stakeholders | Training reports | |
| | Develop mechanism that attract the youth to Agribusiness | Improved sensitization of youth on opportunities in agribusiness | | Conduct awareness campaigns on available opportunities in the agricultural sector | | |
| | Profiling success stories of youth participating in agribusiness | Increased number of success stories of youth participating in agriculture | Number of success stories of youth in agriculture | Mapping for success stories of youth participating in agriculture | Success stories reports | |
| | Champion for more post harvest facilities in Busia County | reduced amount of post-harvest wastage | Percentage reduction of post harvest wastage | Map for county wards in need of post harvest storage facilities | Assessment report | |
| | | | | Train youth farmers on ways to reduce post harvest wastage | Training reports | |

HEALTH PROGRAMMES

| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
|---|--|---|--|--|----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Advocate for universal health care services | Promote access of SRHR information to Girls and young women in Busia County. | Increased access of SRHR information to GYW in Busia county | No. of GYW who have access to SRHR information | Conduct Awareness campaign on SRHR | Quarterly Reports | |
| | Promote for more budget allocation provided by the County Government and stakeholders towards equipping health centers | Increased budget allocation | Percentage increase of budget allocation | Conduct consultative meetings between County youth advisory council and county department for health | Meeting Reports | |
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| | Digitize County health facilities to capture youth database for easy access of health services. | Increased number of health facilities with digitized systems | No. of health facilities with digitized database systems | Mapping of health facilities without a digitized system | Survey and Mapping Reports | |
| | Champion for youth health volunteers' stipends | Increased number of health volunteers | No of health volunteers who have received monthly stipends | No of dialogue forums to create awareness | | |
| | Capacity building of health professionals to address health strains among the youth. E.g STDs, | Increased knowledge of health professional on health strains issues | Number of health professionals | Conduct capacity building of Youth health professionals | Capacity building reports | |

| | HIV & AIDs and mental health awareness. | among the Youth | involved in capacity building initiatives | in all wards within Busia County | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | Map for youth affected by health constrains | survey and Mapping Reports | |
| YOUTH, SOCIETY, SPORT AND CULTURE | | | | | | |
| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
| Advocate for active Youth Participation in Sports and cultural activities | Promote talent search for talented Youths in Busia | Increased number of talented Youths in Busia county | Number of identified talented youth | Youth talent mapping in all wards in Busia County | Mapping reports | |
| | | | | Develop a workplan for naturing and talent show-casing | Workplan | |
| | Champion for marketing of Youth talents Both at the county,National and international level | Increased marketing of Youth talents | Percentage level of marketing activities for youth talents | Conducting talent exhibition e.g film screening and music | Activity reports | |
| | Promote for more cultural festivals that promote youth talents | Increased number of cultural festivals | Number of cultural festives | Organizing for cultural activities | Activity reports | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Champion for establishment of more cultural centers and facilities e.g recording studios and talent academies for sports and creative | Increased number of cultural centre and facilities | Number of cultural festives and facilities | Conduct consultative meeting between youth representatives, | Meeting Reports | |

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| | art | | | county department of youth and sport | | |
| | Rehabilitation, renovation and equipping of existing cultural centre and facilities | Improved level of existing cultural centers and facilities | Number of renovated and equipped cultural centres and facilities | Mapping for existing cultural center in need of renovation | Mapping reports | |
| | | | | | | |
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| CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION | | | | | | |
| Goal | Strategies | Outcome | Indicator | Activities | Means of verification | Key actors |
| Advocate for active participation of Youth in Climate change and Environmental Conservation | 1.1 Champion for active participation of youth in Agro-forestry through tree planting activities in partnership with Kenya Forest Service | Improve participation of youth in agro-forestry initiatives | Number of youth involved in agro-forestry | Create awareness on the importance of agro-forestry in all wards in Busia County | Mapping reports | |
| | | | | Mapping youth involved in agro-forestry for training | | |
| | Lobby for finances to promote tree nurseries programs in all wards in Busia County | Increased budget allocation to tree nursery programs in Busia | Percentage increase of Budget allocation | Mapping for tree nurseries programs | Mapping reports | |
| | Advocate for Programs that promote use of clean and renewable Energy | Increased number of programs with Youth participating in clean and renewable energy | Number of Youth Participating in clean and | Mapping for climate change youth activists to promote awareness of use of | Mapping reports | |

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| | | | renewable energy programs | clean and renewable energy | | |
| | | | | Create awareness on the importance of clean and renewable energy | Activity report | |
| | Educate the Youth on the harm of carbon print emissions | Increased awarness on effects of carbon-print | Percentage decrease of carbon-print | Carry out forums to educate the youth on effects of carbon-print | Forum reports | |
| | Enact strict laws that bans deforestation | Increased awarness on the negative effects of deforestation | Percentage decrease of carbon-print | Conduct awareness campaign with a key target on Youths | Activity report | |



DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS,
CULTURE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

BUSIA COUNTY

YOUTH POLICY

Realizing Youth Potential

