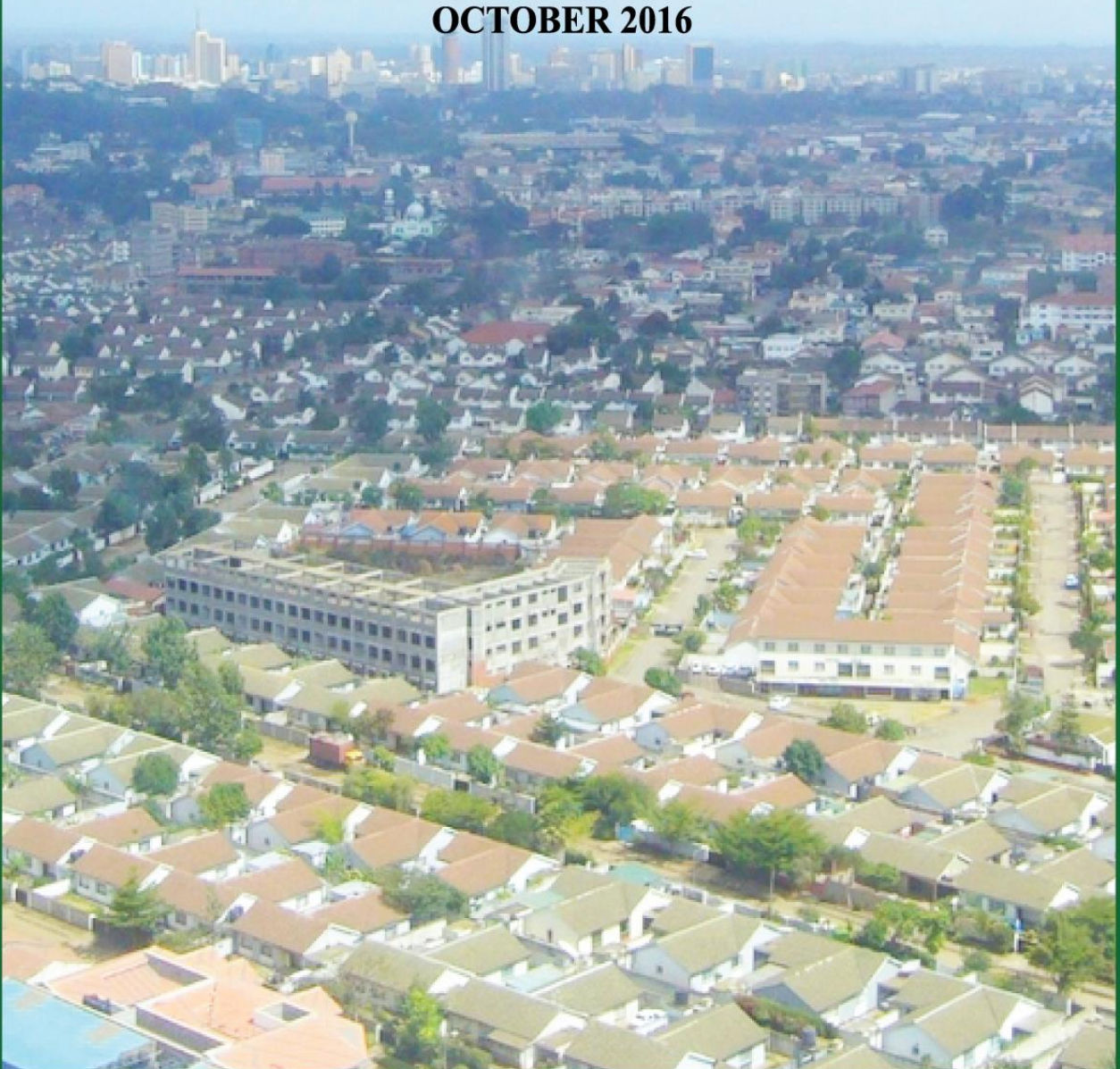




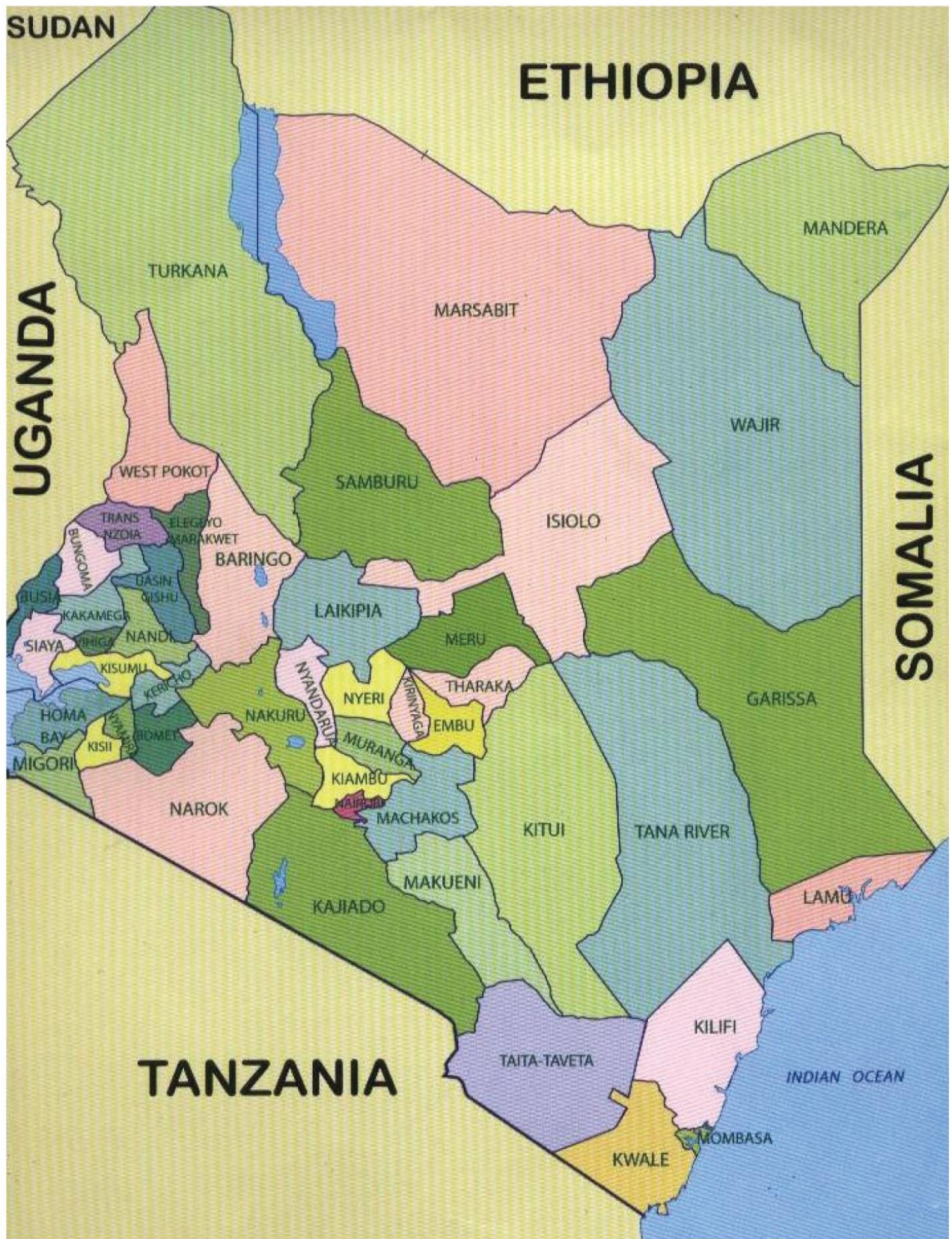
REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF LAND, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

**NATIONAL REPORT**  
**ON**  
**HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA**  
**TOWARDS HABITAT III**  
**OCTOBER 2016**







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	II
LIST OF FIGURES .....	V
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	VI
FOREWORD .....	VIII
PREFACE.....	IX
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	X
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1    BACKGROUND.....	1
CHAPTER TWO: URBAN DEMOGRAPHIC ISSUES .....	2
2.1    BACKGROUND.....	2
2.2    MANAGING RAPID URBANIZATION .....	2
2.3    MANAGING RURAL - URBAN LINKAGES.....	5
2.4    ADDRESSING URBAN YOUTH NEEDS.....	5
2.5    RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE AGED.....	6
2.6    INTEGRATING GENDER IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT .....	7
2.7    CHALLENGES.....	8
2.8    LESSONS LEARNT.....	8
2.9    PRIORITY ISSUES .....	9
CHAPTER THREE: LAND AND URBAN PLANNING .....	10
3.1    BACKGROUND .....	10
3.2    ENSURING SUSTAINABLE URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN .....	10
3.3    IMPROVING URBAN LAND MANAGEMENT INCLUDING ADDRESSING URBAN SPRAWL.....	10
3.4    ENHANCING URBAN AND PERI-URBAN FOOD PRODUCTION.....	11
3.5    ADDRESSING URBAN MOBILITY CHALLENGES .....	11
3.6    IMPROVING TECHNICAL CAPACITY TO PLAN AND MANAGE CITIES .....	12
3.7    CHALLENGES.....	12
3.8    LESSONS LEARNT.....	13
3.9    PRIORITY ISSUES .....	13
CHAPTER FOUR: ENVIRONMENT AND URBANIZATION .....	14
4.1    BACKGROUND.....	14
4.2    CLIMATE CHANGE .....	14
4.3    DISASTER RISK REDUCTION .....	15
4.4    REDUCING TRAFFIC CONGESTION .....	16
4.5    AIR POLLUTION.....	17
4.6    CHALLENGES.....	17
4.7    LESSONS LEARNT .....	18
4.8    PRIORITY ISSUES .....	18
CHAPTER FIVE: URBAN GOVERNANCE AND LEGISLATION.....	19
5.1    BACKGROUND.....	19
5.2    IMPROVING URBAN LEGISLATION .....	19
5.3    DECENTRALIZATION AND STRENGTHENING OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES .....	19
5.4    IMPROVING PARTICIPATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT .....	20
5.5    ENHANCING URBAN SAFETY AND SECURITY .....	21

5.6	IMPROVING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EQUITY .....	22
5.7	CHALLENGES.....	24
5.8	LESSONS LEARNT .....	24
5.9	PRIORITY ISSUES .....	24
CHAPTER SIX: URBAN ECONOMY .....		25
6.1	BACKGROUND .....	25
6.2	IMPROVING LOCAL/MUNICIPAL FINANCE .....	25
6.3	STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO HOUSING FINANCE .....	26
6.4	SUPPORTING LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (LED).....	28
6.5	CREATING DECENT JOBS AND LIVELIHOODS .....	29
6.6	INTEGRATION OF THE URBAN ECONOMY INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY .....	30
6.7	CHALLENGES.....	30
6.8	LESSONS LEARNT .....	30
6.9	PRIORITY ISSUES .....	31
CHAPTER SEVEN: HOUSING AND BASIC SERVICES .....		32
7.1	BACKGROUND .....	32
7.3	IMPROVING ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HOUSING .....	33
7.4	ENSURING SUSTAINABLE ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER .....	34
7.5	ENSURING SUSTAINABLE ACCESS TO BASIC SANITATION AND DRAINAGE .....	34
7.6	IMPROVING ACCESS TO CLEAN DOMESTIC ENERGY .....	35
7.7	IMPROVING ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE MEANS OF TRANSPORT .....	35
7.8	CHALLENGES.....	36
7.9	LESSONS LEARNT .....	36
7.10	PRIORITY ISSUES .....	36
CHAPTER EIGHT: CROSS CUTTING ISSUES IN HOUSING, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT .....		37
CONCLUSION.....		38
KEY RECOMMENDATIONS/PRIORITIES .....		39
REFERENCES .....		40

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Demographic Trends in Kenya.....	2
Figure 2.2: Trends in Economic Growth in Kenya: 2000-2011 .....	3
Figure 2.3: Births per Woman .....	3
Figure 2.4: Trends in Childhood mortality, 1984-2014* .....	4
Figure 2.5: Trends in Maternal Health care, 2003-2014.....	4
Figure 6.1: Outstanding mortgages and number of mortgage loan accounts .....	27

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AAK	Architectural Association of Kenya
ABMT	Appropriate Building Materials and Alternative Technology
ANC	Ante Natal Care
BLR	Base Lending Rate
CBK	Central Bank of Kenya
CBR	Central Bank Rate
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television Network
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CIDP	County Integrated Development Planning
CoG	Council of Governors
CoK	Constitution of Kenya
CRA	Commission on Revenue Allocation
CSUDP	Civil Society Urban Development Programme
CWES	Constituency Women Enterprise Scheme
EMCA	Environmental Management and Coordination Act
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Green House Gas
HF	Housing Finance
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
ITNs	Insecticide-Treated Bed Nets
IUDP	Integrated Urban Development Planning
JKUAT	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology
KARA	Kenya Alliance for Residence Association
KBA	Kenya Bankers Association
KBRR	Kenya Banks' Reference Rate
KENSUP	Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme
KEPI	Kenya Expanded Programme on Immunization
KEPSA	Kenya Private Sector Alliance
KESP	Kenya Economic Stimulus Programme
KISIP	Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project
KLGRP	Kenya Local Government Reform Programme
Km Sq	Square Kilometre
KNMS	Kenyan National Malaria Strategy
KP	Kenya Power
KPDA	Kenya Private Developers Association
Kshs	Kenya Shillings
KUSCCO	Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives
LA <sub>s</sub>	Local Authorities

LATF	Local Authorities Transfer Fund
LED	Local Economic Development
LUFs	Local Urban Forums
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MFIs	Micro Finance Institutions
MNH	Maternal and Newborn Health
MSEs	Micro and Small Enterprises
NACHU	National Housing Cooperatives Union
NDOC	National Disaster Operations Centre
NEB	National Employment Bureau
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NHIF	National Hospital Insurance Fund
NHSSP II	National Health Sector Strategic Plan II
NPSN	Nairobi Peoples Settlement Network
PNP	Post Natal Care
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
REA	Rural Electrification Authority
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
REITs	Real Estate Investment Trusts
RTA	Research Triangle Africa
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SFRP	Street Families Rehabilitation Programme
TARDA	Tana Athi River Development Authority
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-HABITAT	United Nation Human Settlement Programme
UNIDSR	United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction
USD	US Dollar
WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund



## FOREWORD

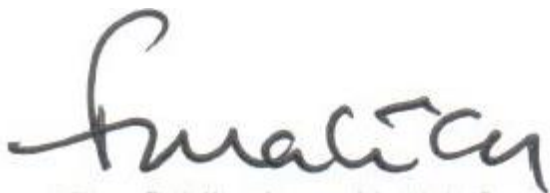
Kenya being a Member State of the United Nations endorsed the Habitat Agenda and Istanbul Declaration in 1996 and has been implementing the recommendations since then. The country has made great strides in some areas while others remain as work in progress. Some of the achievements include development of key policy instruments; legal and institutional frameworks, strategies and programmes; heavy investment by the government in infrastructure development; and, promotion of policy dialogue among all levels of government, the private, community sectors and other representatives of civil society.

The report also enumerates some of the challenges experienced which include slow implementation of key policies and legislations; and lack of proper coordination of actors in urban management; and weak monitoring, evaluation and feedback frameworks among others. Some of the issues that have emerged in the process of implementation of the Habitat Agenda include high urbanization rate which has resulted in an increased population within the urban areas and hence putting pressure on existing infrastructure; and lack of protection and conservation of sensitive ecosystems and public utility way leaves which has worsened the effects of climate change and related disasters are some of the issues that the country is grappling with.

The report has outlined some recommendations such as the need to prioritize urban management and shelter strategies geared towards provision of affordable housing, prevention of slum growth, and effective slum and informal settlements upgrading; and reinforce rural urban linkages and development to harness the entire continuum of human settlements and harnessing the potential of urbanization by emphasizing on effective urban planning for human settlements

As a country, we may not have attained all the goals of Habitat II but our hope is that this and other national reports will inform the Habitat III outcome document while at the same time address the unfinished business of the Habitat Agenda. We are confident that the New Agenda will contribute towards sustainable development of our cities and human settlements globally.

I wish to thank all individuals, Habitat Agenda partners, and stakeholder institutions for their valuable contributions towards preparation of this report.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Fred Matiang'i', is positioned above the printed name and title.

**Fred Matiang'i, Phd**  
**Ag. Cabinet Secretary**



## PREFACE

The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) gives us an opportunity to discuss a New Urban Agenda that will focus on policies and strategies that can result in sustainable urbanization. The Conference also gives us an opportunity to interact with other countries on homegrown solutions based on shared best practices from all over the world.

Kenya participated at the Second Conference on Human Settlements held in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996, and which was guided by two goals i.e. *"Adequate Shelter for All"* and *"Sustainable Human Settlements Development in an Urbanizing World"*. Kenya also endorsed the Habitat Agenda and Istanbul Declaration in 1996, and has been implementing its recommendations alongside other Member States. In this connection, Kenya prepared a National Plan of Action to guide implementation, which among other things endorsed the spirit of partnership in implementing the Habitat Agenda and recommended establishment of a National Focal Point to drive the implementation process. This was institutionalized through Presidential Circular No. 1 of 2008 which designated Ministry of Housing as the National Focal Point on housing and human settlements issues and this has been the position to date. Subsequently, in the year 2012, the National focal point constituted a broad based National Habitat Committee with permanent and alternate members. The Committee has been working consistently with clear terms of reference.

The National Habitat Committee has spearheaded all housing and human settlements programs and activities which have included Kenya's participation in national, regional and international fora such as United Nations Governing Council and General Assembly meetings, World Urban Forum and World Habitat Day among others. Outcome of these fora have informed Government policies and legislations.

In July 2014, the National Habitat Committee was convened to begin working on Kenya's National Report for the Habitat III Conference. The committee transformed itself into six thematic groups based on the six sub themes and guidelines provided by UN-Habitat. The Sub-Committees prepared thematic papers, presented them to a National Stakeholders Workshop and later consolidated into Kenya's National Report.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the cooperation of all stakeholders towards the preparatory process leading to the First, Second and Third Preparatory committee meetings which have culminated to this National Report. I also look forward to continued collaboration by all partners in the post HABITAT III especially on follow-up of implementations of proposals and resolutions that will arise from the Conference.

  
**Mariamu elMaawy**  
**Principal Secretary**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a product of broad-based stakeholders' consultations meant to inform the three preparatory committees of Habitat III and the Conference. The report is divided into eight chapters organized in line with guidelines provided by UN-Habitat which consist of six major thematic areas.

**Chapter One: Introduction-** gives background information on Kenya.

**Chapter Two: Urban Demographic Issues-**discusses the rapid urbanization rates being experienced in Kenya and its resultant consequences. It also identifies strategies that have been established to manage the population dynamics. The key priorities identified are: - combating increased insecurity and terrorism, capacity building, research and data collection for urban demographics, enhancing social protection programmes and welfare for the elderly, youth empowerment and rehabilitation of street families in urban areas.

**Chapter Three: Land and Urban Planning-** Highlights the importance of land as a resource for the social, cultural and economic development of a country, and the role of urban areas as engines of development if appropriately planned. The key priority areas identified are:- completion of the National Spatial Plan, stemming urban sprawl, capacity building for County governments on Land and urban planning, integration of urban agriculture in planning and easing congestion in cities.

**Chapter Four: Environment and Urbanization-** outlines Kenya's rapid urbanization and its effects to the environmental resource base. Priority areas identified include:-protection and management of green spaces in urban areas, investment on cleaner production and consumption methods of energy, capacity building and training on disaster management; promote use of non-motorized means of transport, provision of infrastructural services in small and upcoming urban areas and prioritizing effective waste management practices.

**Chapter Five: Urban Governance and Legislation-**underscores the critical role of good governance in the management of the affairs of urban areas and cities. It also highlights the importance of involvement, interaction and relationship of a wide range of actors and institutions in collaboration with Governments in governance matters. The key priority areas identified are:- capacity building and financial support on implementation and strengthening of devolution, governance and urban management and harmonization of existing sectoral legislations to avoid redundancy, duplication, conflict so as to save on resources.

**Chapter Six: Urban Economy-** focuses on gains of a well-functioning urban economy which include employment and wealth creation as a tool to fight both urban and rural poverty. It identifies the informal sector as a major contributor to the growth of the urban economy in Kenya and highlights the challenges facing the sector and efforts by the Government to revamp

it. The key priority areas identified are: - accelerating Kenya's economic and structural transformation and harnessing transformative potential of urbanization.

**Chapter Seven: Housing and Basic Services-** discusses the great potential by the housing sector to spur economic growth and create wealth. This chapter also highlights the acute shortage of affordable housing particularly in urban areas and poor quality in rural areas amidst a high rate of urbanization and the lack of access to affordable finance for housing by majority of citizens. The key priority areas identified are:-development of social housing for the urban poor and the vulnerable, development of shelter strategies for slum prevention and informal settlements upgrading, proactive urban planning, data collection and capacity building to respond to rapid urbanization; and increase of resources for low-income housing and provision of basic infrastructure.

**Chapter Eight: -** discusses the crosscutting issues on thematic areas.

The report finally ends with a conclusion and key recommendations/priorities.

# CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

The sovereign Republic of Kenya gained its independence in 1963. The Kenya Constitution 2010 resulted in the creation of 47 counties with each being headed by an elected Governor. According to the 2009 official population census, Kenya had 38.6 million people and in 2011, the number was estimated to have risen to 41.07 million people (World Population Review). English and Swahili are the two official languages.

The country has a vast topographical diversity ranging from the glaciated mountains with snow peaks, the Rift Valley with its escarpments and volcanoes, flat deserts, coral reefs, and wildlife. Other natural resources include the 7<sup>th</sup> wonder of the world in the Maasai Mara National Park, fresh water lakes and beautiful beaches along the Indian Ocean. Tourism accounts for over 14% of the total earnings of the country's foreign exchange.

Over 75% of Kenya's land is classified as arid/ semi-arid. About 20% of the land is viable for agriculture. The climate is warm and humid at the coastal region while its highlands are cool and wet. In the North and North East, the climate is hot and dry with water, oil and mineral reserves. Across most of the country, rainfall is seasonal, although its pattern, timing and extent vary greatly from place to place and from year to year.

Kenya's economy is market-based, with a few state-owned infrastructure enterprises, and maintains a liberalized external trade system. The country is the Eastern and Central Africa's hub for Financial, Communication and Transportation services. Kenya's Vision 2030 is the country's development blueprint covering the period 2008 to 2030. It aims at making Kenya a newly industrializing, "middle income country by providing high quality life for all its citizens by the year 2030".

Kenya has remained predominantly agriculture based since independence, with industrialization remaining an integral part of the country's development strategy. Agriculture currency accounts for about 24.2% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 60% of earnings from the merchandised exports while manufacturing and trade contributes 10.5% and 10.8% respectively. The industrial sector's share of monetary GDP has remained at 15-16% while that of manufacturing sector alone has remained at about 10% over the last decade. The service sector which comprises of tourism, transport and communication, trade, financial and business services accounts for 60% of the GDP.



## CHAPTER TWO: URBAN DEMOGRAPHIC ISSUES

### 2.1 Background

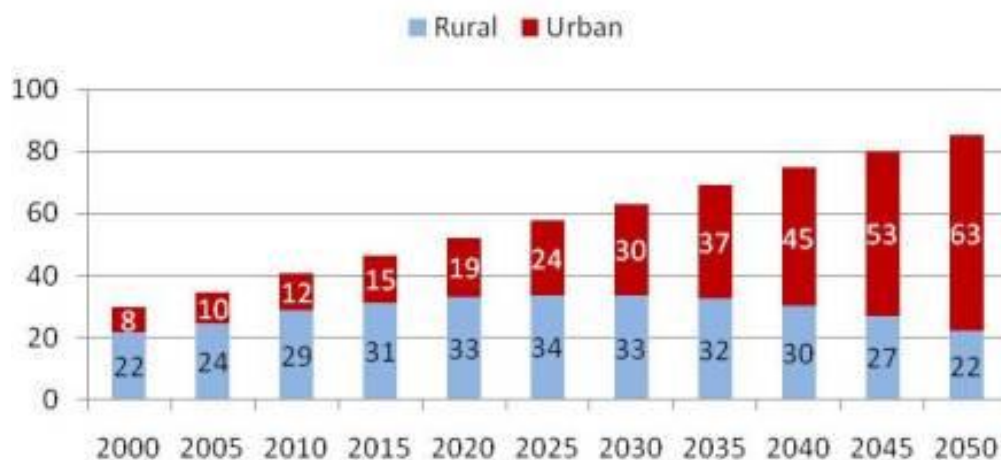
Kenya's population was estimated 38.6 million in 2009, compared to 28.7 million in 1999. It indicates an average growth of more than 3% per year. The country's population was estimated to be 41 million in 2011 and is projected to reach nearly 60 million in 2030 and 77 million by 2050. This trend indicates that the population has been increasing at the rate of about 1 million persons every year, with an expectation that it will double in the next 23 years.

The 2009 Population and Housing Census shows that the urban population increased from 19% in 1999 to 32% in 2009 and is expected to increase to 50% in 2030. The growing urban population has over-stretched existing infrastructure and services, leading to growth of informal settlements characterized by overcrowding, lack of basic infrastructure such as sewage, safe drinking water and decent housing, and consequently increased poverty and delinquency. It is worth noting that a greater percentage of Kenya's population is still rural.

### 2.2 Managing Rapid Urbanization

During the last forty years, the economic and demographic structure of Kenya has become increasingly urban and is projected to increase as shown in Figure 2.1.

**Figure 2.1: Demographic Trends in Kenya**

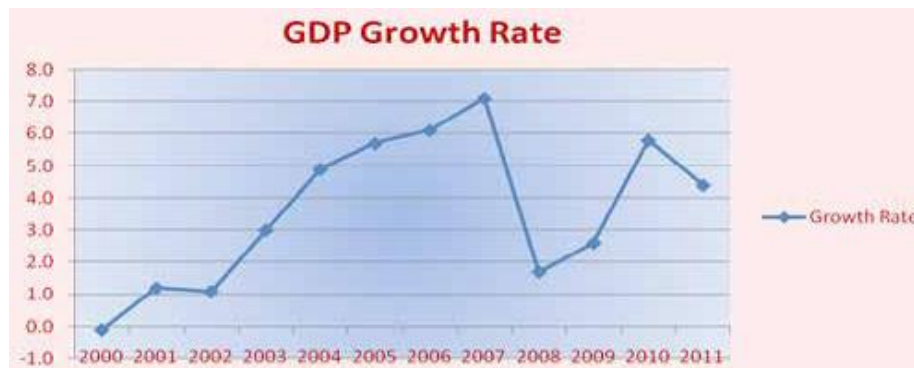


**Source: World Bank Report 2014**

Presently, urban areas account for the predominant share of GDP with five of the largest Kenyan cities and urban centers i.e. Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, Nakuru and Eldoret generating more than 70 percent of the country's GDP. Urban population has been increasing with fluctuating economic growth; for example in the 1990s it grew by 2% while in decreased to 1.2% in 2001. This fluctuation is depicted in Figure 2.2. GDP growth amounted to 6.9% and 5.7% in 2012 and

2013, respectively, while the 2014 estimate and the 2015 projection show economic expansion of 5.3% and 6.5%, respectively.

**Figure 2.2: Trends in Economic Growth in Kenya: 2000-2011**



Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2011

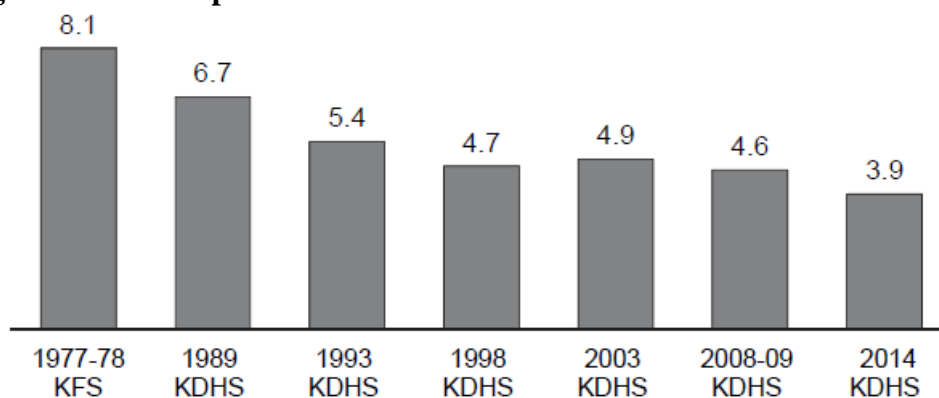
### 2.2.1 Achievements

Kenya has put in place various policies and strategies to manage rapid urbanization as follow:-

**Sessional Paper No 3 of 2012 (Population Policy for National Development)** to manage Kenya's population growth to a sustainable level.

**Contraceptive Security Strategy 2007-2012** that has contributed to the reduction of the rate of population growth as shown in Figure 2.3.

**Figure 2.3: Births per Woman**

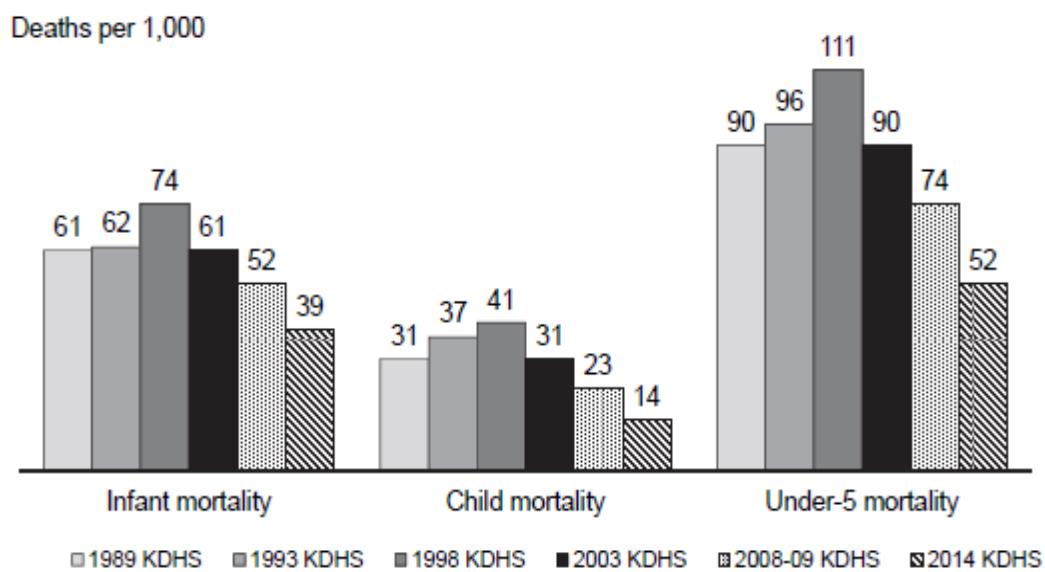


\*Data from 2003 and later are nationally representative, while data before 2003 exclude North Eastern region and several northern districts in the Eastern and Rift Valley regions.

**Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) Road Map 2010** which has resulted to more rural women receiving skilled assistance during delivery hence reduced maternal and infant mortality.

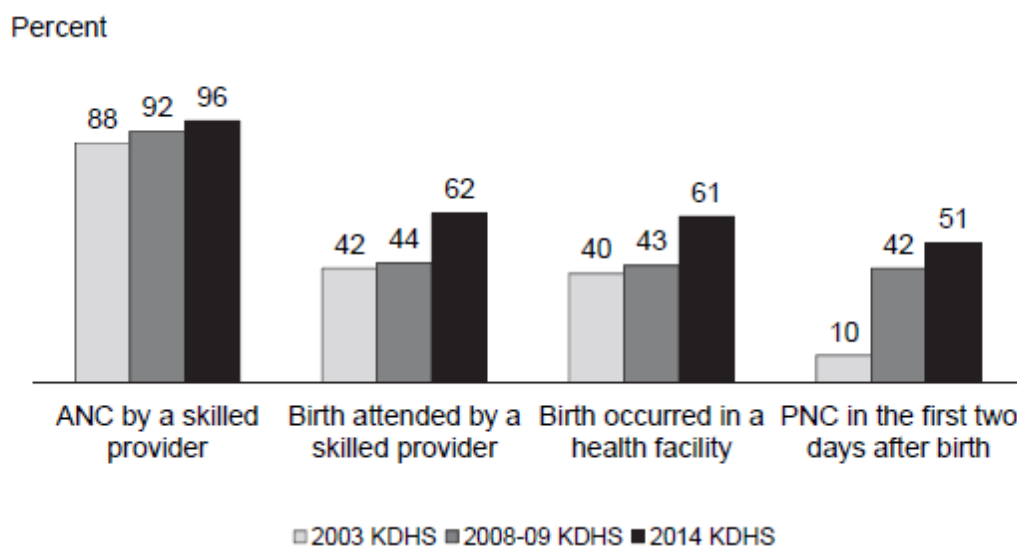
Figure 2.4 shows the childhood mortality scenario since 1984 to 2014 while Figure 2.5 shows trends in maternal health care from 2003 to 2014.

**Figure 2.4: Trends in Childhood mortality, 1984-2014\***



\*Data from 2003 and later are nationally representative, while data before 2003 exclude North Eastern region and several northern districts in the Eastern and Rift Valley regions.

**Figure 2.5: Trends in Maternal Health care, 2003-2014**



**Child Survival and Development Strategy 2009** to accelerate child survival and provide a framework to improve indicators for children.

**The National Health Sector Strategic Plan II (NHSSP II)** has resulted in the prioritization of malaria control through the Kenyan National Malaria Strategy (KNMS) 2009-2017. Under this strategy, insect treated nets have been distributed countrywide to expectant and children under five years.

**Malezi Bora Strategy 2007** provides for comprehensive package of services that includes child immunization under Kenya Expanded Programme on Immunization (KEPI), Vitamin A supplementation, de-worming of under 5s and pregnant women, treatment of childhood illnesses, HIV Counseling and Testing, Insecticide-Treated Bed Nets (ITNs) use in Malaria prevention and improved Ante-Natal Care (ANC) and Family Planning Services.

Devolution of power and resources from the Central government to the counties has resulted to development of growth centres which are attracting population from the bigger towns and retention of those in the rural areas. This has contributed to reduced rural urban migration.

**In education sector**, the adult literacy rate is 87.1% while the average literacy rate in the country is 53%.

## **2.3 Managing Rural - Urban Linkages**

Rural - Urban linkages exist as urban residents maintain close ties and linkages with the rural areas. Most urban residents have invested in rural housing, education, farming and other social activities. A study by Beauchemin (2003) further confirms that rural urban migrants send money to support rural activities and in turn they receive goods. Other studies indicate that the rate of rural-urban migration has decreased while urban-rural migration is emerging. It is also observed that these rural links have become vital safety-valves as well as welfare options for urban dwellers who are vulnerable to economic fluctuations.

Some urban households have their family members living in the rural areas and they keep close ties with them. It is evident that both rural and urban areas provide vital safety net for the poor households.

### **2.3.1 Achievements**

An achievement that has been made in this area is advancement in **Information Communication and Technology (ICT)** especially in mobile telecommunication, money transfer and mobile banking among others has enhanced urban-rural linkages.

The government has **invested heavily in infrastructure development** and improvement of the **transportation network** which has also enhanced urban rural connectivity.

## **2.4 Addressing Urban Youth Needs**

Kenyans in the age bracket of 30 years and below constitute about 75% of the country's population, forming the largest source of human resource. Many of the youth who are productive



and energetic remain unemployed, continue to suffer from poor health, and lack sufficient support. Many youth, especially those in the urban areas, do not have access to decent housing in environments that favour healthy living.

#### ***2.4.1 Achievements***

**The National Youth Policy 2005:** Recognizes the youth as a key resource that can be tapped for the benefit of the nation and addresses issues affecting young people by providing broad-based strategies that can be used to give the youth meaningful opportunities to reach their maximum potential.

**Establishment of Youth Development Centres:** The government has already established 150 Constituency Youth Empowerment Centres as one-stop-shops for youth to gain knowledge and skills in various areas.

**The National Youth Leadership and Entrepreneurship Strategic Plan 2013-2017** which has enhanced youth engagement and participation in socio-economic and political spheres.

**Youth Empowerment in Informal Settlements:** - The government created employment to the youth by engaging them in community development projects which has led to economic empowerment. They have been trained and organized into organized Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations (SACCOs) and have also been encouraged to venture into self-employment and establish enterprises to generate additional income.

### **2.5 Responding to the Needs of the Aged**

According to the 2009 Kenya National Population and Housing Census report, the number of older persons aged 60 years and above has risen dramatically from the modest number of 270,000 in the first National Population Census Report of 1949 to 1.9 million. The population projections of the elderly persons for 2020 indicate a modest rise from 1.9 to 2.2 million.

#### ***2.5.1 Achievements***

**Article 43 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010** guarantees every citizen a right to social and health protection. The State is obliged by the Constitution to provide appropriate social security to persons who are unable to support themselves and their dependents. Article 57, ensure the rights of older persons to fully participate in the affairs of the society, pursue their personal development, live in dignity and respect and be free from abuse and also receive reasonable care and assistance from their family and the State.

**Sessional Paper No 2 of 2009, National Policy on Older Persons and Aging** recognizes that older persons have a lot of potential in terms of skills, knowledge and experiences that can be tapped for the benefit and development of the entire nation. It addresses issues/challenges facing the older persons, and also provides a broad based framework for implementation through

strategies that will enable the older persons make meaningful participation in development processes.

**Health cover for Older Persons** is currently only for those who are targeted under the cash transfer programme for older persons and not all older persons aged 60+.

**Enhancement of Pension Fund** whereby from July 2006, minimum Pension was increased by 300% from Kshs. 500 to Kshs. 2, 000 per month for all government retirees.

**Social Protection Programme** that provides care and support in assistance to the needy and disadvantaged including the older persons in the community mainly in form of financial assistance, referral and counseling services to individuals, organizations and institutions. The Cash Transfer Programme for poor and vulnerable Older Persons has been growing gradually since the pilot project was piloted in 2006 and rolled out in 2009. In the current financial year 2015/16, funds allocated amount to Kshs.7.4 billion. Total beneficiaries currently stand at 225,453. By the end of the current financial year, the programme will have covered 325,453 beneficiaries drawn from all over the country. A monthly stipend of Kshs 2,000 is paid to each targeted beneficiary.

**Participation of Older Persons in disaster risk reduction-** the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services signed 3 Standards on Charter 14 on Disaster Risk Reduction with United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNIDSR) for all stakeholders to cater for older persons during disasters as follows:-

- i. As part of disaster preparedness, the protection of Older Persons from Abuse , violence, exclusion and isolation will be ensured,
- ii. Preparedness planning in nutrition, food and health services will ensure the specific needs of Older Persons are being met,
- iii. Older Persons will be given the opportunity to effectively participate in Disaster Risk Reduction from the community to the national level to ensure their voice is heard.

**Development of guidelines to regulate establishment and management of older persons' institutions-**a baseline survey done in the Financial Year 2014/15 revealed that out of 47 counties, 23 have institutions of older persons.

**The National Policy on Older Persons and Ageing has been reviewed and aligned with the CoK (2010).** A plan of action for implementing it has been developed.

## **2.6 Integrating Gender in Urban Development**

Following the Beijing Platform of Action in 1995, governments were called upon to mainstream gender issues. In line with this, the Kenya government put in place policies, legislations and institutional frameworks to mainstream gender.

### **2.6.1 Achievements**

**Women Enterprise Fund (WEF) 2007** which promoted economic empowerment of women through accessible and affordable credit through provision of loans using two channels, namely: - Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs) and the Constituency Women Enterprise Scheme (CWES). The fund has been able to extend loans to women amounting Kshs. 2.6 billion to over 645,825 women entrepreneurs. Equally, by June 2015, the Fund had trained 116,372 women in loan management and business skills.

The compliance with the **Presidential Directive of 30% Affirmative action to ensure** : 2/3 gender representation in all appointive and elective positions as stipulated in CoK, 2010 has seen more women take up position in the public service.

To address gender based violence, a specific **Workplace Gender Based Violence Policy** and an **Anti-Female Genital Mutilation (AFGM) Policy** were developed. In addition, the government adopted the Prohibition of FGM Act 2011.

**Creation of gender focal points** with a sole mandate to mainstream gender, was initiated and supported through the UNDP/Government of Kenya Country Cooperation Framework (1999-2003). This increased the visibility of gender considerations in district development plans. For example, district plans reflected more gender-disaggregated information for planning and women representation in development at community level also increased.

### **2.7 Challenges**

- i. Insufficient funding for the Social Protection Programme due to a large number of eligible beneficiaries.
- ii. Insufficient social welfare programmes to support the need elderly.
- iii. Building designs and the modes and systems of transport and communication limit older persons' access to public offices and services, housing, transport and communication facilities and services.
- iv. Unemployment, drug and substance abuse especially among the youth, radicalization of sections of the population (especially the youth and poor) with highly extremist views has led to increased levels of insecurity.
- v. Insufficient and unreliable data on day population within urban areas.
- vi. The slow economic growth is not commensurate to the social and economic needs of the increasing population.
- vii. Food insecurity attributed to factors such as decline in agricultural productivity; inefficient food distribution system; population growth; unemployment etc.

### **2.8 Lessons Learnt**

- i. The rural and urban dynamics are greatly affected by the interactions between the two hence they cannot be de-linked.

- ii. The older persons can lead dignified lives even in retirement with enhanced health care, social protection programmes and institutions caring for them.
- iii. Overemphasis on women and girl child empowerment has led to neglect of the boy child.

## **2.9 Priority Issues**

- i. Continued insecurity and terrorism activities in Kenyan urban areas.
- ii. Increasing capacity of human resource and prioritization of research and data collection for urban demographics and human settlements sector.
- iii. Enhance programmes for social protection and welfare for the elderly.
- iv. Creating opportunities to tap into the potential and empowerment of youth on entrepreneurship programmes.
- v. Rehabilitate and prevent further development of street children in urban areas



## **CHAPTER THREE: LAND AND URBAN PLANNING**

### **3.1 Background**

Land is critical to the economic, social and cultural development of Kenya. It is crucial to the attainment of economic growth, poverty reduction and gender equity. It is estimated that 32.3% of Kenyans (70% of which live in informal settlements) live in some 108 designated urban centers with populations ranging between 20,000 and 3 million. Kenya is experiencing rapid demographic and spatial transformation which has caused challenges for our cities, especially small and medium-sized, where capacity is typically inadequate to cope with major urban challenges. These challenges include climate change, resource scarcity, slum growth and increased poverty, and safety and security concerns.

In Kenya, urban planning is understood to refer to physical land use planning, consisting of three key elements: first, an overall framework, usually a master plan, second, a set of planning and building standards and regulations and third, a development control system.

### **3.2 Ensuring sustainable urban planning and design**

Kenya is focused on achieving sustainable urban planning and design through various legal and institutional frameworks. In order to play its rightful role in expanding opportunities for urban development, urban planning in Kenya needs to be streamlined and made responsive to the rapid rate of urbanization by ensuring timely service delivery and implementation of plans.

#### **3.2.1 Achievements**

**Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2009 on National Land Policy** which has guided the country towards a sustainable and equitable use of land.

**Public space improvement program** by Nairobi City County and Machakos County among others.

There is a **Draft National Spatial Plan**

There is a **Draft Integrated Nairobi Urban Development Master Plan**

### **3.3 Improving Urban Land Management including addressing Urban Sprawl**

Land management in Kenya is complex and requires bringing all elements to function in a coordinated manner. It requires physical information of vulnerable land and identifying available land; protecting watershed, vegetation, topography, drainage courses; guiding land development through mechanisms (land pooling, land banking, etc.) and incentives; and locating accessible lots in close proximity to socio-economic opportunities.

Urban sprawl in Kenya is real and is manifested in the growth of unplanned settlements in peri-urban areas resulting to the infringement of agricultural land. This has posed various challenges.

Proper land use and management process is key to promoting sustainable and resilient cities. Urban sprawl is the classic example of mismanagement of land and is unsustainable.

### **3.3.1 Achievements**

**Vision 2030** envisages land reforms that are geared towards a holistic management of land.

Reforms in the land sector whereby there has been the establishment of: **-National Land Commission** that is a Constitutional Commission established to strengthen local level mechanisms for sustainable land rights administration and management,

Establishment of a **National Land Titling Centre** which is a core land record management centre and has improved service delivery and **Modernization of land registries** across the country towards improvement of service delivery.

## **3.4 Enhancing Urban and Peri-Urban Food Production**

Agriculture has not been recognized as a form of land use in Kenyan urban areas. Many local authorities had enacted subsidiary legislation to stop and penalize any agricultural activities within their urban areas of jurisdiction. However, a number of scholars have recognized the existence of urban agriculture. Urban agriculture is an instrument geared towards tackling household food insecurity, increasing urban employment, and encouraging productive participation in local and urban development. In Kenya, 64% of urban households practice some form of urban agriculture. This usually takes place along roadsides, in the middle of roundabouts, between railway lines, in open spaces and parks along rivers and river valleys, under power lines within backyards of residential plots and balconies of apartments.

### **3.4.1 Achievements**

- i. A number NGOs and CBOs which operate in Nairobi's slum areas have urban farming as part of their livelihood and poverty eradication components. Notable NGOs include Mazingira Institute and Urban Harvest. Mazingira has worked to create awareness about climate change, human rights, and urban agriculture, while also training communities to learn better skills to increase income generation and well-being.
- ii. At the city-level, Nairobi and Environs Food Security, Agriculture and Livestock Forum which is a consortium of mix actors from the community, government and market sectors promotes cooperation around the city and environs focal security, agriculture and livestock keeping matters.

## **3.5 Addressing urban mobility challenges**

Rapid urbanization patterns are causing unprecedented challenges to urban mobility systems, particularly in developing countries. In Sub Saharan Africa, the pedestrians account for about 50% of all daily trips. In Kenya, walking accounts for 48% in Eldoret and 47% in Nairobi. In Nairobi, cycling accounts for less than 3% of total trips while in secondary cities such as Eldoret

it constitutes 12% of total trips (United Nations Human Settlements Programme 2013). Due to the increased reliance on Non-motorized transport, there is need for planning; have signs in place; parking space for cyclists and also consider the safety aspect on this mode of transport within our city.

### **3.5.1 Achievements**

The **government has embraced pedestrianisation** which is taking shape in the cities with pathways being put in place.

The urban areas have been decongested by **expansion of highways and construction of by-passes** in Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu.

The **restoration of commuter rail transport in Nairobi** with new stations being constructed at Syokimau, Imara-Daima and Makadara has made it relatively cheap, fast and efficient to commute to the city centre.

## **3.6 Improving technical capacity to plan and manage cities**

Capacity-building and institutional development should aim at empowering all interested parties, particularly County government, the private sector, the cooperative sector, trade unions, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations to enable them play an effective role in shelter and human settlements planning and management. The training should be guided by the principles of accountability, transparency and broad-based public participation on policy formulation and implementation by Governments. Accountability and transparency are imperative in order to prevent corruption and ensure that the available resources are used to the benefit of all people. In addition, proper management of cities requires having proper structures coupled by good leadership.

### **3.6.1 Achievements**

The **Universities have broadened their curriculum** to include courses on urban planning to provide continuous training to the local elected officials, managers and professionals on urban-related issues, such as planning, land and resource management techniques and finance.

There is the **promotion of policy dialogue** among all levels of government, the private, community sectors and other representatives of civil society to improve planning and implementation as stipulated in the Constitution.

## **3.7 Challenges**

- i. Urban planning lags behind rates of urban growth and development, creating undesirable urban forms and haphazard growth of informal settlements.
- ii. Ineffective and uninformed public participation in planning.
- iii. Fragmented legislation for urban planning i.e. lack of comprehensive planning legislation and poor co-ordination of institutions dealing with land administration and management.

- iv. Political interference in plan preparation and implementation that causes lack of continuity in planning.
- v. Poor rating of urban agriculture as a form of urban land use.

### **3.8 Lessons Learnt**

- i. Professionalism and ethics should be upheld for effective planning and management of urban areas.
- ii. Rewards and incentives would result in creativity and innovation in urban planning.
- iii. Political goodwill to support the planning process and implementation is required.
- iv. Policies that encourage access to land and property for development are more effective in managing urban sprawl as opposed to those that encourage ownership.
- v. Peri-urban and urban food production are key to promoting household food security in urban areas.
- vi. It is essential to have public open places for effective urban mobility such as walk ways e.g. Aga Khan Walk.
- vii. Participatory planning enhances success in service delivery and projects.

### **3.9 Priority issues**

- i. Completion of the National Spatial Plan.
- ii. A strategy to stem urban sprawl
- iii. Enhancing capacity for County governments on Land and urban planning.
- iv. Integration and prioritization of urban agriculture in planning
- v. Strategize ways to ease congestion in cities.

## CHAPTER FOUR: ENVIRONMENT AND URBANIZATION

### 4.1 Background

Kenya is experiencing rapid urbanization which can bring about many environmental challenges within our urban set-ups. Such areas face faster rate of urban growth with no commensurate prior planning resulting to a conflict between the environmental resource base and developmental needs.

### 4.2 Climate change

Climate change can exhibit itself as a change in the intensity and frequency of extreme climatic events, such as drought, floods, storms, and strong winds, among others. Kenya is experiencing climate change as is evidenced by rise in temperature, change in precipitation, extreme weather events, and sea level rises. Average global temperatures will increase by between 2 and 4 degrees Celsius by 2050. It therefore follows that climate change is bound to fundamentally affect urban areas and cities in Kenya.

#### 4.2.1 Achievements

The Government of Kenya together with key stakeholders has developed key policy instruments, legal and institutional frameworks aimed at addressing climate change concerns that include:-

**The National Climate Change Response Strategy, 2012:** The vision of the Strategy is for a prosperous and climate change resilient Kenya. The mission is to strengthen and focus nationwide actions towards climate change adaptation and Green House Gas (GHG) emission mitigation. This will be achieved by ensuring commitment and engagement of all stakeholders while taking into account the vulnerable nature of Kenya's natural resources and society.

**The National Climate Change Action Plan (2013-2017):**-It addresses climate change vulnerability. The Action Plan takes adaptation and mitigation efforts to the next stage of implementation and equips the country to take decisive action in responding to the challenges we face. It encourages people-centred development, ensuring that climate change actions support Kenya's achievement of development goals. This Action Plan guides the transition of the country towards a low carbon climate resilient development pathway. The Government established a National Climate Change Secretariat and other institutional arrangements to provide for the implementation of the actions identified.

**National Environment Policy, 2013:** The policy recognizes climate change as a major impediment to realization of sustainable development and proposes the development and implementation of a comprehensive National Climate Change Policy for Kenya.

**Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2004 on National Housing Policy and Revised Building Code:** Integrating green building practices in architecture has been articulated in these policies so as to achieve environmental sustainability within the built environment.

**Legal Frameworks:** The Country has made various milestone in the formulation and enactment of various regulatory frameworks necessary for addressing climate change and related issues that include:- the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Environmental Management and Coordination Act (1999), Water Act 2002, Forest Act 2005, Waste Management Regulations (2006), Water Quality Standards Regulations (2006), Physical Planning Act (Cap 286), Cities and Urban Areas Act (2011), County Government Act (2012), Draft Air Quality Regulations (2008) and Nairobi City Transport Master Plan among others.

**Institutional Frameworks:** Previously, only Nairobi City Council had a functional environmental department. However, to-date, most urban areas have environmental management departments mandated to deal with environmental related issues. National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has since been established with the mandate of overall supervision and coordination over all matters relating to the environment as well as implementation of such policies. Kenya Power (KP) has encouraged the use of energy saving bulbs in order to save on electricity consumption. The government has championed green energy through investment in clean energy such as solar power, geothermal and wind energies. Other institutions have also contributed towards energy conservation through construction of energy efficient buildings such as the Coca-Cola East and Central Africa Business unit, Nairobi; United Nations Environment Programme building, Nairobi; Manda airport, Lamu, Red Pepper House, Lamu; learning resource centre, Catholic university of Eastern Africa; and Strathmore university-phase III, Nairobi and Japanese embassy in Nairobi among others.

There has been increased private sector participation in environmental management in areas of solid waste management that incorporates the 3Rs (Recycle, Reduce and Re-use) and initiatives that include reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) as well as the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. Kenya is a signatory to several regional and international conventions on climate issues e.g. Kyoto Protocol on climate change and UN Convention on combating desertification among others.

#### **4.3 Disaster Risk Reduction**

Disasters are events that seriously disrupt the functioning of a community inflicting widespread human, property and environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected community to cope using its own means. Coastal cities are potentially primary victims of global climate change, because many are located in coastal areas which are vulnerable to rising sea levels or in river valleys prone to flooding.

#### ***4.3.1 Achievements***

**The Kenya National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC)** was established in January 1998 as the focal point for co-coordinating response to emergencies and disasters in Kenya. Its functions are to: - co-ordinate and control disaster response efforts, act as the command centre for all communications and information relating to response operations, and liaise with responsible ministries on national response efforts. The government also established Disaster Risk Reduction Coordination Programme to deal with disaster management and coordination in 2008.

There have been efforts to build capacity on disaster risk management and mitigation through training in most institutions of higher learning on the subject matter.

Other private sector players and NGOs have complemented the government in disaster preparedness and response.

#### **4.4 Reducing Traffic Congestion**

The rapid urbanization being experienced in Kenya has led to increased motorized transport resulting in high traffic volumes with higher energy consumption problem, traffic jam and increased levels of environmental degradation. The overdependence on private vehicles also exacerbates the congestion. According to the government of Kenya (2010) report, traffic congestion as a result of poor traffic management hampers the country's economic development and productivity through time lost with an estimated loss of US\$ 610,000 daily in the city of Nairobi and its environs. The snarl ups could be translated into productive activities besides saving on fuel.

##### ***4.4.1 Achievements***

**Non-Motorized Transport** where the use of bicycle taxis (popularly known as “Boda-Boda”) has become popular in many towns in Kenya. They are common in towns such as Busia, Kakamega, Kisumu and Naivasha among others. Their flexibility allows them to operate on all roads including narrow and poorly maintained access paths, sometimes taking commuters to their doorsteps and is non-Pollutant (environmentally friendly). The provision of cycle lanes, pedestrian walk ways and footbridges in all upcoming and existing roads since 2003 have also integrated cycling, pedestrian walkways and footbridges e.g. on Thika superhighway, Valley road, and Mbagathi road among others thus contributing to reducing traffic congestion.

**Provision of designated parking areas** out of the Central Business District has reduced traffic volume of vehicles.

**Completion of interchanges** for example the Athi River interchange that links the Arusha-Namanga- Athi River to Mombasa road.



## 4.5 Air Pollution

In Kenya urban air pollution is worsening due to: - more vehicular traffic on roads, use of dirtier fuels, over reliance on outdated industrial technology, growing energy consumption, and inadequate industrial zoning and environmental regulations among others. There has also been air pollution resulting from open burning of solid waste and indoor pollution leading to substantial health threats.

### 4.5.1 Achievements

Enactment of **Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA), 1999** that provides an appropriate legal and institutional framework for the management of the environmental matters as well as an enforcement tool of impact assessment and audit in relations to development projects in various localities including urban areas.

EMCA establishes several statutory institutions and committees to spearhead environmental activities and provide the necessary infrastructure for synergies and collaboration. These include:-National Environment Council (NEC), National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), National Environmental Tribunal (NET), Public Complaints Committee (PCC), National Environment Trust Fund (NETF), National Environment Action Plan Committee (NEAPC), Standards and Enforcement Review Committee (SERC), and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Environmental Audits (EAs). The legislative and regulatory frameworks that have been developed to aide environmental management in Kenya with greater impact in urban environment include: - Environmental (Impact Assessment and Audit) Regulations, 2003; Water Quality Regulations, 2006; and Waste Management Regulations, 2006 among others.

**The National Environment Policy, 2013** recognizes both indoor and outdoor air pollution and advocates for compliance with air quality standards and strengthening of enforcement capacity as well as promotion of efficient non-motorized, non-polluting and efficient infrastructure for mass transport system.

**Development and maintenance of recreational parks and greening initiatives** have been undertaken in various parts of the country for example Uhuru Park and Michuki Park in Nairobi, Haller Park in Mombasa and along Kangemi area in Nairobi, leading to improved air quality and cleaner environment

**Conservation of Nairobi National Park** has controlled the encroachment on the green urban space and acts as a source of revenue for the country.

## 4.6 Challenges

- i. Encroachment of human activity into forests and fragile ecosystems.
- ii. Lack of a comprehensive disaster preparedness policy affecting response to disasters.
- iii. Poor coordination of institutions and policies in disaster management.

- iv. Low prioritization of disaster management and preparedness.
- v. Lack of investment in research and technology in disaster prediction.
- vi. Poor workmanship in road construction, supervision and maintenance

#### **4.7 Lessons learnt**

- i. Green buildings promote environmental sustainability.
- ii. An empowered society through disaster risk information, sensitization and education would respond effectively to disasters.
- iii. There are best practices existing in waste recycling that should be scaled up
- iv. Public Private Partnership is key to addressing environment and urbanization issues

#### **4.8 Priority Issues**

- i. Protection and management of additional green spaces in urban areas.
- ii. Investment on cleaner production and consumption methods of energy that minimizes emissions.
- iii. Capacity building and training on disaster management.
- iv. Change of policies, attitude and culture to promote use of non-motorized means of transport.
- v. Develop strategies for provision of infrastructural services in small and upcoming urban areas.
- vi. Government should prioritize effective waste management practices

## CHAPTER FIVE: URBAN GOVERNANCE AND LEGISLATION

### 5.1 Background

Kenya post-independence governance system was centralized with the President having absolute powers to govern both central and local government. Management of the country resources were centralized at the national level. However, since 2013, devolution was implemented with 47 devolved government units known as counties being established and operationalized. Central government has transferred powers and resources to these counties.

Good urban governance can be construed to connote equity, inclusivity, participation, responsiveness, transparency and accountability, rule of law, efficiency, effectiveness and consensus oriented. In this context, governance refers to the process of decision making and implementation.

### 5.2 Improving Urban Legislation

To address urban governance in Kenya the National and County Governments in collaboration with other actors have put in place a wide range of policies, strategies and legislations.

#### 5.2.1 Achievements

**Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2007 on National Youth Policy** visualizes a society where youth have an equal opportunity as other citizens to realize their fullest potential, productively participating in economic, social, political, cultural and religious activities of the nation.

**Sessional Paper No. 2 on National Policy on Older Persons and Aging** was put in place to provide an environment in which older persons are recognized, respected and empowered to actively and fully participate in society and development.

**Devolution from centralized system** which has resulted in operationalization of 47 devolved Government units referred to as counties.

**Kenya Vision 2030 Framework** recognizes that more than half of Kenya's population will be living in urban areas by the year 2030. It creates a framework for sustainable urban development through propagation for well governed, competitive and sustainable urban areas and cities.

**Kenya National Youth Council Act No. 10 of 2009** was established as an advisory, research and policy monitoring body on youth affairs in Kenya.

### 5.3 Decentralization and Strengthening of Local Authorities

Since independence, though Kenya had a unitary state with a centralised government, local authorities were in existence. However, they were not effective as they depended on the national government on all matters including authority to spend and make decisions on development

matters. Nonetheless, the current set up has provision for county assemblies that make independent decisions. The counties have also been preparing their budgets whereby they get the funding from the central government in addition to the revenue they collect from their counties. This has largely contributed in bringing both resources and services closer to the people

### ***5.3.1 Achievements***

**Devolution of power and resources** that embraced decentralization, which emphasizes a people-centred development and draws resources closer to the people.

**Establishment of Urban Committee under the Council of Governors:** In 2014, the Council of Governors (CoG) established an Urban Committee to among other things provide dedicated attention to urban issues, fast track the establishment of urban management bodies and prioritize Integrated Urban Development Planning (IUDP) as a component of the County Integrated Development Planning (CIDP). The IUDPs form a principal basis for inspiring commensurate budgeting and resource allocation to urban development.

**Urban Legislative Framework and Guide for Legislative Action** to direct sustainable urban development. It has been piloted in two counties namely Kakamega and Embu and has demonstrated the importance of anchoring renewed urban development on a progressive set of laws, policies and guidelines.

**Establishment of a Constituency Development Fund** which has resulted in improved delivery of services at the local levels, guided by citizen prioritization of projects.

## **5.4 Improving Participation and Human Rights in Urban Development**

The main objective of development should be human well-being as stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Chapter 11 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 on devolved government anchors public participation at the lower levels of governance and is among the key pillars of the constitution. Other legislations which make public participation mandatory at various levels and areas include the Urban Areas and Cities Act 2012, County Government Act 2012, and EMCA 1999 among others.

### ***5.4.1 Achievements***

**Establishment and operationalization of Local Urban Forums (LUFs):** LUFs are multi-stakeholder platform that have promoted constructive urban dialogue and consensus building on key urban issues relevant for sustainable local urban development in Kenya. Guided by participatory principles the LUFs have provided a model citizen's platform. A total of fourteen (14) LUFs are currently operational in thirteen (13) counties. They have been used as forums for citizen participation in the planning, budgeting, decision making and management of their respective towns. Through the LUF platforms, citizens have been educated and sensitized on their rights and obligations in the governance and management affairs of their towns. The respective county governments have acknowledged the input by LUFs and are applying a similar

model to upscale by establishing County Urban Forums to serve as platform for multi-urban stakeholder engagement at the county level.

**Kenya Alliance for Residence Association (KARA):** KARA is the apex body representing the voice and pro-active action of citizens on consumers and taxpayers' rights countrywide and acceleration of access to public service delivery. KARA was registered in the year 2000 with a country-wide membership and operates through its regional chapters. Its objective is to inform, educate and promote awareness among the public on democratic governance and service delivery issues. The Alliance main focus is on democratic governance in public service delivery; sustainable environmental management; security, safety and disaster management; health, water and sanitation.

**Nairobi Peoples Settlement Network (NPSN):** It is a Community led organization registered under the Societies Act of Kenya; working in partnership with local Non-Governmental Organizations, Governments Ministries and Departments, and Communities based organizations, private sector and Donor Agencies. The main aim is to champion and promote human rights and assist the most vulnerable and marginalized segment of the society.

**The Public Private Partnership Act, 2013:** The Act provides for the participation of private sector in the financing, construction, development, operation maintenance of infrastructure or development projects of the government through concession or other contractual arrangements. This facilitates mobilization of Domestic and International private sector investments as well as providing a clear and transparent process for project development.

**National Habitat Committee** has enabled participatory planning by coordinating stakeholders in housing and human settlement matters

## **5.5 Enhancing Urban Safety and Security**

Urban security continues to be a convoluted issue across Kenyan urban areas. The risks of violence and insecurity are impediments to investments and contribute to capital flight and brain drain as well as hindering tourism. It has led to manifestation of gated neighborhoods, installation of metal grilles, frisking when entering most of the buildings, decayed and isolated streets and installation of CCTV in buildings and along the roads. This had resulted to expansion of private security where public security fails to provide adequate protection.

### **5.5.1 Achievements**

**Ruai Community Policing Initiative** which was officially launched in April 2005 by the Head of State as a civil society model. It is responsible for overseeing and complementing Governments effort on security and other community concerns and matters, and synchronised energies and resources towards overcoming societal challenges. Community members are grouped in clusters of 10 houses as a strategy for networking and familiarising with their neighbours to identify and root out criminals in the community. The initiative has contributed in

construction of infrastructure in a number of police posts within the area and constitution of a neighbourhood watch team to support and reinforce Government efforts.

The programme has also engaged in environmental and income generation programmes for the youth and has resulted in the planting of over 50,000 tree seedlings through partnership with TARDA in police stations, schools, river banks, road sides, and home/administration compounds. This initiative inspired replication and formation of pilot forums country wide as a resource in community mobilization for community policing. The model was shared and replicated in India and Nigeria. It has largely contributed to increased citizens' surveillance leading to a significant drop in criminal activities including civil disorder. This model has also been adopted and up scaled by the government at national level.

**Safer Nairobi Initiative:** it is a city changer campaign led by Nairobi City County in cooperation with UN-HABITAT including private sector, NGOs and media. It resulted in inclusion of issues of urban safety into the Draft National Urban Development Policy, installation of CCTV cameras in Nairobi and other towns, urban areas and residential areas, Security lighting and floodlights along streets. This initiative will be replicated in fifteen other Counties under the title-“**Towards Safer Counties in Kenya Project**”.

**Protection, conservation and beautification of public spaces and parks:** The Government has rehabilitated and renovated parks and open places countrywide to make them safer and secure for recreation purposes. These include: - Machakos People's park in Machakos, Muliro Gardens in Kakamega, and Jeevanjee Gardens and Uhuru Park in Nairobi among others.

**Building of new and rehabilitation of public toilets:** Through public private partnerships, new public toilets have been built and public toilets that were previously managed by councils have been renovated and privatized to provide safe, secure and decent services to the public at a minimal fee and also act as income generation for those who operate them.

## **5.6 Improving Social Inclusion and Equity**

Kenya has undertaken several initiatives to address the issues of social inclusion and equity country wide. Some of these initiatives are aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, literacy, enhanced health care among other basic human needs.

### **5.6.1 Achievements**

**Establishment of equalization fund:** the government established this Fund to take care of previously marginalized and under-developed areas to elevate the quality of services to the level generally enjoyed by the rest of the nation and citizens. The marginalized areas are supposed to get an additional 15% above the allocated budget.

**Persons with Disabilities Act, 2003:** The Act provides for the rights and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities to achieve equalization of opportunities and to establish the National

Council for Persons with Disabilities. Provision through affirmative action has opened opportunities such as representation in the electioneering process, appointments and employment. Currently, the Act is being reviewed and aligned with the CoK (2010) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The two documents provide for accessible and affordable housing for persons with Disabilities in rural and urban settings.

**The National Social Protection Policy, 2011:** The Policy defines strategies for improvement of the socio-economic status of the poor and vulnerable. It provides reference guidelines to stakeholders in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of social protection programs. Under this policy, there are laws that protect the poor from exploitation by employers.

**Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF):** The Fund was established in 2006 to reduce unemployment among the youth who account for over 61% of the unemployed in the country. To date, the Fund has financed over 157,000 youth enterprises to the tune of Kshs 5.9 billion (USD 67.8 Million). In addition over 200,000 youth have been trained through the entrepreneurship programme.

**Women Enterprise Development Fund (WEDF):** It was introduced in the financial year 2007/08 to provide support to women entrepreneurs. The fund aims to support women start and/or expand business for wealth and employment creation. It has products designed to deal with the challenges facing women entrepreneurs and such products include: Tuinuke loan facility at a one-off 5% administrative cost and Jiimarishe loan at 8% annual rate at reducing balance among others. In 2011, the Fund emerged the winner of the Millennium Development Goals Award for outstanding achievement in promoting Gender Equality and Women Empowerment.

**Uwezo Fund:** it is a flagship programme for vision 2030 that has enabled women, youth and persons with disability access finances to promote businesses and enterprises at the constituency level, thereby enhancing economic growth towards the realization. The fund is an avenue for incubating enterprises, catalyzing innovation, promoting industry, creating employment, and growing the economy. It is run under the Ministry of Devolution and Planning.

**Free Primary Education/Subsidies at Secondary Level:** Kenya has made commendable efforts towards attainment of MDG No. 2 on achieving Universal Primary Education. The Basic Education Act No. 14 of 2013 of Kenya has been instrumental in enforcing access to education for all children. The introduction of free primary education in 2003 for all children in Kenya has facilitated access to learning for the poor. This has further contributed to gender parity balancing. In 2008, the Kenyan government started to subsidize secondary school education. These initiatives have potential of reducing future income inequalities in the long run.

**Free Maternal Health Care:** The Kenya Government has abolished maternity fees in public health institutions in an effort to provide free maternity services to the women of Kenya.



**Street Families Rehabilitation Programme (SFRP):** This Fund was established in March 2003 and coordinates rehabilitation activities for street families in Kenya in partnership with other service providers, educate the public, mobilize resources, manage a fund to support family re-integration, and encourage decentralization of family protection services to County Governments to benefit those surviving on the streets of Kenya's towns and cities.

## **5.7 Challenges**

- i. **Slow pace of approval and implementation of key policies and legislations:** Kenya has very good urban and housing policies and laws that are awaiting approval, enactment and enforcement and can be used to strengthen the governance of urban areas.
- ii. **Poor coordination of actors in urban management:** There are multiple agencies, both Governmental and non-Governmental working in urban areas in an uncoordinated manner resulting in duplication of efforts. This is exacerbated by insufficient institutional frameworks to ensure coordination and integration of actors and activities.
- iii. **Limited citizen responsibility:** Citizens must play their role to ensure the highest possible service delivery in urban areas. Most citizens, notably the middle class, particularly in urban areas do not participate in matters of urban governance and management. Some forms of exclusion such as self-disenfranchisement is common among the middle class and excludes citizens from participating in decision making processes such as election of leaders within their urban jurisdictions, payment of rates, waste management, public budgeting debates and local *barazas* among others.
- iv. **Financial impropriety and poor leadership in service delivery:** As a consequence of financial impropriety, urban authorities have been unable to deliver services on the basis of strategic urban development plans, programmes and activities, resulting in incomplete and uncoordinated low quality projects, products as well as programmes.
- v. **Weak monitoring, evaluation and feedback frameworks:** Urban areas generally suffer from weak monitoring and evaluation systems. To a large extent, this is responsible for the failure in provision of services to residents. Effective monitoring and evaluation requires effective people and an elaborate institutional framework.

## **5.8 Lessons Learnt**

- i. Enabling legislation is key in supporting the goals and objectives of Habitat II but it takes time to put them in place.
- ii. It is important for Government to encourage formation of neighbourhood associations, citizen participation and responsibility and awareness on the *nyumba kumi* initiative.

## **5.9 Priority Issues**

- i. Capacity building and financial support on implementation and strengthening of devolution, governance and urban management.
- ii. Harmonization of existing sectoral legislations to avoid redundancy, duplication, conflict and save on resources

## **CHAPTER SIX: URBAN ECONOMY**

### **6.1 Background**

Kenya's principal cities and urban areas are the engines of economic growth, accounting for about 70% of GDP. The urban economy is dominated by the informal sector. The formal sector has over the last two decades suffered major changes especially closure of industries and resurgence of the service sector. The Structural Adjustments Programme (SAP) implemented in 1980s-1990s, coupled with globalization, led to major structural changes in the urban economy. These changes were largely negative.

It is estimated that 76.5% (5.9 million people) of Kenya's labour force works in the informal sector, and that this labour force continues to grow each year. For instance, employment in the informal sector is estimated to have grown from 7.5 million to 7.9 million in 2008. The sector consists of varied and dynamic small-scale activities and employment relations that are not registered with the Registrar of Companies and are characterized by low productivity and income. Most businesses in the sector are own-account enterprises; majority of which are Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), which include hawking, agro-businesses, food merchandising, the service industry, artisanship, clothing and textiles, and informal housing.

After the 2013 general election, the Country's structure, governance and management of the urban areas was significantly overhauled by the adoption of a devolved system of governance. Compared to the pre 2010 era, the financial base of the devolved governments and by extension the urban authorities have improved. Despite this, some national fiscal measures for example increased taxation have negatively affected the urban economies.

### **6.2 Improving Local/Municipal Finance**

The financial base of most Kenyan urban entities is not elaborate enough to facilitate the financing of the rapidly growing population and provision of required urban services. Before devolution, urban authorities in Kenya were largely dependent upon income derived from property taxation and other service charges, while other and more lucrative sources such as income tax, sales tax and business tax were by law the preserve of the central government. The taxing powers of the then local authorities were not wide enough and the yield from existing sources was often far inadequate to meet their expenditures.

At the core of municipal finance shortages in Kenyan urban entities is poor financial management. There were shortfalls in the capacity and technical expertise of the then local authorities to handle expenditure responsibilities and to generate revenue. An example often cited is inadequate administration of local property taxation. As is the case in many African cities, urban administrators are often unable to update property valuation for tax purposes. This is mainly because of a lack of qualified staff, insufficient and poorly maintained records and

corrupt financial management practices among others. This has resulted in inequitable generation and distribution of public revenue and creation of gaps

### **6.2.1 Achievements**

**Local Authorities Transfer Fund (LATF)** was established in 1999 through the LATF Act No. 8 of 1998, with the objective of improving service delivery, financial management, and reducing the outstanding debt of Local Authorities (LAs). It transferred 5% of central income tax revenues to LAs to supplement revenues raised locally through land taxes (rates), single business permits and other sources. It was the most structured and established of the funds prior to devolution in that it resulted from processes put in place by the Kenya Local Government Reform Programme (KLGRP).

**Devolution of power and resources;** county governments are mandated to raise revenue from property rates, entertainment taxes, fees/charges on county services and any other tax authorized by Parliament.

**The Public Finance Management Act, 2012** Article 103 provides for establishment of County treasuries to monitor, evaluate and oversee the management of public finances and economic affairs of the County including mobilizing resources for funding the budgetary requirements of the county government and putting in place mechanisms to raise revenue and resources.

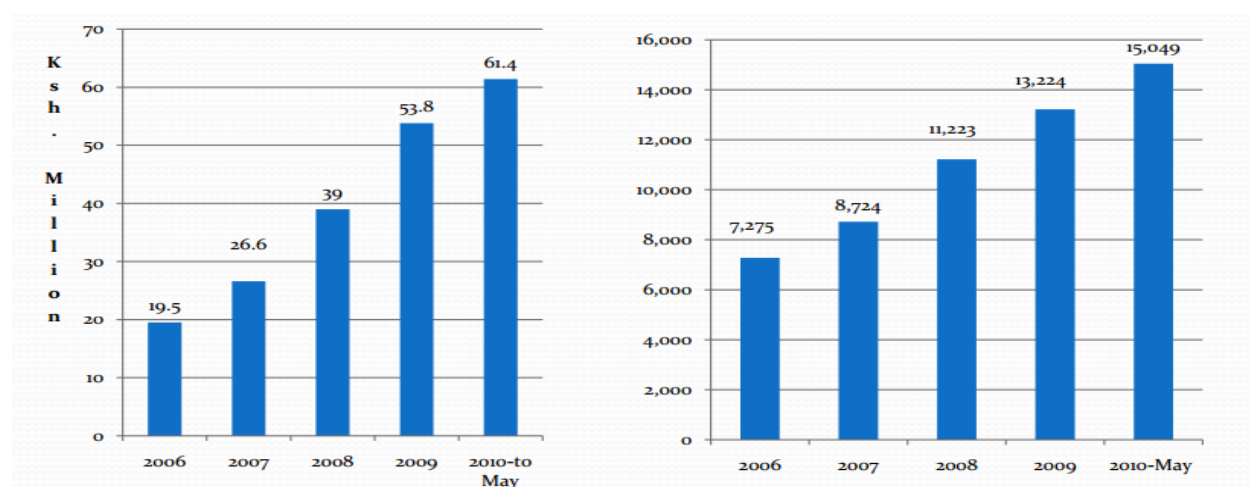
**Equalization Fund:** - It is a constitutional fund under Chapter 12 on Public Finance. Money in the Fund is public finance set aside to accelerate the level of services in marginalized areas of Kenya in order to bring them up to par with the rest of the country. The Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) came up with a policy on the criteria on allocation of the funds.

## **6.3 Strengthening and Improving Access to Housing Finance**

Housing delivery system in Kenya is a combination of many interrelated components which include land, infrastructure, building materials, policies, building regulations and more importantly the finance component. The financing component can be categorized into development/construction verses end financing.

The present structure of housing finance system in the country contains formal and informal housing finance providers. Compared to the situation in 1996 when only a few formal housing finance institutions i.e. Savings and Loan, East African Building Society and Housing Finance Company of Kenya were providing housing finance; almost all mainstream banking institutions now have housing finance products. However, even with these gains in the number of providers, the uptake of mortgage facilities is still unsatisfactory with slightly over 15,000 mortgage accounts recorded as at May 2010 as presented in Figure 6.1.

**Figure 6.1: Outstanding mortgages and number of mortgage loan accounts**



**Source: Central Bank of Kenya 2011**

The cost of borrowing has also significantly reduced from over 30% per annum in 1996 to about 20% at present. This interest rate is still high and beyond the reach of most people. . There has been an increased activity by cooperatives and micro finance institutions in the housing financing field. Some of the prominent actors in this category include National Housing Cooperatives Union (NACHU) and Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives Ltd (KUSCCO).

### **6.3.1 Achievements**

**Retirement Benefits Authority Act, 2010:** - It provides for members to use a percentage of their pension scheme funds as guarantee or collateral for housing loans.

**Kenya Banks' Reference Rate (KBRR):-** The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) in July 2014 introduced the first Kenya Banks' Reference Rate (KBRR). The new reference rate replaced the Base Lending Rate (BLR), which commercial banks used to price their products. The rate is computed by CBK based on an average of the Central Bank Rate (CBR) and a 2-month moving average of the 91-Day Treasury Bill rate.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts, 2013 (REITs):-** Capital Markets Authority gazette REITs regulations as a vehicle for improving private investment in real estate development.

**Islamic Mortgage Products:** - The market has opened up to Islamic financing with no interest on the mortgage which are compliant with Islamic laws. The basic principle of Islamic banking is the sharing of risk, with shared responsibility for profit and loss. The Islamic mortgage finance is quite attractive to potential home buyers which have contributed to a sustainable housing market in Kenya by offering attractive and ethical financing.

**Full mortgage financing:** - some banks in Kenya are providing full mortgage finance to potential home owners so as to increase the uptake of mortgages by the middle and low income groups. This model means that the financial institution providing the end finance does not require the mortgagee to raise a down payment or a contribution to the mortgage loan. An example is Housing Finance (HF) which is set to finance closing costs associated with property ownership to increase uptake of mortgages by the middle to lower end of the market. HF now finances up to 105 per-cent of the property value which will cover 100 per-cent of the property cost, stamp duty and the professional fees. This will accelerate access to home ownership as borrowers will not have to wait for years accumulating a deposit to access mortgage. This strategy targets borrowers who have the affordability to repay a home loan but do not have the deposit required.

#### **6.4 Supporting Local Economic Development (LED)**

LED is a process of strategic planning through partnerships between local government, the business community and NGOs. Its objectives are to stimulate investments that will promote sustained high growth in a local community. LED focuses on the region's potential and identifies specifically what local stakeholders can and need to do to ensure their local community reaches its potential.

In the two decades leading to the political changes in 2002, Kenya's economy and specifically the productive sector underwent a major decline. The government had a task of reversing the many years of poor economic performance and weak governance. This led to the development of the Economic Recovery Action Plan, a blueprint that was developed to guide the new government's economic policies over the following five years.

##### **6.4.1 Achievements**

**Constitution of Kenya, 2010:-** Article 201 underscores the principle of public finance, which provides for equitable sharing of national revenues between national and county governments. In this regard, the counties are mandated to provide adequate resources to the urban areas under them, drawing on the budgetary allocations from the national government under Article 203 of the Constitution.

**The Government has enhanced women and youth specific affirmative action on government procurement** by ensuring that 30% of all government tenders are awarded to them. This is to mainstream the participation of youth-run enterprises in economic development, protecting the role of women in society as well as the implementation of the one-third rule in all government appointments.

**The Government started establishing Huduma centers** in 2014 as facilities where services from various government institutions are provided from the same location. They have improved citizen access to services and eliminated the inconvenience of moving from one point to the

other. The centres have been opened in Nairobi and 10 other towns and the government envisages having them in each of the 47 Counties within the next 24 months.

**Initiation of the Kenya Economic Stimulus Programme (KESP)** in 2009/2010 budget speech to jump start the Kenyan economy towards long-term growth and development. This was after the 2007/ 2008 post-election violence, prolonged drought, a rally in oil and food prices and effects of the 2008/09 global economic crisis that affected the Kenyan economy.

## **6.5 Creating Decent Jobs and Livelihoods**

In creating decent jobs and livelihoods, the Government over the years has continued to invest in socio-economic sectors of the economy. However, growth of the economy has been slowing down over the years due to internal and external factors such as drought, high international oil prices, global economic performance, increased inflation and exchange rate volatility in the economy.

### **6.5.1 Achievements**

**Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP):-** In December 1999, World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved the PRSP approach to reduction of poverty in low-income countries including Kenya. Kenya's PRSP was launched in 2001 as a short-term strategy for meeting the long-term vision outlined in the National Poverty Eradication Plan (NPEP) of 1999 which had a 15-year timeframe to alleviate poverty based on the first United Nations' Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of halving poverty by 2015. The PRSP had multiple objectives directed towards the goal of reducing poverty and increasing economic growth in the country by providing crucial links between national public actions, donor support, and the development outcomes needed to meet the MDGs.

**National Employment Bureau (NEB):-** It was established in 1986 and remains, a department within the Ministry responsible for labour matters. Part of its mandate is provision of employment services in terms of registration and placement of job seekers. Inbuilt in this mandate is the collection, analysis and dissemination of labour market information. Currently, the bureau has 30 County Employment Offices located in the following areas; Industrial Area-Nairobi, Kasarani-Embakasi, Mombasa, Taita-Taveta, Kilifi, Embu, Meru, Machakos, Nyeri, Thika, Kisii, Kisumu, Siaya, Homabay, Nakuru, Kabarnet, Kakamega, Bungoma, Nanyuki, Kitale, Eldoret, Kapsabet, Kericho, Migori, Murang'a, Kerugoya, Isiolo, Garissa, and Busia.

The Bureau also conducts an aggressive campaign dubbed "Kazi Konnect Job-link Programme" that aims at motivating young people and alleviating graduate unemployment in Kenya by providing career guidance, skill enhancement and placement services.

**Constituency Development Fund (CDF):-** It was introduced in 2003 with the passage of the CDF Act, 2000. The Act provides that the government sets aside at least 2.5% of its ordinary

revenue for disbursement under the CDF programme. This fund has resulted in improved delivery of services at the local levels, guided by citizen prioritization of projects.

## **6.6 Integration of the Urban Economy into National Development Policy**

The Kenya Vision 2030 aims at providing the country's population with adequate and decent housing in a sustainable environment. However, Kenya's urban areas have over the years suffered from poor planning which has resulted in the proliferation of informal settlements with poor housing and little or no infrastructure services. These settlements pose serious challenges to the socio-economic development of the country. The number of urban poor has increased for many reasons including lack of sustained economic growth and limited opportunities for well-paid employment. In all urban areas, inequality has risen to unacceptable levels and is typically reflected in the large disparities in income and access to basic services. The Vision also recognizes the importance of urban economy and planning in order to ensure that urban areas and cities become efficient and effective drivers of economic growth and prosperity.

### **6.6.1 Achievements**

**First Medium Plan(2008-2012),Second Medium Term Plan (2013-2017) and County Integrated Development Plans:** The first Medium Term Plan aims at reversing the negative effects of urbanization which have hindered the growth of our urban economy and transforming these areas into more productive economic centres. The Second Medium Term Plan and County Integrated Development Plans take into account urban economy through integration of urban planning and development in the development agenda.

**Development Plans:** - urban economy has been integrated in various policies. For instance, the government has developed plans for the development of urban areas through investments in large scale infrastructure programmes so as to influence balanced urbanisation, especially in favour of the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). Such plans include development of Isiolo resort city and Lamu Port among others. Plans have also been developed for the development of urban areas within the proposed transport corridor connecting Lamu Port to Garissa, Isiolo, Maralal, Lodwar, and Moyale to Ethiopia and South Sudan.

## **6.7 Challenges**

- i. Slow pace in implementation of development plans and poor governance has led to slow economic growth.
- ii. Lack of appropriate skills: - The current education system is not favorable to entrepreneurship, industrialization and innovation. Low incomes levels limits the purchasing power of the populace

## **6.8 Lessons learnt**

- i. The informal sector contributes a big percentage to the urban economy.
- ii. Urbanization if well tapped into has the potential of spurring economic growth and sustainable development



## **6.9 Priority Issues**

- i. Accelerate Kenya's economic and structural transformation
- ii. Harness and optimize transformative potential of urbanization

## **CHAPTER SEVEN: HOUSING AND BASIC SERVICES**

### **7.1 Background**

The housing sector in Kenya has great potential to spur economic growth through its forward and backward linkages. However, it has not been exploited to its full potential. There is an acute need for accessible, affordable, adequate and decently designed houses in a sustainable inclusive environment. The rate of urbanization being experienced in the country has resulted to shortage of housing units against the high demand. This scenario has led to the proliferation of slums and informal settlements characterized by inadequate basic services. In rural areas the challenge is that of poor quality housing and inadequate basic services coupled by high poverty levels. However, with devolution, there is potential for improvement. While the housing stock in Kenya is concentrated in the rural areas, the quality of housing especially the level of services is better in urban areas than in rural areas.

### **7.2 Slum Upgrading and Prevention**

A slum mapping exercise conducted in Nairobi in 2002 revealed 30%, 35% and 30% of people lived in slums in Nairobi, Kisumu and Mombasa respectively. Since urban areas are faced with serious housing shortages, the proliferation of slums and informal settlements and the construction of unauthorized buildings including extensions in formal estates have attempted to fill the void. This has contributed to the overstretching of services such as sewer systems, water, roads and other social and recreational facilities.

#### **7.2.1 Achievements**

**The Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme (KENSUP):** To address the proliferation of slums and informal settlements in urban areas through systematic upgrading, the Government in 2003 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that established a national wide Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme. Since inception in 2005 of the programme, the following has been achieved:-

#### **Preparation of a Draft National Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policy**

**Construction of Kibera decanting site** comprising of around 600 housing units

**Housing redevelopment of Kibera Soweto East Zone ‘A’** comprising of 21 blocks of flats consisting of a total of 822 housing units, social hall, youth centre, boundary wall, external works and landscaping.

**Sustainable Neighbourhood Programme** in Mavoko consisting of 462 housing units, police station, health centre, market stalls and other ancillary works for different income groups living together and sharing infrastructure and other services as one gated community.

Provision of basic social and physical amenities, access roads, markets, schools, social halls, clinics ablution blocks and high mast flood lighting structures in 15 towns within informal settlements in Kenya.

**Formation and operationalization of 36 housing co-operatives** in various slum/informal settlements across the country

**Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project (KISIP)** is undertaking tenure regularization and installation of social and physical infrastructure in informal settlements in fifteen (15) towns within slum/informal settlements in Kenya.

**Kenya Municipal Programme** has undertaken infrastructural developments through installation of drainage systems, foot and cycle paths, roads, bus parks, markets and street lights in twelve urban centres within informal settlements.

**Umande Trust** that is a rights based agency empowers the community using modest resources to significantly improve their livelihoods. It has undertaken the following projects among others:- bio-centre innovation, clean energy saving cookers, environmental conservation, water and sanitation projects.

**Pamoja Trust** has been involved in tenure regularization within slum/informal settlements and improvement of housing units. It is dedicated to promoting access to land, shelter and basic services for the Urban Poor. The organization takes principled and pragmatic approaches to protection and promotion of the right to the city through advocacy and precedence setting models for problem solving. Pamoja Trust provides social, technical and legal expertise at local community, national and international levels to ensure that urban growth and urbanism adhere to social justice principles and that, national and international Human Rights standards are implemented in favour of the most vulnerable of urban citizens.

### **7.3 Improving Access to Adequate Housing**

Housing plays an important role in employment and wealth creation. Adequate housing as a social good also contributes directly to improved health and productivity. There is therefore need for informed interventions by Government and stakeholders in facilitating the production of decent and affordable housing for Kenyans. This is only possible if such interventions are guided by accurate and reliable data on housing and related facilities. The development of housing has not kept pace with changes in household formation.

#### **7.3.1 Achievements**

**Sessional Paper No. 3 on National Housing Policy 2004** aims at enabling Kenyans to access housing, and provide basic services and infrastructure necessary for a healthy living environment.

**Civil Servants Housing Scheme Fund:** Since 2004, the programme has been providing housing loan facilities to civil servants for the purposes of either purchasing or constructing a residential house, and developing housing units for sale and for rental by civil servants.

**Appropriate Building Materials and Technologies (ABMT):** Through holistic eco-technological designs, training and capacity building in ABMT, a regional training centre has been constructed in Mavoko. In addition, several ABMT centres have been built across the country and there is concerted effort in establishment of housing technology centres in each county. The aim is to increase access to decent housing by promoting location-specific building materials and low-cost housing.

#### **7.4 Ensuring Sustainable Access to Safe Drinking Water**

Kenya is classified as a water scarce country, with an annual renewable fresh water supply of only 647m<sup>3</sup> per capita. The current level of development of water resources in Kenya is very low; only 15% of the safe yield of renewable fresh water resources has been developed so far. The country aims to conserve water sources and start new ways of harvesting and using rain and underground water. Access to safe water is currently estimated at 89.7% in urban areas and 43.5% in rural areas, or a national average of about 57% (as reported in the 2000 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey).

##### **7.4.1 Achievements**

**Water Act 2002:** The water sector reforms separated policy formulation; regulation and services provision and define clear roles for sector actors within a decentralized institutional framework.

**The National Development Plan (2002-2008)** lays plans for the water and sanitation sector.

Apart from safe drinking water, Kenya suffers inadequate water supply for other uses. To address this, the central government has put forth the following initiatives:- construction of 21 medium sized dams, ground water mapping in Turkana and Marsabit, and 384, 000 acres of land in ASALs have been put under irrigation. In addition, county governments have constructed dams and water pans.

#### **7.5 Ensuring Sustainable Access to Basic Sanitation and Drainage**

In Kenya, about 81% of the population has access to safe sanitary means, with 94.8% in urban areas and 76.6% in the rural areas. The most prevalent and safe sanitation technology in the rural setting is the ventilated improved pit latrine. On the other hand, solid waste management has been privatized leading to improved sanitation in urban areas. In addition, communal toilets have been constructed to serve people living in slums/informal settlements while in major urban areas public toilets have been constructed and renovated.

### **7.5.1 Achievements**

**A number of NGOs and CBOs are engaged in waste collection, recycling and reuse of materials** to produce various products. These initiatives have contributed towards job creation and also act as source of income for the employed people.

**Establishment of Kang'oki semi aerobic landfill** in Thika that employs modern technology in waste management

**Iko toilets concept** has been adopted in urban areas. It optimizes the value of sanitation and provides a revenue stream and thus helps in subsidizing the sanitation aspect.

**Installation of sewer lines** in various parts of the country by the central government.

## **7.6 Improving Access to Clean Domestic Energy**

In the past, Kenya solely relied on hydro generated power which was inadequate. However, the government has invested heavily on projects towards improving access to clean domestic energy through exploration and tapping into geothermal, solar and wind power. In urban areas, the most commonly used source of energy are hydrogenated electricity, solar power for lighting and water heating and liquefied petroleum gas for cooking while in rural areas, firewood and charcoal are used for cooking and lighting which poses both environmental pollution and degradation.

### **7.6.1 Achievements**

**Energy Act 2006** generated initiatives and established the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) as a corporate body mandated to accelerate the pace of rural electrification.

**Solar power for lighting and water heating:** There are over 65,000 solar water heaters in use in Kenya today. Using the sun to heat water is efficient, saves money, and reduces pollution.

**Several NGOs and CBOs** have promoted the use of clean domestic energy through improving the efficiency of cooking stoves and low cost off grid electricity supply as well as the use of bio fuel.

## **7.7 Improving Access to Sustainable Means of Transport**

In Kenya, an ideal transport system should create a fully integrated transport and information system, which permits seamless, efficient, and transparent passenger and freight logistics. Further, infrastructure and modal planning should maximize capacity utilization in a development corridor in each mode, and to achieve a level of integration between them. The major transport mode in Kenya is road transport which has resulted in major traffic snarl-up in most urban areas.

The potential of non-motorized transport in both rural and urban areas in Kenya has not been fully exploited particularly the bicycle, which ensures high local accessibility to the relatively sparse public transport network.

### **7.7.1 Achievements**

**Integrated National Transport Policy 2009** which clarifies the roles of various players in the delivery and management of transport infrastructure and services. It seeks to address the challenges in the transport sector through integration of transport infrastructure and operations as well as responding to market needs of transport.

### **7.8 Challenges**

- i. The housing and human settlements sector suffers from serious data gaps.
- ii. The housing supply and proliferation of slum/informal settlements is still a major challenge.
- iii. Rapid population increase overstretches the capacities of supply of all basic services including water, sanitation, roads, and energy among others.
- iv. Slow and reluctant uptake of green energy.
- v. Overreliance on one mode of public transport

### **7.9 Lessons Learnt**

- i. To address the slum challenge, there is need to integrate various strategies which include poverty alleviation, provision of low income housing and basic services among others.
- ii. Privatization of water services improves efficiency.
- iii. Land banks are necessary for future housing development.

### **7.10 Priority issues**

- i. There is need to develop social housing for the vulnerable groups e.g. the elderly, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Physically challenged.
- ii. Emphasis on urban management and shelter strategies geared towards prevention of slum growth and approaches for effective slums and informal settlements upgrading.
- iii. Proactive human settlements and urban planning strategies, data collection and capacity development for institutions and agencies to enable them to specifically respond to rapid urbanization.
- iv. Prioritization, devotion and increase of funding to address planning, urbanization, slum-upgrading, low-income housing and provision of basic infrastructure for housing by National and County Governments as well as the international community.

## **CHAPTER EIGHT: CROSS CUTTING ISSUES IN HOUSING, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

The following issues cut across all thematic areas:-

- i. The rising rate of urbanization has resulted in an increased population within the urban areas and hence putting pressure on existing infrastructure.
- ii. Kenya has a high youthful population amidst increased unemployment levels and an increasing aging population in urban areas. This calls for provision of necessary services and facilities to support them and the need to engage them gainfully.
- iii. Lack of protection and conservation of sensitive ecosystems and public utility way leaves has worsened the effects of climate change related disasters
- iv. Integrating and up scaling of waste management, research and use of modern technology in planning would yield better results.
- v. Management of urban sprawl is a major challenge and requires to be addressed.
- vi. Good urban governance is paramount in urban management and should be upheld through the respect of rule of law.
- vii. International cooperation should be strengthened in managing national and cross border environmental, housing and human settlements issues.
- viii. Vulnerable groups that may include women, children, physically challenged, the elderly and IDPs among others should be catered for and be involved in planning and decision making.
- ix. Rural-Urban linkages should be promoted to maintain a balanced development and inter-linkages.
- x. Advanced Information Communication Technology should be tapped as a platform for information sharing and exchange in housing and human settlements sector.
- xi. Upsurge and advancement in crime and insecurity calls for investment and prioritization of safety and security matters in planning to safeguard on people, human settlements and property.
- xii. There is need for technical, political and financial assistance to adopt and fast track implementation of policies in shelter, human settlements and urban development.



## **CONCLUSION**

This report has analyzed Kenya's situation with regard to the six thematic areas. It considers progress made since Habitat II, challenges encountered, cross cutting issues as well as priority areas/recommendations for the future. This analysis in comparison with that of other countries reveals that Kenya like all developing countries experiences some unique challenges while others are universal. It is expected that issues captured in this report will be incorporated in the outcome of Habitat III Conference, and that the outcome will integrate the entire spectrum of human settlements by promoting the development of the rural-urban continuum.

Kenya being a Member State of the United Nations alongside others looks forward to the adoption of the new urban and human settlements agenda, which will be a useful tool for planning and developing our urban and human settlements. This document which will replace the Habitat Agenda of 1996 will be the new global blue print that will guide the planning and development of cities, towns and human settlements for the next twenty years. It is therefore expected that the new agenda will strike a balance between the needs of both the developing and the developed world for a better and sustainable urban future.

## **KEY RECOMMENDATIONS/PRIORITIES**

The key recommendations for consideration in the human settlements and new urban agenda include the following:-

- i. There is need to emphasize on urban management and shelter strategies geared towards provision of affordable housing, prevention of slum growth, and effective slum and informal settlements upgrading.
- ii. There is need to reinforce rural urban linkages and development to harness the entire continuum of human settlements
- iii. There is need to harness the potential of urbanization by emphasizing on effective urban planning for human settlements, provision of basic services and management of urban sprawl;
- iv. There is need to safeguard institutions through good governance by upholding accountability, transparency and integrity.
- v. There is a need for structural and economic transformation to take care of the increasing population especially the vulnerable groups with an emphasis of the youth and the elderly to access shelter in sustainable human settlements;
- vi. There is need to prioritize and invest in environmental protection and conservation as well as promote green energy;
- vii. There is need to enhance capacity for implementation and strengthening of devolution; and
- viii. There is need to combat insecurity and terrorism within human settlements and urban areas.

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## **LIST OF INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED DURING THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORT ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA TOWARDS HABITAT III**

1. Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development
2. Ministry of Planning and Devolution
3. Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology
4. Kenya National Assembly
5. Kenya Mission to UN-HABITAT
6. Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA)
7. Research Triangle Africa (RTA)
8. Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)
9. University of Nairobi
10. Media
11. National Cooperative Housing Union (NACHU)
12. Civil Society Urban Development Programme (CSUDP)
13. UN-HABITAT
14. Muungano Support Trust
15. Kenya Private Developers Association (KPDA)
16. Kenya Alliance for Residence Association (KARA)
17. Habitat for Humanity
18. Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK)
19. HakiJamii
20. County Governments
21. Council of Governors
22. Kenya Bankers Association (KBA)
23. UN Major Group for Children and Youth
24. National Housing Corporation
25. Shelter Forum

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



**Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development**

**Principal Secretary**  
**Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development**

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