

Laikipia County Civil Society Forum

To

The Clerk

County Assembly of Laikipia

Laikipia County



19th March 2024

MEMORANDUM ON MATTERS OF THE LAIKIPIA COUNTY FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER 2024-2025.

We the undersigned are citizens of Laikipia County from various wards and members of a network of Public Benefit Organizations (PBOs) that are based and working in Laikipia County with the objective of creating synergies for effective delivery of their respective mandates, promoting constitutionalism, creating awareness on civilian oversight, promoting social accountability and public participation in county decision making, budgeting and planning processes towards realization of effective and efficient governance and service delivery in Laikipia.

We also within ourselves have a network across the county that share ideas and experiences as well as learn from each other in pursuit of each organization individual and shared objectives. This Memo was developed by the undersigned members from Laikipia CSO Forum (LACCSOF); Pathways Policy Institute, CEDGG, United Disabled Persons of Laikipia (UDPL) Mashinani Youth Network, Binti Mwangaza, Drawing Dreams initiative, Sauti Yangu, Mt. Kenya Youth Hub, Nanyuki Skaters Club and Activista.

Pursuant to The Constitution of Kenya Article 174 on objects of devolution and Article 201 on principles of public finance, and cognizant on the ongoing County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2024-2025 deliberations at the County Assembly of Laikipia, we make the following submissions:

That:

There is notable low awareness levels on governance processes amongst the citizenry making it necessary for County Government of Laikipia to deliberately allocate funds and facilitate The Department of Public Participation to activate its functions as stipulated in Section 10 of Laikipia County Public Participation Act 2014.

We also perused the draft County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2024-2025 and make the following inputs on the **Strategic Objectives of the County Government**:

- I. Cognizant of Article 21 of the Constitution of Kenya on Implementation of Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (3) Addressing the needs of the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups, we noticed that conspicuously missing in this section is a defined provision for Women, Youths and persons with disabilities. County Government of Laikipia should within its objectives and programming consider these groups by deliberately among other programmes, incorporate sign language interpretation in all public service levels, create safe space for youths, investing in sports stadia & facilities, diverse sports & games and providing support for mental health and wellness services across the county.
- II. In section 1.5.5 of the draft CFSP on Medical Services and Public Health. The County Government of Laikipia should consider a strategic objective on Sexual Reproductive Health. This we recommend a deliberate consideration on upscaled and improved Family Planning and Maternal and Child Health services as one of the strategies towards implementation of Primary Health Care.
- III. Also, in the same section (1.5.5), We recommend a defined strategic objective covering on Universal Health Coverage and Social Health Insurance scheme for indigents in line with the Social Health Insurance Act 2023.
- IV. In section 1.5.6 of the Draft CFSP on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, We recommend inclusion of upscaled technical and field extension services geared towards improved productivity and food security. This will include increased staffing where there are less or no technical and field extension officers.
- V. In section 1.5.8 of the Draft CFSP on Education and Library Services, County Government of Laikipia should prioritize equipping the already existing Vocational Training Centers before considering increasing the number. The current VTCs lack

VI. In section 1.5.10 of the CFSP on Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, we recommend consideration of waste management as a key component in environmental conservation.

We therefore through this memorandum, cognizant of Article 10 of the constitution of Kenya on National Values and principles of governance, Article 174 on objects of devolution, Section 97 of the county government act on inclusion and integration of minorities and marginalized groups and 105(d) on meaningful engagement of citizens in the county planning process; hope that the above recommendations will be considered.

The deliberations highlighted herein are purely sentiments of the members of Laikipia County Civil Society Forum (LACCSOF) who are also citizens of Laikipia County with an objective of improving effective and efficient service delivery in Laikipia.

Should you require further information on this memorandum or contents therein, kindly contact the undersigned.

Cc

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2. The Hon. Speaker.

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