

To

Hon. Peter Ndirangu,

The Clerk of the County Assembly,

County Government of Laikipia.

06th June 2024

Dear Sir,

RE: PATHWAYS POLICY INSTITUTE MEMORANDA ON THE LAIKIPIA COUNTY BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR.

Pathways Policy Institute (PPI) is a community-based policy and accountability non-profit organization, Meaningfully Engaging Communities (MEC) on Population, Health, Environment (PHEs) and Climate Justice. Pathways aims to realise local solutions to Universal Health Coverage and the ongoing crisis of global climate change by strengthening community health systems through a Primary Health Care (PHC) Lens.

PPI provides community-based advocates with avenues where their communities can meaningfully influence Primary health, sexual reproductive health, and environmental policies by conducting research, training and capacity strengthening. PPI is an independent, non-partisan, and non-religious entity.

As a CSO in Laikipia, together with a representative from our young champions initiative would like to applaud the county government's efforts to spearhead the identification of key pressing needs for the people of Laikipia and work towards enabling every household in the county to lead a prosperous life.

Following the County Assembly of Laikipia call for written submissions on the Laikipia County Budget Estimates for the 2024/2025 Financial year. We hereby submit our proposals and input to the County

Budget estimates 2024-2025 in line with Section 125 (2) of the PFM Act No 18 of 2012. We ask the county Assembly of Laikipia to consider the following asks:

1. Public Health and Sanitation

Under program for Public Health and Sanitation under the Public Health Promotion and Nutrition services programme sub program on Health Leadership and Governance, the project for the enactment of Health Bills currently has an allocation of Ksh. 500,000. Considering the need for bills and policies in the County and the develop of new regulations such as the regulations for the new FIF for social accountability purposes, we propose that the County Assembly increase this allocation to Ksh. 1,000,000.

Under Public Health and Sanitation, the allocation for Family Planning, Maternal, and Child Health Services is Kshs 2,200,000. Considering the population growth and the increasing demand for these services, we recommend raising this allocation to at least Kshs 4,000,000 to ensure these services are available to all Laikipians. The need for these services is particularly increasing in Laikipia North and west due to the high numbers of teenage pregnancies and HIV/AIDS infection rates.

2. Water and Sanitation

Under the Water and Sanitation sector, the Climate Change program includes the Locally Led Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation sub-program, with an allocation of Kshs 71,000,000. This funding is designated for solar installations at one ECD center, a secondary school, and 13 boreholes across the county. We commend the government for this initiative and request that they also include the Naiperere Health Facility in Laikipia North for solar installation and the Lekiji Health Facility for a borehole. These additions will ensure the facilities have reliable electricity and water, providing a clean environment for patients. This will enable people in the locality to use their preferred UHC cover to access quality health services. Solar power will also ensure that drugs are stored in the recommended cool conditions, maintaining their efficiency.

Under the Water and Sanitation sector, we request the County Government of Laikipia to allocate funds to complete the Kiandege Water Project in Ngobit Ward. This project had stalled for 15 years due to the need for 700 4-inch pipes to complete it. Last year, through our social accountability initiatives, LACCSOF and community members from Ngobit submitted memoranda and through we commend the County for

allocating Ksh. 500,000 in the 2022/23 financial year towards this project, which allowed the purchase of 400 4-inch pipes. However, we now request an additional allocation of Ksh. 500,000 to purchase the remaining pipes needed for the successful completion of the project, ensuring that the community members can finally benefit from this essential water supply.

3. General Administration.

Under the Sub Programme Health Leadership and Governance, the project for the enactment of Health Bills currently has an allocation of Ksh. 500,000. Considering the need to develop and enact the new FIF for social accountability purposes, we propose that the County Assembly increase this allocation to Ksh. 1,000,000.

Under the General Administration sub-program for LHS Outlets Support Essential Health Institutions and Services, the current budget allocates Ksh. 5,000,000 for service delivery at Rumuruti, Kimanjo, Ndindika, Doldol, and Lamuria sub-county hospitals. We request an additional Ksh. 5,000,000 per facility to ensure they can provide quality services, given the high number of clients in these areas.

Recommendations

Out of the above highlighted observations, we recommends the following:

- 1. That the allocation for Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health Services which is Kshs 2,200,000 be increased to atleast Kshs 4,000,000 to effectively serve the growing population that demands these services.
- That the Kshs 500,000 allocated for Meeting the Action Plan requirements for national priority programs (RMNCAH, Nutrition, Community Health, NCDs, Health Promotion and Climate Change adaptation) be increased to Kshs 1,000,000.
- 3. We recommend that the Locally Led Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation program include the solar installation at the Naiperere Health Facility in Kimanjo Ward and the drilling of a borehole at the Lekiji Health Facility. These measures will ensure the availability of water and contribute to maintaining clean environments, thereby enhancing the quality of healthcare for the public.

- 4. We recommend that the County Government of Laikipia allocate an additional Ksh. 500,000 to the Kiandege Water Project in Ngobit Ward. This funding will be used to purchase the remaining 4inch pipes needed to complete the project, ensuring that community members can finally benefit from this essential water supply.
- 5. We recommend that the County Government of Laikipia allocate an additional Ksh. 5,000,000 per facility to the sub-county hospitals in Rumuruti, Kimanjo, Ndindika, Doldol, and Lamuria. This increased funding is essential to ensure these hospitals can provide quality services to the high number of clients in these areas.

And that's all we shall pray.

The undersigned for and on behalf of Pathways Policy Institute, JASIRI Youth champions and LACCSOF.

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