

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 15th September, 2021

House met in the Main Chamber at 02:30 p.m.

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata Adhiambo) in the Chair)

PRAYERS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Good afternoon Hon. Members. I can see that we seem not to have the required quorum. Consequently, pursuant to the provisions of County Assembly Standing Orders No. 32 (2), I request the Serjeant-at-Arms to ring the quorum bell for five minutes.

(Quorum Bellis rung for five minutes)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Chief Whip, please confirm if we have the required quorum.

Chief Whip (Hon. Misachi): Madam Speaker, we have the required quorum.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Thank you. Mr. Clerk, please take the House through the business of the day.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Next order!!

STATEMENTS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Hon. Members, it is Statement Hour. Any Member that has any Statement to raise?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Yes Hon. Samo.

Hon. Samo: Thank you Madam Speaker. I arise before you here today to give a Statement which is of personal in nature. Similarly, going by the provisions of Standing Orders No. 42 with the leave of the House that you allow the House to debate on it.

Madam Speaker, we did talk to the County Executive and they promised us that they were done with their Procurement Plan to enable us role out Development Projects. However, I have heard that a good number of engineers are moving around our wards to monitor projects that are earmarked for initiation. Madam Speaker, I have started doubting the sincerity of some of them that includes the one in Kisumu East. This is because, in my ward these engineers have never taken time to visit these projects. So, Madam Speaker, I wish to raise a Statement that this process should be expedited as I have witnessed that same happen in other wards.

Secondly, correspondingly, I wish to give a Personal Statement. Madam Speaker, a few days ago we had a tragedy in Mamboleo Area that involved us. But then, we were looking at a myriad of issues and we realized that the land that was allocated by the Government is a Riparian Area. Then, we asked ourselves, what are we going to do? Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Thank you Hon. Samo. I believe that was a Personal Statement.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Any other Member with a Statement to raise?

(No response)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): If there is none. Next order!!

MOTION

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS ON
ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE KISUMU COUNTY COVID-19 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RE-
ENGINEERING AND RECOVERY STRATEGY FY 2020/2021 TO 2022/2023

BY

HON. STEVE OWITI

CHAIRPERSON, BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Yes, Hon. Aslam Khan.

Hon. Khan: Thank you Madam Speaker. The report from the select Committee of Budget and Appropriations on its consideration of the Kisumu County Covid-19 Socio-economic Re-engineering and Recovery Strategy for financial years 2020/2021 to 2022/2023.

Mr. Speaker sir and Hon Members of the Second Assembly, the Kisumu County Covid 19 Social Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy 2020/2021-2022/2023 Management Strategy, was committed to my Committee in accordance to Standing Order No. 189 of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders. This follows its laying in the House on 1st Dec, 2020.

The Covid 19 Social Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy aims to institute urgent measures to address the Social and Economic effects of the Covid 19 in Kisumu County.

The County first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on 30th March 2020. Since then the number of confirmed cases had increased to 257 as at 11th September 2020 (Ministry of Health, 2020).

Kisumu County expected to receive a total of Kshs. 12.1 billion in FY 2019/20 as revenue to finance its operations. During the first nine months of FY 2019/20, the County received a total Kshs. 6.5 billion which accounted for 54.1 per cent of the expected revenues. With the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, various economic activities were disrupted and highly affected the county's local revenues. During the first nine months of FY 2019/20, the County registered improved performance, generating Kshs. 672.3 million as local revenue a 21.4 per cent increase compared to Kshs. 553.1 million realised during same period in FY 2018/19. Despite the improved performance, the county collection of OSR during the last quarter of FY 2019/20 decelerated as the effects of the pandemic were mostly felt in the fourth quarter.

County's total expenditure during the first nine months of FY 2019/20 amounted to Kshs. 6.4 billion. Health sector expenditure accounted for 43.8 per cent of total spending with an overall absorption rate of 79.9 per cent. Absorption rate for health sector recurrent expenditure stood at 82.7 per cent while that for development expenditure stood at 42.7 per cent. With COVID-19, absorption of health sector spending increased due to county's increased spending in the fourth quarter of FY 2019/20.

The under collection of Revenue and the high allocation to the Health sector affected other sectors in the Counties Economy. Most development projects and programs were scaled down. The protocols provided by the Ministry of Health to contain Covid 19 such as the curfews and social distancing lead to decline in trade activities. The general effects of Covid 19 had immense impact on the Socio-Economic status of our County.

Mr. Speaker sir and Hon Members, aware that the Budget and Appropriation Committee has been strategic and timely in processing all matters, responsibilities and activities addressed and

connected to it. This Committee has always stood Committed towards fulfilling its mandate as depicted by the value and quality of deliverables such as reports and documents it has processed.

Cognisant that this Committee adheres and responds to the Budget Cycle as stipulated by various legislations and regulations guiding this processes.

Noting that the swift speed and reaction by this Committee to process this strategy since it was laid in this Honourable House has not been in its normal context and Nature.

Reasons whereof

The strategy was submitted around the end of the first half of the Financial Year when the Committee was focusing on processing the time bound budgetary documents with direct implication on the Budget. Hon. Speaker sir, during that Period the focus was on the Finance Bill which sets the tax rate for the County Revenue Collection, the Annual Development Plan which highlights the Development Projects to be considered in the Budget, the Valuation Roll and CBROP which reviews fiscal outcome for previous year's and its effects on the Financial Objectives set in the preceding years Budget.

Further, organizing meetings with the authors of the Strategy was paralyzed by the emergence of the 2nd and 3rd wave of COVID 19 since working from home directives for non-essential service providers were enacted.

That there were budgetary constraints to enhance the analysis and production of this report since the Committee had exhausted its first half year Budget.

Purpose of the COVID 19 Socio Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy

1. Set the Sector Strategic Objectives that would positively impact the Socio-Economic Recovery of the County.
2. Spell Activities/ Economic Stimulus Programs for Re-Engineering the Economy.
3. Explicitly describe the theory of Change.

THE COMPOSITION AND MANDATE OF THE KISUMU COUNTY BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

The Committee as currently constituted comprises of the following Hon Members;

Committee Members

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Steve Owiti | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Aslam Khan | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Kenneth Onyango | - | Member |

4. Hon. Joachim Oketch	-	Member
5. Hon. Benny Pete Oiko	-	Member
6. Hon. Jacktone Ojwang'	-	Member
7. Hon. Beatrice Odongo	-	Member
8. Hon. Seth Okumu	-	Member
9. Hon. Nancy Owiti	-	Member
10. Hon. Vincent Jagongo	-	Member
11. Hon. Paul Okiri	-	Member
12. Hon. Seth Kanga	-	Member
13. Hon. Joseph Olale	-	Member
14. Hon. Maurine Otiang'	-	Member
15. Hon. Johnson Guya	-	Member

Secretariat

1. Peter Anditi	-	Senior Clerk Assistant
2. Isaac Omollo	-	Committee Clerk
3. Zablon Otiende	-	Hansard
4. William Ogada	-	Serjeant-at-Arms

Mandate of the Committee

The County Budget and Appropriation derives its mandate from the provision of County Assembly Standing Orders No 189 (3) which states as follows;

- (a) Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters related to coordination, control and monitoring of the County budget;
- (b) Discuss and review the estimates and make recommendations to the County Assembly;
- (c) Examine the County Budget Policy Statement presented to the County Assembly;
- (d) Examine Bills related to the County Government budget, including Appropriations Bills; and;
- (e) Evaluate tax estimates, economic and budgetary policies and programs with direct budget outlays.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee held five meetings deliberating on the document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to applaud the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk for the invaluable support accorded to us by offering a conducive atmosphere and slotting the Committee adequate time to undertake the task.

Further, the Committee would wish to convey gratitude to its Members who took time out of their busy schedule to honor committee sitting and offered valuable input on this report.

Finally, the Technical staff who worked tirelessly to ensure that all logistics were put in place and the report is effectively produced.

The Committee during its Committee sittings adhered to the MOH Protocols on COVID-19 Containment. Thank you.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR PREPARATION OF THE COVID 19 SOCIO ECONOMIC RE-ENGINEERING RECOVERY STRATEGY

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon Members,

The Committee was guided by the Provisions of Article 185 (4) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Section 8 of the County Government Act, 2012 and Standing Order No. 189 of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders to ensure that the proposed Kisumu County Covid 19 Socio Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy met the required legal threshold.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

THE SOCIO ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF COVID 19

Mr. Speaker sir and Hon Members, the outbreak of COVID 19 pandemic had immense effects on our Socio Economic activities.

The Various protocols set by the National Government and the County Government to contain the spread of the disease such as the closure of international borders, with the exception of cargo movement; closing of schools and other learning institutions; a ban on social gatherings and meetings; closure of places of worship, bars and restaurants; a dawn to dusk curfew; mandatory wearing of masks in public places; physical distancing guidelines including on public transportation; and restrictions on movement into or out of counties with high infection rates.

This credible mechanical containment measure adversely affected;

i) Labour Participation

The County reported a decrease of 20 hours in the mean working hours per week for household in non-farm and farm businesses, which can be attributed to the pandemic due to the cessation measures and closure of businesses.

ii) Agricultural sector

The Directives resulted to a decline in market operations and ability of farms to sustain their existing workforce.

iii) Services sector

The tourism sector in the County almost collapsed following cancellation of cultural and sports tourism events. The sector depends on hotels and transport industries whose activities were disrupted.

iv) Medium Small and Medium Enterprises sector

MSMEs in Kisumu County are largely located in commercial premises, and therefore most of the businesses faced difficulties in meeting their rental obligations due to income disruptions occasioned by COVID-19 pandemic.

v) Infrastructure and housing

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the passengers using public transport services saw expenditure on transport increase by 38.3 per cent. Consequently, the main reason that has made households unable to pay rent was attributed to reduced incomes/earnings, reported by 70.3 per cent of the population.

vi) Gender and Youth

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the months of March, April and May, 2021 recorded an upsurge in the percentage of teen pregnancies countrywide with Kisumu recording 1,840 cases and youth who were out of school due to COVID-19 were equally exposed to the risk of child pregnancy.

Fiscal Response, Interventions and Budget Re-allocation by the County Government

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon. Members, in a swift reaction to the Socio Economic impacts of this Pandemic, the County Government of Kisumu undertook various administrative and budgetary interventions as outlined herein;

The County established the Kisumu County COVID-19 Response Fund Committee: The Committee obtained its initial capital from budgetary reallocation and contributions from senior County officials who took pay cuts.

Senior County Government official took pay cuts: The Governor and the Deputy Governor took a pay cut of 30 per cent for three months starting in April 2020; County Executive Members 20 per cent; Chief Officers, 15 per cent and Directors, 10 per cent. The pay cuts were expected to inject about Ksh. 3.7 million to the Kisumu County COVID-19 Response Fund.

The County re-allocated its budget: During the second supplementary budget of FY 2019/2020. The County freed some resources to finance the County COVID-19 Response Fund. A total of Ksh. 198.8 million was re-allocated from various departments. Ksh. 150.0 million was used to finance the Fund, Ksh. 35.0 million for gratuity, Ksh. 9.5 million for reagents to the health services and Ksh. 4.5 million for staff badges.

The County prepared for treatment of confirmed cases: The Department of Health set aside 279 more beds in the three (3) facilities to be used for isolation wards and treatment of the coronavirus. Apart from creating isolation centres, the Department of Health has also trained health workers on handling of the coronavirus cases, special focus on screening of travelers along the County borders, screening in public spaces, establishment and operationalization of the COVID-19 Response Management Committee, setting up of holding rooms at the sub-County hospitals, operationalization of the call centre (Toll free number 0800720575), and contact tracing.

The County implemented working-from-home guidelines

In line with the government directive to clear pending bills, the County cleared pending bills. The County in May 2020 paid Kshs 331.7 million in respect of pending bills to suppliers, service providers and contractors hired in fiscal years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years. Pending balance as of May 2020 accounted for 3.4 per cent of the County budget.

The County promoted COVID-19 safety guidelines.

The County undertook to enhance access to water for hand washing. This involved distribution of water tanks, water and soaps at points of entry, and develop hand washing booths in the informal settlements and other high-risk areas for hand washing to meet the heightened demand for water. Moreover, the county restored to functionality water facilities that were destroyed by floods.

The County Department of Health rolled out an awareness campaign.

Enhancing social protection for the vulnerable groups: A total of 90,000 poor families in Kisumu County benefited from a medical insurance scheme, which was an initiative by the County Government to cushion vulnerable groups from the effects of COVID-19.

The County also came up with road maintenance team to implement a labour-based Programme, which comprised of groups of young people aimed to create employment opportunities for the youth.

Key Pillars of the Recovery Strategy

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon. Members, from the foregoing, there is urgent need to institute measures and to address the Social Economic effects of the Covid 19 pandemic in Kisumu County for the County to Recover and Regain an upward trajectory.

To this end Hon. Members, the strategist have identified six (6) Pillars:

1. Boosting Private Sector Activity

The private sector plays a critical role in the economy of Kisumu County.

The crisis has offered an opportunity to address the County's structural issues, for example, private sector development and collaboration and design new growth models such as industrial/manufacturing development and innovation and participation in national and global value chains in:

- i) Agro-processing for value addition with important areas of focus include fish processing, textiles, and sugar cane processing.
- ii) The textile and wearing apparel sectors can be boosted to provide PPEs for use within the County.
- iii) The Kisumu port and Kisumu International Airport are important avenues and enablers for regional and international trade.
- iv) Exploration and processing of minerals such as quarry, sand harvesting, and cement.

In boosting the private sector efforts targeted at improving the business environment in the County will include the following:

- i) The County Government of Kisumu will partner with other institutions both from the public and private spheres to facilitate development of adequate and well-equipped worksites with workshops, common user facilities, incubation centres and showrooms for artisans, which is cluster informed and fully serviced. Provision of machines and safety gear should be prioritized to improve the working environment of artisans within the County.
- ii) Initiating and strengthening self-sustaining funds dedicated and easily accessible to MSMEs in the County; promoting tailor made financial literacy programmes for MSMEs; and establishing frameworks for micro-leasing for the MSMEs and utilization of the SMEs credit guarantee scheme which was launched in 2020 to cushion all SMEs across the country from the risks of high cost of credit for SMEs, which in most cases operate as informal businesses.

- iii) Provide access to affordable energy in collaboration with the National Government and other stakeholders.
- iv) Provision of infrastructures related to connectivity such as roads, electricity, water and drainage should be prioritized.
- v) Foster enhancement of security to reduce on crime and create a peaceful business environment.

2. Policy, Legislatives, and Institutional Reforms

The following strategies are necessary to allow for legislative and institutional reforms in the various sectors at both national and county level:

- i) Re-align the County laws on health to national legislation to ensure harmony and avoid conflicting interpretation and enforcement measures. In addition, policy coordination is required to harmonize the functions of the relevant County offices and the various institutions at national level.
- ii) Harmonize and rationalize various laws on agriculture is required to streamline operations between National and County Governments to avoid duplication of resources and efforts in the sector.

3. Strengthening County Government's Preparedness and Response to Pandemic and Disasters

A robust, comprehensive and well-coordinated policy and institutional framework for disaster management, which includes preparedness, response, rehabilitation and mitigation in the county is necessary.

- i) The County to develop a Disaster Risk Management Policy that covers unforeseen disasters that may occur in future including floods, drought, landslides, earthquakes, climate change, hazards or other natural disaster; environmental disasters; human diseases outbreaks, endemic infectious disease outbreaks; epidemics or pandemics; livestock and wildlife epidemic; wildlife extinction; crop infestations; raids, terrorist attack, civil war, civil commotion or riots, war, threat of or preparation for war, armed conflict; nuclear, chemical or biological contamination; and collapse of buildings, fire, explosion or accident.
- ii) Link the Disaster Risk Management policy to policies on social, infrastructure, environmental and natural resources including on health, HIV and AIDS, nutrition and food security, gender, youth, child protection, education, the elderly, persons with disabilities, water and sanitation, housing, infrastructure, transport, environment, forestry and energy.

4. Enhancing ICT Capacity for Business Continuity

The status of ICT access and use in Kisumu County is low, especially among households.. In the new normal driven COVID-19, the County administration needs to fast-track the implementation of various projects to ensure business continuity and build resilience of the County against future pandemics and disasters.

5. Promoting human Capital Development

The County will address the risks in health and education, housing and water deprivations. To achieve this, the County will:

- (i) Enhance universal access to health to collectively finance health services for all, including uninsured workers and their families, and invest in community and primary health including community health workers, water, sanitation, immunization and public health.
- (ii) Expand access to collectively financed paid sick leave, sickness benefits, and parental/care leave to ensure income security for those who are sick, quarantined or caring for children, the elderly or other family members.

6. Exploiting the Blue Economy

For the County to harness the potential of blue economy the following interventions are imperative:

- (i) Identify strategic blue economy activities in the County and invest in research to prioritize areas with significant potential in the region.
- (ii) Revival of marine transport over the lake through rehabilitation and modernization of the port of Kisumu, other ports and piers and incentivize investors to run the transport sector over the lake while the government maintains the infrastructure.

SECTOR INTERVENTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE RECOVERY STRATEGY

Manufacturing

The sector is essential in supporting recovery of the Kisumu County economy from the effects of COVID-19 pandemic. This is especially due to its potential in revenue and employment generation. The county will therefore take the following measures:

- i. Exploit the opportunity presented by the pandemic especially in production of essential goods such as masks, Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), and sanitizers, disinfectants, canned foods, immunity boosting products, hospital beds and ventilators.
- ii. Adopt the new pandemic guidelines including rearranging floor plans to allow for social distancing in manufacturing establishments.
- iii. Undertake training and capacity building to assist MSMEs to surmount the shocks faced during the pandemic and allow for turn-around and recovery of affected enterprises.
- iv. Partner with research institutions such as the Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI) and the Productivity Centre at the Ministry of Industry to improve the quality of manufactures and MSME products.
- v. Provide a cushion to businesses and traders with affordable credit; waiver of some County taxes, cess, and other charges.
- vi. Create partnerships with other counties to enhance markets for the County's produce and sustainability.
- vii. Development of a Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and completion of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Park as per Kenya Vision 2030 aspirations.
- viii. Collaborate with National government to rehabilitate fish landing sites in Ogal as per the Third Medium Term Plan 2018-2022 flagship programmes and projects as support of the Lake Victoria rehabilitation programme.
- ix. Collaborate with National government to facilitate development of International Nile Perch Research Centre at Kabonyo in Kisumu as per the Third Medium Term Plan 2018-2022 flagship programmes and projects that support Aquaculture Technology and Development and Innovation Transfer Programme.
- x. Revitalize operations of Chemelil, Muhoroni and Miwani Sugar companies as well as KICOMI. Revival of the fish processing company that has remained dormant will also be prioritized.

- xi. Promote start-ups to develop business ideas, for instance, through incubation facilities, establishing centres of excellence, developing capacity for start-ups on Intellectual Property acquisition.

Agriculture

To safeguard livelihoods and achieve the sector's targets during the pandemic period, the County Government will:

- i) Transform agriculture from subsistence to an innovative, commercially oriented and modern agricultural sector through enhanced marketing opportunities and supportive services, such as agricultural finance;
- ii) Diversify production into fast-maturing vegetable crops through irrigation. Currently, acreage under irrigation stands at 15 per cent, and thus there is need to increase the area under irrigation to increase food productivity. This can be achieved through resource allocation in the sector, collaboration between the County, National Government and PPP and promoting water harvesting in the County as envisioned in the 2018-2019 CIDP;
- iii) Develop County private partnership in enhancing agro-processing and value addition capacities of the county through: - enhanced market linkages; training; and establishing processing and value addition processing plants particularly for key value chains including sugar, fish, meat, leather, horticultural and cotton. This intervention is in line with the County's 2018-2022 CIDP strategy on promoting development of crop production, fisheries and livestock production value chains;
- iv) Investment in storage and cooling facilities especially at collection centres minimize spoilage and post-harvest losses;
- v) Promote uptake of digital platforms to: - train and build capacities of farming households in modern agricultural technologies, provision of advisory and information services, marketing agricultural produce, and improving access to innovative support services including credit and insurance services. Digitization will assist the County achieve its 2018-2022 goals on enhancing access to credit and by agricultural value chain actors, and train County farmers;
- vi) Establish programmes for surveillance of disasters such as extreme weather conditions at the County level equipped with relevant technical specialists and finances to effectively prevent, prepare, respond and prevent disasters. There is also need for the County to mitigate disasters, such as those related to floods, through institutional capacity

development, vulnerability analyses and updates, monitoring and early warning systems, and public education;

- vii) Lastly, establish county multi-sectoral committees to deal with cross-cutting issues such as marketing of agricultural produce that cuts across the trade, ICT and infrastructure sectors that provide crucial market infrastructure such as road infrastructure, lighting and water services.

Water and Sanitation

The recovery strategy recommends the following interventions for implementation:

- i) Expand and rehabilitate existing and cotton viable water facilities to help increase access to safe water. The County Government will collaborate with the private sector, non-governmental organizations and the local community to expand the water infrastructure. Increased access to safe water will contribute to the reduction of water related diseases. Access to piped water will also lead to additional revenue collection for the County through water billing.
- ii) Increase water storage capacities especially in rural area to enhance safe water reliability with focus on rainwater harvesting in learning institutions.
- iii) Enhance Capacity building on management of water supplies to help reduce Non-Revenue Water and moreover increase functionality rate of already developed water facilities.
- iv) The county to upscale abstraction of water from rivers, spring protections, harvesting of rainwater from roof and other catchments to help achieve increased to water access and to reduce distance taken to water sources.
- v) Expand sewer infrastructure to accommodate more households. Access to sanitation in the County is largely through use of pit latrine with slab both in rural, urban and peri-urban areas. Increased household connectivity will lead to increased access to improved sanitation and increase in revenue collection from sewer services.
- vi) Promote the importance of handwashing and construct WASH facilities to increase access at the household level. Access to WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene including soap and sanitizers) during this period of COVID-19 stands at 48.7 per cent, with close to 79.8 per cent of households without a hand washing facility in their households. This can be achieved through collaboration of the County Government, non-governmental organizations, the local community and the media.
- vii) Promote and facilitate regular environment clean up exercises at neighborhood and in towns to enhance solid waste management. This will include sensitization programmes on importance of tree planting, environment management and conservation. The County Government could work in collaboration with donor agencies, private sector, and local communities to come up with initiatives to manage solid waste.

- viii) Construct dams and dykes and install, rehabilitate storm water drainage infrastructure in urban centres to reduce the effects of flooding in the County. The County experiences flooding in Nyando and Nyakach sub-counties. Water collected from dams can be used for agriculture and electricity generation. The County Government could collaborate with the National Government and donor agencies to build flood control infrastructure.
- ix) County to adopt Climate resilient water safety planning and designs.
- x) Increase water supply in households, institutions and public places through development of new water infrastructures using viable water development technological options in all the 7 sub-counties.
- xi) Improve access to safe toilets in schools, health care facilities, workplaces and public places. The County could collaborate with the private sector and launch public toilet construction programs.

Urban Development and Housing

The County will focus on improving the living conditions and the quality of life in these settlements by;

- i) Fast-tracking implementation of the affordable housing program with a focus on improving living conditions in informal settlements.
- ii) Avail appropriate building technology for use by the public in house construction and improvement in every sub county, which responds to local cultural and environmental circumstances.
- i) Map flood risk settlements and implement flood disaster mitigation plans, including relocation and re-settlement of households.
- ii) The County administration should adopt programs aimed at an increasing household access to clean energy sources and technologies for cooking to mitigate against exposure to respiratory diseases.

Transport

The County will enhance mobility options for residents and improve road conditions to support economic, social and subsistence activities. The County will:

- i) Focus on increasing the share of unpaved roads in good and fair condition to above 62 per cent which is the national average. For the unpaved road network, focus on adopting the Low Volume Sealed Roads (LVSR) technology for greater network coverage cost effectively.

- ii) Apply labor based and local resource-based approaches for road development and maintenance, where technically and economically feasible, in line with the Roads 2000 national policy. This can be incorporated into the CIDP Programme to grade and open new roads.
- iii) Improve and expand infrastructure for Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) in urban areas and along roads with heavy -highspeed traffic to promote sustainable mobility options and enhance road safety for all road users. This is in line with the Integrated National Transport Policy 2009 and the Sustainable Development Goals
- iv) Adopt green roads engineering design to address the problem of floods and develop storm water infrastructure on roads to harvest run-off for domestic and commercial use.

Tourism

Given the scope of activities required to revamp the sector, more funds need to be allocated. Priorities for consideration include:

- i) Exploit the opportunities of the Lake Victoria, including utilizing the Lake as a mode of water transport and tourist attraction.
- ii) Address emerging issue of environmental pollution and solid waste management.
- iii) Open the waterfront for commercialized cultural and recreational activities.
- iv) Develop value chains in sculpture and handicrafts.
- v) Allocate resources for investment and rehabilitation of tourism-supporting infrastructure, including sports stadia, modern M.I.C.E venues, and roads leading to the physical tourist attraction sites. Also refurbish infrastructure leading to cultural heritage sites, which are impassable during poor weather.
- vi) Diversify tourism products to include cultural, sports (boat racing, sports fishing, soccer stadia), agro-tourism, M.I.C.E, nature-based, community-based, adventure, culinary and beach-based tourism products; jetties and floating facilities; amusement parks; and construction and development of Hippo Point public beach.
- vii) Develop tourism information and data centres.
- viii) Upgrading medical facilities to promote medical tourism.
- ix) Construct modern theatre and art gallery to support development of talent in music, visual and performing arts; marketing of sculpture and handicrafts; and upgrading of sports stadia to develop talents in sport.

- x) Conduct research on potential areas for investment in tourism to catalogue information on existing and potential tourism products in each sub-County; branding and marketing tourism products; hosting promotional events such as annual tourism and trade investment expos and M.I.C.E events.
- xi) Leverage on opportunities availed by the Kisumu International Airport in terms of facilitating chartered transportation of tourists, passenger and cargo transportation in serving the County and the Lake Region Economic Bloc.
- xii) Enforce sanitation and hygiene standards in all accommodation facilities and tourist attraction sites in line with the national guidelines for reopening of hospitality establishments to ensure business continuity.

Health

The health sector requires enhanced investment in health systems, including in the health workforce, capacity building of community health workers and the medical officers on COVID-19, upgrading of working conditions and provision of requisite health commodities and equipment, especially in relation to personal protective equipment and occupational safety. Social dialogue is essential to building resilient health systems in crisis response and in building a future that is prepared for health emergencies. Specifically, the County will:

- (i) Revamp, expand, modernize and equip health facilities, including Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOTRH), Kisumu County Referral Hospital and Lumumba Hospital.
- (ii) Implement a comprehensive human resource health management system, including undertaking training needs assessments and information system to ensure skilled and motivated health care workers who are equitably deployed.
- (iii) Recruit additional public health officers and community health workers to strengthen preventive and primary health systems.
- (iv) Promote and support public and community health including the installation of hand washing facilities in homes and institutions such as schools, workplaces and health care facilities with Kisumu County.
- (v) Legislate compensation initiative for Community Health Volunteers (CHVs).

Education and training

Recovery sector specific interventions include the following:

- (i) Promote monitoring and address psycho-social well-being of students, teachers and education officers and educate them on how to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus.
- (ii) Promote back to school campaign when schools reopen and community outreach to ensure that no child drops out of school due to COVID-19 emergency.
- (iii) Develop and implement intervention programmes for the marginalized and most vulnerable.
- (iv) Build the capacity of all public-school teachers to provide training, guidance and quality assurance to them and prepare for education continuation in future outbreaks through provision of internet and ICT support among households.
- (v) Integrate ICT into teaching and learning in the education sector. The County should consider facilitating production of radio and online teaching and learning materials and extend the existing distance learning programmes to all rural areas.
- (vi) Build communities' trust in the health and safety measures taken by schools to guarantee the well-being of returning students and to ensure that the risk of pandemic is minimized.
- (vii) The education sector in collaboration with health authorities shall establish the safety of school buildings and their surroundings before reopening and ensure adequate provision of sanitation facilities and enhanced school feeding programmes.
- (viii) Provide adequate Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) for teachers, learners and other employees in the schools.

Social Protection

The County will continue implementing the key County plans for social protection sector in the current CIDP (2018-2022), including: Provision of Basic assistive devices for enhanced mobility of 2,000 PWDs; Complimentary cash transfers for orphaned and vulnerable children (OVCs)-headed households, persons living with severe disabilities (PLWSD) and the aged not reached by the National Government; Health assistance through the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) for special groups such as persons living with disability (PWDs) and the aged not reached by the National Government; Mentorship and life skills; Construct elders multi-purpose and recreation centres at Ward level; Construct and equip Gender-Based Violence (GBV) recovery centre; Support special international (UN Days) days/events; Rehabilitate and integrate street children. The County is also providing health insurance for 90,000 County citizens.

Gender and Youth

Key additional interventions include:

- (i) Need to create awareness on availability and importance of healthcare services in the County, including free maternity services, and address constraints to access of maternal health services in the County due to fear of contracting COVID-19 in event of visiting health facility. The County needs to consistently allocate resources towards nutrition-specific and sensitive programmes in the various sectors by establishing specific budget lines for nutrition support initiatives.
- (ii) Initiate targeted programmes to address unemployment created by job losses due to COVID-19 mostly among the youth.
- (iii) Promote community awareness on the negative effects of gender-based violence across all sub-counties while targeting both men and women.
- (iv) Strengthen inclusive community outreach strategies to ensure GBV messaging is localized and clear, and addresses stigma, discrimination and other power dynamics that serve as barriers to accessing GBV services and COVID-19 information among differently able persons.
- (v) County Governments through the Department in-charge of gender and youth to bring onboard key stakeholders to actively engage and sensitize the youth, both women and men on reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 control and prevention initiatives.

Environment and Natural Resources Management

Specifically the County will;

- i) Provide and promote alternative sources of clean energy for cooking. The major sources of energy for cooking used by households are firewood at 37.6 per cent, charcoal 41.0 per cent, and liquified gas at 6.3 per cent. This has a negative effect on environment management and conservation. The County can have partnerships and collaborations with the National Government, NGOs and other established stakeholders in natural resource management and conservation.
- ii) Support environmental conservation through planting of trees
- iii) Involve communities in environment and natural resources conservation
- iv) The county to enforce environment and natural resources conservation policy
- v) The county to conduct regular clean-up of urban water drainage system to control flooding
- vi) Provide waste collection services at households, promote and facilitate regular waste collection, environment clean up exercises at neighbourhoods and in towns.

- vii) Construction of waste transfer stations in the urban centers of Ahero, Muhoroni, Maseno, Katito and Kombewa
- viii) Cushion households from the adverse effects of droughts and floods by doing the following; distillation of drainages and water ways planting trees and building dams and dykes.
- ix) Carry out re-afforestation on hills and gazetted forests as a way of preventing human destruction of planted trees and forests for use as woodfuel.
- x) Provide fruit tree seeds, bamboo seedlings and tree seedlings to county tree nurseries for growing to the stage of transplanting on farms and landscapes, and for protection of riverbanks
- xi) Train the Waste Actors network and Tree nursery operators network members to improve their technical capacity for nursery management and composting
- xii) Provide noise meters to the Environment department for measuring levels of noise as vendors and businesses set to re-open their businesses so that business owners can be rightly trained on better ways of compliance with noise regulations, and their businesses are not interrupted
- xiii) Provide protective clothing; hand gloves, safety shoes and boots, overalls and safety goggles to waste collectors/evacuators and the drivers. Safety clothing will help prevent further spread on Corona virus (Covid-19)
- xiv) Procure and strategically place waste collection bins in strategic areas in urban centers for collection of solid wastes.
- xv) Complete the Kisumu county Environmental policy and County Environmental Action plan, Kisumu County Climate Information Service plan, and review Kisumu County Solid Waste Management Act-2015

**PRIORITY AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR RE-ENGINEERING THE ECONOMY
(ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAMME)**

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon. Members, to re-engineer and put the economy of Kisumu County on an upward growth trajectory, it is important to either enhance the existing programs or create new ones that have multiplier effects on productivity and employment creation.

The following are priority areas to be considered by the County when designing stimulus packages:

- i) Infrastructure - targeting roads, water and electricity
- ii) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – a greater enabler for business continuity during and after COVID-19
- iii) Environment and solid waste management
- iv) Waivers/concessions – cess, single business permits, parking stickers, water bills, market fees
- v) Prioritization of settlement of payment of pending bills
- vi) Subsidize farming inputs – certified seeds, fertilizers and mechanized inputs (tractors)
- vii) Provide extension services and market creation for agriculture.
- viii) Create a COVID-19 revolving recovery fund using structures such as table banking, self-help groups and micro-finance institutions to small-scale traders and businesses in the informal sector.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS

1. That most of the strategic interventions for Recovery from COVID 19 Socio Economic effects in the County were addressed in the Budget for FY 2021/2022.
2. That, the CECM for Finance and Economic Planning did not disclose how Kshs. 198.8Million reallocated from various Departments in the Second Supplementary Budget FY 2019/2020 to finance COVID 19 interventions was utilized.
3. Six (6) pillars have been identified for the Recovery strategy to address the Social and Economic Effects of COVID 19 in the County for the County to Recover and Regain an upward growth trajectory.
4. The County lacks a robust, comprehensive and well-Coordinated Policy and institutional framework for disaster management which include preparedness, response, rehabilitation and mitigation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

In regards to the above findings, the Committee makes the following recommendations;

1. That, non-addressed strategic interventions for Recovery from COVID 19 Socio Economic effects with monetary implications be prioritized in subsequent budgets.
2. That for adequate Financing of the implementation of the Strategic Interventions, the County Executive should mobilize resources from other stakeholders in the County

including, Development Partners, Public Private Partnerships and Non State Actors including the NGOs.

3. That at the end of each Financial Year, annual performance reports highlighting key achievements, challenges and recommendations in implementing the Strategic Interventions be submitted to the Assembly.
4. That, the County Executive to prepare and develop a robust, comprehensive and well- Coordinated Policy and institutional framework for disaster management which covers unforeseen disasters and include preparedness, response, rehabilitation and mitigation.

CONCLUSIONS

I would like to implore this House to consider adopting this report on the Kisumu County COVID-19 Social Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy 2020/2021-2021/2022-2022/2023 laid on the table of this Assembly and ensure proper implementation of the Recommendations contained herein. Thank You.

Madam Speaker, may I now call upon Hon. Seth Okumu to second the same by virtue of being a Member of this Select Committee.

(Hon. Seth Okumu bows)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolate): Thank you. Hon. Members, a motion from the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations on its consideration of the Kisumu County COVID-19 Social Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy 2020/2021-2021/2022-2022/2023 has been moved by Hon. Khan on behalf of Hon. Steve Owiti the Chairperson and seconded by Hon. Okumu. I now open it up for debate.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolate): Yes, Hon. Omoro.

Hon. Omoro: Thank you Madam Speaker. Going by the mood of the House, I want to call the mover to reply.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolate): The mover Hon. Khan you have been called upon to reply.

Hon. Khan: Thank you Madam Speaker. As you have realized with the voluminous and well explained in-depth, detailed, and comprehensive report that has been moved by the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations. Consequently, let me take this opportunity to appreciate the Select Committee and all the Stakeholders, especially the Hon. Members to have seen the input that is in the report. If this is adhered to and forwarded to the County Executive, to execute recommendations contained in this report, then we will have taken a big leap in the history of Kisumu County. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Hon. Members, now that a motion from the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations on its consideration of the Kisumu County COVID-19 Social Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy 2020/2021-2021/2022-2022/2023 has been moved by Hon. Khan on behalf of Hon. Owiti seconded ably debated by the House, I now want to put a question?

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Hon. Members, the report from the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations on its consideration of the Kisumu County COVID-19 Social Economic Re-Engineering and Recovery Strategy 2020/2021-2021/2022-2022/2023 has been adopted by this House today Wednesday, 15th September, 2021 at 03:42 hours.

Consequently, I direct that this report be forwarded to the County Executive and Committee on Implementation for further action.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Next order!!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Inviolata): Hon. Members, there being no any other business to transact, this House stands adjourned to Thursday, 16th September, 2021 at 02:30 p.m.

(House rose at 03:45 p.m.)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Senior Hansard Reporter

Edward Odanga – Hansard Reporter

Fanuel Okode – Hansard Reporter

Patrick Okoyo – Hansard Reporter

Jacklyne Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Denis Onyango – Hansard Reporter

Jesca Otieno – Hansard Reporter

