

TURKANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**THE 5TH STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY
HON. JOSPHAT KOLI NANOK, GOVERNOR- TURKANA COUNTY,
DELIVERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2018 AT THE TURKANA COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS, LODWAR.**

Hon. Speaker

Hon. Members of the County Assembly

It is an honor to give my second State of County Address before this honorable House in my second term as Governor. This annual address is one of my key functions and responsibilities as Governor as stated in Article 183 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Section 30 of the County Government Act No. 17 of 2012.

Mr. Speaker

As I begin, let me express my appreciation of the good relations that the County Assembly under your able leadership has fostered with the Executive arm of government since the last general elections.

I take note that last year, at the height of deep political distrust and division following the general election, the current County Assembly conducted its election for a new Speaker. Nobody in this house then knew your candidature and your eventual election would turn the tides of how this honorable House is managed and how it relates to the other organs of government, non-governmental agencies and the Turkana public.

I want to commend you Hon Speaker for the bipartisan manner and leadership with which you have managed to steer this house to deliver for the people of Turkana. I am proud to have fronted you to be the 2nd Speaker, for I had hope and knew that the Turkana County Assembly required someone of your caliber during its second term.

The cordial relationship that exists between the legislative and executive of arms of government cannot be taken for granted as we have witnessed wrangles in other counties that have completely paralyzed their operations.

I wish to assure this house of the executive's support for the Assembly's oversight role and our commitment to foster a mutual relationship as we strive to achieve each of our broad mandates to the Turkana electorate.

I believe that the success of devolution in our County, strongly hinges on a good relationship between the legislative and executive arms of government.

Mr. Speaker,

Allow me to recognize the role the County Assembly played in the negotiations between Turkana County leadership and the national government in the agreement reached on oil revenue sharing formula of 75-25 percent. This unity of purpose that transcends political ideology is needed to ensure Turkana leadership speaks in one voice in the defense of the rights of our people.

We are keenly following to see how the Senate will expedite the Petroleum (Exploration, Development and Production) Bill 2017 and The Energy Bill 2017, which have overstayed in the senate. It is my expectation that the consensus reached between Turkana elected leadership and the presidency will be honored in the final approved bills.

Mr. Speaker,

Allow me to commend this honorable house for the passage of key bills that are aimed at improving public service delivery. These new legislations include; The Turkana Community Health Services Bill 2018, The Turkana Office of the County Attorney Bill 2018, The Turkana County Appropriation Act 2018, The Turkana County Supplementary Appropriation Act 2018 (No.1) and Turkana County Appropriation Act 2018 (No. 2).

My government has begun implementation of the Office of the County Attorney Act 2018 with the recruitment of the first County Attorney. In due course, we will recruit other officers to operationalize the office of the County Attorney, which will help cut cost of County Government litigations and support credible and timely passage of laws by the County Assembly that are in line with the Constitution of Kenya.

Mr. Speaker,

The County Government's implementation of development projects for the last one year has been affected by perennial delays in disbursements of funds by the national treasury.

The delay by national treasury and Senate to approve the counties disbursement schedule that accompanies County Allocation of Revenue Act (CARA) 2018, has constrained development funds with counties receiving zero disbursements in the first quarter. So far, there have been only two disbursements to the county instead of five in the current financial year with a total of approximately Ksh 1.3 billion received despite being close to halfway through financial year.

These delays have greatly affected the implementation of devolution and as the Council of Governors; we have continued to raise our concerns with the national government.

Mr. Speaker

I wish to congratulate the House for the approval of the second generation County Integrated Development Plan CIDP (2018-2022). The formulation process of the CIDP was most consultative with involvement of the members of the public, development partners, the County Assembly and departments of the County Government executive team.

Despite delays in its formulation, caused by lack of funding and internal inefficiencies, I am confident that this plan is perfect development blueprint that will ensure coordinated approach to implementation of development projects. To further expand our resource envelop and secure implementation of this CIDP, County Ministries and departments will now have to find a strategy for implementation of development projects that will include aggressively sourcing for support from development partners and closely collaborating with the private sector.

Honourable Members,

In my inaugural address in September last year, I introduced the five transformative development priorities for implementation by the County Government in my second term. The five pillars are: Water Development, Mineral exploitation and Natural Resource Management; Food Security;

Partnerships and Investment; Resource Mobilization and Utilization; and Peace Building and Cross-border engagement.

These key development priorities will take prominence and define our annual budgetary allocation per sector/department in our development programming for this second term of my administration. The other sectors will equally receive the resources and attention they deserve as we implement them along these priorities.

Despite the challenge of flow of resources and exchequer disbursements mentioned above, we have made progress in implementation of our development plans in the past one year; largely due to strengthening of our two pillars of Partnerships & Investment and Resource Mobilization & Utilization.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,
Honorable Members,**

Allow me to outline the progress made by my Government in the implementation of these transformative development priorities and other sectors in the past one year.

Water Development, Mineral exploitation and Natural Resource Management.

With over 60% of our population unable to access clean portable water and close to 50% of our livestock herd accessing water and pasture across our international borders. My administration recently approved the water and sanitation bill, which paves the way for restructuring the management and administration of the water sector in our county. This important piece of legislation is currently before this honorable house for processing.

My administration will source for funding to construct dams, which will form catchment sources for water collection. These dams are expected to hold huge volumes of water that are able to straddle the drought and rainy seasons and will provide readily available water for human use, livestock consumption, irrigation and industrial development. The development of the Lotikipi and Napuu water aquifers as massive resources will be undertaken in partnership with the national ministry of water and irrigation and the development partners in the WASH sector. Already, my administration has entered into an MoU with National Oil and Pipeline Corporation to develop the Napuu aquifer in order to provide water to the Kanamkemer and Nawoitrong urban dwellers and also the adjacent Loturerei village.

The ultimate plan is to have the water supply linked to the main Lodwar town water supply pipeline currently being managed by LOWASCO.

Our land is endowed with precious and rare mineral resources. The oil finds in the Lokichar Basin opened a new dawn in the exploration history of our country and county and we look forward to working together with the national government to ensure these resources do not turn to be a curse but instead a benefit to our people and the generations to come. This we shall do with all other mineral resources found in our motherland.

We will work with National Government to conserve and preserve our natural resources. My administration is fully in support of the National Government's ban on logging as a last measure to support in the conservation and restoration of our forest cover. It is critical to note that, the revival and rejuvenation of our natural springs is crucial as recharging grounds for our depleted water sources. The Turkana greening project is part and parcel of this endeavor and my administration is committed to encouraging the planting of trees in homes, institutions of learning, offices and recreation areas.

On Water Development, my government has shifted its focus on development in the water services sector to place extra emphasis on large investments to establish mega dams across the county. These dams which are a joint investment in partnership with a host of development partners, will have bigger impact in meeting water needs especially for our pastoralist community.

The County Ministry of Water Services continues to discharge its core mandate that include; routinely equipping boreholes, construction and de-silting of water pans, upgrading of high yielding boreholes with solar systems, routine maintenance of water facilities and rehabilitation of water distribution systems/supplies.

A survey and feasibility study on River Tarach mega dam in Letea Ward Turkana West is on course. The Kenya Red Cross was funded by United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNCHR) to do the study for the project that will provide water for domestic use, livestock and for irrigation to benefit refugees and the host community.

To further address water scarcity, my government in the last financial year rolled out plans to construct three mega dams in Kotome, Kalemngorok and Lomelo, as a form of water harvesting for use by the pastoralist community. The preliminary stages of feasibility studies and detailed survey will be concluded by end of this financial year.

In Turkana West, the County Government jointly with the National Water Trust Fund, are implementing water projects to support the integration of refugee and host community under the Danish Government water grants.

Utilising the equalization fund we have partnered with Rift Valley Water Services Board to implement water projects in Lodwar that will serve Kanamkemer, St. Marys and Monti. The other one is the Kalokol water project connecting the area with a water supply system from Eliye Springs. This is at an advanced stage of implementation.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

In the past, the cost of drilling hampered the frequency of sinking boreholes. To change this, my Government has invested to equipping the drilling unit.

Since last year, the unit has sunk 10 boreholes utilizing the County drilling equipment at a cost of 22 million shillings, in areas pressed by extreme water shortages. Plans are also underway

to equip these 10 boreholes with hand and solar pumps to improve water accessibility once resources are available.

In this financial year (2018/2019), one borehole has been successfully drilled at Nangolekuruk as a replacement of an existing borehole for Kerio ward at a cost of two million and two hundred thousand (2.2M) shillings, serving 3500 persons and 5700 livestock units.

The borehole is to be equipped and a submersible pump has been ordered from Davies & Shirtliff.

Honourable Members,

In total, my government intends to equip 18 boreholes drilled in the last Financial Year and fit them with solar and hand pumps at a cost of 40 million shillings. Assessments have been done and tendering of submersible pumps is underway.

I want to laud the efforts by key partners who supported us on water development; German Development Agency (GIZ), where through partnership, 31 boreholes were drilled at a cost of 68 million shillings that has benefited more than 30,000 people and 62,000 livestock units who now have access to clean water.

UNICEF and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) supported us in setting up three other water supply systems in Naipa, Kapua and Nakamane.

World Vision Kenya partnered with the County Government to drill, equip and rehabilitate pipeline and water kiosks in Nawoyaregae, and Kalemung'orok water supply. It also supported the upgrading of hand pump boreholes to solar pumping system, provision of rising main, distribution lines as well as construction of water kiosks in Lokapel and Loperot in Turkana South Sub-County.

The County Government has also established 12 water supply systems, seven of which were jointly done by development partners in Lorengelup, Songot, Napeikar, Kalemnyang, Kotela, Lorugum, Kaputir and Nawountos to serve 12000 persons and 28,000 livestock units.

My Administration has improved five water supply systems in Lokori, Kalokol, Kakuma, Lokichar and Lorugum at a total cost of 100 million shillings, which are in different levels of completion.

In Turkana Central, the department has ensured 23 piped water supply systems have been connected to improve access to clean and safe water. Of these, 21 have been installed with solar systems and the other systems installed with hybrid solar and generator power.

In the last financial year, 120 boreholes were drilled and in the first quarter of this FY 2018/2019, we have drilled a total of 5 boreholes in Nameritaaba, Kakemera, Naotin, Kankunmeri and a new borehole at Kerio Water Supply.

In Turkana South the department of Water Development established a new water supply at

Nakabosan, entailing new rising main and distribution lines, construction of communal water points, fabrication of 10 metres high elevated steel structure and installation of tanks and fencing of the borehole area.

In Turkana East areas of Lokori and Lopeduru, the department has equipped boreholes with solar pumps that will serve more than 4500 people.

In Turkana North and Kibish, the department repaired 5 solar powered water supplies at Kachoda, Locherengan, Nakinomet, Milimatatu and Engomo and other 21 broken down water points equipped with hand pumps and seven (7) more boreholes will be drilled and equipped with solar systems and these includes: Napus junction Borehole, Kangataruk/Lobei Borehole, Lochor-Angidomou, Ngidinga/Lobulono, Matangakorio, Lorengo/Kokusem and Liwan, Nayane-koron and Kaao.

In Turkana West, two (2) water projects were implemented which include; Kakuma-Nakwangat water project, equipping of borehole with solar system and construction of a 7 km main pipeline and a distribution line of 3 km and the Napeikar/Songot Water Project.

In Mogilla water project, excavation of Mogila Dam is complete and will harvest huge volumes to serve an estimated population of 2000 people and its pipeline has been completed.

Other projects include the drilling, equipping, and piping works for Lorus borehole project. In Lomidat, the survey and design of pipeline and distribution main is complete and the upgrading to solar powered water supply system as well as the survey for Nasinyono proposed borehole project.

Tullow Oil is currently rolling out a comprehensive plan to deliver water from the Turkwell Dam through a single or double pipeline stretching from the dam to Malimalite and Turkwell rivers intersection, Kaputir junction, then along the Kaputir/Lokichar highway to Lokichar town and finally to Ngamia One. The water will be used as injection water for oil production and also for construction and human consumption. We are in discussion with Tullow Oil to make water available for domestic and livestock use to our people along the pipeline via distribution outlets and conclusively address the perennial Lokichar town water shortage. The CEC for Water, Environment and Mineral resources sits in the Turkwel Dam Integrated Development Project Working Group Committee on this project as a substantive member.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Turkana is a county rich in mineral deposits apart from crude oil, we are investing to grow the extractive sector and ensure residents benefit from natural resources found on our land.

Since the extractive sector is still nascent to both the National and County Governments. One of the key areas both governments intend to invest in is the human capital. For the resource to be well managed it is important to have a competent and productive workforce that understands the details of the resource in question.

The County government is engaging the services of various partners and stakeholders to assist in building capacity of the locals. These include; The Ministry of Petroleum and Mining,

Invest in Africa and the Lundin Foundation amongst others.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Mining runs the Kenya Petroleum Technical Assistance Program (KEPTAP) that has carried out various trainings for civil society organizations in Turkana and recently for county government staff. The Oil for Development (OfD) through the Norwegian Government aims to build capacity and resource management skills in public sector and will also focus on civil society and county staff training. The programme was affirmed by the new Norwegian Ambassador during her maiden visit to Turkana County last month.

Invest in Africa through the K-EXPRO program and the SOGA-SHELL program has carried out trainings for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in agribusiness, business services, Information Technology, construction and contracting and transportation and logistics. A total of 121 MSMEs have been trained under this program, including women led businesses.

The Lundin foundation and Tullow Oil have been instrumental in setting up the Lodwar Vocational Training center and equipping it with facilities. There is a well-equipped electrical facility for electrical related courses. The catering and hospitality functions have been provided with a well-equipped catering unit. The skills developed are not only relevant to the extractive sector but can be diversified to other economic sectors. The SOGA-SHELL program also helps in developing skills in the Lodwar vocational training center.

The County is seeking more partners in more developed countries like Canada and Australia to help develop the skills of the Turkana professionals in areas such as engineering, geosciences, mining, spatial planners and economists to build the human capital and local content in the County and move the county towards maximum benefit from the minerals and petroleum found in the County.

In collaboration with Ahadi Kenya, we have drafted the Turkana County Extractive Industry Policy and Bill that includes guidelines that aims to forestall the Dutch disease, Promote transparency, ensure sustainability, promote local input in decision making, provide gender equality in the sector among others. We aim to ensure that an exhaustive and all-inclusive public participation is carried out during the process.

Back in September, the Minerals Department jointly with the Association of Women in Extractives in Kenya (AWEK) held a sensitization workshop for business opportunities in the extractive sector in Lodwar, which targeted awareness creation to increase inclusion of women in accessing opportunities in the extractive sector.

In February next year, we will hold a stakeholders roundtable in the oil and gas sector to raise awareness on oil and gas issues especially on management of revenue which will be critical considering the raging debate across the county on how to manage community share of oil revenue. Key in the debate is path to follow in local revenue management and how Turkana

can learn from best practices from other countries with oil and gas reserves like the First Nations in Canada.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,
Honorable Members,**

Food Security

In line with Sustainable Development Goal number 2 on Zero Hunger, my administration has prioritized food security, improvement of nutrition and promotion of sustainable agriculture as key development outcome areas. With a great potential of our agricultural potential still untapped, my administration will commit resources to expand existing irrigation schemes, build new ones and diversify our agricultural practices to venture into new frontiers such as spate and drip irrigation practices. I believe our county not only has the potential to achieve food security but also to be a breadbasket for the region.

Turkana County tops all the other Arid and Semi Arid counties of Kenya with highest number of livestock population by all categories. This is an opportunity for our people to venture into commercialization of the livestock sector by tapping into these resources by enhancing livestock value chains and ensuring our livestock products in the long run only exit the county as either semi-processed or finished products. My government is intent on galvanizing financing and development support from our partners and our internal sources for this sector to accelerate socio-economic development and improve the quality of life of our livestock keeping community forming 60 % of our population.

Attaining Food Security is the second priority in my five key development agenda as we continue to invest in sustainable agriculture, commercialize pastoralism, and expand the fisheries sector to improve nutrition.

I admit that our irrigation schemes have not reached their optimum in food production. We are committed to putting additional resources into rehabilitating existing irrigation schemes, expand our agricultural practices and introduce new technologies such as spate and drip irrigation practices.

Land under crop production has been increased from 7684 total acreage for cereals production to 8190 acres used to grow maize that yielded 81,902 bags with a market price of Ksh123million; 3153 acres utilized for sorghum production with a yield of 37,836 bags worth Ksh 76million market price. This was an increase from the 2016/2017 financial year where the produce was 64,476 bags of maize and 33,860 bags of sorghum.

The County Department of Agriculture supported 13,000 households with farm-inputs that include seeds and agro-chemicals, and assorted farm tools.

Adequate agricultural extension services and the capacity building of farmers have been attributed to the increase in crop production. Over 25,000 farmers were reached with free agricultural extension messages countywide through regular group and individual farmer visits.

The fisheries sector in Lake Turkana directly supports about 6500 households with about 1000 residents along the lake engaging in fishing. A total catch of 3657 tonnes valued at Ksh 139.9 million was recorded along the lake since January 2018. The high catch is ascribed to continuous support by my government that includes distribution of fishing gear and improved infrastructure that facilitates transport of harvests.

To reduce post-harvest losses, we intend to complete the two additional fish stores that are being established at Nachukui and Lowarengak.

Turkana County has 24 Beach Management Units legally registered in accordance with BMU regulation of 2007. Capacity building has been done in all the BMUs with an aim of improving production. To further enhance production, my government is in the process of procuring 150 wooden boats to be distributed to the fisher folk.

Aquaculture production is also being introduced in Katilu and two ponds have already been constructed and what is left is stocking only.

There are also plans to establish concrete ponds in Turkwel and Nadoto for production of Tilapia and catfish both fingerling and table size. Architectural designs for these ponds are ready. In Kapedor Todonyang, the County department of fisheries provided technical support to the Catholic Mission to set up a fish pond in the area which is already stocked with fingerlings.

There are talks with the national government to develop cage fish farming in Lake Turkana. This is rearing fish, mainly Tilapia in cages along the lake, a practise that has been adopted elsewhere in Kenya to boost fish stocks.

Honourable members,

The livestock sector is the main source of livelihood for majority of residents of Turkana and our investment in the sector targets the commercialization of pastoralism to increase profitability.

A notable achievement is on improvement of two livestock markets in Lodwar and Kakuma after a successful partnership with USAID and a host of other partners. The project entailed improvement of the market facility that already existed on land provided for by the county government.

I believe that the two market infrastructure will expand market access for our pastoralists by more than 300 percent; and will in the long-term contribute to our effort to change mindset and bring our people to appreciate the commercial value of livestock keeping. In Kakuma, a slaughterhouse was opened and is currently in use.

My government intends to construct three sale yards in Kaikor in Turkana north, Kaakong in Turkana South and Lopur in Turkana West. By now, tendering process has been completed awaiting commencement of works.

The construction works of the livestock multiplication centre in Kerio and the livestock holding ground in Napeililim are ongoing and should be complete by next year. Through the multiplication centre, our indigenous livestock breeds will be improved through purchase of breeding stock. The holding facility will be key in fattening, screening and treating livestock from diseases to ensure quality animals get to the market to fetch better prices.

To further transform the livestock sector, which is the mainstay of our local economy, my government has already initiated the process of developing a Turkana County Livestock Policy and it is currently at the public participation stage and the ministry is mobilizing more resources for this very important activity.

In order to enhance disaster risk reduction and management and food security, my government has plans for constructing animal feeds store at Kakuma. The tendering process for this facility has just been advertised.

My administration is committed to revive Lomidat slaughterhouse in partnership with VSF Germany and GIZ, with an existing action plan to have the facility running by March next year. First, we intend to carry out an audit of the facility with support from Kenya Market Trust and develop a business plan after carrying out a study to ascertain its potential.

Additionally, my government through the departments of trade and veterinary services aims to operationalize the hides and skin cottage in Lodwar, which is still under management of UNDP. We will follow up on a commitment by UNDP to handover the project by January 2019 since the idea is to develop a sustainable plan of managing the facility through a Public Private Partnership model. The facility if well managed has the potential to create employment and benefit the pastoral community through sale of leather products.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

During the 2017 campaigns, I promised our people who were extremely affected by droughts and other calamities that my administration will roll out restocking exercise as a form of support for losses they had encountered.

In March this year, we undertook livestock restocking in Nakukulas where 58 households benefited with 348 shoats. In September 2018, I officially launched the second restocking drive in Kasepaelem, Loima Sub-County where 96 households benefited with a total of 960 shoats.

The restocking drive will also be carried out in Lokori/Kochodin and Katilia wards of Turkana East Sub-County targeting 120 and 87 households respectively. In Ngimuriae, Turkana Central, Napak in Kibish Sub-county and Todonyang in Turkana North 80 households will benefit with each household receiving 10 Shoats each. We are also at the final stages of distributing 147 shoats to nitrite poisoning affected households in Kaakim village, Loima Sub County.

Mr. Speaker

The County department of veterinary services has shifted its approach on livestock treatment from mass treatment to a narrowed down approach that utilises real time information from a network of Decentralised Animal Health Committees and disease reporters in all the seven subcounties. This has ensured that the disease response is tailored to meet specific cases as reported from the grassroots and its biggest benefit is that in five years the county has not witnessed a single case of livestock disease outbreak.

Last September, I launched a mobile-phone based livestock disease electronic surveillance developed at a cost of Ksh 10 million. The electronic surveillance system under our Department of Veterinary Services has supported eight disease surveillance visits through which new diseases and prevalence of the endemic diseases were established in the exercise that has benefitted about 1,750 households so far.

In this financial year, the department has held 13 vaccination programmes across the county and a total of 614,374 shoats, 239,620 cattle vaccinated, dewormed and treated of endemic diseases. The exercise benefitted 2, 692 households.

Veterinary drugs worth Ksh 10 Million have been procured and distributed to sub-counties for supportive treatment responses as demanded by our pastoral community. A total of 670 households have so far benefitted.

The department has constructed one cold chain at the county headquarters. Two more cold chains will be set up in Lokitaung and Lokichar in this financial year at a cost of Ksh 9 Million each to support vaccines storage.

Partnership has been key in the successes of the county government in disease control. Organisations such as UN FAO, VSF Germany, CRS and Caritas, LWF, Tupado and Lokado continue to offer logistical support with the County Government providing drugs and personnel. I also wish to report that the veterinary department offers daily screening services for livestock at the livestock market recently opened in Lodwar and the slaughterhouse commissioned in Kakuma.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Peace Building and Cross-border Engagement

Our peace building pillar focuses on building on huge success achieved in past years through our cross-border engagement to promote peaceful coexistence and sharing of cross border resources. I strongly believe, we must do everything possible to promote peace which begets development.

It is time, the local community at the grassroots take up the bigger responsibility and burden of making and keeping peace. Through our new approach we expected to empower local institutions and their respective leadership to be at the forefront of these processes. The development of a peace building and conflict management policy will provide the county with

a policy and legislative framework which all our peace building programs will be anchored on. My administration continues to reach out to regional bodies such IGAD, EU and a host of other development partners so as to work together to raise additional resources to support regional/cross border programs for our pastoral communities.

As a region that has been plagued by conflicts along the border with major attacks this year alone, we must push for a lasting solution to the unique security challenges in each corridor that experiences these cases, because peace and stability are critical for sustainable development.

In the last one year, the County Peace policy formulation process has been initiated in which all our peace initiatives and structures will be anchored on. Efforts are at advanced stages to set up the County Early Warning and Early response unit which will be a peace building structure that will be instrumental in the collection, analysis, and advisory on conflict management.

To strengthen and ensure a structured collaboration with the national government security agencies, my administration in conjunction with partners (Mercy Corps) has led a successful process of formulating the County Safety Policy Framework. The drafting of a related bill is currently underway. The said policy and bill will facilitate the concerted efforts on local security programmers such as National Police Reservists to foster the safety and security of our people.

I have led engagements with national heads of security including Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiangi and the Inspector General of Police Joseph Boinet. I have expressed my commitment to initiate community engagements and dialogue between leaders of Turkana and Baringo counties to build consensus and break hardline stances that have been blamed for the situation along the border. As I have stated in numerous occasions, I believe that a solution to perennial cases of insecurity lies in an intra-county peace initiative to establish lasting peace along this troubled corridor. I also urge honorable members to sensitize our people to form local community-based organizations to support government initiatives on peace.

As I announced in my Mashujaa Day speech, the County Government has committed Ksh 60 Million towards resettlement of communities displaced and affected by conflict across the county for the communities to return to their ancestral lands, resume socio-economic activities and reinstate their livelihoods. This process is currently at the tendering stage.

Despite these investments by my administration on peace and security, securing lives and property of Kenyans is the cardinal mandate and responsibility of the national government.

To strengthen community policing as one of the ways to address security challenges across the county, two key stakeholder meetings on security were held one in Katilu, Turkana South another in Lodwar for Turkana Central, in last September. Honest discussions were held in the meetings that brought together heads of security agencies in the County, the County Government and residents.

We have adopted these meetings as they have been key in formulating resolutions to curb rising cases of internal insecurity including emerging intra-community conflicts, sexual assault, highway robbery and cases of livestock theft witnessed in Turkana South and Turkana Central sub-counties.

Through continuous effort in peace building along our regional borders, there has been a marked drop in the intensity of armed conflict. We have held numerous intergovernmental engagements and established harmonious working relations with our counterpart in South Sudan, Karamoja Districts of Uganda and Omo Zone of Ethiopia.

These good relations and fostering of open communication channels has always come in handy in solving conflicts that arise occasionally.

We have seen for the first time increased interest from the National Government through the Ministry of State Devolution and ASALs to participate and support our peace initiatives. As reported earlier, the Government of Kenya and Uganda plans to roll out a Cross Border Peace Programme through an MoU and implementation framework, which will soon be signed. This agreement will bring additional resources and bring all peace efforts under one strategy, attract the international community to invest in borderland security, develop infrastructure on water, education, health and trade to benefit borderlands communities.

Efforts are also being made by governments at both levels and UN and IGAD to ensure the relations along the Ethiopia border are fostered and borderland programs funded. To address the recent conflicts instigated by our Ethiopian neighbours along the Turkana County border points of Todonyang, Kokuro, Meyan, Kibish and Loarengak, a high-level cross border security meeting involving the National Ministry of Interior, Ethiopian authorities, Marsabit County and my administration is planned for mid December at Hawassa, Ethiopia.

Honorable members,

Resource Mobilization and Utilization

My administration is committed to implementing development programmes outlined in the CIDP 2018-2022 and as prioritized by the community in order to improve their socio-economic welfare. Given the limitations brought about by scarcity of resources, it is the prime focus of my government to ensure the little resources received by the county through the national shareable income, are prudently appropriated, utilized and accounted for. My administration plans to strengthen ongoing efforts to mobilize resources from donors, development partners and philanthropists in order to help us fund our budgetary deficits occasioned by our huge development needs.

We intend to review the partnership with UN under the Deliver As One Programme (DaO) which in the last term supported the County Government in the implementation of agreed joint programmes across the four result areas of Transformative Governance, Human Capital

Development, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability, Land Management and Human Security.

Through the Turkana Multi-Partner Trust fund, we expect to attract both traditional and new partners to support our development course through committing resources that will go towards addressing identified development needs and improving overall development outcomes for our people.

The pillar of resource mobilization and utilization seeks to gather resources to meet our huge development needs as outlined in the County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022. This CIDP is the collective development will and aspirations of our people through which my government continues to reach out to national, regional and international governments, development agencies and organizations to contribute directly to the transformation of the lives of our people.

We have managed to attract funding from the World Bank Group, KfW, GIZ, DFID, USAID, DANIDA, JICA and others into implementing cross-sectoral development programming in Turkana County in the past financial years and continue to reach out to more of these donors. We recently received a delegation from KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) and held very fruitful talks where Ksh 500 Million will be committed into Water development programmes across the county in the next 4 years.

A donor mission and delegation of German drawn donors and related development aid agencies including BMZ Head of Division for East Africa, KfW Country Director, GIZ Country Director, Germany Embassy Head of Corporation and IGAD Executive Director are meeting us in Lodwar next week on Monday to discuss the experiences of the running development programmes and future funding prospects. We intend to make the most out of this meeting for the benefit of our people.

Last year, Turkana became a member of the Frontier County Development Council (FCDC) a regional body that brings together 10 counties. FCDC has the potential of becoming an effective tool to mobilize resources and address crosscutting challenges in these regions. Recently, there has been a heightened interest from foreign development partners to extend funding through the FCDC.

The North Rift Economic Bloc - NOREB to which Turkana County is a member, is another effective resource mobilization tool preferred by the donor community and foreign governments to channel both development and investment funding to the member counties. We are currently putting together cross-sectoral development proposals for possible funding by the Government of Qatar.

To coordinate sourcing of funds and additional resources to fill County budgetary deficits, my administration has established a department of Resource Mobilization and Utilization that will

be under the County Treasury. The Department of Resource Mobilisation will be adequately resourced including requisite human capital to coordinate this noble task under this pillar.

Mr. Speaker sir

Honorable Members

Partnerships and Investments

The private sector is a key player and partner in development. My administration will purpose to support the private sector and the investors intending to invest in Turkana. The increase in the number of airlines plying the Turkana route continues to reinforce our position as the new destination for travel, business and tourism. We shall provide the private sector with a conducive environment to do businesses peacefully.

As part of our vision and in line with Vision 2030 under the Lapsset Project, we intend to establish a new bigger airport working together with the national ministry of transport and related government departments. With Lodwar town set to be a municipality, this development will serve as the regional connector and a logistical hub.

My administration is keen on partnerships and has taken advantage of two recently launched strategic economic and development blocks to be a member. Through the North Rift Economic and Development Block (NOREB) and The Frontier Counties Development Corporation (FCDC), we are able to integrated and interlink our economies in order to harness the competitive advantage and potential of our individual counties and take advantage of economies of scale, expand our market catchments to propagate our development aspiration.

My government is currently putting together a situational analysis report of the current business and investment environment in Turkana County for purposes of improving the ease of doing business in our county. This is expected to make Turkana a competitive and preferred investment destination both for local, regional and international investors. The more investors we attract the more employment opportunities we create to address the unemployment currently facing our young people and the more improved incomes.

We are currently reviewing different MoUs with different development partners in a view to formalize relations and ensure coordinated approach to development. These include an agreement with the Turkana Basin Institute (TBI), World Food Programme and the Catholic Diocese of Lodwar just to mention a few.

Starting next year, the UN Delivery as One Programme will enter a new phase in the relation with UN agencies that established One Program, One office, One fund, and One shared leadership and coordination platform. The program will align with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2022, Turkana CIDP 2018-2022 as well as the Mid Term Programme (MTP) and the Government of Kenya's 'Big Four Agenda' as well as my Five Key Development Priorities.

To ensure better coordination, improve effectiveness and ownership of the development programs, Turkana County Government and the UN established the Turkana Multi-partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The Fund will ensure better coordination and pooling resources to fund development priorities in the CIDP. The operationalization of the Fund is progressing well and is open for contributions from Government, the UN, International partners, the private sector and philanthropists.

Its legal framework has been approved by the national treasury, government of Kenya and the operational manuals are being finalized by both the UN and the County Government.

Mr. Speaker sir,

To comply with requirements in the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, I have appointed an Audit Committee that is meant to improve effective governance and administration of our financial resources to guarantee value for money, entrench fiscal discipline and accountability for resources and assets under our charge.

I have also established and gazetted the Turkana County Budget and Economic Forum (TCBEF), which comprises of representatives from the Turkana professionals body, the business sector, women, youth and non-state actors. The forum provides a means for consultations on among others the preparation of county plans, fiscal strategy, annual budget estimates, resource mobilization and other matters on financial management and the economy.

In a bid to improve financial accountability, the County Treasury is at the forefront of automating financial systems and the introduction of e-procurement and e-sourcing for our tendering process, supported by the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMIS).

IFMIS has been decentralized to departments and the County Treasury has trained officers in its usage as well as undertaken supplier sensitization program on suppliers self-registration on the IFMIS Suppliers portal and e-procurement (e-sourcing) in collaboration with the national treasury.

To augment these efforts to support the County Treasury, we will continue recruiting skilled manpower and building capacity of the revenue staff in promoting revenue collection as well as strengthening the existing County revenue systems.

After the Turkana County Finance Bill (No.5) 2018 has been approved by the County Assembly, as it waits my signing into law, my Administration is putting in place tremendous measures in ensuring and improving local revenue collection strategies; making use of technology for collection and monitoring cash receipts-this includes the use of internet banking and connection of all work stations to Integrated Financial Management Information System for real-time monitoring of cash flow, in addition to the automation of the cash receipts. All the accounting documents will be recorded and generated within the information system.

We will also ensure timely approval of building plans and enhanced revenue collection and the submission of building plans be automated. Digitalization of all county property will be done to allow prompt management of property liable to property tax. The collection of parking fee will be automated in order to enhance revenue collection, management and administration. There will be up-to-date serialization of advertisement objects through system-generated numerals and above all, there will be regular monitoring of system-generated bills to ensure increased processing rate.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

To improve ease of doing business in Turkana County, the Trade Department has formulated a County Investment Policy whose drafting is at initial stages. The policy will provide information on investment in the County and explain the legal requirements necessary for doing business.

We have worked hard to improve the business environment in the county, an investment that has seen the number of licensed businesses rise from 2200 in 2013 to 7300 in 2017/2018. This was achieved through business skills development, market linkages, and development of market infrastructure through SMEs exhibitions.

There has been a concern with the public on lack of disbursement of the County Biashara Fund. As you are aware, the Turkana County Biashara Fund Act (2015) was in contravention with some parts of Public Finance Management (PFM) Act 2012.

The amendments and regulations are before this honorable House awaiting approval. Once this is in place, my government will disburse the 100 million shillings set aside for this financial year.

To regulate trade in the county, the Turkana County Trade Licensing Act, 2016 will be operational from January 2019. The County Government is also formulating the Turkana County Trade & Markets Bill 2018 which is expected to guide the management of markets developed across the county.

The Department of Trade in partnership with the Anti-Counterfeit Agency organized a Consumer Rights Awareness Clinic in Lodwar, Kakuma and Lokichar where 240 traders benefited. The aim of the clinic was to curb illicit trade within the County. It has also inspected and verified 920 mechanical & electronic equipment (weighing scales), including 15 fuel pumps. We raised 450,000 shillings as revenue from the exercise. The County Government has constructed and equipped a Metrological Laboratory from where instruments of measure will be calibrated.

Honourable Members,

To promote market access and linkages for Small Micro-Enterprises, my government sponsored 18 groups to showcase their products both in local, regional and international stage. Two of these groups, that is, First Lady and Turkana Widows Advancement Program got a rare

opportunity to exhibit in the Spring Fair held in Birmingham, United Kingdom. Through the exhibit, Turkana Widows got an order to supply 600 shopping baskets.

We have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kenya Investment Authority to provide technical support in profiling investment opportunities available in Turkana County. The Trade and the Revenue Departments have jointly streamlined issuance of licenses and collection of fees that has contributed to a positive trajectory in growth of business.

Cross-border trade has risen according to a field survey carried out in February 2018 with commodity goods worth Ksh 280 million entering through Kainuk, Lokirama & Lokichoggio compared to 36 million shillings outflow of commodity goods.

Small Micro-Enterprises also benefited from a business counseling and consultancy services exercise held in partnership with the Export Promotion Council in the Product Development Programme that involved 23 producer groups.

Mr Speaker Sir,

Part of the Turkana County Co-operative Enterprise Development Fund Act, 2015 was found to be in contravention of Public Finance Management Act, 2012. Consequently amendments were required to ensure that the Turkana County Co-operative Enterprise Development Fund created through the Act takes effect. We will fastrack the operationalization of this fund to ensure residents benefit.

The number of registered Co-operative Societies currently stands at 54 from 39 at the onset of devolution. This is an indication that our people have realized the importance of the cooperative movement, which is key in industrialization and enterprise development. This is partly due to co-operative public awareness creation carried out by the Department of Co-operative Development and Marketing.

To critically look at the change of ownership and how to commercialize Lomidat Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society, my government formed a Taskforce. The Taskforce was to come up with recommendations that will help increase productivity and profitability of the Society. Commercialization of Lomidat Meat Processing facility will lead to creation of more jobs and it is estimated that over 2000 households will benefit directly.

Part of our Co-operative mandate in supporting the movement, is through the auditing of accounts. This enhances member and stakeholder's confidence in investing in cooperative societies in the County.

The County Government in partnership with Action Africa Help International (AAHI), Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the National Council for Refugees (NCR) sensitized communities in Turkana on the Co-operative Model of Business as a vehicle for poverty reduction, hunger alleviation, employment and wealth creation and as a tool for enhancing social equity within the framework of the sustainable development goals.

As part of our support to youth, nine members of the Turkana County Youth Council Youth were taken for an exchange program/benchmarking in Makueni County.

In partnership with the Insurance Regulatory Authority, 100 youth from across the county received training from the College of Insurance of Kenya and qualified as insurance agents. We expect that this will contribute to growing the insurance industry in Turkana as well as support our efforts to address youth unemployment.

Honourable Members,

Performance contracting and management will be the hallmark of my administration. The County Government has rolled out performance contracts to all county staff. County Executive Committee Members, County Chief Officers (CCOs), County Directors and their deputies have been put on performance contracting to entrench the culture of effective and efficient public service delivery and accountability.

Contracts renewal will be pegged on performance of the officers after completion of the contract period and annual performance appraisal. On the same note, the County Government has also created a department of Performance and Efficiency in my office to coordinate performance and efficiency in the county public service.

As at now, the directorate, leads in the review of management systems, procedures and practices in the public service endeared to enhancing their effectiveness in service delivery. The department is currently reviewing the signed performance contracts of the County Ministries in the first quarter of performance to determine the progress for key decision-making by the Executive.

Further, the Strategy Delivery Unity in my office will play a lead role to align government service delivery strategy to the common vision, my re-election manifesto, my Government's Five Priority Development Agenda for this second term and the overall implementation of my five-year strategic plan. The unit is also tasked with coordinating county flagship projects; monitoring, evaluating and regular reporting on timely achievement of these five key development priorities.

Mr. Speaker

It has been the core commitment of my government to strive to take services closer to the people by improving quality and efficiency of public services delivered.

The Sub-Counties and the Wards are the focal points of developments and public service provision. The county government has supported the activities and programmes in the thirty-seven centers to ensure citizens receive value for money. To further decentralized services to the lower level than that of the Ward, the Village Administration Bill 2018 has been re-introduced to the cabinet and will be forwarded to this House for approval. Once passed, the

bill will actualize our intention to establish the lowest governance unit with the creation of 156 village elders and 780 village councils.

The government also continues to build the capacity of the administrative officers by enrolling them to senior management training at Kenya School of Government and other equivalent institutions in order to instill skills and knowledge to better the quality of public service delivery.

This financial year, my government intends to train forty officers for Experiential Leadership Course at National Police Training College, Meru after the first 25 benefited out of it in 2016. The training will equip them with requisite skills for effective service delivery and ensure they become agents for transformative leadership in the new era of devolution.

My government considers a people-centered approach to governance as one of the avenues for constitutionalism. The Turkana County Government Public Participation Act, 2015 provides a framework for informed citizen engagements in policy and legislative formulation. The government plans to ensure effective implementation of the Act through necessary funding to facilitate citizen engagements activities in the county. To give effect to this legislation the government will formulate the Turkana County Public Participation Policy; which will provide an elaborate policy framework to guide participation of the public in governance.

We strive to ensure equal representation of all residents in county human resource, on region, age, gender as well as special groups.

Youth representation in the County Government workforce has been a success story as close to 60 percent are between 18-34yrs old. However, we all agree that to tackle unemployment among the youth, government and the private to partner to create more opportunities for qualified youth.

The County Government has surpassed the one-third-gender representation with female representation standing at 36 percent. We are also making a deliberate effort to achieve the five percent representation of Persons Living with Disabilities that currently stands at less than one percent. An example is in our recent recruitment of clerical officers where over nine percent of individuals hired were persons living with disabilities.

The County Public Service Board is in the process of filling key positions in the core sectors to ensure the Turkana public enjoy services they are entitled to. In all our recruitment, we want to make sure our services and employment practices reflect the highest possible standards of equity.

It is high time we take collective responsibility in sponsoring, motivating and encouraging our youth to take keen interest in doing technical courses to solve the inadequacy of human resource in the county.

Consequently, Information Communication and Technology officers will be recruited and be deployed to every County department to ensure information communication and Technology services are improved and services reach the residents of Turkana.

We have also decentralized and deployed human resource officers to the sub-counties to improve service delivery both to the government and the people of Turkana.

Mr. Speaker

In order to fight biting hunger, my administration has tendered the supply and delivery of key basic food items to support 800,000 food insecure and needy residents of Turkana County with relief food.

The first relief cycle is earmarked for distribution between December 2018 and January 2019 where a total of 2500 metric tonnes of the basic food commodities-maize, beans and cooking oil will be distributed to 133,000 households.

The Department of Disaster Management, with support from OXFAM and the UN Women, has developed a draft County Disaster Risk Management Policy to guide the management of disaster risks by stakeholders in the County. Once approved by the cabinet, the draft policy will be tabled before the house.

Honourable Members,

Turkana is one of the three Counties that will benefitted from the Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (KDRDIP) financed by the World Bank through the Office of the President at a tune of Sh10 billion.

The five-year project launched barely a week ago, targets counties that have been hosting refugees for a long time.

Among expected benefits from this project are improved access to rural roads; health services and enhanced doctor-patient ratio; better schools with enough teachers, access to clean water services. Other benefits are sustainable land use management to produce more in agriculture and livestock keeping, better resilience among our people against negative impact of extended refugee presence; access to clean energy and increased employment opportunities for the locals.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On Health and Sanitation, my administration's investment in the Lodwar County Referral Hospital (LCRH) has been aimed to accelerate the institution's achievement of Level 5 status. The Health facility is undergoing massive infrastructural development that include construction of an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and a High Dependency Unit (HDU), refurbishment and modernization of the Amenity Ward, finalization of construction of Health workers' flats and roll out of a robust, integrated patient management Health information system, through investment in ICT to improve patient access to critical care services. This will also reduce referrals to Level 5 and 6 health facilities in Eldoret and Nairobi.

We are implementing the Strengthening Laboratory Management towards Accreditation (SLMTA) program targeting accreditation under (ISO 15189:2012). The laboratory at the LCRH has enrolled in External Quality Assessment Schemes (EQA) aimed at keeping and driving the confidence of the clients.

Other key investment areas and projects my government has undertaken in the facility include: Oxygen piping to the wards; the model mortuary facility with a 66-body; Radiology and Imaging department; ongoing construction of CT scan building that will house the new 64-slide CT scan, and emergency unit.

The hospital had its first dialysis in August. Seven dialysis sessions have so far been done free of charge to needy patients with satisfactory outcomes, thereby cutting referrals out of the County.

As fruits of partnership with UNICEF/UNOPS new maternity theatres and a renovated maternity wing have been commissioned at the LCRH. The new theatres have been equipped and are functional. My Government and the national government have committed to further equipping the second theatre to reduce delays to accessing lifesaving surgeries that will save the lives of mothers and newborns.

The 34 slide CT scan currently in use at LCRH will be transferred to Lopiding sub county hospital.

The investment in the health sector is not limited to LCRH. We continue to equip facilities at the sub-counties and improve access to acceptable, quality health services to reduce referrals to Lodwar.

Three new maternity wards have been constructed in Lowarengak, Kerio and Kang'atotha with support from UNICEF. The maternities are state of the art and have already contributed more skilled hospital deliveries and helped to reduce child and maternal deaths.

With support from IRC under the County Challenge Innovation Fund (CICF), new state of art theatres have been constructed and are ready for commissioning in Lorugum and Katilu sub county hospitals. Once the facilities have been launched in the coming weeks. These facilities will expand availability of various surgical interventions for handling surgical emergencies in rural areas and reduce referrals from these areas.

Furthermore, all facilities within the environs of Lodwar will start offering health services 24 hours and offering skilled deliveries to help ease congestion in LCRH.

My government commits itself to fast-tracked expansion of skilled human resource base in the County. A Human Resource for Health (HRH) Situational analysis (SiTAN) has been done through partnership with UNICEF and Afya Timiza, resulting in the development of the HRH management and development plan. These plans have highlighted the huge investments in HRH, which have been achieved by our County Government. In light of the huge persistent gaps

in HRH work force and the new health facilities highlighted in these plans, my government has committed to immediate recruitment of more consultants, medical doctors, nurses, registered clinical officers and Community health extension workers officers to strengthen availability of health services in all the sub counties. These will include new pediatricians and physicians.

In this commitment- all sub-county hospitals will have 1-2 doctors to support service delivery and alleviate patient suffering at the sub-counties and reduce referrals to LCRH. The infrastructural upgrades to support this has already been started and finalized in some areas.

We currently have eight specialists including two Cuban doctors; with increased staffing and more specialists, my government and the national government intend to set up a doctor internship training center in Turkana County to further help attract and retain more doctors and improve service delivery.

Community Health Services Act 2018 -The Community Health Act that I signed into law in August will go a long way to improving community health strategy which is a key pillar in delivery of health services to various communities. I am informed that Turkana is among the first counties in Kenya to pass such a bill. The County is now fast tracking the operationalization of the Act with an aim to make all the 167 Community health units functional.

My government is committed to the success of the community health strategy as a part of our focus on strengthening health service access and continuity at the lowest levels - the households and the community levels.

My belief is that strengthened health services at community units will be the launching pad and the platform for the roll out of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Turkana. My government, partners and the communities are currently engaging on the contextualized approach to UHC in Turkana.

Mr Speaker

Sufficient and timely availability of quality drugs and non-pharmaceuticals are critical to quality of health care.

We have prioritized provision of quality drugs to all health facilities in Turkana County. All Health facilities have been receiving regular and sufficient quantity of quality drugs and other health products.

The County Government spent Ksh 420 Million on drugs and non-pharmaceuticals in the last financial year. This included payment of Ksh100 million and 3.6 M owed to KEMSA and MEDS, the two main suppliers of drugs to health facilities.

Health commodities procured from KEMSA recently have been directly distributed to the Rural Health Facilities without major stock outs of any essential drugs being reported in Turkana, a problem that many other counties are struggling with.

The county is currently sufficiently stocked with Health commodities.

The construction of the County Health commodity stores at Kanamkemer stands 80% and is expected to be completed in the next 3 months. The facility will strengthen quality drugs

and non-pharmaceutical availability including improved prepositioning, preparedness and commodity security aspects.

To improve preparedness and response to outbreaks of diseases such Cholera and upsurge of Malaria and Kalaazar; the county health department has now put emphasis on health preparedness and quick response through updating the Vulnerability Risk Assessment Maps.

In order to improve Open Defecation Free coverage and prevent communicable disease outbreaks like Cholera, the county with support from UNICEF and partners has embraced the Community Led total sanitation approach (CLTS). The CLTS hub now spearheads these efforts and open defecation free villages currently stand at 53 from only 2 in early 2017, with open defecation free status now at 23%, up from 4% in 2017.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Early Childhood Development Education is a fully devolved function to the County Governments. My Government supports 871 ECDE centres in the entire county on teacher deployment, supply of instructional materials and feeding program as part of our mandate in developing pre-primary education.

On food supply, 667 tonnes of assorted food items was distributed to ECDE centres since the start of this year.

The county's department of ECDE has entered into partnership with organizations to enhance school feeding program. They include the World Food Program (WFP) which has supported formulation of a Feeding guideline and training to enhance capacity of the 300 Feeding Program Management Committees chairpersons.

We are also formulating a Turkana ECDE Policy jointly with WFP which will be tabled before the County Assembly once it's complete.

Marys` Meals and FEED the Children are other key partners that have supported the ECDE feeding program, which has sometimes been delayed due to lack of resources.

To reduce teacher-pupil ratio, my government is recruiting 300 ECDE teachers who will be deployed equally to various ECDEs countywide in January 2019. This will bring the number from 271 to 571.

I am happy to report that due to our immense investment in the ECDE sector, pupil enrollment has risen from 75,635 in 2013 to 112,657 this year.

All vocational trainings centers across the Turkana County have been accredited and registered as official entities. My administration is keen in supporting the vocational training centers through recruitment of qualified instructors. We recently posted 22 vocational instructors for Electrical and Electronic Technology, plumbing and pipe fitting, hairdressing and beauty therapy, ICT, carpentry and joinery, fashion design and garment making, masonry and building technology, motor vehicle technology and food processing. A total of 209 qualified young people graduated from our training centers in the last 2 years, out of these 94 have joined

formal and informal employment.

My government acknowledges the great support our partners are putting on investment in skill development. Lundin Foundation has engaged Rift Valley Technical Training Institute on consultancy services to develop sustainable operation plans at Lodwar Vocational Centre. In addition to this, Lundin Foundation supported the refurbishment of dormitories at Lodwar Vocational Training Centre and purchased 60 decker beds. Tullow Oil provided perimeter fence, gate and electrical installation at Lokichar Vocational Centre and also provided a generator and five prefabricated classrooms at Lodwar Vocational Training Centre.

On bursary distribution, the last disbursement of Ksh137 Million benefited 13,412 needy students. We are expecting the next disbursement of Ksh 172 million that will benefit 15,000 needy students to be rolled out before next term.

The county government has organized training of ward appraisal committees on management of the bursary kitty and selection of needy beneficiaries.

In the sports sector, my administration invests to diversify sports disciplines in the county and offer support to sportsmen and women to nurture and grow their talents through participation in competitions outside the county.

The Tobong'u Lore marathon was first held this year and will be organized each year as part of the Tourism and Cultural Festival program.

Our teams participated in the Kenya Inter-County Youth Association competitions held in Makueni earlier this year where the boy's football team performed against all odds to finish second runners-up.

Recently, we organized the first ever boxing tournament in Turkana in partnership with the Kenya Professional Boxing Commission (KPBC). The main fight of the night was between our own Rukia Nasirite and Tanzanian Asha Abubakar, a bout that Nasirite won to clinch the Universal Boxing Organization's Light Weight title. We will continue to invest to grow the sport in Turkana.

We plan to hold a men's football tournament from 3rd to 5th December, which will be sponsored by Coca-Cola Company to a tune of Ksh 2.1M. The tournament will be used to select a team to represent the county in the Kenya youth inter-counties championships to be held in Kapsabet from 16th to 22nd December. Scouts from the Talanta Football Club will also attend to recruit players to join the Talanta Football Club based in Nairobi.

A team of Persons with Disabilities took part in the Isiolo Desert Wheel Race and performed exceptionally well by coming second overall behind Nairobi County. The competition was aimed at championing the rights of people living with disabilities.

To support the discovery and nurturing of talents, sports equipment and gear worth Ksh 2 Million have been distributed in all the wards in the last quarter. I believe that with further support, the great sports potential in our county can be exploited.

Social Protection

My Government is investing on Persons-living with Disabilities to ensure no resident of this county is left behind in development.

Through our department of social protection, we have kicked off the implementation of the Turkana County Persons with Disabilities Act, 2017, which I signed into law last year. The Turkana County Board for Persons with Disabilities has been established and has started its work. The board, which consists of 11 members from the entire county is tasked with protecting persons with disabilities from discrimination and promote PWD welfare.

Honourable Speaker

My government is aware of risks associated with development in the extractives sector, climate change and rapid infrastructure projects such as LAPSSSET. We are engaging the national government and development partners to ensure appropriate conflict sensitive programming and implementation to prevent risks and protect communities' interests.

We have held consultative meeting on land acquisition for the LAPSSSET corridor program together with the national Ministries of Lands and Physical Planning, Petroleum and Mining, the National Lands Commission (NLC) and the LAPSSSET Development Authority. I have stressed on the need for a proper mechanism for compensation of individuals and communities who will be affected to avoid future resistance. We have insisted that until the high court determines the contentious issues in the petition currently facing the Community Land Act no. 27 of 2016, we cannot engage these national stakeholders conclusively.

Under the Lands, Energy, Housing and Urban areas Management, the County Government has implemented the following initiatives;

In Turkana South trading center of Nakabosan, 500 people out of a planned 800 have been resettled with plans underway to resettle the remaining number. An advisory plan to guide the process is already available in the move that has created an economic zone and people are leaving with harmony within the area.

In Katilu, the Baraka settlement scheme has successfully settled 50 people. Lokichar market and bus stop has been demarcated and fenced off improving ease of operations and doing business.

In Turkana West, the demarcation and beaconing of land at the Kalobeyei Settlement Scheme has been done. We expect that this will prevent conflicts on land between the host community and the refugees. We plan to establish a buffer zone between the refugee camp and the host

community along Kalobeyei. This area will be set aside for business and is expected to be a commercial hub for both the host community and the refugees, and generate revenue for the county government.

Kibish and Lowareng'ak Advisory Plans are in place. Demarcation, subdivision and beaconing of land has been done and the implementation of these plans will be done in January 2019. The plans will reduce congestion and help have formal settlements free from fire risks in both areas as well as define public utility spaces with issues associated with land disputes resolved once and for all.

Honourable members,

Late last year, the county government opened blocked roads and cleared encroached access roads and back lanes within Lodwar town. Despite the exercise attracting considerable outcry from individuals affected, our goal was to transform Lodwar town from a residential town to a commercial zone with accessible transportation channels. That organization is critical if Lodwar and all our urban centres are to grow and be attractive to investors.

Indeed, these development is in line with the conferment of a municipality status to Lodwar Town which will benefit residents through better infrastructure and an attractive business environment.

We have acquired a modern garbage collection truck which is already in use and will ensure efficient waste collection.

Works to upgrade California market and improve its business environment are ongoing. An ablution block has been constructed and access roads around the market have been opened to reduce congestion and ease movement of traders.

The ministry has successfully implemented Renewable Energy Development project (Solar Standalone System for Public Institutions). Ten schools and 29 Health Facilities have benefited from Solar Standalone system installation. Thereby improving service delivery in the health facilities since patients can now seek health services at night and supported students in the school willing to hold evening preps.

We have extended solar street lighting to Kaaleng, Kaikor and Oropoi rural centres to improve security and enable traders extend business operation hours.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On Geothermal explorations, we have made concerted efforts to have consultative meetings with the investors and stakeholders. This House can recall that we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Olsuswa Energy Ltd. early April 2018 in Katilia. The decision to have the MOU signing before the residents and with participation of elected leaders was an endeavor to promote public participation and to ensure the process and agreement is owned by all parties. The Agreement covers all areas of engagement including access, compensations and temporal lease of land, social projects, environmental matters, employment and business opportunities among others.

On the same note, Olsuswa Energy will be constructing a 120 kilometers road from Lopii,

through Elelea to the Barrier Complex (site of the project) to Pargati, in February 2019. The road will open access to areas which were previously inaccessible and will be strategic in opening up the area for security responses, settlements, trade and general development.

At the beginning of this month, I held talks with the Geothermal Development Company (GDC) that is tasked with the implementation of Silale Geothermal energy. I raised the County Government's disapproval of the skewed implementation that has so far only benefitted residents of Baringo County yet the resource lies on Turkana land. We agreed to form a joint committee to lead engagements going forward and that GDC writes a letter to the County Government with an explanation of the project. Our aim is to ensure there is transparency and that our people get their rightful share of benefits from the project and revenue collected.

We have also had interest from other investors on the exploration of geothermal resource in Moruangikokolak and Namarun which will be announced once the interest is formalized.

As I have always insisted, all agreements on exploration in the extractive sector and land related will be reached through full involvement of the local community. My commitment to defend the right of the ordinary Turkana man or woman to resources on our land remains firm.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Our investment in the Infrastructure, Transport and Public works front is meant to ease movement of people, goods and services to, within and without Turkana County; and ensure adequate and effective government buildings, structures and other public works.

Adequate infrastructure is requisite for development and is a requirement to attract investors and the private sector to thrive.

Our focus is open up new roads and maintain existing ones to facilitate trade activities and secure increased revenue collection from the thriving trade activities that will in the long run contribute to an increased revenue allocation for the county.

Good roads also help to manage security by ensuring all areas are accessible for security response.

With funding from Kenya Roads Board (KRB) we are implementing Roads Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF) projects across the county. These projects include grading, gravelling, bush clearing and drifts construction on various roads in the sub-counties.

Since the last financial year, we have implemented 20 projects covering 1087kms, while the evaluation of tender applications for more than 32 projects advertised in October this year is ongoing. The 32 projects will cover 593.64 KM. We are planning to implement the last batch of Road Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF) projects in the 3rd Quarter of F/Y 2018/2019 that will purely entail 15KM gravelling of roads in each of the seven sub-counties in Turkana.

We are concerned about the risks brought by most of our rivers whenever they flow. We are working on ensuring that rivers are protected. Our focus now is on rivers Lokichar, Kawalase, Locher- Ekaal and a section of the Nanaam River. Lokichar River Protection was advertised in the recent 32 projects and works will commence soon once the tender is awarded.

KeNHA has also promised to work on Nanaam river protection with a promise of addressing

more river protection works in the county, which will include Kawalase river protection. We have completed tarmacking of the 4KM A1 Junction-Ekalees Centre road to bitumen standard making the Centre easily accessible. This was after a public outcry due to the extremely dusty conditions of the road.

We have overhauled our plants and machinery and are now operational to support road maintenance works. The Ministry has four graders, three tippers, two dozers, one roller, one excavator, one-wheel loader, one water bowser and one prime mover. The County intends to acquire more machines to enable the allocation of at least one of each of the machines to the seven sub-counties in Turkana to do road maintenance works on need basis.

We have opened up feeder roads in five villages in Lokichar ward of Turkana South. We are planning to extend the works to other sub counties where we will be doing grading and graveling of feeder roads in places like Napetet, Nakwamekui, Kanamkemer, Nawoitorong, Lodwar town and others.

We are also working on County Mechanical Transport Fund (CMTF) policy that will guide in the operationalization of transport and mechanical sectors in the county.

With the booming ‘bodaboda’ business in the county, the County Government is coming up with a transport plan for the bodaboda business that will include construction of ‘bodaboda’ shades in major towns in each of the seven sub-counties and training of the motorcycle riders on correct usage of the roads and their safety. We will work together with the National government to enforce operating standards in this area.

We are also working on cross boarder linkages and advertised project for Letea Junction-Elim-Loreng’-Ngamorkirionok-Nakitong’o-Kalae-National border road in the recent 32 projects whose tender applications are being evaluated as well as a model road between Lorugum junction- Namoruputh- Lokiriana National border road.

Honorable Members,

We will be implementing an ISO certified Fleet Management System for purposes of effective and efficient management of all county government vehicles. The system will prevent misuse of government vehicles by ensuring they are used only on official duties and operate within the stipulated time.

There have been complaints that most contracts are awarded to non-locals. We have learnt that most local contractors have little experience and knowledge in tender applications and thus the County is planning to hold a training for local contractors on how successfully compete for contracts in January next year.

A key focus under this Ministry is the completion of infrastructural flagship projects. These include the County Headquarters complex, the Governor’s Residence, Kainuk and Kataboi eco-lodges and Completion of bridges at Nowoyeregai and Kotome. Already, the Nawoyeregai Bridge is complete, with the County head quarters set to be completed and occupied in April 2019.

Concerning revenue collection through revenue streams of transport cess, machine and

equipment hire, packing fees and bus park fees, the County anticipates to raise 45 Million shillings.

The county government recently employed 13 engineers to boost the county technical section that was understaffed. Prior to this recruitment, we partnered with KRB, KURA and KENHA especially in utilizing their technical experts to support the sector.

Mr. Speaker sir

In April this year, we celebrated the 4th edition of the Turkana Tourism and Cultural Festival (Tobong’u Lore) at Ekalees Cultural Centre. This year’s event was bigger and better in every sense as it attracted more dignitaries and representatives from Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia. From Kenya, visitors from counties bordering Turkana County attended with total number people who attended the festivals estimated to be over 10,000 visitors. The festival had a positive impact on our economy as business boomed earning the county government more in revenue generated.

The festival has now been drafted into the national calendar of events and with it guaranteed involvement of the national government. This coupled with the positive reception of the showpiece in the region as evidence that we have achieved the primary goal for holding the event- using culture to foster coexistence between communities.

We plan to hold the Atanayeche cultural festival from 19th to 21st December this year, as a commemoration of the shared origin of the Ateker communities-mother of Ateker Ata Nayece. The festival is a key component of our community’s rich cultural heritage which and is ground for peacemaking among the Ateker communities.

For a community that has witnessed conflict with the neighbours for decades, we value the peaceful co-existence among communities at the border and will continue to invest to maintain that peace.

In the spirit to develop our national game reserves and protect wildlife ecosystems and value addition the county recruited 68 rangers who then underwent wildlife management training in Manyani.

In order to market our county through tourism, the construction of Lodwar Tourism Gallery/ Tourism Information centre is at advanced stage. Contract has been awarded and the work will start soon once the funds are available. Once complete, 50 tourism treasures information across the county will be available to our visitors under a one stop shop.

The County Natural Resources Management Department seeks to build enterprises within the county according to type of enterprises that is, Aloe Turkanensis enterprises at Lorengikipi, Lokichogio, Songot, Letea, Nawountos, Urum and Namoruputh; Gum Arabic and resins enterprises at Lorengippi, Loiya, Namoruputh, Lobei, Kalobeyei, Songot and Lokichar; Agroforestry and reseeding Rangelands at Lobei, Kotaruk, Urum, Nawountos, Lokichoggio, Turkwel and Kerio. Sources of seeds for building the above enterprises come from Loima

Mountain, Turkwel riverine forest, Kerio riverine forest, Lapur and Kibish.

The County Government has trained 30 women master beaders in Lodwar town and acquired production skills and improved livelihoods from sale of artefacts. This is part of the Ushanga Kenya initiative that aims to foster and manage beadwork production among women in Turkana.

We also supported women from the county to the National Handcrafts Fair that took place in Nairobi. The participants showcased their handcrafts and acquired exhibition, marketing, branding and pricing skills.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Honorable Members,

As I conclude, I wish to emphasize on the need for continued unity of Turkana leaders and our people especially in the debate over matters touching on the extractive industry. Let sobriety and honesty drive these debates as we seek to follow in the steps of countries where oil has been a blessing rather than a curse.

I will continue supporting policies and development programming that attracts investments through strategic private sector players to diversify our economy and increase visibility of Turkana on the national and regional development map.

Thank you very much,

God bless you all and God bless Turkana County.

Ejok noi.