REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND ASAL AREAS

National Policy for the Sustainable Development of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands

‘Unlocking Our Full Potential for the Realization of the Kenya Vision 2030 ’

August 2017
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## Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate change Adaptation</td>
<td>Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate-proofing</td>
<td>Identifying risks to a project or asset from climate change, and ensuring that those risks are reduced to acceptable levels through changes introduced at different stages in the project cycle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human capital</td>
<td>The resources and capabilities that enable people to be economically and socially productive. Investments in human capital can be made through education, training or health care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>The surface of the earth and the subsurface rock including natural resources therein The air space above the surface as defined under Article 260 of the Constitution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-equilibrium Environments</td>
<td>Rangeland environments characterized by unstable and non-uniform distribution of nutrients as a result of variable and patchy rainfall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Refers to either National or County Government depending on the functions as per schedule 4 of the Kenya Constitution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arid and Semi-Arid Lands</td>
<td>This phrase is used throughout the document and refers to the region whose geographical coverage extends across the arid and semi-arid lands of Kenya.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Kenya</td>
<td>This term is used in this policy to refer to the geographical region in the northern part of Kenya.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ending Drought Emergencies</td>
<td>The phrase refers to a strategy under the auspices of IGAD that aims to consolidate the drought mitigation measures as well as promote other best practices for ensuring that drought will not continue to lead to humanitarian emergencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoralism</td>
<td>The term refers to an animal production system which takes advantage of the characteristic instability of rangeland environments, which is predominantly practiced by people in ASALs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable development</td>
<td>Development that advances social progress, economic growth and environmental protection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internally Displaced Persons</td>
<td>A person or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, large scale development projects, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state boarder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Definition</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGOA</td>
<td>African Growth and Opportunity Act</td>
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<td>ALRMP</td>
<td>Arid Lands Resource Management Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASALs</td>
<td>Arid and Semi-Arid Lands</td>
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<td>CBAHW</td>
<td>Community-Based Animal Health Worker</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIDP</td>
<td>County Integrated Development Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMESA</td>
<td>Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
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<td>EAC</td>
<td>East African Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE</td>
<td>Ending Drought Emergencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>FGM</td>
<td>Female Genital Mutilation</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTA</td>
<td>Free Trade Area</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<td>HDI</td>
<td>Human Development Index</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information and Communication Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>IGAD</td>
<td>Inter-Governmental Authority on Development</td>
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<td>KFSM</td>
<td>Kenya Food Security Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>KFSSG</td>
<td>Kenya Food Security Steering Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIPPPRA</td>
<td>Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAPSSET</td>
<td>Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport</td>
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<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCDA</td>
<td>Ministries, Counties, Departments and Agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDGs</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NACONEK</td>
<td>National Council for Nomadic Education in Kenya</td>
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<td>NDCF</td>
<td>National Drought Contingency Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NER</td>
<td>Net Enrolment Ratio</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHIF</td>
<td>National Hospital Insurance Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>NLC</td>
<td>National Land Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOKET</td>
<td>Northern Kenya Education Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPP</td>
<td>Public-private Partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>SACCO</td>
<td>Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMEs</td>
<td>Small and Medium-sized Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIVET</td>
<td>Technical, Industrial, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
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Chapter One: Background

1.1 Introduction

Kenya Vision 2030 is a long term perspective plan that guides policy formulation and implementation for all sectors of the economy in Kenya. The National Policy for the Sustainable Development of Arid and Semi Arid Lands is formulated within this framework. The policy is also formulated within the framework of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, which established a two-level Government structure, comprising of the National Government and forty seven (47) County Governments. This devolution of power is aimed at improving delivery of public services and government responsiveness to the needs of the public. It also seeks to enhance public participation in the exercise of powers of the state and making decisions that affect them and to make access to, and use of, public resources more equitable, efficient and transparent. Further it aims at promoting social and economic development and the provision of easily accessible services throughout Kenya.

The ultimate objective of Government policies is rapid economic growth and social transformation, whereby the benefits of this growth are equitably distributed to all Kenyans across the country. The aim of this policy is therefore to put in place a holistic policy framework that facilitates and fast-tracks sustainable development in the ASALs, reducing levels of inequality with the rest of Kenya and releasing its potential for the benefit of the nation as a whole. The policy explicitly addresses development challenges faced by the people of ASALs and explores ways and means of exploiting the numerous opportunities available in the region.

1.2. Historical Perspective of ASAL Development

ASALs have the lowest development indicators and the highest incidence of poverty in Kenya. This is partly the result of conscious public policy choices taken in Kenya’s past. For instance, the Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1965 on African Socialism, under the heading ‘Provincial Balance and Social Inertia’, stated the following:

“One of our problems is to decide how much priority we should give in investing in less developed provinces. To make the economy as a whole grow as fast as possible, development money should be invested where it will yield the largest increase in net output.
This approach will clearly favour the development of areas having abundant natural resources, good land and rainfall, transport and power facilities, and people receptive to and active in development.”

This statement guided the direction of Government resources in Kenya, resulting in neglect of social and physical infrastructure of the ASALs. Many analysts also argue that the region’s main livelihood strategy, which is pastoralism, was irrational and environmentally destructive and that the ASALs contributed little to the national economy. These arguments were not based on sound socio-economic analysis but stemmed from lack of appreciation of the region’s potential and understanding of its production systems. The ASALs have enormous untapped resources that can be harnessed to sustain resident communities and contribute to national development. Recent research estimates the share of livestock to agricultural GDP in Kenya to be 45%. Since 2003, the Government has demonstrated renewed commitment to the ASALs, for example through the Economic Recovery Strategy launched in 2003 that recognized the important contribution the ASALs can make to national development.

In order to address recurrent drought that has severely impacted on ASALs, the government, in 2012, adopted IGAD-led Ending Drought Emergencies initiative, which established a sector-based approach towards ending drought emergencies in Kenya by 2022. The Government recognizes that Kenya will not achieve sustained growth in her economy and progress as a nation if the ASALs are not appropriately factored into national planning and development. Trickle-down benefits from areas which already have more favourable investment climates have not worked across the country; moreover, the potential for significant growth in these areas is now limited. The Government also recognizes that Kenya will not achieve the goals of Vision 2030 or meet international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) if regional inequalities are not addressed.

Poverty, inequality and insecurity in one part of the country negatively affect the rest of the country. Accelerated investment in ASALs is necessary if all Kenyans are to have an equal chance of sharing in the promise and benefits of the Kenya Vision 2030. Implementation of the right institutional framework is key to success in addressing regional under-development,

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1Roy Behnke and David Muthami, 2013: ‘The Contribution of Livestock to the Kenyan Economy’, FAO & IGAD
particularly one which harnesses high-level political leadership to ensure strong partnerships across sectors and between different levels of Government, and which provides a clear legal framework for implementing institutions. The solutions to regional under-development are only partly economic; they may also be achieved through changes in social attitudes and in the distribution of power and authority through devolution.

1.3 Scope of Policy

The Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALs) occupy approximately 89% of the country’s landmass (Figure 1) and are home to about 36% of the population, 70% of the national livestock herd and 90% of wildlife.
Three distinct but interconnected terms are used in this policy document: the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), Pastoralism and Northern Kenya. The arid counties are geographically synonymous with the concept of ‘Northern Kenya’. Pastoralism is the dominant production system in the arid counties and in some semi-arid counties as well. However, there are also important differences between the three terms. Not everyone in the north is a pastoralist, nor are the inequalities between the north and the rest of Kenya primarily a consequence of its ecology, hence the use of the term ‘Northern Kenya’ as well as ‘arid lands’. All the three terms are important because they raise different policy concerns, which are summarized in the following sections.

2.1.1 Arid and Semi-Arid Lands

The defining feature of the ASALs is their aridity. Annual rainfall in arid areas ranges between 150 mm and 550 mm, and in semi-arid areas between 550 mm and 850 mm per year. Temperatures in arid areas are high throughout the year, with high rates of evapo-transpiration. The primary policy challenge is how to ensure food and nutrition security in a sustainable manner in environments that are prone to drought, where people’s access to and control over critical livelihood resources such as land is insecure, and where unpredictability is set to increase as climate change takes hold. In this respect, some semi-arid areas face challenges equal to or greater than those in arid. In the semi-arid counties of Kilifi and Taita Taveta, for
example, the level of stunting in children under five, which is an indicator of chronic malnutrition, is higher than in the arid counties of Turkana, Marsabit and Mandera, which have the highest levels of poverty in the country².

There are important differences between arid and semi-arid areas. The economy of arid areas is dominated by mobile pastoralism, while in the better-watered and better-serviced semi-arid areas a more mixed economy prevails, including rain-fed and irrigated agriculture, agro-pastoralism, bio-enterprise, and conservation or tourism-related activities. Other groups within the ASALs depend on fishing and other forms of subsistence. The ecology of semi-arid areas allows for the intensification of production in a way that the ecology of arid areas does not. Nevertheless, both arid and semi-arid areas experience chronic food insecurity and face critical challenges such as population increase, degraded ecosystems and climate change.

Population density is generally low, ranging between 2 and 23 people per km² in Turkana and Marsabit counties. The average population densities for Turkana and Marsabit are 13.3 and 14.4 people per km² respectively.³ Population growth rates in the ASALs are generally higher than in other parts of the country. This is partly as a result of in-migration and relatively low use of contraception in ASALs⁴. As much as 54% of the population in Mandera, for example, is aged 0-14⁵ against a national average of 42%. Access to infrastructure and services in semi-arid areas, with the exception of those with significant pastoral populations, is comparable with the national average, while in arid areas it is far below. For example, in 2013 the ratio of public schools to secondary students in semi-arid Kitui was 1:335, while in arid Mandera it was about two times higher, at 1:665⁶.

2.1.2 Pastoralism

Pastoralists in Kenya are found in all the arid counties and in some of the semi-arid counties. Pastoralism is the extensive production of livestock in rangeland environments. It takes many


⁴ Kenya Demographic and Health Survey, 2014
forms, but its principal defining features are livestock mobility and the communal management of natural resources. These are regulated by traditional governance systems within pastoral societies. The primary policy challenge is how to protect and promote mobility and, in line with the Constitution, support the customary institutions which underpin pastoralism in a society which is otherwise sedentary and tending towards more individualized modes of organization and production. Some of the poorest people in the region are those who are no longer engaged in the pastoral economy and rely on wage labour or petty trade. Most communities have social protection systems to care for the vulnerable, although these are coming under great pressure.

A policy focus on pastoralism is justified for two main reasons. First, pastoralists are among the groups most marginalized with limited access to socio-economic services and infrastructure. Successful achievement of national and international development targets will depend on the extent to which attention is given to the distinct challenges facing pastoral communities. The second reason is that, until recently, most governments particularly in Africa viewed pastoral areas as net consumers of national wealth that offered poor prospects of return on investment. Pastoralism was therefore less valued than other forms of land use and less well-supported. However, it has been established that these views were misplaced. As a result, governments in several countries, including Kenya, now recognize the strengths of pastoralism and have formed ministries or other authorities to enhance the contribution of pastoralism to food security, environmental stewardship and economic growth. The African Union, in October 2010, adopted a policy framework for pastoralism in Africa, which seeks to secure, protect and improve lives, livelihoods and rights of pastoralist communities.\(^7\) This policy presents a framework for the Government to put in place interventions to promote pastoralism as a viable economic activity in the ASALs.

### 2.1.3 Northern Kenya

The defining feature of Northern Kenya is its separation from the rest of the country, which is evident not just in the wide developmental gap between the region and the rest of Kenya but in socio-cultural attitudes and perceptions. The primary policy challenge is how to close this gap and achieve national integration on terms that benefit the people of the region and the country

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\(^7\) African Union, Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa, 2010
as a whole. This separation has its roots deep in Kenya’s past, in the creation of the so-called Northern Frontier District (NFD) by the colonial regime. The NFD was used as a buffer against hostile neighbours – an expansionist Abyssinian empire to the north and an unstable Juba land to the east. Governance of the NFD was characterized by restrictions on movement, collective punishment, and the use of extensive non-accountable executive powers. Emergency laws were not repealed until the advent of multi-party rule in the 1990s, by which time the region had fallen far behind the rest of Kenya in levels of investment, infrastructure, and human development.

Northern Kenya displays many of the characteristics of remote rural areas caught in chronic poverty traps, which face multiple and interlocking forms of disadvantage. Isolation, insecurity, weak economic integration, limited political leverage and a challenging natural environment combine to produce high levels of risk and vulnerability. Eighteen of the 20 poorest constituencies in Kenya, where 74% - 97% of people live below the poverty line, are in Northern Kenya. The highest rates of poverty are observed among those who are no longer directly involved in pastoralism, particularly those without livestock who depend on casual labour or petty trade in towns.

In summary, the policy acknowledges and responds to the specific ecological, social, economic and political realities in the ASALs that distinguish them from the rest of Kenya.

1.4 Relationship between ASAL Policy and other Policies

The ASAL Policy complements other existing sectoral policies and strategies that touch on ASALs, including policies on agriculture and rural development, industrial development, livestock, fisheries, energy, trade, irrigation and water among others. The key objective of the ASAL Policy is therefore to provide a broad overarching policy framework for implementation of these key sectoral policies. It also provides a framework under which policy gaps in ASALs development are addressed. The ASAL Policy not only establishes coherence with these other policy documents, it presents guidelines for development partners in the identification and implementation of projects and programmes in ASALs.

Chapter Two: Situational Analysis

2.1 Introduction

There are two themes running through this policy; first is the latent potential of the ASALs and their economic, environmental and cultural wealth. Second is the challenge of regional inequality that primarily affects the ASALs and which must be addressed before the region’s potential can be realized. For the most part, these inequalities concern what the Kenya Vision 2030 calls the foundations for development and specifically the poor economic and social infrastructure especially in arid counties. This chapter addresses both of these broad themes.

2.1.1 Opportunities

The Constitution of Kenya

Article 42 and 43 of the Constitution provides for the rights to clean and healthy environment and economic and social rights. The duty of the state and every state organ is therefore to take measures to achieve progressive realization of these rights. In addition, the implementation of Article 63 provides for the management of community land which is a major feature in ASALs. In addition, Article 204 of the Constitution of Kenya provides for the equalisation fund to accelerate infrastructure development in the ASALs. The Constitution of Kenya, Article 53 (b) and (c), provides for free and compulsory basic education; and basic nutrition, shelter and health care. Article 56 provides for affirmative action programmes designed to ensure minorities and marginalized groups are provided special opportunities in education and economic fields as well as have reasonable access to water, health services and infrastructure.

Social and cultural networks

The social and cultural attributes of ASALs present immense opportunities. For instance, women networks in ASALs provide invaluable social assistance to their members and platforms for economic and social development, such as savings and credit schemes or adult literacy programmes. Various formal social protection mechanisms also exist, including free
primary and day secondary education, bursaries, and social protection programmes. Women also play important and complex roles in peace-building process in these areas, more often at the community level than in formal national-level processes. Women in ASALs provide opportunity in peace building initiatives at all levels. In ASALs like the rest of the country, the youth constitute more than half of the population and are an important resource for faster growth if well harnessed, since they are energetic and likely agents of change. One feature of pastoral social systems is an age grade system in which ageing is traditionally associated with increasing leadership roles. The youth present an opportunity for offering security solutions in the region if they are properly integrated into the mainstream national security programs.

**Strategic position**

The geographical location of the ASALs, its vastness and topography makes it well positioned to attract investments. It is also the bridgehead to a regional economy of more than 100 million people. Countries such as Ethiopia, South Sudan and Somalia need outlets for their products, and imports of manufactured goods.

**Water Resources**

Most ASAL counties are traversed by major rivers, including Tana, Athi, Turkwel, Kerio, Ewaso Nyiro and Mara among many others. These rivers present huge opportunities for wealth and employment creation in the ASALs if their waters are harvested and stored for use in irrigation and other uses.

**Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries/Forestry**

Mixed farming is practiced in semi-arid areas and pockets of arid areas with crop farming mostly done for subsistence. Sorghum and millet are the most appropriate food crops for the environment. Small scale irrigated agriculture has demonstrated some measure of success. Livestock contributes 10% of Kenya’s GDP and 45% of the Agricultural GDP. The ASALs host about 70% of the national livestock herd with an estimated value of about Kshs. 70 billion. Livestock accounts for about 90% of employment in the ASALs and over 95% of

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9 Roy Behnke and David Muthami, 2013: ‘The Contribution of Livestock to the Kenyan Economy’, FAO & IGAD
family income and contributes an average of Kshs. 10 Billion a year from 23.2 million animals. A number of institutions particularly commercial banks and insurance companies have realized the huge potential in this sector and have started initiatives to assist livestock farmers improve productivity of their stocks through interest-free revolving fund for livestock farmers in ASALs, setting aside funds for insurance targeting livestock during drought. Fishing in ASALs is mostly in lakes and rivers. However, there is opportunity for modern fish farming in the region for consumption in urban areas, in other regions and also for export.

**Natural wealth and Energy**

The ASALs have enormous potential for renewable energy, from both solar and wind. The recent discovery of oil and gas in Turkana and Lamu and water aquifer in Turkana present the region with an enormous potential for development. Dry-land soils and vegetation store substantial amounts of carbon, suggesting that the ASALs could be integrated into the carbon market and generate payments for environmental services such as carbon sequestration. The natural endowment of renewable energy in the ASALs is a huge opportunity that if well harnessed can contribute to a greener national economy and spur economic growth, attract investment and enhance industrialization in ASALs.

**Other natural resources**

Sustainable harvesting and value-addition of dry land natural products may provide the basis for successful commercial bio-enterprises if there is sufficient and sustainable supply and market demand, and if the products are processed and packed to the requisite standard. Some of the natural products found in the ASALs which could form the basis of such enterprises include medicinal and nutraceuticals, essential oils, culinary products (honey, herbs, spices, wild fruit), bio-fuels produced from cleared invasive species (such as *Juniperus prosopis*), and silk. Other natural resources include sand, stones and gravel for construction, soda ash, gums, resins, gemstones, gypsum, limestone, coal, iron ore, and medicinal plants.

**Infrastructure and ICT**

The upcoming development of the LAPSSET corridor, Isiolo resort city, air transport
infrastructure, mineral exploitation and resulting private investments in the region will provide opportunity for expansion and access to ICT.

**Trade**

Trade in ASALs tends to be mainly retail outlets and concentrated in administrative centres. A large proportion of trade is informal in nature and operated through elaborate trading networks. Small-scale trade in town tends to be dominated by women, while livestock business and other high value or long distance trade is dominated by men. The vast wealth of natural resources in the region provides opportunities for trade and investment. In addition existing and emerging trade preferences through EAC, COMESA, TRIPARTITE-FTA and Continental- FTA provide opportunities for cross-border trade.

**Tourism**

Tourism is one of the leading sectors in foreign exchange earnings and employment. ASALs are home to over 90% of tourism products which include beach, national parks, game reserves, UNESCO accredited world heritage sites and authentic cultural practices among others.

**Climate Change Adaptability**

Pastoralists have successfully managed climate variability for centuries. Their skills and indigenous knowledge will become more valuable as the impact of global climate change becomes more pressing. Use of modern scientific knowledge both in early warning systems and resource management provide opportunity for better mitigation.

**Governance, Peace and Security**

Traditional systems of governance and administration in ASALs are still strong, particularly those dealing with peace building and natural resource management. There are good examples of formal and customary systems of governance that complement each other.

**2.1.2 Challenges**

The ASALs have unique challenges and the major ones are highlighted below:
**Drought and Climate Change**

Drought is a normal natural phenomenon, which poses a major threat to economic well being of ASAL communities. It is a recurring but temporary characteristic of all climates, which is mostly pronounced in arid areas. Drought will still occur even with best of policies; however, it is a progressive and predictable phenomenon which can thus be managed to some degree. A crucial factor is the effectiveness of drought management strategies. In recent years, recurrent droughts have become more severe and frequent and are progressively eroding livelihoods in pastoral, agro-pastoral and agricultural zones. The number of people receiving food aid as a proportion of the total affected by drought increased from 60 per cent in 2006 to 91 and 88 per cent in 2009 and 2010 respectively. According to a World Bank report, the 2008 – 2011 drought slowed GDP by an average of 2.8% per annum and cost Kenya US$ 12.1 bn (Kshs. 969 bn)\(^\text{10}\). The frequency and severity of drought periods appear to be increasing. Northern Kenya recorded 28 major droughts in the last century, four of which occurred in the last decade. Other pressures, such as population growth and settlements undermine the capacity of communities to manage drought. Despite substantial experience in Kenya, drought response is still not timely enough. Contingency plans are activated too late to prevent the widespread loss of assets.

Following the 2009/10 drought that had devastating effects on countries in the greater Horn of Africa, a joint heads of State and Government Summit for the IGAD and EAC was held in Nairobi in September 2011. During the Summit, all IGAD member states committed themselves to taking measures towards ending drought emergencies. Kenya in 2012 adopted a strategy for ending drought emergencies by the year 2022. Climate change will exacerbate the challenges already facing the region. Chronic poverty and vulnerability in the ASALs mean that adaptive capacity is generally low. Traditional mechanisms for managing climate variability, such as mobility and the use of drought reserve areas are being closed off. Some areas that used to be set aside for emergency grazing now have supply of water all year-round due to drilling of boreholes and provision of other water facilities in the area.

**Inadequate Social Services and Poor Physical Infrastructure**

\(^\text{10}\) World Bank: Kenya Post Disaster Needs Assessment Report (PDNA), 2012
In the ASALs the basic foundations for development are inadequate or lacking. Access to education, health, water, diverse dietary intake, infrastructure, energy, and ICTs are all well below the national average. These are critical enablers of growth and their poor state continues to inhibit development of the region. The consequences on human development are evident, as Table 1 shows. The table compares the level of human development between the North Eastern Counties of Garissa, Mandera and Wajir and the rest of the country.

Table 1: Human Development Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% National mean</th>
<th>North Eastern Counties (% mean)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education, Family Planning, Maternal and Child health</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Women married by the age 18 years</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>56.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married women using contraceptives</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities offering modern methods of contraception</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>67.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers attended by skilled providers</td>
<td>43.8</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youths attending secondary school</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female genital mutilation</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>97.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water and sanitation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with improved toilets</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to improved drinking water sources</td>
<td>63.0</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
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Clearly, the Counties in the north eastern region lag behind in most of the human development indicators, compared to the rest of the country. Concomitantly, the region has relatively the highest incidence of poverty in Kenya. Compared with the national poverty incidence of 49.8\%\textsuperscript{11}, Isiolo, Tana River, Wajir, Mandera, Marsabit and Turkana have poverty levels (percentage) of 71.6, 76.9, 84.0, 87.6, 91.7 and 94.9 respectively. These counties are characterized by a relatively weak physical infrastructure and poor access to public services, as explained below.

Transport Infrastructure

Arid lands of Northern Kenya cover more than half of the country’s landmass, but are poorly covered by tarmac road, most of which is in disrepair. This has a negative impact on

\textsuperscript{11}KIPPRA, Kenya Economic Report, 2013
investment and hence economic growth of the region.

**Water and Sanitation**

Kenya’s per capita surface water storage is estimated at 103.1 cubic meters\(^{12}\). Of this quantity, only 3.1 m\(^3\) is available for domestic, livestock, industrial and irrigation use with the balance being for hydroelectric generation. In the ASALs water storage is even more critical, whereby the situation is aggravated by de-vegetation, land degradation, a high surface water loss due to runoff and siltation of dams. There is also negligible investment on exploration of underground water resources. As a result, about 43% of the people take more than one hour to reach water sources during the dry season. Availability of sustained trans-boundary water flows are proving a challenge as a result of uncoordinated uses upstream, a good example being Lake Turkana that is adversely affected by upstream use of Omo and Daua rivers.

**Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries/Forestry**

In arid areas, crop production is traditionally practiced along riverine areas with maize being the dominant crop despite its high failure rate. River-basin based large-scale irrigated agriculture has not been very successful in Kenya due to various factors. The major causes of low agricultural production in ASALs are soil erosion, low soil fertility, frequent droughts, limited access to credit, and inadequate research and extension.

Livestock production is the dominant economic activity in the ASALs, particularly in the arid counties. There is little value addition in the livestock sector with marketing being done through transport of live animals to terminal markets in Nairobi and Mombasa for sale and slaughter. There are various constraints to livestock marketing in ASALs which include: lack of organized livestock markets and market information; inadequate market outlets; relatively low livestock producer prices, associated with relatively high marketing transaction costs; under-developed stock routes and infrastructure; prevalence of livestock disease and pests; prohibition of night movement when trucking; unreasonably high market charges by local authorities when compared with the services received; inadequate operating capital for

\(^{12}\) World Bank study 2012
livestock traders; insecurity; supply problems, including drought and high levels of in-breeding; lack of reliable livestock statistics.

Fish farming in the ASALs is practiced in lakes and rivers of the region. Some of the challenges in fishing include; drought and siltation, reduced flow into lakes and rivers. A major threat to fishing on Lake Turkana is the low flows resulting from the development of hydropower on River Omo in Ethiopia. Other constraints include lack of capital, poor infrastructure and inadequate processing facilities.

There is a growing interest in forestry and dry-land natural resource products. However, this is constrained by deforestation, poor catchment management and marketing.

**Energy and ICT**

Population growth and urbanization are raising energy demand in the ASALs. In Northern Kenya, only two counties Garissa and Isiolo are currently connected to the national electricity grid with the other major urban centres being on expensive diesel generators. The rural electrification programme is expanding to more centres and schools on off-grid. Lack of reliable energy undermines investment and industrialization in ASALs. Mobile telephone operators are expanding their networks, but coverage is still limited to the major towns. The ICT infrastructure is inadequate and expensive. Although the fibre-optic cable has now reached several locations in Northern Kenya, for the most part communication remains heavily reliant on satellite.

**Industry, Trade and Investment**

Industrial development in the ASALs is limited, particularly in the north. There are a few factories that have not had a major impact on the communities. The remoteness of the region from the major centres of capital and industrialisation disadvantages the region. In general, there is low business skills and experience, and limited uptake of research and development due to inadequate infrastructure, lack of collateral and hence credit facilities, limited technical expertise, low purchasing power, insecurity among others.

**Education**
A significant proportion of the population aged 6-17 years in ASALs has never been to school. An estimated 1.9 million aged 6-13 years and 2.7 million aged 13-17 years are out of school. Forty six percent (46%) of these are concentrated in nine ASAL counties. The gross primary school enrolment rate in most ASAL counties is below 50% against a national average of 119.6% while the average net enrolment rate is 40% against a national average of 95.9%. This is a significant increase of about 90% on the 2003 net enrolment rate (NER), suggesting a growing demand for education. However, it also conceals significant differentials within the region. At secondary level, the NER in arid areas in 2013 was 9% on average, against a national average of 39.5%.

For a significant number of children in the ASALs, long distances to school are a challenge particularly in the rural areas. Rates of retention, survival and completion in ASALs are also very low. The primary completion rate on average in the arid counties in 2013 was 65%, compared with 84% nationally. ASALs also have the lowest ratios of trained teachers to pupils, low performance in the national examinations, and low rates of transition to university. There is also a significant gender gap in enrolment, to the disadvantage of girls. Similarly only 18.5% of adults in Mandera and 19.1% of adults in Turkana are formally literate, compared with the national average of 79%. Again, the situation is worse for women; for every five literate men in Mandera, there is only one literate woman. There are limited numbers of tertiary and higher institutions of learning in the ASALs. For instance, there is only one established University College in the whole of the arid region, which is based in Garissa County. Similarly, the TIVET institutions are few and not adequately equipped and staffed.

Health

Health indicators in ASALs are generally poor, particularly so for women and children, with high maternal, infant and child mortality, high levels of acute malnutrition, and low immunization coverage. As shown in Table 1 above, there are significant variations between

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14 Kenya Household Population Census (2009)
16 Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST 2013)
18 Republic of Kenya, 2010: ‘Demographic and Health Survey, 2008-09’
arid counties and other parts of the country in terms of health indicators, whereby the human development index is quite low in this aspect. There is an acute shortage of skilled human resources for health in arid counties. The vacancy rate in 10 counties of northern Kenya assessed against establishment was 79% in 2012. The doctor-patient ratio in four arid counties is nearly six times higher than the national average. Health service infrastructure is poorly distributed and inadequately staffed. The average distance to a health facility in arid areas is 52 km, ten times further than the national target of 5 km. Only five of all the Kenya medical training colleges are located in the ASALs. Of the six rural health training and demonstration centres in Kenya, none are in arid areas, meaning those trainees have inadequate exposure to the particular health challenges of mobile pastoralist communities.

**Insecurity and Cross-Border Conflicts**

The ASALs are associated with insecurity and violence, which deter investments and undermine development. However, the level of common crime is generally low. Insecurity is primarily driven by competition over scarce natural resources particularly water and pasture, and political power. The security infrastructure is inadequate for such a large area with poor communication networks, dispersed population, and heavy presence of illegal firearms. Insecurity in some border areas has international ramifications, but there is no comprehensive regional framework governing cross-border interaction. Other issues of concern include cattle rustling, inter-communal conflicts, high poverty levels, youth unemployment, illiteracy, food insecurity, smuggling of contraband goods, banditry, and piracy along the coast. In addition, the spread of terrorism through youth radicalization in some parts of the region is a serious emerging threat.

While the region still has relatively strong systems of traditional justice and governance, it is poorly served by the formal justice system. Although there are efforts to increase the infrastructure to dispense justice in ASALs, the situation remains dire. Currently there is only one High Court in Northern Kenya at Garissa with magistrate courts in Garissa, Tana-River, Moyale, Wajir and at the Daadab Refugee Camp.

**Research and development**
Sustainable development requires relevant information and knowledge that must be generated in a coordinated and timely manner. However, in the ASALs there are significant challenges in terms of quality, relevance and availability of data for decision making. Research findings are not adequately translated to inform programme design and implementation. In addition, there are limited research institutions in the ASALs.

**Policy gaps**

Some of the existing national policies do not adequately address issues relating to ASALs, these include: The Road Policy, 2014, The National Water Policy, 1999 and Sessional Paper No 4 of 2004 on Energy. The Road Policy aspires to achieve all season access road within 2 Km across the country but does not define how this will be fast tracked to be realized in the ASALs. The National Water Policy, 1999 specified the carrying out of ground water assessment, exploration and drilling of boreholes in ASALs, but its implementation has not been effectively done. The Sessional Paper No. 4 of 2004 on Energy has the goal of accelerating the pace of rural electrification through grid extension and off-grid projects but given the expansive nature of ASALs and the dispersed population adequate coverage of electrification may take long to be realized.

**Insecure Land Tenure System and Poor Land Use management**

Land is a critical factor in the livelihoods of the people in the ASALs, whereby access to water and pasture is of utmost importance. Land also has a special cultural and aesthetic significance to the ASAL communities. Most land in the pastoral areas is community-owned while land tenure is insecure. Ineffective planning mechanisms have led to unsustainable land use practices and offer weak protection to communities forced to compete with external interests. Inefficient land dispute mechanisms increase the risk of conflicts. Environmental and land degradation in ASALs is as a result of poor rangeland management, including overgrazing, poor dry land farming practices and deforestation. The negative impact of climate change on the region is likely to increase vulnerability. The growing population in the already established urban areas of the ASALs lack the protection offered by title deeds. In addition, there exist competing land uses including crop production and pastoralism; human-wildlife conflicts and pastoral communities competing for access to pasture and water. Moreover, group ranches are
being subdivided, rendering land parcels less viable for traditional use and consequently leading to loss of dry-season grazing areas.

Dispersed Human Settlements

Dispersed settlements are widespread in the ASALs. There are high levels of inaccessibility to infrastructure and services in view of low densities and long distances between settlements. This presents a major challenge in the delivery of services.

Internal Displacements and Refugees

Internal displacement of persons in Kenya has been complex and precedes the colonial era. The displacements differ in terms of enormity, cause, nature and approaches used to address them. In the past, displacements in ASALs were temporally, however, it is assuming an alarming dimension in that some sections of the society are being permanently moved from their settlements mainly because of insecurity and inter-communal conflicts. This denies the people a chance to take part in development efforts, making them dependent on relief assistance besides disrupting their general way of life.

Gender Bias and Negative Cultural Practices

Most communities in the ASALs are differentiated along gender and generational lines. Key assets and resources, such as land, livestock, water and finances are generally controlled by older men rather than by women or youth, reflecting the subordinate position of women and youth in these communities. Men’s control over these assets obscure the important role that women and youth play in fields such as livestock production and agriculture. In addition, the demands of livestock production and certain cultural practices impede the education and career development of both boys and girls. Literacy rates in Northern Kenya as a whole are low, but those for women are even lower, illustrating the double disadvantage that women experience on account of both their gender and social group. Gender Based Violence (GBV) which may be physical, emotional, sexual, cultural or even economic occurs across all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. In ASALs, like with many other parts of Kenya, women are socialised to accept, tolerate, and even rationalise domestic violence and to remain silent about
it. Some of the GBV practiced in ASALs especially in Northern Kenya include FGM and early and forced marriages. These affect girls’ education, which negatively affect their future.

Cross-cutting and other emerging issues

HIV/AIDS is likely to become more of a threat, particularly for the youth. Few opportunities for employment, coupled with inadequate skills render the youth vulnerable to anti-social behaviour such as drug abuse and prostitution that is rampant especially in coastal counties.
Chapter Three: Goal and Objectives of the Policy

3.1 Goal

The goal of this policy is to provide a framework for consultation and cooperation between National and County Governments as well as other stakeholders in addressing developmental gaps for sustainable development of arid and semi-arid lands.

3.2 Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to:

a. Strengthen cohesion and integration of ASAL with the rest of the country and address inequality including gender, youth and vulnerable groups
b. Provide an enabling environment for sustainable development in the ASALs by establishing the necessary foundations and bridging the development gaps

3.3 Guiding Principles

The implementation of ASAL development policy will be guided by the following principles:

a. Protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of Kenyan citizens, as enshrined in the Constitution, is an integral part of this policy.
b. Stakeholder participation in line with the Constitution of Kenya.

Implementation of this policy will contribute towards the Government’s vision of security, justice and prosperity for the people of ASALs. It will help achieve the three pillars of Kenya Vision 2030 – economic, social and political.
c. Equity and fairness in the impact of the policy on various socio-economic groups.
d. Sustainable development.
e. Encouraging partnerships at local, national and international levels.
f. Adoption of multi-sectoral and multi-agency approach to create synergy particularly in drought management issues.
Chapter Four: Elements of the Policy

4.1 *Strengthen cohesion and integration of ASAL with the rest of the country and address inequality including gender, youth and vulnerable groups*

National Integration, Cohesion and Equity

A long history of separate development in the colonial and immediate post-colonial periods did little to build cohesion between Kenyans in the ASALs and those in the rest of the country. To many people, Northern Kenya is remote and insecure. On their part, many in Northern Kenya regarded the rest of the country as distant and different. These attitudes have shaped patterns of investment in Kenya, such that the north has fallen far behind the rest of the country against most indicators of social and economic development. It is to be noted however that Article 56 of the Kenya Constitution has addressed itself to the issue of marginalization.

*In order to strengthen national cohesion and integration in the region, the Government will:*

a. Develop programmes to enhance social integration and cohesion such as affirmative action interventions targeting the youth in the ASALs.
b. Ensure that the Equalization Fund and other measures in the Constitution address the particular challenges facing the ASALs.
c. Put in place measures to enhance job and wealth creation by promoting Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industries for investment diversification among others.
d. Empower youth from ASALs, for instance, through the Presidential Digital Talent Programme and operationalize the National Youth Council among others.
e. Put in place strategies to change people’s perception of ASALs.
f. Establish comprehensive measures to end cattle rustling and inter-communal conflict.
g. Promote Youth Exchange programs to encourage social integration, cohesion, attitude change and peer mentoring.
h. Put in place measures to build the capacity for traditional decision making systems in the ASALs, and take into consideration the involvement of youth, women and other
vulnerable persons.
i. Fast-track identification and registration of Kenyans in the ASALs.
j. Develop and implement sustainable programmes that are harmonious with the way of life of the minority communities in the ASALs.

Gender, Youth and Vulnerable Groups

Some cultural practices and youth unemployment in ASALs renders the youth vulnerable to radicalization and involvement in cattle rustling. Moreover, women and other vulnerable groups are marginalized in decision making processes in ASALs. Women’s rights in marriage are guaranteed under article 45 in the Constitution, which provides that parties in a marriage are entitled to equal rights, during the marriage and at dissolution of the marriage, while gender discrimination in land ownership and management is prohibited under Article 60, which lays out principles of land policy.

In order to enhance empowerment and participation of Gender and Vulnerable groups in ASALs the Government will:

a. Ensure implementation of affirmative action programmes for the above categories of vulnerable groups
b. Protect female-headed ASAL households and other vulnerable groups from retrogressive cultural practices and promote involvement of men, women and the youth in the campaign against Gender Based Violence and peace building initiatives.
c. Revitalize the National Youth Service (NYS) in ASALs to catalyze transformative Youth Empowerment in ASALs. Also provide youth with both financial resources and skills such as credit management and formation of youth SACCOs.
d. Integrate youth issues in ASAL planning and development including implementation of programs and projects. Also initiate programs that promote social and moral responsibility among the youth as well as encouraging youth to be proactive and innovative as a source of their livelihood.
e. Revitalize vocational and technical training institutions and promote alternative training avenues.

f. Nurture and foster sporting, performing and visual arts talent and provide sporting and cultural facilities for youth.

g. Develop programmes to address youth radicalization, terrorism and drug abuse.

h. Develop civic education programmes to promote gender equality and equity in the ASALs.

i. Integrate the specific needs of pastoralist youth and vulnerable groups within national youth policies and strategies.

j. Implement the constitutional requirement of increasing to a minimum of thirty percent (30%) the number of women, youth and persons with disabilities in positions of leadership and law enforcement.

k. Mainstream interventions which address the specific challenges facing women, youth, People With Disabilities and vulnerable groups within all policies and programmes.

l. Strengthen the Social Protection Policy to address the unique needs of the elderly, people living with disabilities and the sick in ASALs.

### 4.2 Provide an enabling environment for sustainable development in the ASALs by establishing the necessary foundations and bridging the development gaps

Inadequate basic foundations for development in Northern Kenya and other arid lands, particularly infrastructure, human capital, and security deters investment and undermines productive potential of the region. Kenya Vision 2030 aspires Kenya to be a country that is firmly inter-connected and identifies infrastructure as a key foundation for development. A more robust infrastructure in ASALs will stimulate investment and growth. It will create jobs, reduce poverty, improve terms of trade and lower the cost of doing business. Better infrastructure will improve security, stabilize the region, and strengthen its integration with the rest of the country and neighbouring markets.

*In order to open up the ASALs for development, the Government will:*

**Transport**
a. Establish an inventory of top priority infrastructure for opening up the areas as an affirmative action.

b. Develop and maintain an integrated, safe and efficient road, rail, water, and air transport network in the region, prioritizing the development of transport corridors linking Kenya to key markets in neighbouring countries and beyond.

c. Enhance development in arid areas by connecting infrastructure corridors to towns and rural centres. This will include the LAPSSET corridor.

d. Enact a law to protect cultural heritage when implementing development projects in the ASALs.

**Water and irrigation**

a. Invest in construction of water pans, small and large multipurpose dams to harvest and store water with a view of achieving a minimum per capita surface water storage of 30 cubic metres in the short term in all ASAL counties and provide infrastructure for distribution to the towns, villages and irrigation projects.

b. Undertake assessment, exploration and development of underground water resources in the ASAL areas.

c. Optimize use of trans-boundary water resources in collaboration with riparian states sharing the water resources and promote sharing of national water resources through inter-basin water transfer.

d. Establish the degree and extent of land degradation and waste – these being tools necessary for planning and capacity building of all stakeholders needed to undertake land rehabilitation.

e. Undertake land reclamation programs to increase land productivity of the ASAL areas in the country.

f. Promote development of community driven irrigation schemes and build the capacity of communities to manage and run irrigation schemes for sustainability.

g. Review the National Water Policy 1999 and the Water Act 2002 to address gaps relating to ASALs.

h. Harmonize laws and policies that seek to preserve rivers/water resources.

i. Improve the water and sanitation infrastructure in line with a strategic assessment of the most appropriate locations and technologies
Energy

a. Harness and develop renewable energy especially green energy, such as wind, solar, geothermal and biogas energy, including installation of distribution infrastructure for the benefit of the nation.
b. Expand the national grid to reach more areas in the ASALs particularly in Northern Kenya.
c. Expand the last mile connectivity rural electrification strategy in the ASALs.

ICT

a. Invest in ICT infrastructure for accelerated and sustainable ASAL development.
b. Promote establishment of ICT incubation centers in ASAL counties.
c. Expand ICT connectivity in the ASALs through funds such as the Universal Service Fund.

Physical Planning Urban Development and Housing

Well planned urban development and provision of requisite infrastructure facility and services in the ASALs will spur regional development, particularly through attracting investors and ultimately creating employment. This will also open up new economic opportunities for the country as a whole, reducing population pressure in high density areas and strengthening national cohesion through intermingling of social groups

*In order to promote urban development in ASALs, the Government will:*

a. Draw up strategic development plans for urban areas that include cost effective housing technology, employment and service needs of urban populations, and provide sustainable economic opportunities for their surrounding rural areas, while also protecting the grazing and water rights of pastoralists. In addition, ensure county spatial plans, urban and county integrated plans and regional plans are in line with the National Spatial Plan to guide urban and rural development.
b. Ensure that infrastructure investments are climate-proofed and appropriate to the particular circumstances of the region and promote investment in institutional and infrastructural frameworks to mitigate and reclaim degraded areas, wastelands and
ecosystems.

c. Take appropriate measures to enhance private sector participation in infrastructure development by the two levels of Government, such as the provision of incentives in sectors such as housing, green buildings, renewable energy, transport, and communication.

d. Strengthen county capacity for physical planning and GIS.

e. Promote strategic urban development along the major transportation corridors i.e. the Northern Transport Corridor and LAPSSET Corridor.

f. Promote appropriate human settlements and movement routes for the pastoral communities and ensure environmental sustainability.

**Human Capital Development**

A healthy and skilled population is critical to achieving the goals of Vision 2030, particularly that of global competitiveness. However, the disparities in human capital between the ASALs and the rest of Kenya are so acute that major investment will be necessary if the region is to compete on an equal basis with the rest of the country. Moreover, the population of pastoral areas is highly dispersed, scattered across a large area in relatively small settlements. Many people are also mobile, since mobility is key to reliable production in dry-land environments. The Government recognizes that mobility is a rational and sophisticated response to environmental conditions. However, mobility in many pastoral areas of Kenya is curtailed by settlements, administrative boundaries, conflicts and land alienation. Both mobility and low population density make service delivery more challenging. Distances to schools, health referral facilities, and centres of justice and administration are long, and over poor roads with limited transport. Provision of appropriate and innovative delivery mechanisms for education and health services and establishment of strategies to reach mobile communities in the ASALs, e.g. digital learning platforms is a prerequisite for faster development.

In order to strengthen human capital in ASALs, the Government will:

a. Develop and invest in appropriate infrastructure for education, training and health care at all levels, including tertiary and higher education in the ASALs.
b. Establish a Health and Nutrition Council (HNC) for ASALs to address ASAL health and nutrition issues.

c. Put in place measures to increase the number of appropriately trained professionals and develop mechanisms to attract and retain them.

d. Provide equitable, quality education and health to all by ensuring an inclusive education for early childhood learners, learners with special needs and disabilities, the marginalized, hard-to-reach and vulnerable groups.

e. Strengthen education systems and specifically make them responsive to the needs of nomadic communities. This will involve ensuring that NACONEK has the requisite powers and resources to deliver on its mandate.

f. Provide adequate resources to implement alternative ways of providing education services to nomadic communities, such as distance and mobile education.

g. Increase investment in education to reduce the inequalities experienced by certain social groups, including women, youth and other minority groups.

h. Adapt the National curriculum to nomadic context to ensure relevance.

i. Have targeted bursaries and other incentives to increase the access for students from ASALs who wish to pursue tertiary and higher education.

j. Address issues that disproportionately affect the education, health and nutritional status of children and women. In addition incorporate nutrition considerations in Health, Agriculture, Livestock and Education programmes and policies.

k. Develop institutional, functional and individual capacity for ASAL development.

l. Provide facilities for adult education in the ASALs.

**Governance, Peace and Security**

Provision of adequate security is a challenge in a large region with poor infrastructure. Insecurity both domestically and cross border is driven by resource based competition. The location of the region, the length of its boarders and trans-boundary nature of pastoralism mean that there are significant international dimension to security. In addition, the region faces the threat of terrorism targeting children and youth through radicalization.

In order to enhance governance, peace and security in ASALs, the Government will:
a. Establish comprehensive measures to end cattle rustling and inter-communal conflicts and enhance the presence and capacity of the security and justice systems. This will involve inter alia developing special criteria for recruitment of security personnel and National Police Reservists (NPRs) in the ASALs and put in place measures to control proliferation of small arms and light weapons within counties and international borders.

b. Strengthen traditional systems of governance and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in line with existing government structures and the constitution. Also, enact and implement the National Peace Building and Conflict Management Policy.

c. Implement community empowerment programmes in peace building and ensure that all interventions in the region are planned and conducted in a manner that is sensitive to local values and priorities.

d. Put in place measures to minimize human-wildlife conflict.

e. Strengthen mechanisms within counties and with neighbouring countries which ensures effective management of peace and security.

f. Advocate for upholding of Article 10 section 2(a) of the Constitution of Kenya on national unity and participation of people.

g. Inculcate a culture of respect for the sanctity of human life for co-existence, and for the diversity of people’s values, traditions and aspirations.

h. Ensure proper demarcation of County boundaries.

i. Strengthen peace building committees and strengthen measures to counter radicalization and terrorism, including deterrence as well as enhance community policing through the Nyumba Kumi Initiative.

j. Safeguard private investments in the ASALs.

k. Domesticate regional policies and initiatives on pastoralism. In addition, promote sharing of resources across administrative boundaries to accommodate mobility and build on the knowledge and experience of customary institutions.

l. Establish integrated mobile service delivery systems to address the special needs of pastoral communities, for instance in the area of access to justice.

m. Provide e-government and m-government services and incorporate knowledge management as a resource for sharing information among the ASAL communities.

n. Enhance extension services and institutional development to support activities in ASALs.
Agriculture

Agriculture in the ASALs is constrained by low annual rainfall and effects of climate change. However, agricultural production can be improved through irrigation. The potential to increase both rain-fed and irrigated crop production is constrained by inadequate extension services and production technologies, limited access to affordable credit, and poor post-harvest management and storage facilities.

In order to enhance agricultural production and food security in the ASALs, the Government will:

a. Strengthen research and extension systems relevant to rain-fed crop production, including soil and water conservation, organic farming, agro-forestry and promotion of drought tolerant crops.

b. Promote water harvesting to ensure food security in collaboration with Regional Development Authorities.

c. Strengthen market linkages between low and high production areas and establish mechanisms to extend affordable finance to smallholder farmers, particularly women.

d. Promote appropriate technologies in irrigated agriculture and agricultural conservation and ecosystem management for sustainability and profitability.

e. Address land degradation and institute intervention measures.

f. Diversify rural economies to reduce reliance on climate-sensitive agricultural practices and promote value addition and financial support to sericulture and apiculture.

g. Develop integrated pest management systems to cope with increased threats from insects, pathogens and weeds, and promote improved practices in post-harvest storage and management.

h. Develop an innovative insurance scheme to mitigate crop failure.

i. Promote tree farming, production and commercialization of natural products such as gums, resins, aloe vera, jatropha, medicinal plants, ornamental plants and culinary products, among others.

j. Establish incubation centres for training farmers on crop production.
Livestock Production and Marketing

Livestock production is the dominant economic activity in the ASALs, particularly in the arid counties. Despite livestock being the dominant economic activity in the ASALs, several challenges still hinder realization of its full potential.

*In order to strengthen livestock production and marketing in the ASALs, the Government will:*

a. Review the livestock production policy and veterinary legislation to enhance the productivity of the livestock sub-sector in ASALs.

b. Rehabilitate livestock marketing infrastructure through Public Private Partnerships and community associations.

c. Operationalize the Livestock Marketing Board.

d. Establish mechanisms to extend affordable finance to livestock producers, traders and cottage industries.

e. Ensure that livestock-based food products are categorized as part of the national food reserves.

f. Ensure strengthened research and extension systems which are relevant to the livelihoods of ASAL livestock keepers, including women.

g. Ensure establishment of livestock promotion centres and promotion of value addition including livestock processing facilities.

h. Ensure introduction of appropriate insurance schemes in the ASALs for livestock machinery, livestock, fodder production and conservation for pastoralist communities.

i. Promote diversification into other economic activities to help mitigate challenges emanating from climate change. This includes but not limited to promoting production, processing and product development for hides, skins and leather.

j. Establish livestock disease-free zones and holding grounds, and development of inter-county stock routes. In addition control spread of diseases and pests across administrative and international boundaries.

k. Increase access to integrated disease and pest management and also maintain adequate stocks of vaccines and drugs in ASAL counties.

l. Promote establishment of pasture farms and preserve pasture along the riverine
irrigation schemes in the ASALs.
m. Set up and strengthen livestock marketing associations and share marketing information in ASALs and build/rehabilitate market structures for livestock in ASAL areas.

n. Provide seed money for livestock off take and restocking during and after droughts respectively and strengthen regulations of livestock marketing chains.
o. Promote access to high quality livestock genes.
p. Encourage group ranches and establish strategic feed reserves.
q. Establish animal laboratory services in ASAL counties.

**Fisheries**

Fishing and fish farming can enhance livelihoods in the ASAL areas. These areas have the right temperatures to support fish farming where the water resource is available, while the fish rich lakes and dams are under-utilized because they cannot access the urban markets nor process it to increase the shelf life and the value due to lack of infrastructure and organized systems.

*In order to enhance fisheries production and marketing in ASALs, the Government, will:*

a. Support development of appropriate safe fishing technology.
b. Establish fish landing and auction facilities which will reduce post-harvest losses and enhance the cold chain and value addition.
c. Strengthen the fisher organizations and trade associations.
d. Promote climate smart aquaculture development and introduce new farming technologies and fast maturing fish species.

**Industry, Trade and Investment**

The ASAL region is characterized by low levels of investment in the manufacturing, trade and service industries. However, the region is strategically located as a gate-way to the horn of Africa and the Middle East market.
In order to promote industry, trade and investment the Government will:

a. Develop a package of fiscal and other incentives that will attract private sector investment into ASALs, particularly investing in the region’s core resources, such as livestock, or its social and economic infrastructure.

b. Ensure that all investment and economic development protects the environment, provides compensation where required, and delivers maximum benefits to communities in the region and to the country. This includes developing an investment framework and appropriate mechanisms to channel a fixed percentage of the proceeds from natural resources, including oil and mineral resources, directly to local communities.

c. Encourage the private sector to take advantage of opportunities provided by the existing and emerging regional and international trade arrangements including EAC, COMESA, TRIpartite Free Trade Area (FTA), Continental-FTA and AGOA among others.

d. Operationalise export abattoirs in production areas and enhance marketing strategies in the context of PPPs.

e. Provide incentives for investments in the region for foreign and domestic investors.

f. Encourage value addition in trade for both livestock and horticultural products.

g. Map out the resource potential of ASALs and generate a data bank on the region’s endowment for planning and investment purposes.

h. Set aside land for the establishment of enterprise development centres.

i. Facilitate and regularize cross border trade.

j. Promote formal and informal job creation, self-employment, entrepreneurship and SMEs relevant to the needs of the ASAL communities.

Tourism

Enormous opportunities exist in the ASALs for tourism. Most tourism activities take place in these regions, but the benefit to the local community is minimal.

In order to enhance and diversify tourism in the ASALs the Government will:

a. Fast-track development of resort cities in the ASALs.
b. Promote sports and cultural tourism, local museums, home stays, adventure tourism, roadside conveniences, bird watching and filming.

c. Increase the benefits to communities from tourism through the development of community-owned eco-tourism enterprises or conservancies, based on the diverse range of Fauna and flora, and the promotion of responsible tourism.

d. Establish closer collaboration between tourism development institutions at national level and ASAL county governments.

Poverty and Inequality

The ASALs have the highest incidence of poverty in the country as a result of past national policies, which did not take into account the special needs of the region. Poverty reduction is a multidimensional issue and thus it can only be realized if regional imbalances are tackled. Full implementation of this policy will therefore fast-track poverty reduction in the ASALs.

In order to reduce poverty and inequality in the region, the Government will:

a. Prioritize strategies to implement the National Social Protection Policy in the ASALs.

b. Develop and support financial services and products appropriate to the needs of the region.

c. Develop and strengthen producer and marketing organizations, including cooperatives and SACCOs in all sectors of the ASALs economy.

d. Encourage pastoral communities to enrol with the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF).

Research and development

Sustainable development requires relevant information and knowledge that must be generated in a coordinated and timely manner. However, in the ASALs there are significant challenges in terms of quality, relevance and availability of data for decision making. Research findings are not adequately translated to inform programme design and implementation. In addition, there
are limited research institutions in the ASALs.

*To address issues of research and development, the Government will:*

a. Enhance resource mobilization for research and training institutions for ASAL development.
b. Conduct need based research to inform the policy, programme design and implementation.
c. Strengthen the capacity of ASAL Counties to conduct research for decision making.
d. Enhance collaborative research with local and international organizations and nations that have expertise on ASAL issues.
e. Promote appropriate and sustainable animal feed formulation using available floral material and including prosopis ("Mathenge"), acacia pods, among others.

**4.4 Provide policy frameworks for disaster management and Ending Drought Emergencies**

**Disaster Risk Management**

Disasters have continued to exact a heavy toll on the well-being and safety of persons, communities in ASALs. Disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede on progress towards sustainable development. It is therefore urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and reduce Disaster Risk in order to protect persons and communities, their livelihoods, health, cultural heritage, socio-economic assets and ecosystems more effectively.

*In order to effectively manage disaster risks, the Government will:*

a. Establish policy, legal and regulatory framework for disaster risk management.
b. Enact legislation to domesticate international protocols and conventions on disaster risk management.
c. Promote floods management and harness the same for development of the ASALs.
d. Provide emergency relief assistance to cushion affected communities during disasters.
e. Strengthen the disaster early warning system.
f. Provide guidance and technical assistance to the Counties on disaster risk reduction.
g. Mainstream disaster risk reduction measures in programmes and projects.

**Ending Drought Emergencies**

The frequency and severity of drought periods appear to be increasing. Northern Kenya recorded 28 major droughts in the last century, four of which occurred in the last decade. Other pressures, such as population growth and settlements, undermine the capacity of communities to manage drought. The negative effects of climate change are likely to worsen the situation.

*In order to reduce the effects of drought and climate change on vulnerable communities in the ASALs, the Government will:*

b. Establish the National Drought Emergency Fund to ensure timely response to drought.
c. Promote protection of the livelihoods of vulnerable households during drought, including providing timely drought and climate information to facilitate early and concerted action by various stakeholders.
d. Gazette and manage emergency drought reserve grazing areas and encourage the development of buffer areas of crop and forage production, reseeding, as part of contingency planning.
e. Promote research and technologies on climate change, and mainstream climate adaptation strategies into planning at all levels.
f. Explore opportunities and develop appropriate mechanisms through which communities can benefit from bio-carbon initiatives, wind and solar energy.
g. Support institutional framework for drought risk management, and safety net programmes targeting poorest and most food insecure.

**4.5 Promote sustainable utilization of existing land and land based resources to facilitate economic development in the ASALs**
Land and Natural Resource Management

Most land in Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands is community land and land tenure is insecure. Ineffective planning mechanisms lead to unsustainable land-use practices and offer weak protection to communities forced to compete with external interests. Natural resource management systems have come under increasing pressure from competing forms of land use, successive and more frequent droughts, and the proliferation of ever-smaller administrative units.

In order to ensure sustainable land utilization and natural resource management in the ASALs, the Government will:

a. Map, identify and undertake reclamation, rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands in the ASALs
b. Establish and support traditional natural resource management systems that promote sound environmental practices in ASALs.
c. Protect indigenous knowledge and practices and promote their use in the protection and conservation of the environment.
d. Protect and increase forest cover, riverine vegetation and critical water catchment areas affecting ASALs, including special ecosystems.
e. Identify and map out all natural resource areas in the ASALs.
f. Fast track land registration and enact laws to guide the protection, management and administration of community land in ASALs.
g. Pursue measures to identify and document genetic resources in ASALs while ensuring that property rights are protected.
h. Put in place measures to address rangeland management bottlenecks, including human-wildlife conflicts.
i. Promote efficient adaptation measures for productive and sustainable resource management in the ASALs and involve and empower communities in the management of ASAL ecosystems.
j. Implement the National Action Programme (NAP) to combat desertification and revitalize the Desertification Trust Fund.
k. Regulate and encourage sustainable utilisation and bio-prospecting of biological
resources in accordance with international law.

1. Promote and implement mechanisms for sustainable harvesting of sand, murram stones and mining activities and ensure rehabilitation and restoration of all mining sites including quarries.
Chapter Five: Institutional and Legal Framework

With the advent of devolution, coordination of development activities between the two levels of government is critical particularly in ASALs where there are multiple actors. There is need to put in place an institutional and legal framework for the development of ASALs which harnesses the contributions of multiple actors at all levels and makes the most effective use of human and financial resources.

In order to ensure coordinated and harmonized development of ASALs, the Government will set up ASAL Transformation Structures. These institutions will be at various levels as follows:

a. An ASAL Inter-Governmental Decision Making Forum chaired by H.E. the President and attended by H.E. the Deputy President, Cabinet Secretaries, the Chairperson, Council of Governors and Governors from ASAL counties to provide high-level policy direction and political support to ASAL development.
b. An ASAL Inter-Governmental Steering Committee comprising of Cabinet Secretaries and Governors from ASAL counties to provide leadership across governments chaired by the Cabinet Secretary responsible for ASAL issues.
c. ASAL Inter-Governmental Technical Coordination Committee comprising of Principal Secretaries and County Chief Officers.
d. An ASAL Stakeholders’ Forum, bringing together national and county Governments, UN agencies, development partners, NGOs and the private sector.
e. An ASAL Secretariat to provide technical, legal and administrative support to the transformation structures.

In order to ensure sustainable ASAL development the Government will:

a. Enact legislation on ASALs to ensure a firm foundation for ASALs development.
b. Establish National Drought Emergency Fund to increase responsiveness to drought, ASALs Education Trust, and ASALs Investment Fund.
c. Operationalize the Livestock Marketing Board.
d. Strengthen forums at county and sub-county levels that bring key actors together to plan, coordinate and harmonize development activities and resources towards a
common goal.

e. Harmonize the execution of national and county budgets, and locally generated revenue, against a single county integrated development plan, which is based on community-identified priorities and responds to available economic opportunities.

f. Strengthen institutional capacity at all levels, particularly within county-level planning, budgeting and coordination structures, in line with the Constitution, in order to address the significant capacity challenges facing devolved institutions in ASALs.

g. Develop a comprehensive human resource policy and strategy for the ASALs.
Chapter Six: Financing

Financing of development in ASALs will come from the Government, donors, Non-Governmental Organizations, the private sector, civil society organizations, Community Based Organizations and Faith Based Organizations.

The Government will:

a. Provide adequate funds for sustainable development of ASALs through deliberately prioritized budgetary allocations.
b. Explore and adopt alternative and innovative sources of funding to complement public funding.
c. Contribute financial resources for the National Drought Emergency Fund.
d. Establish an Arid and semi Arid Investment Fund for integrated development.
e. Ensure that the Equalization Fund is invested in areas stipulated in the Constitution.
f. Ensure absorption capacity of development resources allocated to ASALs is enhanced.
g. Mobilize resources from multilateral development agencies, private sector, NGOs, civil society, among others.
h. Promote investments in the ASALs by providing appropriate fiscal and economic incentives.
i. Pursue public-private partnerships.
j. Strengthen budget tracking to enhance transparency and accountability through a framework for reporting the financial commitments to projects and programmes in the ASALs.
k. Provide an enabling environment for counties to mobilize additional resources for accelerated development of ASALs.
l. Ring-fence all development resources allocated to Arid and Semi Arid lands
m. County Governments will be responsible for financing interventions that are in schedule 4A (devolved functions) in the Constitution of Kenya. The National Government will be responsible for financing interventions that are in schedule 4B, while other actors will finance intervention based on their mandate.
Chapter Seven: Policy Implementation

7.1 Introduction

The Ministry responsible for ASAL Development will have the key responsibility for coordinating all actors implementing this policy. The Ministry will develop a communication strategy for dissemination of the policy. In addition, the National Government will collaborate with County Governments in implementation of the policy as guided by Schedule Four of the Constitution.

Successful implementation of this policy will be dependent upon the collaborative efforts and synergies of all stakeholders including the two levels of Government, UN agencies and development partners, private sector and civil society organizations. The policy will be implemented under the existing legal and other government policy frameworks including the Ministerial Strategic Plans, the CIDPs and annual work plans.

7.2 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of this policy is necessary in generating information on progress being made towards achieving the targeted results in line with the goals and objectives of the policy. A critical assessment of the goals and objectives of the projects and programmes in the ASALs and how well they have been met will be done periodically. The M&E framework will be developed through a participatory and consultative process factoring in the feedback mechanism. Evaluation of this policy will be conducted by an independent agency after five (5) years to measure its impact and inform its review. The evaluation will highlight successes, challenges and lessons learnt.

7.3 Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically whenever need arises.
ANNEXES

I. IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

<table>
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<tr>
<th>S/NO</th>
<th>POLICY ISSUE</th>
<th>PROPOSED POLICY INTERVENTION</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
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| A.   | **Strengthen cohesion and integration of ASAL with the rest of the country and address inequality including gender, youth and vulnerable groups** | ▪ Develop programmes to enhance social integration and cohesion.  
▪ Ensure that the Equalization Fund and other measures in the Constitution address the particular challenges facing ASALs.  
▪ Develop a package of fiscal and other incentives that will attract private sector investment into ASALs, particularly investing in the region’s core resources, such as livestock, or its social and economic infrastructure.  
▪ Ensure that all investment and economic development protects the environment, provides compensation where required, and delivers maximum benefits to communities in the region and to the country. This includes developing an investment framework and appropriate mechanisms channel a fixed percentage of investment benefits to communities | MoDP, MoICT, Security Sector, County Governments, Constitutional Commissions, National Treasury, Private Sector, Development Partners, CSOs, CBOs and FBOs |
the proceeds from natural resources, including oil and mineral resources, directly to local communities.

- Promote Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industries to diversify investments for job and wealth creation.
- Empower youth from ASALs through the Presidential Digital Talent Programme.
- Develop civic education programmes to change people’s perception of ASALs.

| 2. Gender, youth and vulnerable groups | Ensure implementation of affirmative action programmes for the above categories of vulnerable groups
- Ensure adherence to the Constitutional requirement of not more than 2/3 of the same gender in all appointments
- Protect female-headed ASAL households and other vulnerable groups from harmful cultural practices.
- Promote involvement of men, women and the youth in the campaign against Gender Based Violence and peace building initiatives.
- Revitalize the National Youth Service (NYS) in ASALs |
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<td></td>
<td>MoDP, County Governments, National Treasury, Constitutional Commissions, Private Sector, MoEST, MoICT and all procuring entities</td>
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to catalyze transformative Youth Empowerment in ASALs.

- Involve youth and Integrate youth issues in ASAL planning and development including implementation of programs and projects.
- Providing youth with both financial resources and skills such as credit management and formation of youth SACCOs.
- Initiate programs that promote social and moral responsibility among the youth;
- Encourage youth to be proactive and innovative as a source of their livelihood.
- Revitalize vocational and technical training institutions and promote alternative training avenues.
- Nurture and foster sporting, performing and visual arts talent and provide sporting and cultural facilities for youth.
- Promote Youth Exchange programs to encourage social integration, cohesion, attitude change and peer mentoring.
- Develop programmes to address youth radicalization and terrorism.
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|   | ▪ Address the challenges facing female-headed households.  
▪ Develop civic education programmes to promote gender equality and equity in the ASALs.  
▪ Empower the youth through the Presidential Digital Talent Programme.  
▪ Integrate the specific needs of pastoralist youth and vulnerable groups within national youth policies and strategies.  
▪ Increase to a minimum of thirty percent (30%) the number of women, youth and persons with disabilities in positions of leadership and law enforcement. |
| B. | Provide an enabling environment for sustainable development in the ASALs by establishing the necessary foundations and bridging the development gaps |
| 3. | Infrastructure  
▪ Develop and maintain an integrated, safe and efficient road, rail, water, and air transport network in the region, prioritizing the development of transport corridors linking Kenya to key markets in neighbouring countries and beyond.  
▪ Enhance development in ASALs by connecting infrastructure corridors to towns and rural centres. This will include the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Infrastructure Sector, MoICT, Private Sector, the National Treasury, County Governments and Development Partners |
Transport corridor (LAPSSET).

- Invest in water harvesting, water supply and irrigation infrastructure. Improve the water and sanitation infrastructure in line with a strategic assessment of the most appropriate locations and technologies. Undertake assessment and exploration for the underground water and maximize use of trans-boundary water resources in coordination with other riparian countries and promote equitable water distribution through inter-basin transfers.
- Develop modalities of utilization of inter-boundary water resources.
- Harness and develop renewable energy especially green energy, such as wind and solar energy, including installation of distribution infrastructure for the benefit of the nation.
- Expand the last mile connectivity rural electrification strategy in the ASALs.
- Review the energy distribution criteria of cost-effectiveness which is not favourable to rural and ASAL communities.
- Provide ICT infrastructure for accelerated and
sustainable ASAL development.

- Expand ICT connectivity in the ASALs through funds such as the Universal Service Fund domiciled in the Ministry responsible for ICT.
- Draw up strategic development plans for urban areas that include cost effective housing technology, employment and service needs of urban populations, and provide sustainable economic opportunities for their surrounding rural areas, while also protecting the grazing and water rights of pastoralists.
- Ensure that infrastructure investments are climate-proofed and appropriate to the particular circumstances of the region and promote investment in institutional and infrastructural frameworks to mitigate and reclaim degraded areas, wastelands and ecosystem.
- Take appropriate measures to enhance private sector participation in infrastructure development, such as the provision of incentives in sectors such as housing, renewable energy, transport, and communication.
- Promote efficient adaptation measures for productive and sustainable resource management in the ASALs and involve and empower communities in the
### 3. Natural Resources

- Implement the National Action Programme (NAP) to combat desertification and revitalize the Desertification Trust Fund.
- Regulate and encourage sustainable utilisation and bioprospecting of biological resources in accordance with international law.
- Creation of Universal Service Fund to finance infrastructure and access of services.
- Promote and implement mechanisms for sustainable harvesting of sand, murrum stones and mining activities and ensure rehabilitation and restoration of all mining sites including quarries. Further, encourage equitable exploitation and sound management of mineral resources while ensuring local participation and involvement of indigenous enterprises in investment in mining sector.

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<th>4. Human Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Develop and improve appropriate infrastructure for education, training and health care at all levels, including tertiary and higher education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Put in place measures to increase the number of appropriately trained education, health and nutrition</td>
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Education Sector, Health Sector, County Governments, Private Sector, National Treasury and Development Partners
professionals and develop mechanisms to attract and retain them.

- Provide equitable, quality education to all by ensuring an inclusive education for learners with special needs and disabilities, the marginalized and hard-to-reach and vulnerable groups.
- Target a percentage of bursaries for students from ASALs who wish to pursue tertiary and higher education.
- Address issues that disproportionately affect the education, health and nutritional status of children and women.
- Incorporate nutrition considerations in Health, Agriculture, Livestock and Education programmes and policies.
- Establish appropriate innovative strategies to reach mobile communities in the ASALs.
- Develop institutional, functional and individual capacity for ASAL development.
- Provide digital learning platforms.

| 5. | Governance, peace and security | Establish comprehensive measures to end cattle rustling and inter-communal conflict, including Security Sector, County Governments, Constitutional Commissions, National |
Incentives for individuals, communities or institutions which deliver positive results for peace. Also measures to establish bolus technology as way of dealing with cattle rustling will be explored.

- Enhance the presence and capacity of the security and justice systems.
- Strengthen traditional systems of governance and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in line with existing government structures and the constitution.
- Enact and implement the National Peace Building and Conflict Management policy.
- Implement community empowerment programmes in peace building
- Ensure that all interventions in the region are planned and conducted in a manner that is sensitive to local values and priorities.
- Put in place measures to minimize human-wildlife conflict.
- Strengthen mechanisms within counties and with neighbouring countries which ensures effective management of peace and security.
- Advocate for upholding of Article 10 section 2(a) of the Treasury, Private Sector, Development Partners, CSOs, CBOs and FBOs
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Constitution of Kenya 2010 on national unity and participation of people.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mainstream disaster risk reduction measures in plans and projects in the region.</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Inculcate a culture of respect for the sanctity of human life for co-existence, and for the diversity of people’s values, traditions and aspirations.</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Ensure proper demarcation of County boundaries</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Facilitate and regularize cross border trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Strengthening Peace building committees since they have had positive results in some places.</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Enhance community policing through the Nyumba Kumi Initiative</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Strengthen measures to counter radicalization and terrorism, including deterrence.</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Provide measures to enhance community capacity for demand-driven ASAL development.</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Develop special criteria for recruitment of security personnel and Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs) in the ASALs.</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Put in place measures to control proliferation of small arms and light weapons within counties and</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Strengthen research and extension systems relevant to rain-fed crop production, including soil and water conservation, organic farming agro-forestry and promotion of drought resistant crops.</td>
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<td>▪ Promote water harvesting to ensure food security in collaboration with Regional Development Authorities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Strengthen market linkages between low and high production areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Establish mechanisms to extend affordable finance to smallholder farmers, particularly women.</td>
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<td>▪ Promote appropriate technologies in irrigated agriculture and agricultural conservation for sustainability and profitability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Increase the acreage of irrigated land in the ASALs in areas with irrigation potential and mitigate the negative aspects of irrigation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Address land degradation and institute intervention measures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Diversify rural economies to reduce reliance on climate-sensitive agricultural practices and promote value addition and financial support to sericulture and</td>
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Agriculture Sector, MoWI, MoICT, Private Sector, the National Treasury, County Governments and Development Partners
- Develop integrated pest management systems to cope with increased threats from insects, pathogens and weeds, and promote improved practices in post-harvest storage and management.
- Develop an innovative insurance scheme to mitigate crop failure.
- Promote tree farming for production of natural gums and resins
- Introduction of mechanization in high value crop farming.

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<th>7.</th>
<th>Livestock production and marketing</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Review the livestock production policy and veterinary legislation to enhance the productivity of the livestock sub-sector</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rehabilitate livestock marketing infrastructure through Public Private Partnerships and community associations.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Establish the Kenya Livestock Marketing Board.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Establish mechanisms to extend affordable finance to livestock producers, traders and cottage industries.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ensure that livestock-based food products are categorized as part of the national food reserves.</td>
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Agriculture Sector, MoWI, MoICT, Private Sector, the National Treasury, County Governments and Development Partners
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Ensure strengthened research and extension systems which are relevant to the livelihoods of ASAL livestock keepers, including women.</td>
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<td>▪ Ensure establishment of livestock promotion centres and promotion of value addition including livestock processing facilities.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Ensure introduction of appropriate insurance schemes in the ASALs for livestock inputs, fodder production and conservation for pastoralist communities.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Promote diversification into other economic activities to help mitigate challenges emanating from climate change.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Establish livestock disease-free zones and holding grounds, and development of inter-county stock routes.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Control spread of diseases and pests across administrative and international boundaries.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Maintain adequate stocks of vaccines and drugs in ASAL counties.</td>
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<td>▪ Promote establishment of pasture farms.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Set up and strengthen livestock marketing associations and share marketing information in ASALs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Provide seed money for livestock off take and</td>
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restocking during and after droughts respectively.
- Build/rehabilitate market structures for livestock in ASAL areas.
- Strengthen regulations of livestock marketing chains.

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<th>8.</th>
<th>Fisheries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Support development of appropriate safe fishing technology.</td>
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<td>• Establish fish landing and auction facilities which will reduce post-harvest losses and enhance the cold chain and addition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Improve roads to improve the accessibility and enhance the volume of trade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Restock fish in all dams in the ASALs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strengthen the fisher organizations and trade associations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Promote aquaculture development and introduce new farming technologies and fast maturing fish species.</td>
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<th>9.</th>
<th>Livelihood diversification</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Promote production and commercialization of natural products such as gums, resins, aloe vera, jatropha, medicinal plants, ornamental plants and culinary products.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Promote formal and informal job creation, self-employment and entrepreneurship relevant to the</td>
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Agriculture Sector, MoWI, MoICT, Private Sector, the National Treasury, County Governments and Development Partners

MoENR, Agriculture Sector, MoDP, MoWI, MoICT, Private Sector, the National Treasury, County Governments and Development Partners
10. **Trade and investment**

- Encourage the private sector to take advantage of opportunities provided by the existing and emerging regional trade arrangements including EAC, COMESA, TRIPARTITE-Free Trade Area (FTA) and Continental-FTA
- Operationalise export abattoirs in the production areas.
- Provide incentives for investments in ASALs through Foreign Direct Investments and PPPs.
- Encourage value addition in trade for both livestock and horticultural products.
- Map out the resource potential of ASALs and generate a data bank on the region’s endowment for planning and investment purposes.
- Protect private investments in the ASALs.
- Set aside land for the establishment of enterprise development centres.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Needs of the ASAL communities.</th>
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<td>Support development of alternative sources of livelihoods such as cottage industries.</td>
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<th>11. Tourism</th>
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<td>Promote cultural tourism, local museums, home stays, adventure tourism, roadside conveniences, bird watching and filming.</td>
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| Trade and Tourism Sector, Agricultural Sector, MoEAC & C, Min. Lands, National Treasury, County Governments, Private Sector and CBOs |
| Trade and Tourism Sector, Agricultural Sector, MoEAC & C, Min. Lands, National Treasury, County Governments, Private Sector and CBOs |
| 12. | Poverty and inequality | - Increase the benefits to communities from tourism through the development of community-owned eco-tourism enterprises or conservancies, based on the diverse range of flora and fauna, and the promotion of responsible tourism.  
- Domesticate the National Social Protection Policy in the ASALs.  
- Develop and support financial services and products appropriate to the needs of the region, including insurance schemes for both people and livestock to buffer production against risk.  
- Develop and support income-generating programmes that strengthen the socio-economic position of women, youth and persons with disabilities.  
- Develop and strengthen producer and marketing organizations, including cooperatives, in sectors such as agriculture and livestock.  
- Encourage a culture of savings through the promotion of rural SACCOs.  
- Mainstream interventions which address the specific challenges facing women, youth and vulnerable groups within all policies and programmes. | & C, Min. Lands, County Governments, Private Sector and CBOs | MoDP, Min. Labour, Poverty Eradication Commission, National Treasury, Agricultural Sector, Min. Industrialization and Cooperative Development |
| Research and development | Establish research and development institutions in the ASALs  
Strengthen research coordination mechanisms  
Promote resource mobilization to address research and development in ASALs  
Conduct need based research to inform the policy, programme design and implementation  
Strengthen the capacity of ASAL Counties to conduct research for decision making  
Enhance collaboration with research institutions for sustainable ASAL development  
Animal feed formulation using available floral material and including prosopis ("Mathenge"), acacia ponds | Education Sector, Academia, Research Institutions, National Treasury, Private Sector, County Governments, Development Partners and CSOs |
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<tr>
<td>C. <em>Develop alternative approaches to service delivery in pastoral areas</em></td>
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13.  
Domesticate regional policies and initiatives on pastoralism.  
Promote sharing of resources across administrative boundaries to accommodate mobility and build on the knowledge and experience of customary institutions.  
Explore innovative ways of enhancing access to justice in arid and pastoral areas.  
Establish integrated mobile service delivery systems to Agriculture Sector, County Governments, MoICT, Min. Interior, MoDP, National Treasury, Education Sector and Health Sector |
address the special needs of pastoral communities.

- Provide e-government and m-government services.
- Incorporate knowledge management as a resource for sharing information among the ASAL communities.
- Enhance extension services and institutional development to support activities in ASALs.
- Enhance flexible health systems which are responsive to the needs of the ASALs.
- Strengthen community-based health systems for remote and mobile populations.
- Introduce flexible health insurance schemes tailored to the needs of pastoralists.
- Establish an institutional mechanism to address ASAL health and nutrition issues.
- Strengthen education systems and make them responsive to the needs of ASALs.
- Strengthen the National Council for Nomadic Education in Kenya (NACONEK).
- Strengthen education services to nomadic communities, such as distance and mobile education.
- Increase investment in education to reduce the inequalities experienced by certain social groups,
including women, youth and other minority groups.

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<th>Provide policy frameworks for disaster management and ending drought emergencies</th>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Disaster risk management</td>
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<td>• Formulate policies that address issues of disaster risk management;</td>
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<td>• Promote floods management and harness the same for development of the ASALs.</td>
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<td>• Provide emergency relief assistance to cushion affected communities during disasters.</td>
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<td>• Strengthen the disaster early warning system.</td>
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<td>• Provide guidance and technical assistance to the Counties on disaster risk reduction</td>
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<td>MoDP, Min. Interior, Agriculture Sector, Min. Labour, Development Partners and UN agencies, County Government, National Treasury and Health Sector</td>
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<p>| 15. | Ending Drought Emergencies |
|   | • Provide and support a framework for effective coordination of ending drought emergencies in Kenya; |
|   | • Establish the National Drought Contingency Fund to ensure timely response to drought; |
|   | • Provide quality drought and climate information to facilitate early and concerted action by various stakeholders; |
|   | • Promote protection of the livelihoods of vulnerable households during drought; |
|   | • Gazette and manage emergency drought reserve grazing areas and encourage the development of buffer |
|   | MoDP, All Sectors, Development Partners and UN agencies, National Treasury, County Government, CBOs and CSOs |</p>
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<th>E.</th>
<th>Promote sustainable utilization of existing land and land based resources to facilitate national economic development</th>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Land and Natural Resource Management</td>
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<td>- Support traditional natural resource management systems that promote sound environmental practices.</td>
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<td>- Protect and promote indigenous knowledge and practices, promote environmental education and awareness, and intensify environmental conservation efforts.</td>
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<td>- Protect and increase forest cover, riverine vegetation</td>
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<td>Min. Lands, Min. Environment, Min. Mining, National Treasury, Agriculture Sector, CBOs, CSOs, Private Sector, Development Partners and UN agencies</td>
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and critical water catchment areas in the ASALs, including special ecosystems.

- Promote low-maintenance water technologies; with an emphasis on water harvesting
- Address interests of pastoralists, particularly pastoralist women, are in new land legislation and institutions, in line with the National Land Policy.
- In partnership with local communities and development partners, identify and map out all natural resource areas.
- Register all land either as public, community or private in order to facilitate investments and minimize land use conflicts and insecurity.
- Formulate policies governing exploitation of biodiversity occurring in the ASALs.
- Strengthen the linkage between the regional development authorities and other stakeholders in the areas of regional development plans and resource mapping.
- Protect and enhance intellectual property in, and indigenous knowledge of, biodiversity and the genetic resources of the communities.
| 17. Human settlements | - Protect genetic resources and biological diversity.  
- Address the issue of sanitation in ASAL towns.  
- Promote strategic urban development along the major transportation corridors i.e. the Northern Corridor Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and LAPSSET Corridor.  
- Promote appropriate human settlements and movement routes for the pastoral communities  
- Ensure County Spatial Plans, Urban and County Integrated Plans and Regional Plans are in line with the National Spatial Plan to guide urban and rural development.  
MoDP, Infrastructure Sector, County Governments, Development Partners, The National Treasury and UN agencies |
- Ensure adequate provision of basic social and health services in areas inhabited by internally displaced persons.  
- Protect IDPs and maintain public order and security in temporary settlements.  
- Safeguard and protect the environment in settlement.  
MoDP, Min. Interior, The National Treasury, Development Partners and UN agencies, CSOs, CBOs, FBOs and the private sector |
- Provide coping mechanisms, build resilience and have conflict resolution strategies.
- Provide clear criteria for identification and vetting of IDPs.