FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY FOR NAKURU COUNTY
Framework for Public Participation for Nakuru County

Copyright © 2014, Centre for Enhancing Democracy & Good Governance (CEDGG)

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means without the prior permission of the publisher.

Centre for Enhancing Democracy & Good Governance (CEDGG)
P O Box 15801 - 20100
Nakuru, Kenya
Tel: 051 - 2210845 / 0720 880185
cedgg@wananchi.com
www.cedgg.org

Design, Layout & Printing:
Myner Logistics
P.O. Box 9110 - 00200 Nairobi
Tel: 2211890 / 1

This publication has been made possible with the generous financial and technical support from UNDP - Amkeni waKENYA
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement...............................................................................................iii  
List of Acronyms..................................................................................................iv  
About CEDGG.......................................................................................................v  

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION.......................................................................................1  
### 1.1 Rationale for a county policy.................................................................1  
### 1.2 Methodology.........................................................................................2  
### 1.3 Defining Policy......................................................................................3  
### 1.4 Defining public participation.................................................................4  
### 1.5 Foundation of effective participation....................................................4  
### 1.6 Participation of whom.........................................................................5  
### 1.7 How to participate...............................................................................5  
### 1.8 Participation in what...........................................................................5  
### 1.9 Ensuring that participation takes place...............................................6  

## 2.0 CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MANDATES........................................7  
### 2.1 Bill of Rights..........................................................................................8  
#### 2.1.1 Identification of unfulfilled basic and special group rights..............9  
#### 2.1.2 Creating an enabling policy and legislative environment.............9  
#### 2.1.3 Planning and budgeting for people’s participation......................9  
### 2.2 Commitment to values and principles of public participation..........10  
### 2.3 Persons with disabilities under the new dispensation.....................10  
### 2.4 Public Participation for the marginalized communities...............11  
### 2.5 Mainstreaming gender and youth affairs in county policy...........12  

## 3.0 THE NAKURU COUNTY CONTEXT......................................................13  
### 3.1 Contextual Issues undermining Nakuru’s Public Participation Policy Framework.................................................................16  

## 4.0 NAKURU COUNTY PARTICIPATION PUBLIC POLICY SUGGESTIONS.....20  
### 4.1 Identifying constitutional and legislative issues on public participation.................................................................................................20  
### 4.2 County Government Act (CGA), 2012.............................................23  
### 4.3 Principles of public participation.......................................................23  
### 4.4 Access to information.......................................................................24  
### 4.5 Developing mechanisms to facilitate public communication........26  
### 4.6 Promoting the participation of the marginalized.........................27  
### 4.7 Participation of people with disabilities.........................................28  
### 4.8 Participation in the context of civic awareness..............................29  
### 4.9 Participation in County development planning..............................30  
### 4.10 Participation in service delivery......................................................31  

## 5.0 THE CONTEXT OF THE PFM ACT..........................................................33  

## 6.0 SUMMARY FRAMEWORK......................................................................35  

## 7.0 CONCLUSION .......................................................................................40  

SELECTED REFERENCES ................................................................................42
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance (CEDGG) gratefully acknowledges the contributions made by the following people towards the preparation of this report:

The lead consultant Mr. Milton Obote who conducted research in consideration of both local and international experiences with regard to public participation in governance and development processes and put together this report. Others who contributed to the development of the report were the CEDDG Staff including Cornelius Oduor, Masese Kemunche, Peninah Maleve, Sarah Wairimu, Wilkister Akinyi, Evans Kibet and James Mwangi.

The data for this report could not have been obtained without the support from the officials of the National government and the County governments of Nakuru as well as the local Network of Civil Societies.

We are also grateful to all the respondents of the Interviews and the Focus Group Discussions. We appreciate all those who attended the validation meeting in Nakuru town. Their contributions provided input into the report.

Finally, Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance (CEDGG) wishes to thank UNDP - Amkeni waKenya, for their financial and technical support in the preparation and production of this report.
### LIST OF ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAT</td>
<td>The Convention Against Torture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBOs</td>
<td>Community Based Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGA</td>
<td>County Government Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIC</td>
<td>Commission on the Implementation of the Constitution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>The Convention on the Rights of the Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSOs</td>
<td>Civil Social Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFRD</td>
<td>District Focus for Rural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICCPR</td>
<td>The International Convention on Civil and Political Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICERD</td>
<td>The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICESCR</td>
<td>The International Convention on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information Communication Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICRPD</td>
<td>The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDP</td>
<td>Integrated Development Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASDAP</td>
<td>Local Authority Service Delivery Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATF</td>
<td>Local Authority Transfer Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non Governmental Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSAS</td>
<td>Non State Actors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFMA</td>
<td>Public Finance Management Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRA</td>
<td>Participatory Rural Appraisal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST</td>
<td>Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TISA</td>
<td>The Institute for Social Accountability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About CEDGG

The Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance (CEDGG) is a grass root civil society organisation that works to empower vulnerable and marginalized citizens to claim their rights in local development and governance processes. CEDGG has been in operation since the year 2001 and legally exists as a Non-Governmental Organisation. Our head office is in Nakuru Town – Nakuru County, in the Republic of Kenya. Our programme work covers mainly the mid rift valley region i.e. Nakuru, Baringo and Kericho Counties. The core problem that CEDGG is seeking to address in the society is the low capacity of the marginalised and vulnerable groups to engage with and participate in the decision making processes around the constitutional reform agenda and the development process in general.

Vision

A society that respects and protects marginalized and vulnerable peoples’ rights in all social, political and economic development processes

Mission

To develop the capacity of marginalized and vulnerable communities in Kenya to demand, adopt and implement sustainable best practices in democratic governance through advocacy, information dissemination, research and networking.

Core values

- Team work
- Social justice
- Professional excellence
- Integrity
- Tolerance

Programs/Key Result Areas

- Governance and Devolution.
- Partnership, Networking and Knowledge.
- Organizational Development.
1.1 INTRODUCTION

The need for a county policy framework on citizen participation is anchored on the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and relevant Acts of parliament particularly the County Government Act 2012 among others. The main objective of this report is to propose a framework for Nakuru County policy on public participation. It outlines the five thematic areas that must be addressed by Nakuru County if effective citizen participation is to be realized. These include: national constitutional framework, The CGA 2012 and other relevant legislation, Nakuru County context suggested policies, policy actions, and a framework for action for county government and NSAs in Nakuru. The goal of this report is to provide a viable template for actualizing viable county specific policies to entrench citizen participation in governance and development.

1.1 Rationale for a county policy on citizen participation

The report begins by defining citizen participation and the rationale of having a county specific citizen participation policy framework. It not only recognizes the need for public participation, but goes further to point out the dividends to be gained in county governance and development when a sound policy on public participation is operationalized. True citizen participation has untold benefits for the county. Some of these include:

- **Efficiency in resource allocation**: Citizen Participation ensures that resources address the felt needs of the people since the people shall have been involved in prioritizing their needs
- **Accountability and Reduction of corruption**: service delivery agents make public and are responsible for their actions which in turn reduces corruption
- **Equity**: Ensures that resources are targeted at needs of people even geographically. This includes targeting the poor and marginalized who have previously been ignored. It implies that citizens contribute according to ability but are allocated according to need
- **Cost Recovery**: refers to the extent to which services provided can meet their own costs. This may be by cost sharing, charging of the full cost of services, or by optimal application of the resources available so that no debts are incurred. It is an outcome of how consumers are willing to pay for the services which relies on their level of participation.
- **Better quality of services**: when citizens provide feedback on services they receive and if this feedback is utilized by service agents, it helps to continuously improve quality of services
- **Reduced conflicts**: citizen participation improves collaboration and cooperation with government, leaders and service agents thereby reducing likelihood of conflicts.
When implemented, the Nakuru County Public participation policy proposal will catalyse several processes needed in ensuring County government responsiveness to citizen needs in the context of an informed citizenry. It will achieve the following, among other things:

- It will create awareness and sensitize both county officials and county citizens on the importance of citizen participation.
- It will enable County government fulfill the requisite conditions for capacitating county citizens to participate in the management of county, sub-county and local governance and development while holding duty bearers accountable.
- It will enable duty bearers like the County government as well as relevant NSAs in the county to assess their capacity to deliver a people centered management of county resources.
- It will call upon duty bearers to adapt, develop and implement periodic, if not continuous participatory capacity building methodologies in order to involve, enlighten and empower county citizens.
- It lays out the template for an effective County information management which predisposes county citizens toward effective oversight role in county governance and development.

1.2 Methodology

1.2.1 Consultations and interviews

Detailed consultative and interview sessions were held with the members of CEDGG, sample Civil Society Organisations and organized citizen groups in Nakuru County. This was followed by intensive interviews with the officials of the Nakuru county government (Assembly members and the County Executive.) This was done as a way of establishing key nodal points on the question of devolution and public participation within the county.

1.2.2. Literature review

1.2.3. Comparative multi-case study analysis

Considering that a case study investigates a contemporary phenomenon within its life context, it fits well with the chosen research paradigm and is a potent method for probing the depth of the relationship between devolution and public participation against the backdrop of relevant social policies in countries that have variously put the principle into practice.

Therefore, the study opted for a comparative multi-case study strategy as a way to guarantee greater reliability of data and generalizability of findings. A single case carries biases in that the case country or county would be unique in many ways and may not have yielded data suitable enough for generalization. With a comparative multi-case as a strategy, the study drew conclusion on data drawn from multiple contexts and from multifaceted viewpoints broad enough to offer viable pointers that can help Kenya’s as well as Nakuru’s cases.

After the initial report was prepared, it was subjected to a validation by a team drawn from civil society, county government, national government and private sector. The validation workshop provided useful input that was included into this final report.

1.3 Defining Policy

A good policy making process begins by unpacking the ambiguities surrounding the term POLICY itself. To do so is to help establish parameters of things to consider in developing a policy-in entirety. Policy is defined in the New Oxford Dictionary of English as: “a course or principle of action adopted or proposed by a government, party, business or individual”. For the purposes of the framework, policy will be defined as a composite that includes the following:

i) A position or perspective with a clear set of concerns and opinions that an organization relies upon to achieve what it sets to achieve with least effort.

ii) A strategic guide or a plan for future action on public participation. This idea embraces the belief in careful preparation, a husbanding of resources and a deliberate preference for some action in respect of public participation.

iii) A pattern of behavior – or ways of operating that Nakuru County Government may deliberately choose to further its mandate in respect of catalyzing the engagement of county citizens in county governance.

iv) A deliberate ploy, involving scheming and plotting in the implementation of advocacy on public participation. It can be argued here that a ploy has the connotation of deception. The word ploy is deployed in this document to encompass the tactical that choices that Nakuru County Government will prefer in its implementation in order to achieve the end of public participation.

To develop a policy is to get involved in a process by which a state or non-state actor hopes to translate its vision into programs and actions to deliver specific intended outcomes.
1.4 Defining public participation

In the context of this guide, the word public is not used in an unbounded sense but is loosely limited to the widest representation of Nakuru County citizens. Public participation is multi-faceted in nature and is realized in a variety of ways depending on diverse contexts. The expression public participation means active engagement of the *hoi polloi*, the greatest number of county masses or simply the public in critical issues affecting their lives. Central to all participatory processes, however, is the engagement of the public in all fora and activities as a way of mainstreaming their perspective in policy making. Nakuru County public participation policies frame “participation” as both a goal because the focus is on the ideal scenario where everyone within the county is involved in decision making; and, a process because it focuses on the mechanisms by which the goal is realized. Public participation does not therefore end with people attending meetings or merely being consulted, they must “influence” decisions coming out of the those meetings or consultations.

1.5 Foundation of effective participation

Nakuru county policy on public participation is intended to be an indivisible process that recognizes that no individual citizen or a collective have greater entitlements than other within the geo-polity. It is thus tethered to equality, equity, human rights and sustainable development.

The proposed framework is premised on the fact that effective participation needs to be anchored on the public’s capacity for agency and sense of commitment. While some aspects of the sense of agency such as the right and ability to petitioning, complaints against wayward authority, demonstrations, and membership to county committees are already provided for in constitutional terms, it would be important to establish those other forms of participation which may require both the collective and individual initiatives of the public. The framework recognizes that county citizens have varied types of power:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of citizen power</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passive citizen power which relates to participation that does not require direct physical action, like petition signing, writing letters, voting and releasing publications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical citizen power which requires direct physical participation like protesting, volunteering, working for government or boycotting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal power, which relates to action like taxes, donation, endorsement of spending and consumption</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See: *The Citizen handbook (2012) by Uraia Trust, International Republican Institute*
1.6 Participation of whom

The question “who” is implicated in public participation in Nakuru County may be defined by the expression “consuming public” in the county. Consumers may be patients, water consumers, transport consumers. Special segments of county population may be mentioned in specific development initiatives. Care must be taken to include as diverse segments of society as possible taking into account gender, age, disabilities, Social class, ethnicity and other intersecting variables. Experience has shown that these variables often underpin the degree of particular group’s involvement in development programming.

Although the term “stakeholders” is a more inclusive term and includes self-disinterested professional experts Individuals and groups outside the national and county governments’ decision making machinery. Those affected by specific County development interventions, often referred to in official parlance as the “public concerned”. But the “public concerned does not necessarily include everyone considering that issues of concern may not cut across the board uniformly even with the same county.

1.7 How to participate

What is clear is that County policy on public participation requires structures and processes at all levels of county governance to involve the public. How to participate is probably one of the key areas addressed by this policy framework. It brings into focus not just questions of the rationale for public participation but also the approaches to participation programming and mechanisms for implementing and monitoring impact. How to participate entails a range of approaches from simply “being informed”, invitation to meetings and elicitation of public views, to cases of consultation, opportunities for complaint and petition etc. Policy legislation necessarily has to encompass a wide range of acts and techniques of approaches to public participation in governance and development.

1.8 Participation in what

Broadly speaking, policy making should involve input of specific “stakeholders and the public more widely. Participation in all sorts of public decision making areas in the county is guided by a clearly defined understanding of county governance and development spaces for public participation. These encompass a wide range of substantive national and county government activities. In Nakuru county spaces for public participation will include development concerns in environmental issues, land issues, agriculture, peace and conflict resolution, education, food security, poverty eradication, trade, justice, transport, tourism, county budgeting, County Planning (Development and spatial) and oversight of county government functions and the entire gamut of sectorial programs that have direct and/indirect implication on segments or entire county population.
1.9 Ensuring that participation takes place

While it is the responsibility of State and county governments to ensure, through policies, legislation and budgetary support that all governance and development programs, it is the duty of NSAs and citizens themselves to ensure that participation actually takes place. The Constitution and subsequent statute laws, vest in the civil society an important check and balance function on the state and its institutions.

Community initiated meeting on governance and human rights issues in Molo Constituency
The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, a product of extensive public participation has a number of provisions anchoring the need for public participation. Although the constitution provides for two forms of participation, direct and indirect, it is worth pointing out that indirect participation is a lot more structured and habitualized in Kenyan democracy. The envisaged public participation policy will therefore have to focus relatively more on what the constitution refers to as the “direct” exercise of the people’s sovereignty perhaps – where they actually actively engage. This is the kind of participation where people “who are, for whatever reason, excluded from the normal social and political, even economic, life of the nation are far less likely to be able to participate actively – certainly at the national” and county level (Gill 2012).

Some provisions on public participation are summarized in the CIC ‘Report of the Conference on Development of a Public Participation Framework’ as follows.

1. Article 1, of the Constitution: - all sovereign power belongs to the people of Kenya and that it shall be exercised only in accordance with the Constitution. The provision on public participation, national values and devolution are predicated on public participation, are entrenched and cannot be amended without the participation of the people.

2. Article 10, - public participation as a cardinal national value and principle of Governance. The National Values and Principles of Governance articulated in Article 10 bind all state organs, state officers, and public officers. Article 35 on Access to information.

3. Article 56(a) on the participation of minorities and marginalized groups participation

4. Article 94, empowers parliament to manifest the diversity of the nation, represent the will of the people and exercise the sovereignty of the People.

5. Article 118, provides that parliament must ensure public participation and involvement in legislative processes and other business of Parliament and its committees.

6. For the Judiciary, Article 159, of the Constitution loosens up the procedural and technical rules to approach the court ensuring that the public has easier access to courts. It further states that any person can initiate the removal of a judge. Further it recognizes
traditional dispute resolution methods and encourages their use in dispute resolution.

7. Article 196, of the Constitution requires County assembly to: ‘conduct its business in an open manner, and hold its sittings and those of its committees, in public, and, facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of the assembly and its committees.

8. Article 232, of the Constitution which provide for public participation as one of the values and principles of public service.

9. Article 239 (5). Refers to the need for the police to be subject to the government and the elected representatives of the people.

10. Urban areas and Cities Act, 2011- Gives effect to Article 184 of the constitution- one of its objectives is to provide legislative framework for participation of residents in the governance of urban areas and cities which it does in section 22 by establishing Citizen Fora and clarifies in detail in Scheduled

11. County government Act, 2012 – gives effect to chapter 11 of the constitution. Section 15 bestows citizens with a right to petition a County Assembly and obligates the Assembly to prescribe a procedure for exercising this right. The Act has Committed the entire Part VIII to public participation

12. Sections 15 and 107 of Public Finance Management (PFM) Act on instilling fiscal discipline require citizen monitoring

2.1 Bill of Rights

Nakuru County Government along with NSAs has an inalienable interest and entitlement in catalyzing programming for public participation in the County. This interest dovetails with/and is mandated by key provisions of the Bill of Rights. Under Article 21 of the Constitution, it is a main duty of the state and every state organ to observe, respect, protect, promote and fulfill the rights and fundamental freedoms in the Bill of Rights. The State is also extorted to take legislative, policy and other measures, including the setting of standards, to achieve the progressive realization of the rights guaranteed under Article 43. The Bill of Rights is key entry point for county governments and NSAs, in programming for people’s participation especially in areas in which people clearly have interests and entitlements to participate under the Constitution of Kenya 2010. These include:

- Identification of unfulfilled economic and social rights guaranteed under article 43 as well as special group rights under articles 53-57; -Needs assessment/ identification
• Creating enabling policy and legislative measures to claim the rights; planning and budgeting processes;
• Formulation and implementation of laws and programs;
• Monitoring and tracking of programs and holding those with obligations to account for their actions.

NB: Nakuru County strategy for programming for people’s participation should engage with the potential for NSA’s interventions in each of these areas.

2.1.1 Identification of unfulfilled basic and special group rights – situation analysis
Arrays of critical economic and social rights are guaranteed under Article 43 of The Constitution of Kenya, 2010: the right to health and health care, education, food, housing and sanitation, safe water and social security. The Constitution is also explicit in terms of the rights of vulnerable groups within society, including women, older members of society, persons with disabilities, children, youth, members of minority or marginalized communities (ethnic, religious and cultural), prisoners and people in remand, refugees among others. County government has an active role to play in capacitating people both in identifying which of their basic rights are unfulfilled and also defining the nature and scale of problems they experience as a consequence.

People’s perspective needs to inform both County government and NSAs own social audit, situation analyses or needs assessments. The County government’s role is to facilitate opportunities for the people to be involved in consultative processes.

2.1.2 Creating an enabling policy and legislative environment for citizens to claim the rights
The need for a county specific policy on public participation is buttressed by the Bill of Rights which suggests a framework for planning and monitoring of the policy, legal and programmatic frameworks and their impact on the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of the people.

If then, specific communities in the county identify which of their singular or collective rights are being neglected or violated; County government has a role to play in highlighting these issues and mainstreaming them in county governance and development programming.

2.1.3 Planning and budgeting for people’s participation
While conferring legal obligations upon the State and by extension county governments to ensure progressive and maximum enjoyment of the various economic and social rights of individuals and groups through legislation, policy making, planning, budgeting and resource allocation in accordance with set standards, The Bill of Rights recognizes that It is the responsibility of the county government to plan
for and allocate resources for citizens to participate in governance processes. It prohibits government agencies from abdicating their responsibilities of providing the necessary resources to implement the rights in article 20 (5) Article 20 (5) (a) and (b). This obligates county governments to take appropriate legislative, policy and programmatic measures including allocation of resources or the establishment of structures and systems to promote the implementation of rights.

This would mean that the County government will committely consider the priorities identified by the people for action on the realization of their rights within the policy and planning processes.

2.2 County government’s commitment to values and principles of public participation

Article 10 of the Constitution emphasizes some of the values and principles of governance that bind all State organs and against which they can be held accountable. These are integrity, transparency and accountability. The County government is obligated to promote and protect people’s rights in transparent and accountable ways. It is obligated to promote participatory implementation of programmes by assisting county citizens in their diversity to contribute to the way in which governance and development programs are planned and implemented, and, it indeed, can participate in the implementation itself with a view to holding County duty bearers accountable to the constitutional and legislative mandates.

2.3 Public Participation for persons with disabilities under the new dispensation

Consistent with the constitution and the CGA 2012, the policy envisaged should restate its commitment to the concepts of equality and nondiscrimination. Additionally, it should restate an unambiguous commitment to affirmative action and equal opportunity if participation in governance and development is to be realized by all individuals and groups of people regardless of bias factors as ethnicity, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, genetic information, or disability.
Some United Nations Treaties and Conventions Kenya has acceded to on the years shown.

- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) 1976
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) 1972
- The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) 1997
- The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) 2001
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 1984
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) 1990

Persons with disabilities in Kenya constitute approximately 3.6% of the population OR 1,333,312 people going by the last census estimates. The percentage of female persons with disabilities stands at 51.3%. In the development and implementation of legislation and policies on public participation in Nakuru County, the County government has to be explicit on the modalities of ensuring that persons with disabilities are fully involved. This will involve stating clearly how the Nakuru County Government hopes to engage persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations.” Article 54(2) of the Constitution of Kenya provides that “The state shall ensure the progressive implementation of the principle that at least five percent of the members of the public in elective and appointive bodies are persons with disabilities.” This accentuated by Article 29 of the UNCRPD which provides for participation in political and public life of persons with disabilities. It states that State Parties shall guarantee to persons with disabilities political rights and the opportunity to enjoy them on an equal basis with others. Some of the challenges that face persons with disabilities include: attitudinal factors; exclusion in policy making processes; educational level (67% have primary level education; 19% have secondary level education; 2% have university level education;) readability of the materials; and, degree of impairment.

2.4 Public Participation for the marginalized communities under the new constitutional dispensation

The Constitution provides that the marginalized and minorities have the right to fully participate in the integrated social and economic life of Kenya as a whole and in the counties in particular. The Nakuru County Government should in the spirit of the constitution contribute towards this end by crafting a public participation policy...
that not only preserves Nakuru County’s unique ethnic, cultural and identity diversity by involving all in participation programs with respectable measure of sensitivity to diversity. This may require reflexive and innovative thinking of the processes to be deployed in enhancing citizen engagement. It may involve a look at the existence of/ and suitability of indigenous forms of public mobilization. CIC report on public participation states the following:

Article 260 defines for marginalized groups as “marginalized group” means a group of people who, because of laws or practices before, on, or after the effective date, were or are disadvantaged by discrimination on one or more of the grounds in Article 27 (4). The difference between the two is that the definition of marginalized groups is narrower as they deal with ethnicity and smaller populations. It is not enough they have a national definition but to look at a county and see whether a community is marginalized in the county level. Challenges that marginalized groups /communities have faced in public participation include: historical exclusion; unresolved human rights violations-massacres, forced removal from ancestral claimed land; and, weak voice in public affairs. Some sections of the Constitution that deal with Participation or Marginalized Communities include: Articles 10, 56, 91(1) (e), 97(C), 100, 177(1) (C), 22, 258, and 2 (5) and (6) of the Constitution.

Key challenges to public participation of minority groups are: scattered nature of participation vision of marginalized communities in the Constitution; no singular institutional arrangement to elevate participation of marginalized communities; limited political commitment to enact enabling legislation; and, weak access to information framework. The three arms of government can effect public participation through legislation on Article 100 and 177, 35 on Freedom of Information and enforcement of judicial decisions.

2.5  Mainstreaming gender and youth affairs in county policy

Several Articles of the Constitution provide for gender equality and equity as well as the rights of youth and children. Article 55 of the Constitution of Kenya provides for the rights of the youth. Similarly there are articles on affirmative action in respect of gender. The importance of these articles cannot be gainsaid. It’s therefore incumbent upon any policy (national or County) that aspires towards equality, non-discrimination and inclusivity to frame viable modalities by which gender, youth and children are factored in every strategic decision. These variables are not just traits of individuals but are an institutionalized system of social practices. So factoring gender means how we deal with social system of practices.
3.0 THE NAKURU COUNTY CONTEXT

The context for developing a policy on public participation in Nakuru County is framed by the constitution of Kenya (2010), relevant acts of parliament as well as the institutions which will be accordingly established. Devolved governance necessarily engenders a unique process in governance that aspires towards inclusivity, transparency and accountability. The county policy on public participation is conceptualized to help analyze county problems and develop effective public policy solutions with the greatest participation by the public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rationale for a Nakuru County policy on Public participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will provide a framework for action by State and NSAs in public engagement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will guide the issue of inclusivity, fairness, address issues of gate keepers, and militate against elite capture of citizen spaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will guide Nakuru County Government in developing legislation in public participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will provide clarity of engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will provide standards for public participation engagement: it will define participation in different areas and also define what will constitute sufficient public participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will bring out the thematic issues that are involved and provide direction for sectorial legislation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Will help identify gaps in various sectors, areas which have insufficient public participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will provide means of monitoring the implementation of public participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will enable the tapping of local information and knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will anchor access to information in county governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ It will guide establishment of structures for citizen participation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nakuru County inherits the geo-political and administrative unit formerly called Nakuru District. It has a long history of settlement by diverse groups of people ethnically defined. Centuries of settlement of this area by indigenous groups such as the Ogiek, Kipsigis, Tugen and Maasai, were rocked by colonial settlement in early 20th Century and has since witnessed a demographic composition that can at best be described
# NAKURU COUNTY

## General Information (2009)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nakuru</th>
<th>Rank*</th>
<th>Kenya*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>1,603,325</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface area (km²)</td>
<td>7,495</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density (people per km²)</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate, based on Ksh185 (%)</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of urban population (%)</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban population in largest towns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Nakuru</td>
<td>307,990</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Naivasha</td>
<td>169,142</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Molo</td>
<td>40,651</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Gilgil</td>
<td>35,293</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Njoro</td>
<td>23,551</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Mai Mahiu</td>
<td>12,230</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Subukia</td>
<td>7,309</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Dundori</td>
<td>5,221</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Sagana</td>
<td>4,740</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Mau Narok</td>
<td>4,357</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Bahati</td>
<td>3,823</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Rongai</td>
<td>2,215</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ongata Rongai</td>
<td>2,139</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Health and Education Outcomes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nakuru</th>
<th>Rank*</th>
<th>Kenya*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully-immunized pop &lt;1yr (%)</td>
<td>72.5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaria (as % of all 1st outpatient visits)</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB in every 10,000 people (2009/10)</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV+ antenatal care clients (%) (2010)</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with primary education (%)</td>
<td>63.4</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with secondary education (%)</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Funding Per Capita in Kshs (2008/09)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nakuru</th>
<th>Rank*</th>
<th>Kenya*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constituency Development Fund (CDF)</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF)</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Business Permit revenues by LAs</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property tax revenues by LAs</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Electrification Programme Fund</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>699</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Access to Infrastructure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nakuru</th>
<th>Rank*</th>
<th>Kenya*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved water (%) households 2009</td>
<td>66.4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved sanitation (%) households 2009</td>
<td>97.0</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity (%) households 2009</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paved roads (%) of total roads</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good/fair roads (%) of total roads</td>
<td>91.1</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Service Coverage
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nakuru</th>
<th>Rank*</th>
<th>Kenya*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delivered in a health centre</td>
<td>51.4</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualified medical assistant during birth</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had vaccinations</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate height for age</td>
<td>49.3</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can read &amp; write</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending School 15 18 years</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Rural Electrification Allocations, Kshs Millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2003/04</th>
<th>2004/05</th>
<th>2005/06</th>
<th>2006/07</th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CDF Allocations, Kshs Millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2003/04</th>
<th>2004/05</th>
<th>2005/06</th>
<th>2006/07</th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Population Per Nurse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Per Doctor (in 000’s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nakuru County Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nakuru County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Excerpt poverty rate, malaria TB & HIV all rankings are in descending order i.e. highest to lowest.
* All entries in the ‘Kenya’ column show County averages.
as diverse and cosmopolitan. Since Independence, Nakuru has grown to become one of the counties associated with rapid agricultural development, increased tourism, and a robust service sector. Nakuru is also a county that is often referred to as the bedrock of Kenya’s politics and some of the most politically dust-raising battles have been played out in Nakuru.

In unsavory terms, Nakuru has also come to be associated with inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic conflicts with occasional claims of ethnic hegemonization of County governance, rivalry in resource (especially land) sharing, and conflicts arising out of equity of representation politically speaking. In short Nakuru county’s prospects of harmonious demographic integration depends largely on finding ways to solve some of these “burning concerns”. Some critical issues standing out in Nakuru have far reaching implication on public participation hence the need for a policy framework for participation that is contextual and effective.

National and local history has shown that lack of genuine public participation has more often than not contributed to public disenchantment with governance and development issues and has almost invariably resulted in the marginalization of individuals and communities from mainstream development. This framework highlights the fact that all governance and development decisions at the county level should be grounded on public participation in all its facets and be operationalized through fierce consultative process backed by accurate and empirical data. This will not be possible without:-

i) County government goodwill,
ii) Appropriate citizen participation structures,
iii) Adequate budgetary provisions for citizen participation,
iv) Accountability mechanisms and,
v) Overall citizen friendly culture of doing things.

This framework suggests some of the key issues to be considered when implementing citizen participation in county governance and development affairs.

The following is a summary of those contextual issues underpinning the development and successful implementation of Nakuru County policy (ies) on public participation
### 3.1 Contextual issues underpinning Nakuru County’s public participation policy framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical issue</th>
<th>Nakuru County Context</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contextual relevance</td>
<td>Nakuru County policy on public participation takes into account Influencing factors that are unique to the county. These include; unique county demographic characteristics; institutional structures; history; resources; as well as mechanisms for use in actualizing the policy among others. The county government will have to develop an ex-ante assessment of the likely policy environment accompanied by a detailed statement on the outcomes desired for the policy on public participation. This will have to take into account contingency scenario planning in areas that may require a tweaking of specific policies owing to demographic and social variances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forward looking</td>
<td>Nakuru County public participation policy making process is based on clearly spelt out outcomes which can be summarized as a county where the public participate freely, and are an integral part of governance and development programming. This outcome is tandem with the goals of devolution as laid out in Article 174 of the constitution of Kenya 2010. The policies outlined transcend the contingencies of the transitional period in the sense that they encompass a long-term view of a people centered county governance cognizant of challenges likely to stand in the way of a shift from centralized system to devolved structures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence based</td>
<td>Proposed policies spring from high quality data and information derived from a variety of sources on what the diverse needs for public participation are and what options are available for intervention to meet these needs. Evidence on how public participation has worked in the county (if it has) and the experience with such intervention as LASDAP and/or LATF among others helps in two things: a) to clarify the problem warranting public participation policy in Nakuru County; b) and help identify potential viable solutions. Critical in this regard is the ability of the County officials and NSAs to draw evidence from expert knowledge; existing local and national research on Nakuru; stakeholder consultation as well as evaluation of previous national and local policies tending toward public participation. The county presents a clear case where evidence will have to be drawn from frontline development practitioners, from as many organizations as possible; other development agencies; boards; schools; health facilities; local authorities; general county citizenship for whom the policy is intended among others. More often than not, the latter group has a clearer idea about what the problems to their participation in governance are and why the situation is what it is. The suggested policies will work if only they are implemented with a sense of awareness of the limits of success of past initiatives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Inclusive

The complex multi-ethnic and socially diverse and demography in Nakuru County demand a policy making process that is inclusive. Ethnic tensions in Nakuru County have come to acquire a cyclic and long term character which cannot be served only by legislative and administrative measures. They can only be served by something more that the intended policy model should achieve. It should be something that aspires to an ideal and a renewed framework for inclusion in Nakuru County.

The intended policy should catalyze Nakuru county ethnic amalgam toward the evolution of its’ own and on its own—historically informed—formulae of sustainable inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic harmony. It should model a healthy attitude about diversity and inculcate a sense of ethnic pride. This will enhance the quality of diverse ethnic and cultural relationships by valuing diversity, while respecting difference.

### Based on historical lessons

These policy suggestions draw from experience of what works and what does not. A learning approach to policy development includes the following aspects: Information on lessons learnt from DFRD; LASDAP; PRSP on what works/does not work with the principle of participation and good practice disseminated. The County government must be clear as to available accounts of what has hitherto been successful in the area of public participation and what has not bearing in mind the unique characteristics of County demographics. Clear distinction drawn between the causes of failure of particular policy to impact on the problem it was intended to address. Was it managerial /operational or simply failure of implementation?

### Innovative and flexible

The County government is under no obligation to apply rigid guidelines to developing an effective public participation policy. Unique county characteristic may/will demand a policy making process that eschews rigidity in favor of flexibility and innovativeness. Implementing the new constitution means in part, the jettisoning of the old way of doing things or adopting them to the demand of the new dispensation in more creative and reflexive ways of engaging with respective members of the policy community. The policy-making process is flexible and innovative, questioning established ways of dealing with things, encouraging new and creative ideas; and, where appropriate, making established ways work better. Flexibility and innovativeness will require creation of policy management structures drawing from the pool of resident capacity of county government and /or engage external experts as need arise. The county government will have to employ critical complex methodologies in dealing with policy community
| **Interlinked** | It must not be assumed that the County Government is the only entity with interest on effective public participation policy. Other actors such as CSOs, religious bodies and other NSAs are in it as well. The challenge lies on how best to interlink the interests of these other players in the current preoccupation. The process of making some of the suggested policies work takes a holistic view; looking beyond institutional boundaries to the administration’s strategic objectives and seeks to establish the ethical, moral and legal base for policy. There is management and organizational structures needed to deliver cross-cutting objectives. Cross cutting objectives clearly defined at the joint working arrangements with other organizations, Governmental departments should be clearly defined and well understood; Barriers to effective joining up clearly identified with a strategy to overcome them; and Implementation considered part of the policy making process. |
| **Have an effective information and communication system** | It is important to identify information requirements and bottlenecks in the county. These should be examined at two levels; one is the information from the government (judiciary, legislative and executive) to county citizen as well as other information needs from NSA. How does the public access these and what barriers exist. There is also the horizontal information need which when addressed, improves cross cultural and cross ethnic communications. Policy model has to focus on cross-cultural relationships, communications, conflict resolutions and integration. Encourage and strengthen skills for effective communication where and when significant cultural differences exist. |
| **Frameworks for evaluation** | Because interventions at policy level are a complex affair and often tend to be incremental and cyclical, the enactment of effective County public participation policy will have to have an inbuilt policy evaluation framework. Policy enactment should state clearly the aim of policy evaluation. It is a framework that will have to be flexible and adaptable to assessing the impact of public participation policy and implementation at individual, group and institutional levels. It will have to be inbuilt in the policy-making and advocacy process. The main feature of a policy evaluation framework is that while it incorporates the logic model by looking at the causal relationships the policy initiative’s inputs, process, activities, outputs, and outcomes, it also recognizes the continual and often cyclical interplay |
among these variables in the progressive stages of implementation.

The interplay between and among these variables in policy enactment and implementation is cyclical and is neither linear nor constant owing to the presence of multiple stakeholders, diverse parties and interest groups, County and National contextual factors. The policy evaluation framework for county public participation will have to reflexively select and adapt the components of the logic model in order to collect evaluation information and data in a process that is cyclical, interactive, incremental and subject to external socio-political factors.

| Subject to continuous review | The specific policy (ies) on public participation in Nakuru County will have to be constantly and consistently reviewed to ensure that they have impact which translates into visible enhanced public participation in county governance and development programs. The modalities for review will have to be conceived and inbuilt in the process of policy making itself. What are the performance measures: what mechanisms; the feedback loop, what should be abandoned and what should be encouraged. Existing/established policy is consistently reviewed to ensure it is really dealing with problems it was designed to solve, taking account of associated effects elsewhere. Aspects of a reviewing approach to policy-making include:

- Internal county audit
- External expert audit of policy
- Consultation with all county policy stakeholders.
- Priority meetings with diverse citizen panels in the county.
- Sampling of both the quantitative and qualitative data on policy achievements and shortcomings.
- Deliberative polling on policy effectiveness and impact.
- Spot checks on evidence of policy impact.
- Checklist with citizen centered policy review questions
- Nakuru county policy consensus conference. |
4.0 NAKURU COUNTY PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY SUGGESTIONS

The operational definition is “a proposed course or principle of action proposed and adopted by Nakuru County government to promote public participation in all aspects of development and governance in Nakuru County of the Republic of Kenya. Such course of action and principle will be anchored on constitutional and legislative premises. Successful county policy on public participation begins with the commitment of county leadership to the spirit of public participation.

The Nakuru County Government submits to the Constitution of Kenya 2010 as the supreme law of the land. It shall be the stated policy of Nakuru County Government that the provisions of the constitution and pertinent legislation are fully implemented by undertaking to:

- Providing a people centered visionary and all inclusive leadership in Nakuru County
- Enforcing citizen participation as a constitutional obligation in all county matters
- Striving to align county strategy to national development plans and vision 2030
- Maximizing county revenue collection and minimizing wanton waste.
- Striving to strengthen the capacity of county staff
- Forge useful partnerships with NSAs and other agencies to further the interests of the county
- Ensure fiscal discipline in county affairs at all times
- Manage public information in a truly transparent, accountable and timely manner
- Develop and implement a people centered, disaggregated monitoring and evaluation framework

The following policy suggestions are largely framed by the CGA of 2012 and the PFMA against the overarching constitutional framework.

4.1 Identifying constitutional and legislative issues on public participation
The first challenge for actualizing a viable County policy lies in the ability of the county government to tease out those specific constitutional and legislative foci that it needs to focus upon. These derive from the sum of constitutional provisions seen alongside relevant legislation such as the CGA 2012. Some are summarized below.

*It shall be the policy of Nakuru County Government that the following overarching constitutional and legislative benchmarks are explored and addressed in all county policies and procedures.*
### Constitutional and legislative issues and commitments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judiciary</th>
<th>Executive</th>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Cross-cutting Issues</th>
<th>Long Term Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - Promoting and encouraging alternative dispute resolution as a way of decongesting the courts  
- Involving people in the judiciary transformation process  
- Establishing a comprehensive mechanism to curb official corruption  
- Putting in place a credible complaint mechanism- the judicial officers should be vetted and the public encouraged to channel their complaints to various judicial reform committees.  
- Strengthening court users | - Have a charter with the people on the standards of service delivery.  
- Vetting of the appointments to the executive—the public should participate in the appointment either directly or through their representatives.  
- The public should have access to all | - There should be developed a leadership score card to enable the public to interrogate and assess the performance of the legislature.  
- Public petitions should be encouraged-the public should be able to present their petitions to County parliaments.  
- Civic education should be intensified.  
- The public should be able to make informed choices on the kind of leadership they | - Mainstream civic education in a structured formal process that should be regular and not only target the electoral process.  
- Need to inculcate organizational structural programs that are formally committed and ensure we have commitments, tracks, reporting mechanisms that ensure performance.  
- There is a need for a framework to ensure access to information  
- Mapping of engagement mechanism is key  
- Exploitation of | - Policy Framework on Public participation is key before the development of any legislation.  
- Comprehensive and consistent civic education  
- Curriculum development to inculcate public participation  
- County Government Policies should be fast-tracked to avoid last minute |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>committees (CUC) and</th>
<th>publicizing their functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Develop and actualize a sectorial policy framework on public participation in the judiciary.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Demystify the courts- the courts should be user friendly to the public in terms of environment as well as judicial officialdom.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Unfettered access to the courts and information as a way of bringing the courts closer to the people.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>executive information</td>
<td>want.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Adopt strategies to ensure that County cabinet communication gets to the people.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Increased use of ICT to promote access and dissemination of information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Involving the public in the identification of development needs and in actual budgeting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>devolved system of government as Effective Avenue for participation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- County assemblies should represent the public effectively and strive to place public interest at the core of their legislation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Adequate measures should be put in place to ensure citizens attend and follow proceedings of county assembly (spacious public gallery, live media coverage)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- There is need to have more forum talk shows on topical issues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rush</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Continuous and sustained capacity building for County Officials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Enhance community engagement in community policing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2 County Government’s Act (CGA), 2012

Nakuru County government commitment to implementing the provision of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 will take into account all subsequent legislation in several Acts of parliament particularly the CGA of 2012 which specifies the range of rules and actions intended to guide county governance and development. Devolution has been identified as a way of getting to people and creating avenues for them to participate in their government.

   (b) requires accountability to the people of Kenya and participation in the transition process;
2. TDGA 2012: 27 (1) – highlights access to information as key to public participation
3. Intergovernmental Relations Act 2012: Section 29 provides framework for public participation to be provided by regulation
4. The Urban areas and cities Act 2011, 2\(^{nd}\) Schedule – guarantees rights of, and participation by residents in affairs of their city or urban areas.
5. Public Finance Management Act 2012: Section 207: Regulations on participatory governance to be developed. The regulation may include: structures, processes, procedures, rights and duties, receipts, processing and consideration of petitions, and complaints and special needs groups.

In principle, these Acts of parliament fulfill the legislative requisite of participation, namely bringing the government and the public closer in a reciprocal relationship. What they do is to narrow the proximity between citizens—as individuals or groups-and their government thus becoming a strong mediating force for ensuring that there is an indelible imprint of public voice in critical decisions in governance especially within the devolved units. It is therefore vital that the mechanisms for effective public participation laid out in these acts to buttress citizen engagement be looked at and implemented. Of all the acts, the CGA of 2012 lays out a comprehensive legislative framework for citizen participation and this forms the anchorage of the following Nakuru County public participation policy suggestions.

4.3 Principles of public participation

Effective public participation recognizes that there are standard principles which almost invariably guarantee the sense of citizen inclusion when applied in governance and development matter at any level. These are specified in sections 87-92 of The CGA 2012. The proposed Nakuru County public participation framework shall be anchored on these principles.

*It shall be the policy of Nakuru County Government that the following principles of participation will form the standard bases of all policies and procedures for the operations and conduct of county governance and development affairs.*
a. **Inclusivity:** County governance and development will be driven by the identification and recognition of social networks, structures organizations, social clubs and institutions, and employment of these for communication as to reach every county citizen including members of ethnic minorities and those traditionally marginalized.

b. **Diversity:** The county government will ensure that different demographic groups within the county, including women, minorities and the disabled and youth groups are part of the governance structures. It will invest in conflict resolution processes as one way of catalyzing unity peace and harmony.

c. **Building community capacity:** The county government will endeavor to train all officials at county and sub county service centers at all levels, ward committees, resident associations and other public representative groups on their role in development. Fulfill the need to embark on education on all aspects of county governance including the functions and responsibilities of county and county structures.

d. **Transparency:** Nakuru County government will endeavor to engender trust in the diverse communities in the county. In addition it will open all county meetings to the public and encouraging attendance

e. **Flexibility:** County programs requiring public input will be flexible in terms of time schedules, approaches and language.

f. **Accessibility:** Meetings will be conducted in understandable language and in highly accessible venues at all levels.

g. **Accountability:** Ensuring there is a proper management of information with inbuilt community friendly report back mechanism

h. **Trust and Commitment:** Ensuring that the purpose of any given process is explained and have the targeted group buy-in to the process.

i. **Respect:** That all county initiatives be sensitive to public feelings and needs throughout the county.

j. **Integration:** Integrating governance and development planning meetings with a people centered approach.

k. **Timely access to information:** Data, documents and other information relevant or related to policy formulation and implementation.

### 4.4 Access to Information

Section 87 of the County Government Act 2012, promotes the principles of public participation by encouraging timely access to information, reasonable access to process of policy making, protection and promotion of interest and rights minorities, legal standing, balance in role and obligation of county government and non-state actors, Public Private Partnership, reciprocal role of non-state actors and County Government.

Section 91 establishes the modalities and platforms for citizen participation. CGA 2012 provides the modalities/structures of public participation through information
communication technology-based platforms; town hall meetings; budget preparation and validation fora; notice boards; announcing jobs, appointments, procurement, awards and other important announcement of public interest; and, development project sites.

**Modalities and platforms for citizens**

- a. information communication technology-based platforms;
- b. town hall meetings;
- c. budget preparation and validation fora;
- d. notice boards: announcing jobs, appointments, procurement,
- e. awards and other important announcements of public interest;
- f. development project sites;
- g. avenues for the participation of peoples’ representatives including but not limited to members of the
- h. National Assembly and Senate; or
- i. establishment of citizen fora county and decentralized units with specific policy actions.

Section 93 provides for the public’s unfettered access to information based on the principles: (a) integration of communication in all development activities and; (b) observation of access to information by county media in accordance with Article 35 of the Constitution; and (c) observation of media ethics, standards and professionalism

> *It shall be the policy of Nakuru County government that county citizens, in their diversity and reach, have unfettered access to comprehensive and timely public information including documents and proceedings of County government so that they effectively participate in county public process and ensure effective public oversight of county functions.*

**Policy actions**

- Catalyze the development of a broad and all inclusive information system.
- Create mechanisms for continuous feedback from county residents on felt aspects of their governance.
- Facilitate public forums especially Barazas
- Develop websites that can be accessed and regularly updated
- County regulation to facilitate media practices.
- Make active use of social media as is already being used by Chief Kariuki.
- Have notice boards placed in strategic places.
- Make sure messages are written in language communicable to the public concern.
4.5 Developing mechanisms to facilitate public communication

Information and transparent communication is critical in ensuring a mutually productive and enduring relationship between county executive, county legislature and county electorate. It matters then that the County government develops and implements a communication strategy with in-built mechanisms to catalyze this interaction.

Section 95 (1) demands of the county government, genuine efforts to establish mechanisms to facilitate public communication and access to information in the form of media with the widest public outreach in the county. This requirement recognizes that mistakes have been made in the past where public communication has not only been the preserve of authorities, but has also been captive to packaging that is less friendly to citizens. Nakuru county policy acknowledges that there are different groups of people within the county who may be tuned or predisposed to different communication mechanisms. There is need that communication strategies ensure that all regardless of their differences participate in public communication.

In recognition that good communication mechanisms are a function and a proof of good county governance, Nakuru County government will catalyze the development of a people centered communication strategy and utilize a range communication mechanisms in order to ensure that County public communication flows across diverse segments of county demography while allowing citizen feedback on felt aspects of county governance and development.

Policy actions

- Map the communication needs as well as communication management challenges within the county
- Recognize the diversity in audiences within the county and their different motivations and predispositions to given communication systems. Make sure that all language groups are represented and reflected in the choice of language through which County government communicates.
- Learn from history on strengths and failures of traditional communication mechanisms
- Map out public spaces in urban and village centers across the county for interactive information sharing.
- Map out what, where, why, when and who about both the general and specific communication the county government intends to share.
- Adopt such strategies as would ensure that County cabinet communication gets to the people
- Adopt user friendly packaging of information in official article, fliers, and posters and so on.
- Popularize use of ICT. ICT can be used for a wide variety of information provision and planning issues. When using ICT, it is important to note that only a small percentage of county citizens use these medium and that options used are not representative in the broadest sense of the word.
- Use of printed materials in local and national media as well as posters and fliers are the easiest and inexpensive way to inform the public. But the use of this media should be informed by the realization that not all printed media is appropriate for all levels of readership.
- Establish local county television and radio outlets. Nakuru County may also promote access to information and enhanced public participation through popular local and national television and radio stations.
- Encourage periodic use of questionnaires and surveys as supplemental method for gathering useful public opinions as well as reaching out for various groups of county citizens. Questionnaires and surveys work best when the segments of the public targeted have a prior idea of what the project is all about. They are best suited to gathering information while enabling public critiquing of the issue at hand.
- Instrumentalize cultural-social events in county communication strategy by facilitating cultural-social events and use these to draw attention to issues affecting segments of county citizens and which require to be addressed. Cultural social events draw attention in a suitable way to
- Maximize, where possible, on the internet for a wide array of county information planning, packaging and provision methods.
- Conduct interactive exhibits of information in all forms of media like photographs, documentaries in designated county and sub county public spaces to facilitate communication.

4.6 Promoting the participation of the marginalized
It should be pointed out that County governance and development involves a wide range of complex issues. However, it primarily involves managing people’s affairs, their needs concerns, demands for maximum benefits. The county is made up of diverse groups identified along ethnic, class, gender, and regional and disability variables. This means that at any given time there are competing interests and not all will be satisfied equally hence the need for the county government to invest in strategies that engages all county citizens, individually and collectively in their uniqueness. Sections 96 and 97 do not only provide for the promotion of effective participation of marginalized and minority groups in public and political life, they also provide for the inclusion and integration of minorities and marginalized groups.
It shall be the policy of Nakuru County government that all governance and development will be undertaken in an inclusive, equal, equitable and non-discriminative manner in order that the minority and the marginalized groups fully participate and their development needs are equally addressed in county management.

Policy actions

- Develop a county citizen’s map clearly outlining community profiles of County demographics. The results should be highly visible, spatial and socio-cultural representations of people in all the different parts of the county.
- Undertake community profiling and needs assessment.
- Apply an informed perspective of the historical experience of each demographic group in terms of their involvement in development matters. This should lead to the prioritization of equity principles in representation and resource allocation.
- Encourage working with diverse representatives of important groups of county public like resident associations, farmers associations and others from all corners of the county.
- In every community there are formal and informal associations of people brought together by common interests. These represent certain segments of the community.
- It will be the policy to empower all stakeholders to formulate proposals for their development needs in a sustainable manner.
- Organize community workshops for training on various subjects that would enhance participation.
- Carry out social audit in the various segments of the county.

4.7 Participation of people with disabilities

Persons with disabilities in Kenya constitute approximately 3.6% of the population OR 1, 333, 312 people going by the last census estimates. The percentage of female persons with disabilities stands at 51.3%. It is not clear what the percentage of persons with disabilities (by age and gender) in Nakuru is. This notwithstanding it is clear that Article 54(2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that “The state shall ensure the progressive implementation of the principle that at least five percent of the members of the public in elective and appointive bodies are persons with disabilities.” This equally applies to the devolved units.
Have a baseline of the number of persons with disabilities in the county.

Have clear data and information of the type and range of disabilities that are represented in the county.

Develop an effective participatory framework for the inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Ensure that five percent of the members of the public in elective and appointive bodies in Nakuru County are persons with disabilities.

Participatory framework should be developed with the participation of persons with disabilities and should state clearly how the county government hopes to engage persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations.

In the absence of representative organization, the county government should facilitate the creation of some.

Develop a robust awareness and sensitization targeting socio-cultural attitudes toward persons with disabilities.

Ensure that County plans, mainstream the question of access to public spaces and public forums by all including persons with disabilities.

Ensure that all county public buildings are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Ensure that County information and communication packaging take into account challenges arising out of identified range of disabilities within the county.

4.8 Participation in the context of civic awareness

Effective public participation does not take place in a vacuum. It takes place if and when county citizens are fully informed and sensitized about their inalienable sovereign role in governance and development. They must be fully alert to the value of constitutionalism as a culture. Only then can they play their oversight role in the County much more effectively. Section 98 and 99 of the CGA 2012 are informed by this awareness. Section 98 (1) (a-c) outline the principles of civic education and highlights the need for continual civic engagement of County citizens’ while section 99(1) states the rationale for civic education from the perspective of the public. The latter highlights the need for county governments to sustain citizen engagement in the implementation of the constitution, instill a culture of constitutionalism, enhance citizen knowledge and understanding of electoral processes, and entrench bill of rights and institutionalization of citizen ownership and knowledge of socio-economic and political issues affecting them among others.

*It shall be the policy of Nakuru County that civic awareness be a constant feature of county governance in order to make the county a model of effective civic awareness and a sustained culture of constitutionalism anchored on the principles of inclusion, ethics, non-discrimination, citizen integration and cohesion*
Policy actions

➢ Deal with the question of political will from the County executive as well as the MCAs who only prioritize civic education for periodic (during elections) selfish ends.
➢ Uncouple civic awareness and responsibility from charged ethno-politics as is common in Nakuru owing to its multi-ethnic jostling for power.
➢ Encouraging county citizens to take responsibility for initiatives that aim at enabling them realize their rights as stipulated in the Bill of rights.
➢ Have a training plan for intensified civic awareness training in all parts of the county with a view to creating empowered citizens that are able to engage in an informed way with County governance and development affairs.
➢ Have budgetary allocation specifically for civic awareness
➢ Develop training modules that are simple and intelligible to targeted groups within the county.
➢ Activate Ward and community level institutions and structures to facilitate civic awareness.
➢ Find alternative ways of conducting civic awareness and building partnerships with other actors to facilitate civic education. These may include: School boards, Resident associations, Youth groups Faith organizations, Chief’s Barazas, CBOs, and NGOs etc.
➢ Prioritize as many social activities involving the MCAs and the County government executive where civic awareness is given emphasis
➢ Identify social amenities for conducting civic awareness and where absent, creating alternatives.
➢ Make county government friendly to public participation by availing contact information of all county officials as well as officers responsible for civic education.

4.9 Participation in County development planning

Sections 102 -104 of the CGA lay out the principles of citizen involvement in development planning at National, County and Sub County levels. All levels of government must of necessity ensure that development planning processes not only involves the public but protects and integrates the rights and interests of all including the minorities and the marginalized. It is important to note the inextricable linkage these articles forge between citizen engagement in planning and sustainability of development in all sectors implicated. Section 104 specifically highlights the value and the need for a people centered County Integrated Development Planning framework. It emphasizes the need for accurate expansive and inclusive County data as the basis for planning and the planning process should be open for public inspection at the offices of the county in question.
It shall be the policy of Nakuru County Government to ensure that County integrated Development Planning-IDP is a model of an all-inclusive, people centered development planning framework as a basis for sustainable county development programming. Nakuru IDP will be based on a shared vision of all citizens and stakeholders in the County and in line with KENYA NATIONAL VISION 2030

Policy actions

- Carry out a comprehensive mapping of county demographics and understand what it takes to have them fully participate in developing county IDPs.
- Establish comprehensive county citizen needs paying attention to ethno-traditional diversity.
- Avoid the temptation of excluding segments of county population from participating in development planning on account of narrow sectarian interests, remoteness or inaccessibility.
- Develop a county specific participatory framework (based on unique county demographic and cultural data) for the sustainable mainstreaming of citizen vision and agency in development planning at all levels in the development cycle.
- Avail all information about CIDP schedule to county citizens in community friendly ways. County government will use known participatory approaches in all development planning.
- Prioritize consultation with concerned citizens and devise mechanisms for engaging citizens in development planning cycle.
- Make the information about development planning programs and schedule available to all in the county in a timely manner.

4.10 Participation in service delivery

Effective service delivery is usually a key indicator of good governance and development. It is important to point out that the public has a big role in making this possible if they bring their oversight role to bear on the actions of those involved in service delivery. Section 116.(1) emphasizes County’s government obligations on effective service delivery while observing the principles of equity, efficiency, accessibility, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, sharing of data and information, and subsidiarity. Section117 states (among other things) the primacy of citizen rights, developing people centered service delivery institutions and ensuring unfettered public access to basic services, prudence, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. Nakuru County policy on citizen engagement in service delivery is based on the understanding that the obligations of County Government can only be realized if kept on toe by an alert public. The County government thus proposes to have a policy
that will harness the agency of County citizens to ensure that services are effectively delivered to them, to their satisfaction.

As the principal agent in the fulfillment of effective service delivery to county citizens, the County Government of Nakuru will establish a framework of accountability to meaningfully bring together county citizens as right-holders with legitimate claims in county governance and development, and duty bearers in order to ensure the strengthening of citizen agency and voice to enable them maintain constant citizen influence on the design, implementation and monitoring of efficient and responsive service delivery programs

Policy actions

- Low knowledge about rights and obligation by county citizens has remained a challenge. Because information on service delivery flow has often been one way and very low in value, it is critical to ensure that there is structure for bringing together service providers and citizens on critical issues on service delivery.
- Make service delivery a citizen centered issue.
- Have regular meetings with service providers,
- Enlist community based organization like women groups and self-help organizations in service delivery.
- Encourage access to all information pertaining to county service delivery plans
- Have a resource center for value information about acceptable levels of service delivery in functional societies.
- Develop accountability mechanisms with leaning in favor of citizen capacity to influence changes.
- Establish a multi-tiered Citizens’ Service Centre as per section 119. (1) at: (a) the county; (b) the sub-county; (c) the Ward; and (d) any other decentralized level. These centers will, as expected be key to the engagements by the county executive committee in conjunction with the national government and county citizens in ensuring effective of public services to the county citizens.
5.0 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PUBLIC FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT ACT

Citizen participation at the county level will only make sense if they have a say in County budgetary process. Nakuru County Government recognizes and strives as far as possible to make county citizens a central plank in County public finance.

*The County Government of Nakuru will make participatory budgeting (PB) a key priority in the County public finance management in order to ensure improved transparency in public expenditure and encourage citizen participation in resource allocation and oversight.*

The PFM Act has attempted to specify how citizen participation in public finance can be realized. Article 137(1) of the PFM Act provides for the establishment of a forum to be known as the County Budget and Economic Forum (CBEF). It will consist of: (a) the Governor of the county who shall be the chairperson; (b) other members of the county executive committee ;(c) a number of representatives, not being county public officers, equal to the number of executive committee members appointed by the Governor from persons nominated by organizations representing professionals, business, labor issues, women, person with disabilities, the elderly and faith based groups, CSOs at the county level. While this forum gives the semblance of inclusivity, its composition gives citizens a raw deal in the sense that they have little says in its establishment.

Policy actions

In response to the Act several organizations came together and issued a brief on how it could be bettered in order to ensure utmost public participation in county finance. Nakuru County could adopt these to guide its policy actions in respect of public finance at the county level. These include;

- Public consultations should be open to the widest spectrum of citizens and taxpayers, without discrimination.
- Establish open and transparent safeguards to prevent consultative forums from being dominated by any one political group, organized interest, or politician.
- Public consultations must have clear and specific purposes, and these purposes should generally be; to seek feedback on county government plans, budgets and budget implementation. The purpose of the consultation should be made known in advance to the public, along with relevant documentation, so that they can prepare.
- The timeline and venues for public consultations should be made known at least two weeks in advance of the consultation to ensure that people can prepare themselves to participate.
- Public consultations must set aside dedicated time for public feedback and questions.
- Public participation in the planning and budget process should occur at all stages in this process, including formulation, enactment, implementation, and oversight/evaluation.
- The public must have access to all relevant plan and budget documents in a timely fashion, meaning at least two weeks before any decisions are taken about draft plans or budgets.
- All plan and budget documents should contain an executive summary and a narrative explanation of tables and figures.
- Citizens should be able to provide input into public consultations through direct participation, through representatives, and through written comments.
- Where the public is asked for input, there should be a feedback mechanism so that citizens know whether or not their inputs were received, and whether and why they were or were not incorporated into the relevant plans or budgets.

Community members during a social accountability forum with the duty bearers
## 6.0 SUMMARY FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND NSAs IN NAKURU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General policy action area</th>
<th>Role of County government</th>
<th>Role of NSAs in Nakuru</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Promotion of greater public awareness among county residents on the role and value of public participation | - Establish clear public engagement policies in respect of constitutional and County government regulatory regime with Nakuru context in mind.  
- Create greater awareness among County officials on the importance and rationale of public participation.  
- Develop clear county policies and regulations for training and sensitizing county officials in the principles, practice and benefits of citizen engagement.  
- Device appropriate communication strategies, methods and materials to be used by County officials in promoting citizen engagement and developing skills.  
- Facilitate organizational modalities for mobilizing the greatest representation of county citizens. These will take the form of formal and informal groupings, indigenous and traditional groups, unions, cooperatives etc.  
- Ensure that community mobilization satisfies community needs, is cost effective and has tangible results. | - Facilitate civic education.  
- Facilitate advocacy for citizen participation.  
- Mobilize communities in entirety and through respective associations for effective and meaningful participation and engagement in county governance and development.  
- Carry out research and case studies in best practices in approaches to citizen participation and replicate these in Nakuru county.  
- Collect and disseminate information materials on examples of people’s participation activities.  
- Develop informational materials on participatory governance and development to enhance awareness on people’s participation issues and to assist in the integration of people’s participation issues into County governance and development.  
- Develop training and advocacy approaches aimed at sensitizing county citizens, officials and organizations on the merits and values of using appropriate participation approaches in County governance and development. |
| Creation of favorable policy and legal framework for holding county government accountable on public participation in the county | - Establish clear county policies and regulations that favor citizen participation and encourages the formation of peoples organizations.  
- Make clear the constitutional and legal framework providing the basis of people’s participation in decision making processes for County governance and development  
- Introduce and enforce policies supportive of public participation and equitable access to county resources and services especially by the poor, minorities and marginalized.  
- Enact and implement regulations to ensure progressive realization of social and economic rights of minorities, people with disabilities and special groups in line with Article 43 of the constitution.  
- Create office at county, sub county, ward and lower levels to promote, coordinate and facilitate people’s participation, initiatives and processes. | - Advocate for the establishment of county policy and legal framework for public participation.  
- Advocate and promote the introduction and implementation of policies as well as county legal and sectorial reforms which promote the fulfillment of basic rights for all in the county.  
- Devise ways of supporting the county government in achieving the highest level of citizen engagement in the design implementation and evaluation of governance and development projects. |
### Strengthening internal capacities of people's (resident) organization and association at County, Sub County and community levels.

- Make the legal regime for the registration of and regulation of CBOs and self-help groups easy and accessible to the widest reach of county citizens.
- Facilitate training programs for leaders, managers, to reinforce their capacities to offer complimentary support to county governance and development efforts at devolved levels.
- Advocate for some form of funding, public or otherwise, of peoples organizations in the county through grants and subsidies to enable them work towards sustainable county development programs.
- Advocate for a county policy that will catalyze the building of capacity of peoples organizations to enable them hold county government accountable.
- Strengthen partnership with county government and other NSAs to strengthen the governance and management capacity of peoples organizations and interest groups through specially targeted training programs as well as capacity and technical support extension services.

### Promotion of peoples participation in County institutions and structures

- Formulate county administrative and budgetary procedures which facilitate the delegation of authority and responsibility to sub county and vocational levels decision making, planning and social audits.
- Establish county, sub county, ward location consultative, advisory and planning forums and committees with representatives from people's organizations, vulnerable disadvantaged and minority groups NSAs among others to support county citizen engagement.
- Conduct advocacy programs on the need for structured framework for promoting peoples participation in County governance development planning.
### Dialogue and technical cooperation between county, national government, NSAs, people’s organizations and other stakeholders

- Establish multi-sectoral and institutional mechanisms as well as advisory bodies at county level within and between line ministries and departments to promote citizen participation and facilitate dialogue and collaboration with NSAs and citizen representative groups on policies, programs and projects.

- Promote networking alliances or coalitions among NSAs, people’s representatives as a platform for exchange of information advocacy and policy dialogue on citizen participation, participatory governance and development.

- Facilitate and enable participation of representatives of people’s organizations within the county in county level training activities related to information exchange, policy dialogue and development planning.

- Advocate institutional arrangements at county level to promote closer dialogue and technical collaboration between all development partners implicated in county programmes, County government and relevant NSAs.

- Facilitate and encourage participation and diverse representation of people in the County together with County government officials in a variety of fora such as workshops, expert meetings, consultative forums, conferences etc.

### Introduction and sustenance of appropriate county operational procedures and methods to facilitate public participation

- Develop policy and operational procedures, guidelines on people’s participation and exchange of information between and among all stakeholders in the county.

- Advocate for closer technical cooperation and exchange of information between County government and NSAs.

- Develop operational procedures and measures that facilitate peoples’ participation in NSAs program cycle and activities.

- Develop program design guidelines that encourage, to the extent possible the mainstreaming of people’s participation in county programs and projects.
### Monitoring and evaluation of people’s participation in Nakuru County

- Establish clear and appropriate mechanisms for collecting, processing and disseminating data on people’s participation in the county on a systematic and regular basis.
- Develop County, sub county, Ward and locational levels’ public participation monitoring and evaluation systems
- Assess periodically the impact of public participation county governance and development

- Advocate for the establishment of county, Ward sub county, location and community level participatory M&E
- Facilitate the collection, processing and dissemination of information on people’s participation using program level and county level indicators adapted to specific nature of assignment.
- Facilitate training of people’s organizations such as resident associations on participatory M&E
- Carry out and adapt best practices on people’s participation.

---

*Community members in Kuresoi during a needs assessment meeting*
7.0 CONCLUSION

This framework recognizes that achieving the goal of good county governance and sustainable development through public participation, certain actions will have to be taken in the following (not limited) areas:

- Identify and coordinate voluntary and autonomous people’s organizations in the county: These will include traditional community councils, informal groups, formal Civil Society Organizations including FBOs, cooperatives, women and youth groups and associations, as a way of to strengthen their self-help capacities and bargaining power in decisions affecting their development and well-being.

- Advocating for greater public awareness of the role of people’s participation and people’s organizations in county governance and development.

- Facilitate dialogue and collaboration (technical or otherwise) between county government, development agencies including NSAs in Nakuru and the community representatives in their diversity.

- Advocacy for county favorable legal and policy framework for people’s participation taking into account unique county demographic characteristics;

- Promote public participation and engagement in all structures set up at the county level to make sure that devolution reaches the grassroots. This will necessarily involve the identification and introduction of suitable operational procedures and methods to facilitate wider participation;

- Encourage and facilitate civic education programs with a view to expanding public capacity for critical knowledge about democratic constitutional practices, and their role expectation within that practice.

- Facilitate awareness and equip County residents with knowledge, skills and resources needed to conduct social audits which will ensure that County government is held to account. Such awareness and sensitization initiatives will necessarily instill core democratic beliefs and values, and encourage more active and informed political participation.

- Strengthen available institutionalized social accountability, and other community monitoring mechanisms to track the utilization of not only the revenue channeled to the County by the national government, but also that which is raised by the County from multiple and diverse sources not limited to grants, loans, etc.
Advocating and lobbying for periodic open public hearing and “State of County” reports on quarterly, half yearly and/or annual basis to be inbuilt as a mechanism for accountability by County Governments.

Develop a people centered monitoring and evaluation framework for assessing and improving of people’s participation in county governance.

It should be emphasized that the objective of active participation by Nakuru County citizens in Governance and development can be achieved only through consistent and concentrated efforts over a long period. This framework contributes to the provision of critical issues and steps to guide public participation. The County government and NSAs must not underestimate the challenge of achieving maximum citizen engagement in the affairs of the County. Nor should they underestimate the budget involved. But a clear and well laid aid strategy will yield desired dividends of a truly people centered county governance and development.


http://www.cickenya.org/index.php/newsroom/press-releases/item/308-
constituencies-development-fund-cdf-act-2013-isunconstitutional#.UXpe7bVTC3w

http://www.cdf.go.ke/projects