COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI

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MINISTRY OF LANDS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

KITUI MUNICIPALITY

REPORT ON CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT FORUM

Date: 13/09/2023

Venue: Agricultural Training Centre

Introduction

Chapter 1, Article 1 of the constitution of Kenya2011 on the Sovereignty of the people states that 'All sovereign power belongs to the people of Kenya and shall be exercised only in accordance with this Constitution and that The people may exercise their sovereign power either directly or through their democratically elected representatives'. Further Urban Areas and Cities Act 2011, Amended 2019 Second Schedule and Section 22 on rights of, and participation by residents in affairs of their city or urban area gives members of the public more rights to deliberate and make proposals in regard to service delivery, plans and in the budget processes.

Pursuant to the above legal provisions, Kitui Municipality holds quarterly interactive public forum to present the proposed programs and update members of the same for their input. This is aimed at enhancing transparency and accountably to the public while creating a conducive environment for interaction and service delivery.

Citizen forum theme "To Create conducive environment for business and traders"

Key stakeholders to the forum

The forum involved the following various stakeholders;

- 1. Kitui Municipal board members
- 2. The public –residents and business community.
- 3. Kenya Alliance of Resident Association (KARA)-promotes social accountability through supporting structured public participation in service delivery.
- 4. Civil Society Urban Development Platform (CSUDP)- promoter of social inclusivity in the modern era of urbanization in Kenya through coordinated and multi-sectoral approaches to sustainable devolved development.
- 5. Representatives of various Civil Society Organizations CSOs) and Community based organizations operating in Kitui Municipality.
- Representatives from County government departments and chamber of commerce.

Highlights of activities

1. Introduction of stakeholders present



Kitui Municipal Board citizen forum at ATC-Kitui Town

- 2. Brief presentations to the citizens on the planned projects/programmes to be undertaken by Kitui municipality during Financial year 2023/2024.
- 3. Plenary Session: public/stakeholders aired out their views/ concerns regarding service delivery by the Kitui Municipality.



Stakeholders presenting their views in regards to business operations in Kitui.

Issues raised by the Private sector/stakeholders during plenary session.

- Representative of the chamber of commerce requested for mitigation measure to address the issue of traders especially hawkers who place their wares in front of other traders' shops.
- 2. Stakeholders requested to be more involved in the projects implementation by Kitui Municipality
- 3. Mushrooming illegal structures and hawkers in Kitui town.
- 4. Relocation of Kalundu Dumpsite to provide conducive working environment for Traders (Cabbage wholesalers)
- 5. Most of the Security/streetlights not functional

- 6. Workshop owners (Carpenters) have taken up/occupied most of the spaces/ areas upgraded by Kenya Informal settlement Programme (KISIP) especially Mjini estate.
- 7. Blocked storm water drains as a result of illegal open dumping in most of the estates
- 8. Most of municipality infrastructure are not disability sensitive

Way forward

The chair thanked the members of public for their active participation and assured them that their views/concerns will be incorporated in the municipality programs for betterment of conducive business working environment.