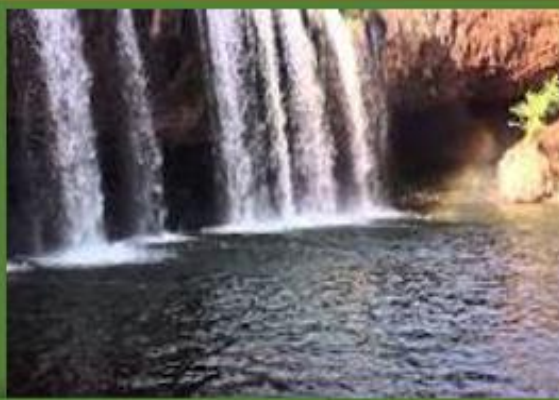




# NATIONAL SPATIAL PLAN GUIDELINES FOR THARAKA NITHI COUNTY

**Optimal productivity, sustainability, efficiency and equity in  
use of our land and territorial space**



MINISTRY OF LANDS AND PHYSICAL PLANNING

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

© JUNE 2022

## **Foreword**

The Constitution of Kenya apportions responsibility of planning to both National and County Governments. Under the Fourth Schedule on distribution of functions, Part 1 (21) and (32) mandates the National Government with the responsibility of formulating general principles of land planning, co-ordination of planning by the Counties, capacity building and technical assistance to the Counties. On the other hand, Part 2(8) allocates the function of County planning and development to County Governments. It is under these provisions that the County specific guidelines have been prepared.

The Department of Physical Planning prepared the National Spatial Plan (NSP) in response to the Kenya Vision 2030 to guide the spatial development of the country over a period of 30 years beginning in 2015.

It aims at achieving an organized, integrated, sustainable and balanced development of the country by providing a framework for better national organization and linkages between different activities within the national space.

To implement the Plan, the Counties are expected to play a key role by mainstreaming strategies, policies, and measures identified in the NSP into the County spatial planning systems.

The guidelines have identified planning policies, strategies, and measures that Plans at the County level are expected to mainstream and propagate. The policies address among others, the protection of rich agricultural land, development imbalances, conservation of environmentally sensitive areas, urban containment, and promotion of industrial development.

The guidelines provide direction on the existing potentials, the opportunities, the constraints/challenges inhibiting harnessing of the potentials, the strategies to apply, respective policies required, and the necessary measures to achieve optimal productivity, sustainability, efficiency and equity in the use of county land resources.

The guidelines are an opportunity on how best to refocus, vary and complement areas that require different approaches responding to country-specific needs and promote the

livelihoods of their people, while contributing to the national aspirations of vision 2030, regional objectives of the Africa Agenda 2063, and international targets of sustainable development. The refocusing will also be handy in reviewing and making decisions on NSP which is due for review in 2025.

These guidelines are therefore a tool for enhancing this critical path and provide a direction for development planning by the Counties as they discharge their responsibility of preparing county and local physical and land use development plans. The guidelines will also ensure that the County Integrated Development Plans conform to the proposed County specific policy guidelines and measures.

DRAFT

## **Preface**

The National Spatial Plan(NSP) recognizes that Kenya is greatly endowed with massive and diverse resources distributed over the national space that require an integrated and coordinated approach for optimal productivity and sustainability.

The County Specific Guidelines have been derived from the National Spatial Plan and provide a planning framework for the integration of the NSP into the county spatial planning system. They are clear statements linking the National Spatial Plan to Inter-County, County and lower-level Physical and Land Use Development Plans and provide clarification on the anticipated sustainable development outcomes of implementing the Plan.

The County Government will adopt, develop and implement their plans based on the policies, strategies, and measures articulated in the guidelines. The realized county plans are expected to guide, harmonize and facilitate development within the county, hence contributing to the overall implementation of the NSP.

The guidelines also form an efficient compass and monitoring tool for National and County Governments to jointly pursue sustainable planning and appropriate implementation mechanisms.

For the county to be nationally competitive, there is need to balance development and promote optimal utilization of land and land-based resources as well as cultivate an integrated approach in addressing the intertwined challenges of regional imbalances/inequalities, rural development, underutilization of the available resources, uncontrolled urbanization, environmental degradation and inefficient transportation. It is imperative therefore, to prioritize the implementation of this strategic document so as to promote balanced development and competitiveness across the county.

## **Executive Summary**

The County Specific Guidelines seek to facilitate the implementation of the National Spatial Plan by outlining policies, strategies and measures to guide County spatial planning and development and promote optimal productivity, sustainability, efficiency and equity in the use of land. They provide a framework for preparation of lower level Plans including Inter-County, County and Local Physical and Land Use Development Plans.

The disconnect between National and County Spatial Planning and development has resulted in uncoordinated and unbalanced development, therefore creating a need for a clear structure that links National, Regional and Local planning and development. This is achievable through integration of the policies, strategies and measures proposed by the guidelines into County Spatial Plans, Programs and Projects, to tackle challenges of unbalanced regional development, urbanization, national competitiveness and unsustainable use of land and natural resources.

The County Specific Guidelines are organized into five chapters detailing various facets. Chapter one provides an overview, purpose and justification of preparation of the guidelines. It also outlines the objectives that the guidelines intend to achieve and details the preparation process as well as intended users. This chapter highlights the key principles that form the basis for preparation of lower level plans including public participation, livability, sustainable development, urban containment, smart urban growth among others.

Chapter two details the legal and policy provisions that the guidelines are anchored upon. They include, among others, The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, The Physical and Land Use Planning Act No.13 of 2019, County Government Act, 2012, Environmental Management and Coordination (Amendment) Act, 2015, Sessional Paper No. 01 of 2017 on National Land Use Policy and Sessional Paper No. 10 of 2012 on Kenya Vision 2030.

The third chapter analyses the county profile, detailing its location, size, bio-physical characteristics, socioeconomic status and the County's comparative advantage in

relation to others. The locational context provides information on the geographical position and bordering Counties while the biophysical context discusses the topography, hydrology and climate. The socioeconomic status indicates key economic drivers of the County and its population and demographic structure.

Chapter four presents the County specific issues and proposes development strategies to promote national competitiveness, optimal use of land and resources, rural development, balanced intra-county development and urbanization. Additionally, it provides policy guidelines and measures for County advancement.

The final chapter five focuses on implementation and adoption of the guidelines. The implementation framework identifies institutions, County development programs and projects, and further ties them with responsible actors, resources and timeframes for effective execution. It proposes a framework for ensuring that the outlined policies, strategies and measures are adequately implemented.

DRAFT

## Contents

Foreword .....	ii
Preface.....	iv
Executive Summary .....	v
1 Introduction .....	9
1.1 Background.....	9
1.2 Purpose.....	9
1.3 Objectives.....	10
1.4 Scope.....	10
1.5 Justification.....	11
1.6 Application of the Guidelines .....	11
1.7 Process of Preparing the Guidelines .....	12
1.8 Targeted Users of the Guidelines .....	13
1.9 Key Principles.....	15
2 The Policy, Legal and Planning Framework for The Guidelines.....	16
2.1 Constitutional Context .....	16
2.2 Policy Context .....	16
2.2.1 Sessional Paper No. 10 of 2012 on Kenya Vision 2030.....	16
2.2.2 Sessional Paper No. 01 of 2017 on National Land Use Policy.....	16
2.3 Legal Context .....	17
2.3.1 The Physical and Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019.....	17
2.3.2 County Governments Act, 2012 .....	17
2.3.3 Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019 .....	17
2.3.4 Environmental Management and Coordination (Amendment) Act, 2015 .....	17
2.3.5 National Land Commission Act, 2012.....	18
2.4 Planning Context.....	18
2.4.1 National Spatial Plan (NSP) .....	18
2.4.2 NSP Linkage to Other Plans.....	19
3 County Profile.....	21
3.1 Location Context.....	21
3.2 Bio-Physical Context.....	22
3.3 Socio-Economic Background .....	22

3.4	County’s Comparative Advantage.....	23
4	County Specific Issues, Development Strategies and Policy Guidelines .....	25
4.1	Tharaka-Nithi County Development Strategies .....	25
4.2	Spatial Policy Guidelines.....	36
5	Implementation and Adoption of The Guidelines .....	56
5.1	Overview.....	56
5.2	Implementation Approaches .....	56
5.3	Implementation Framework.....	57
5.3.1	County Physical Planning Committee.....	57
5.3.2	County Planning Unit (CPU) .....	58
5.3.3	National Land Commission .....	58
5.4	Monitoring and Evaluation .....	58
5.5	Conclusion .....	61

**List of Tables**

<i>Table 2: Population Projection Summary.....</i>	22
<i>Table 3: NSP strategies for Tharaka Nithi county.....</i>	26
<i>Table 4: Policy Guidelines for Tharaka Nithi.....</i>	37

**List of Maps**

<i>Map 1: Locational Context of Tharaka Nithi County.....</i>	21
<i>Map 2 : Existing SIituation.....</i>	24
<i>Map 3: NSP Proposals for Tharaka Nithi County.....</i>	55

**List of Figures**

<i>Figure 1: The Scope of the Guidelines.....</i>	11
<i>Figure 4: Implementation structure of the guidelines.....</i>	60

## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

The County Guidelines set out policies, strategies and measures that will guide the long-term spatial development of the county for a period of 30 years. They cover the entire county and defines the general trend and direction of its spatial development.

The guidelines have been developed in line with the four thematic areas as outlined in the NSP. They provide a guide to the Planning Authority at the county on how to incorporate the NSP policies, strategies and measures during the preparation of County Spatial Plans and other lower level plans like the Local Physical and Land Use Development Plans consequently implementing the NSP.

The NSP County Specific implementation guidelines summarize the County's existing potentials and opportunities, the constraints (challenges) inhibiting harnessing of the potentials, the applicable strategies and respective policies required, and the necessary measures to achieve optimal productivity, sustainability, efficiency and equity in the use of the county land resources. They act as a reference point

### **1.2 Purpose**

The purpose of the County Specific Guidelines is to provide a planning framework for mainstreaming of the National Spatial Plan to the County spatial planning system.

The guidelines are intended to assist the County enhance the implementation of the NSP by linking the proposed county specific policies, strategies and measures into the County plans, programs and projects while putting measures in place for achieving them. The guidelines inform preparation of various County Physical Plans such as the County Physical and Land Use Development Plans.

For optimal implementation of these plans, a County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) is essential since it is a sectoral and budgetary based plan that draws its implementation programs and projects from the County Physical Plans.

### 1.3 Objectives

The guidelines provide policies, strategies and measures to deal with challenges of regional imbalances/inequalities, rural development, underutilization of the available resources, urbanization, environmental degradation and inefficient transportation.

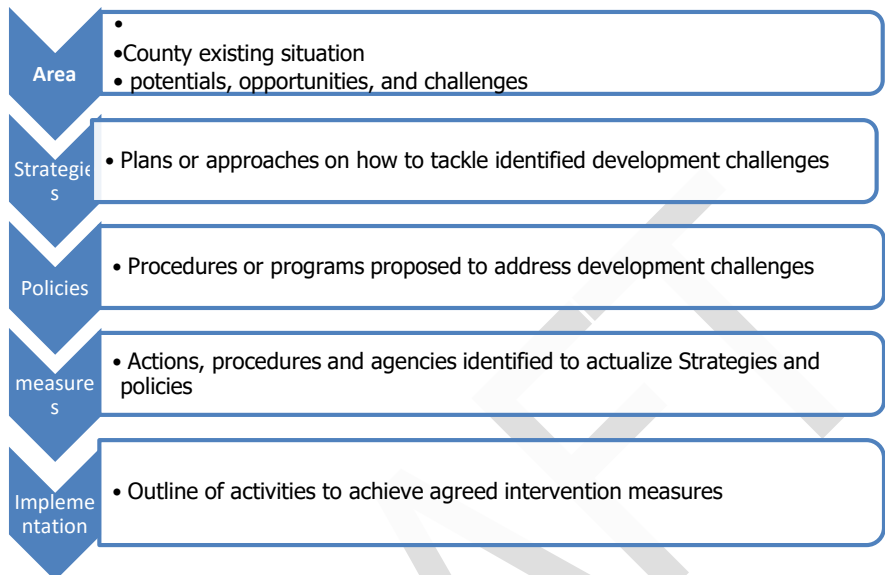
Specifically, the objectives are;

1. To sensitize the County on the provisions of the NSP
2. To promote synergy between National and County planning
3. To guide the County, implement the NSP
4. To identify the roles of the different actors in the implementation of the NSP.

### 1.4 Scope

The guidelines comprise policies, strategies and measures specific to Tharaka Nithi County covering approximately 2037 km<sup>2</sup>. The guidelines highlight the County's existing potentials and opportunities, the constraints (challenges) inhibiting harnessing of the potentials, the applicable strategies and respective policies required, and the necessary measures, actions, approaches, plans and procedures prescribed to achieve optimal productivity, sustainability, efficiency and equity in the use of the county's land resources and an outline of activities to execute agreed interventions as captured in the National Spatial Plan, as indicated in Figure 1 below. These guidelines are effective up to the year 2045.

**Figure 1: The Scope of the Guidelines**



**Source: State Department for Physical Planning, 2022**

### 1.5 Justification

Since the approval and launch of the NSP, its implementation has been undertaken in an uncoordinated manner hence the guidelines will provide a standardized approach for all Counties. The guidelines are also an important tool for tracking and evaluating implementation of the NSP both at National and County levels.

The preparation of County Spatial Plans and other lower-level plans which is a mandate of Counties has been slow and, in some Counties, has not begun at all. These guidelines are therefore a quick reference in preparation of county plans and for some Counties to help optimize land in the absence of these plans.

### 1.6 Application of the Guidelines

The guidelines will be used or applied in the following ways to achieve a more sustained and coordinated development of the County;

- To effectively coordinate planning between the National and the County Government;
- To improve the County Government's capacity to formulate, coordinate and implement integrated development policies, strategies, measures, programs and projects to address spatially unbalanced development;
- To inform strategic infrastructure policy and public investment decisions which support the achievement of balanced development in the County;
- To strengthen County inter-sectoral coordination within a spatial framework and provide the private sector with a clear context in which they can make investment decisions;
- To optimize the use of land and natural resources by providing a framework for making sustainable locational choices for sustainable development and conservation of land productivity in the County.

#### **1.7 Process of Preparing the Guidelines**

The process involved reviewing the National Spatial Plan and identifying key issues, spatial policies, development strategies and measures specific to Tharaka Nithi County. These key issues, spatial policies, development strategies and measures will be realized through preparation of County and other lower-level plans.

Research was undertaken on various thematic areas to enrich the County specific issues and development strategies as well as policy guidelines and measures/ interventions. Further, preparation of the guidelines considered the constitutional, policy and legal provisions on physical and land use planning. Expert opinion was sought on the identified issues, policies, measures and strategies for implementation viability.

The preparation of the guidelines was identified as one of the implementation tools of the NSP, in which key NSP issues, policies, strategies and measures were translated into specific action plans, programs and projects at the County level.

### 1.8 Targeted Users of the Guidelines

These Guidelines have diverse consumers and application depending on prevailing circumstances and actors as demonstrated in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: Targeted Users of the Guidelines**

User	Application
County Executive Committee Member in charge of Physical and Land Use Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preparation of county and lower-level plans</li> <li>● Linkage of planning structures</li> <li>● Quality control of the various county plans</li> <li>● Formulate county planning policies and strategies</li> <li>● Establish county specific planning institutions</li> <li>● Coordinate and implement county plans and policies</li> </ul>
The County Director of Physical and Land Use planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Advising the county government on the impact of the county specific guidelines to the county</li> <li>● Preparation of County physical and land use development plans and other lower level plans</li> <li>● Formulating County physical and land use planning policies, guidelines, strategies, and standards;</li> <li>● Issuance of development permission and other development control instruments under The Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2013.</li> </ul>
Licensed physical and land use planners both in public and private sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prepare, coordinate and implement spatial plans</li> <li>● Quality control of plans and consultancy services</li> <li>● Formulate policies, strategies and development guidelines</li> <li>● Dispute resolution</li> </ul>
County assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Approval of strategic sectoral budgets such as planning</li> <li>● Vetting of various County specific plans</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulation and passing of County planning legislation</li> <li>• Enhance capacity to oversee the executive on spatial planning</li> </ul>
Ministries, Departments and Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstreaming relevant NSP policies, programs and projects</li> <li>• Allocation of resources to priority areas,</li> <li>• Strengthening linkages with spatial planning in resource management</li> </ul>
The National Land Commission (NLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversight role in land use planning to ensure efficient implementation of the NSP</li> <li>• Ensure relevant planning authorities carry out their functions as required by the law</li> </ul>
Practitioners in the built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance NSP relevant policies, programs and projects hence optimization of land resource</li> <li>• Appreciate sectoral Linkages to spatial planning</li> <li>• Facilitate incorporation of the policies, strategies and measures into, County specific plans</li> </ul>
Community, developers and investors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehend the County priority sectors and County Plans and policies</li> <li>• Complement County spatial planning and implementation measures</li> <li>• Making informed investment decisions</li> </ul>
Development partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference frame for selecting and funding spatial planning activities</li> <li>• Understand planning linkages and implementation</li> <li>• Informed development decisions</li> </ul>
Training institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliment the curriculum for training of spatial planners</li> <li>• Understand the planning procedures and processes</li> </ul>

## 1.9 Key Principles

The principles, as applied in the NSP, should guide and form the basis upon which the lower-level physical and land use plans are prepared. Further the principles should ensure sustainable, coordinated, and realistic development. They include the following:

- 1. Effective Public participation/engagement:** All plans shall be prepared in a participatory and consultative manner with relevant stakeholders and sectoral actors.
- 2. Urban containment/Compact cities:** Local plans shall strive to limit and control urban growth within the set urban boundaries to protect rich agricultural land, mitigate urban sprawl and reduce cost of infrastructural provision.
- 3. Livability:** The planning of urban areas shall enhance the livability index in the area of housing, environment, transportation, health, and social engagement. The urban areas must be economically viable, socially inclusive and ecologically sustainable.
- 4. Smart and green urban growth:** Plans shall promote sustainable use of energy, creation of green spaces, reduce the need for car travel, and promote use of local materials, support businesses, protection of heritage and creation of unique character.
- 5. Sustainable development:** Balancing social, economic and environmental dimensions of development and catering for current and future generations.
- 6. Promotion of ecological integrity:** Plans shall promote the protection and conservation of environmentally sensitive areas.
- 7. Promote public transportation:** Favor public transportation over private transport to ensure efficiency and functionality of urban places.
- 8. Balanced development:** Plans to ensure there/ is balanced development in the County to cure inequalities.

## **2 The Policy, Legal and Planning Framework for The Guidelines**

### **2.1 Constitutional Context**

The formulation of these guidelines took into account the Constitution of Kenya 2010 aspirations and Principles. Article 66 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 gives the State powers to regulate use of any land and property in the interest of land use planning among others. The guidelines are therefore within and in response to the aspirations, values and principles as provided for in the constitution.

### **2.2 Policy Context**

#### **2.2.1 Sessional Paper No. 10 of 2012 on Kenya Vision 2030**

Kenya Vision 2030 is the overarching national development framework which all plans should be aligned to. The preparation of all spatial plans should take cognizance of the aspirations, foundations and development concepts of the vision. The preparation of the first National Spatial Plan is identified in Kenya Vision 2030 as a flagship project and is regarded as one of the foundations for socio-economic transformation. Hence the need for linkage between national planning and county planning which will be achieved through mainstreaming NSP requirements into CSPs and other lower-level plans by preparing NSP county specific guidelines to implement the NSP at lower levels.

#### **2.2.2 Sessional Paper No. 01 of 2017 on National Land Use Policy**

The policy was formulated to address the various challenges related to land use and ensure efficient, productive and sustainable use of land. The main goal of the policy is to provide legal, administrative, institutional and technological framework for optimal utilization and productivity of land related resources in a sustainable and desirable manner at national, County and community levels.

The policy recommends the preparation of a National Spatial Plan to provide an integrated framework for the development of the country including guidelines for sustainable rural and urban planning management. The policy also provides for the preparation of planning

guidelines, policies and standards to be observed by County Governments and other sectoral agencies within the frameworks of approved physical and land use development plans. These guidelines have been prepared on this basis and they are to be observed by counties in the implementation of the National Spatial Plan.

### **2.3 Legal Context**

Various Acts of Parliament are in place to provide the legal framework for the implementation of the mandate provided for in Article 66 of the Constitution. The Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019, The Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019, County Governments Act No. 17 of 2012, The Land Act No. 6 of 2012, National Land Commission Act No. 5 of 2012 among others. The NSP County specific guidelines are prepared in this context and meet this criterion.

#### **2.3.1 The Physical and Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019**

This is the overarching statute that provides for formulation of both National and County physical and land use planning policies, guidelines and standards. The Act further provides for administration, types, content, process and approval of the various types of Physical and Land Use Development Plans.

#### **2.3.2 County Governments Act, 2012**

This statute mandates County Governments to carry out the planning function at the county level. The guidelines support preparation of the various county level plans that meet the recommended quality and standards.

#### **2.3.3 Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019**

The statute provides for classification of urban areas and cities, their governance and management, and for integrated development planning. The guidelines are a basis for preparation of these lower-level plans.

#### **2.3.4 Environmental Management and Coordination (Amendment) Act, 2015**

The Act provides for the establishment of an appropriate legal and institutional framework for the management of the environment as well as guidelines relating to environmental management and prevention or abatement of environmental degradation. The guidelines take cognizance of this Act and will be implemented within the framework

### 2.3.5 National Land Commission Act, 2012

The Act mandates the National Land Commission with the management and administration of public land on behalf of the National and County Governments and to monitor and oversight physical and lands use planning in the country. The guidelines fall within the ambit of this statute and will facilitate their oversight responsibilities.

## 2.4 Planning Context

### 2.4.1 National Spatial Plan (NSP)

The National Spatial Plan (NSP) covers the whole country encompassing the exclusive economic zone. The NSP outlines policies and strategies geared towards influencing desired future distribution and organization of human activity outlined in Vision 2030 and sectoral policies and plans. It aims at achieving economic efficiency and balanced development. The various County Spatial Plans should be aligned to the policies outlined in the NSP as demonstrated in Figure 2 below.

**Figure 2: Policy Focus of the NSP**



**Source: National Spatial Plan, 2015-2045**

To actualize the NSP, a comprehensive implementation strategy has been proposed that embraces a multiplicity of actors including National Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, County Governments and the National Land Commission. The strategy proposes the establishment of the following institutions as key in the implementation of

the Plan; The National Physical Planning Council, the National Technical Committee and the County Physical Planning Committee.

#### **2.4.2 NSP Linkage to Other Plans**

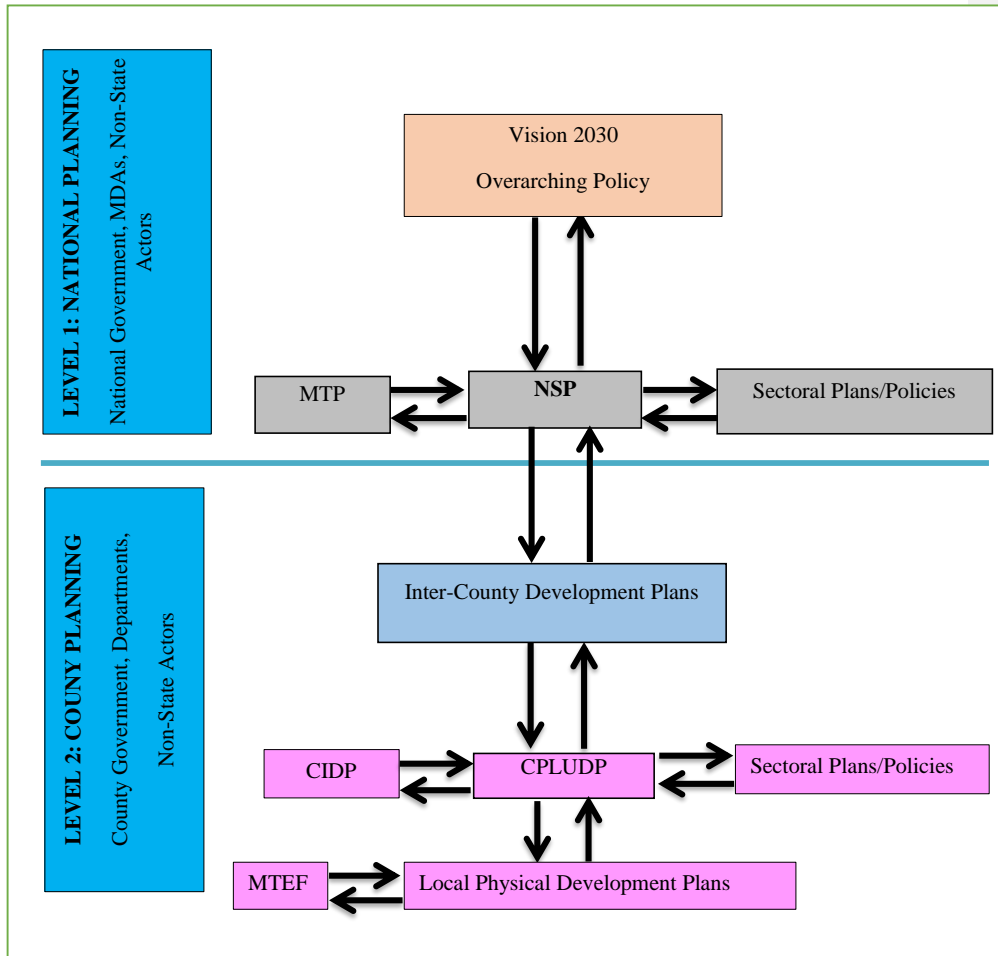
The linkage of the National Spatial Plan (NSP) to county and other lower-level plans is key to realization of its aspirations and the successful actualization of these plans. The NSP provides a spatial framework to ground the Vision 2030 flagships projects and form a basis for coordination of County policies, strategies, measures and plans.

Inter County and County plans take into considerations the policies, measures and strategies of the NSP and implements them actualizing its aspirations.

County Physical and Land Use Development Plans provide a framework where the CIDP draws its programs and projects. The implementation of the CIDP in turn leads to realization of the objectives of the County Physical and Land Use Development Plan.

DRAFT

Figure 3: NSP Linkage to other Plans



Source: The National Spatial Plan, 2015-2045

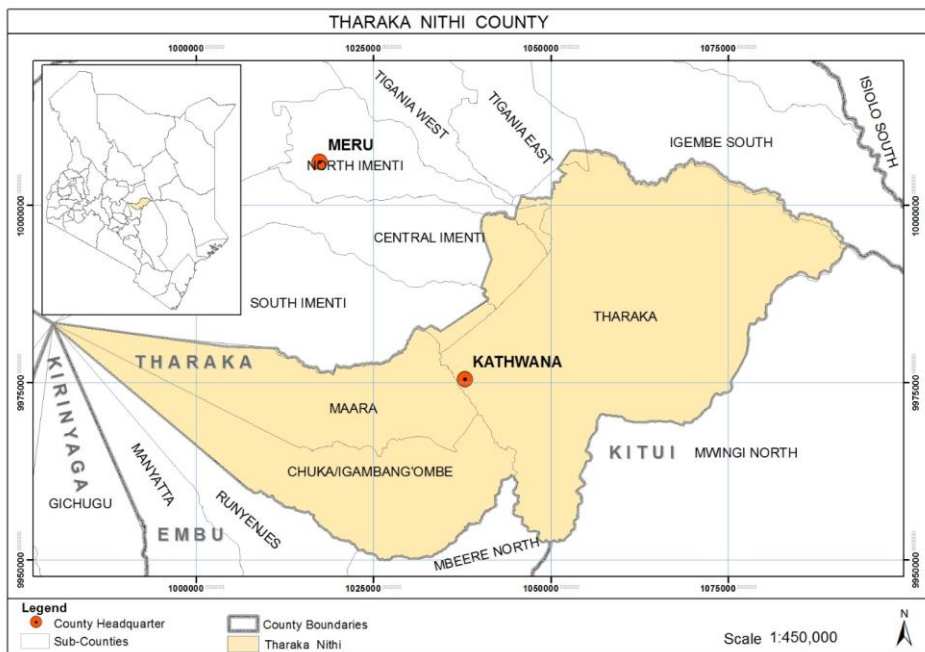
### 3 County Profile

This chapter describes Tharaka-Nithi County including location, bio-physical context, and land-use patterns, socio-economic background, physical infrastructure and utilities and the county's comparative advantage.

#### 3.1 Location Context

Tharaka Nithi County is located in the Eastern region of Kenya. It borders the counties of Embu to the South and South West, Meru to the North and North East, Kirinyaga and Nyeri to the West and Kitui to the East and South East. The county lies between latitude  $0^{\circ} 07'$  and  $0^{\circ} 26'$  South and between longitudes  $37^{\circ} 19'$  and  $37^{\circ} 46'$  East. The total area of the County is 2,564.4 Km<sup>2</sup>.

Map 1: Locational Context of Tharaka Nithi County



Source: State Department for Physical Planning, 2022.

### 3.2 Bio-Physical Context

**Topography:** The highest altitude of the county is 5,200m in Chuka/Igambang'ombe and Maara while the lowest is 600m Eastwards in Tharaka. Major hills found in the county landscape include Kiera, Munuguni and Njuguni in Maara constituency and Kijege and Ntugi in Tharaka constituency.

**Water resources:** The County is traversed by several rivers, which originate from both the Mt. Kenya and Nyambene Hills, flowing eastwards as tributaries of Tana River. These include Mutonga, Thingithu, Kathita, Thanantu, Thangatha, Kithinu and Ura rivers which provide water for irrigation in the moderately densely populated locations.

**Rainfall :** The County has two main ecological zones. The highlands (upper zone) comprise of Maara and Chuka which receive an average annual rainfall of 2,200 mm. The semi-arid (lower zone) which covers Tharaka receives an average annual rainfall of 500mm.

**Temperatures:** Temperatures in the highland areas range between 14°C to 30°C while those of the lowland area range between 22°C to 36°C.

### 3.3 Socio-Economic Background

#### Demography

The County has ~~It has~~ a total population of 393,170 comprising of 193,764 male and 199,406 female, according to the 2019 Census report. The population is expected to grow to 625,209 by the year 2045, which is end of the National Spatial Plan period.

Table 1: Population Projection Summary

Year	2019		2020		2025		2030		2035		2040		2045	
<b>Population Size</b>	393,170		400,248		437,591		478,418		523,054		571,855		625,209	
	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>
	193,764	199,406	196,122	204,126	214,420	223,171	234,425	243,993	256,296	266,758	280,209	291,646	306,352	318,857
<b>House holds</b>	109,860		111,180		121,553		132,894		145,293		158,849		173,669	

<b>Area</b>	2,662.1 km <sup>2</sup>						
<b>Density</b>	153	156	170	186	204	223	244

*Source: KNBS Census Report, 2019 State Department for Physical Planning, 2022*

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

**Main economic activity**

Agriculture is the main economic activity within the County. The main food crops include; maize, beans, cowpeas, sorghum, green grams, millet, black beans. The cash crops include tea and coffee grown mainly in Maara and Chuka/Igambang’ombe constituencies. Fish rearing is also becoming popular since the inception of the economic stimulus program.

**3.4 County’s Comparative Advantage  
Irrigation Potential**

The county can optimize its irrigation potential to achieve sustainable agricultural development in areas along rivers such as Mutonga, Thingithu, Kathita, Thanantu, Thangatha, Kithinu and Ura which provide water for irrigation in the moderately densely populated locations in parts of Tharaka.

**Tourism**

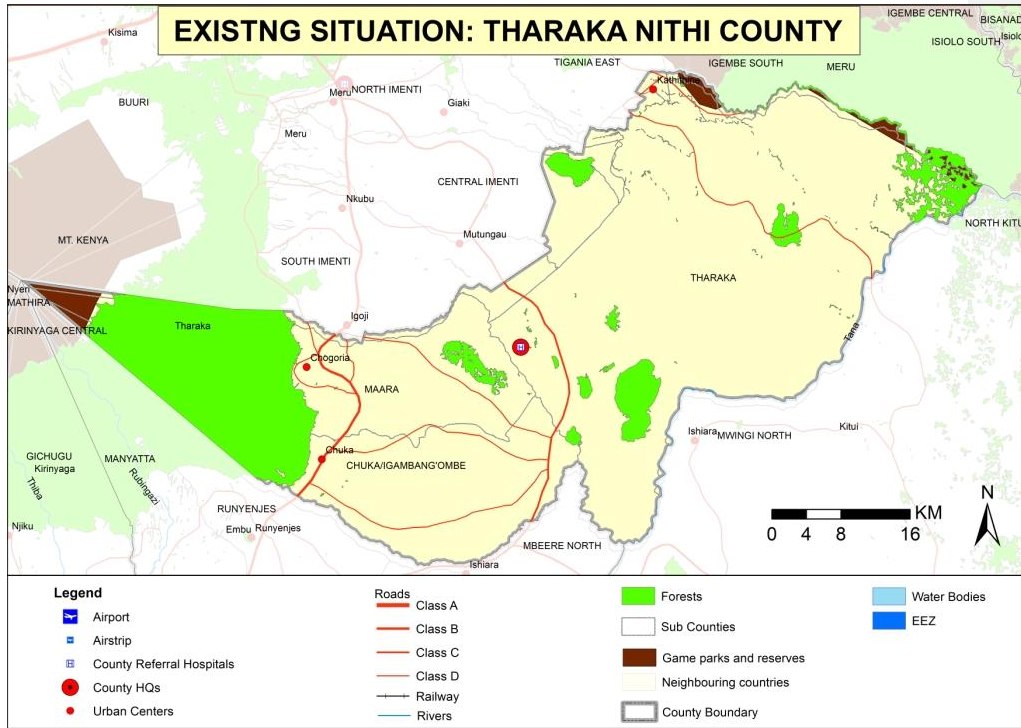
The tourism sector has a great tourist infrastructure potential and provides a large resource base for the County. The County has features that promote tourism including mountains, hills (Kijege hills and Gikingo hills among others), water falls (along Nithi, Thuci, Maara, Kathita, Thanantu and Tana Rivers), and expansive landscapes, variety of wildlife, diverse culture and agro-tourism. The main attractions include expansive landscape of great scenic beauty, rich botanic, wildlife diversity and mountain climbing, cultural sites and the Tana River Basin.

**Mining**

Sand harvesting and the exploitation of iron-ores are among the main mining activities within the County. The County has several quarries which promote mineral exploration and exploitation.

The map below depicts the existing situation in Tharaka-Nithi County

Map 2 : Existing Situation



Source; State Department for Physical Planning, 2022

## **4 County Specific Issues, Development Strategies and Policy Guidelines**

### **4.1 Tharaka-Nithi County Development Strategies**

The National Spatial Plan provides strategies for spatial growth and development across the country. The strategies are aimed at providing a spatial expression to Kenya Vision 2030 and other sector policies.

This section seeks to provide strategies for spatial growth and development of the county by addressing the factors that prevent the county from achieving the intended goals and objectives. The development strategies discussed are aimed at managing the global impacts, optimizing use of natural resources, creating a county balance and transforming rural areas. Specifically, the development strategies have been proposed to address the following aspects of the county's development agenda;

- Enhancing national competitiveness
- Optimal use of land and other resources
- Balanced county development
- Rural development in the county
- Urbanization

The following are detailed NSP sector-specific issues and strategies that apply to Tharaka-Nithi County

Table 2: NSP strategies for Tharaka Nithi county

Strategy 1: Optimizing Land and Natural Resources		
Sector: Agriculture (High irrigation potential and transition area (Zone IV- V))		
Opportunities	Constraints	Strategies
<p><b>Crop farming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irrigation potential</li> <li>• Availability of drought-resistant crops in the county</li> <li>• Presence of water resources which can be used for irrigation</li> <li>• Potentials for production of sorghum, mangoes, oranges and green grams in the county</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of inappropriate farm inputs and technology;</li> <li>• Poor agricultural support infrastructure.</li> <li>• Water scarcity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploit potentials in agriculture eg crop varieties</li> <li>• Provide subsidies to promote the use of appropriate farm inputs and technology</li> <li>• Agricultural support infrastructure should be provided to match the function</li> <li>• Exploit/harness potential water resources (underground, surface and rainwater)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Livestock farming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of water and pasture</li> <li>• Readily available market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient water resources</li> <li>• Poor agricultural support infrastructure</li> <li>• Effects of climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploit/harness potential water resources (underground, surface and rainwater)</li> <li>• Improve infrastructure and services in the county to support agriculture</li> <li>• Mainstream climate change adaptation and mitigation measures</li> </ul>
Environmental conservation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of ;</li> <li>• Natural Forests(such as Mt.Kenya Forest)</li> <li>• Water towers</li> <li>• Parks and Mountains(Mt Kenya and Mt Kenya National Park)</li> <li>• Wetlands</li> <li>• High potential for ground water harvesting</li> <li>• Diverse biodiversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deforestation</li> <li>• Erosion</li> <li>• Destruction of water catchment areas and underground aquifers</li> <li>• Encroachment by human settlement and activities</li> <li>• Pollution</li> <li>• Over abstraction of streams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote reforestation, afforestation and agro-forestry</li> <li>• Implement the 10% tree coverage policy</li> <li>• Promotion of soil conservation measures</li> <li>• Prohibition of development in environmentally fragile areas except for the purpose of eco-tourism and research</li> <li>• Adoption of water abstraction control measures</li> <li>• Promote afforestation, re-afforestation and agroforestry programmes</li> <li>• Discourage human settlements and activities save for tourism related activities</li> </ul>

- Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering
- Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.69 cm, No bullets or numbering
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma
- Formatted: Normal, Indent: Left: 0.06 cm, No bullets or numbering
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma
- Formatted: Not Highlight
- Formatted: Highlight
- Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering
- Formatted: Font:
- Formatted: List Paragraph, Add space between paragraphs of the same style, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers
- Formatted: Font:
- Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), Highlight
- Formatted: Highlight
- Formatted: Normal, Left, No bullets or numbering
- Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), Highlight
- Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of commercial forest farming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drying up of water sources</li> <li>Deforestation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restrict Developments in water tower areas except for the purpose of eco-tourism and research</li> </ul>
<b>Natural Resource</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presence of minerals(gemstones, industrial minerals, ballast rocks)</li> <li>Untapped potential for green energy</li> <li>Presence of springs, aquifers and wells (underground water) Existing iron belt for exploitation of iron ore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing mines for building stones and ballast</li> <li>Existing potentials to harvest existing water resources</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High costs of exploiting available natural resources</li> <li>Inadequate technology for and low exploitation of green energy and underground water infrastructure</li> <li>High costs of exploiting available natural resources</li> <li>Uncoordinated exploitation of underground water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversify energy production sources to reduce costs of production and enhance its reliability</li> <li>Invest in appropriate technology and infrastructure for the exploration of the existing natural resources</li> <li>Undertake further exploration of the available natural resources.</li> <li>Formulate policies to regulate exploitation of underground water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimize on utilization of the available resources</li> <li>Invest in appropriate technology and infrastructure</li> <li>Invest and undertake further exploration of the available natural resources</li> <li>Regulate the exploitation of underground water resources</li> <li>Invest on water harvesting technology and methods</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Industrialization</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High potential for agro-based industries(tea and coffee)</li> <li>Huge potential for livestock product based industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low adoption of technology</li> <li>Low adoption of technology for value addition</li> <li>Inadequate transport infrastructure</li> <li>Poor linkage to the markets</li> <li>Undesignated industrial zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide appropriate technology to enhance value addition</li> <li>Provide adequate, supportive transport and infrastructure to increase internal and external linkages</li> <li>Promote the formation of cooperatives and Saccos to advance marketing</li> <li>Plan for dedicated industrial zones</li> <li>Diversify energy production sources to reduce costs of production and enhance its reliability</li> <li>Promote assertive marketing campaigns for products both domestically and internationally</li> </ul>

Formatted: Normal, Don't add space between paragraphs of the same style, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma, English (United Kingdom)

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1.27 cm, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma, 11 pt

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High cost of energy</li> <li>• Lack of established Value chains</li> <li>• Lack of legal framework to safeguard intellectual property rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitize players in the sector on the aspect of IPR and enforce regulations on the same</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism (Central Highlands and Great Rift Valley Circuit)</b>		
<p><u>High potential for:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Safari Tourism(Mt Kenya National Park)</u></li> <li>• <u>Eco-tourism(Mt Kenya National Park)</u></li> <li>• <u>Cultural tourism</u></li> <li>• <u>Filming(Expansive landscape of great scenic beauty)</u></li> <li>• <u>Sports and leisure activities(mountain climbing, sight-seeing)</u></li> <li>• <u>Endowed with physical features such as mountains, hills like Kijegge hills and small waterfalls along Kathita and Tana Rivers</u></li> <li>• <u>Magnificent expansive landscape of great scenic beauty which attracts film production and site-seeing</u></li> <li>• <u>Rich botanic and wildlife diversity</u></li> <li>• <u>Close proximity to Mount Kenya (Potentials for mountain climbing, safari tours)</u></li> <li>• <u>Cultural sites</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor marketing strategies to promote tourism</li> <li>• Continued over reliance on safari and <u>animal</u> tourism</li> <li>• Encroachment of human activities into touristic attraction sites</li> <li>• <u>Inadequate support infrastructure and facilities leading to</u></li> <li>• <u>Underdeveloped</u> tourism sites and products</li> <li>• <u>Destruction of wildlife habitat through encroachment and climate change</u></li> <li>• <u>Human-Wildlife Conflict</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the marketing of tourism products in Tharaka-Nithi County</li> <li>• Diversify tourism products</li> <li>• Promote tourism by providing incentives and subsidies</li> <li>• Restrict human activities in tourist attraction sites</li> <li>• <u>Plan and pP</u> Provide appropriate tourism support infrastructure and facilities <u>to open-up tourist sites and enhance the county's tourism potential</u></li> <li>• <u>Opening up under-utilized sites</u></li> <li>• Conservation of wildlife and forest resources</li> <li>• Preparation <u>of</u> wildlife management plans to manage wildlife habitats and population</li> </ul>

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0.63 cm + Indent at: 1.27 cm

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presence of Tana River Basin</li> </ul>		
<b>Transport</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing road network</li> <li>Relatively fair condition of roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor condition of the existing County roads</li> <li>Inadequate linkages of existing transport modes with neighboring counties</li> <li>Missing transportation links</li> <li>Lack of Non –Motorized and Intermediate Mode of Transport (NMIMT) infrastructure</li> <li>Missing transportation links</li> <li>Encroachment on road reserves</li> <li>Inadequate or lack of terminal facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve and secure adequate land for future transport and other related development</li> <li>Improve the condition of all County roads to motorable standards</li> <li>Plan and provide appropriate hierarchy of roads to increase internal and external linkages of the county</li> <li>Create linkages to agricultural, tourist and urban areas;</li> <li>Encourage the use of green transport</li> <li>Delineate and enforce road reserve extents</li> <li>Formulate regulations and guidelines to control development along transport corridors</li> <li>Improve and increase terminal facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Public Utilities + Water and Sanitation</b>		
<b>Water and Sanitation</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial and technical support from the National government and non-governmental organizations in provision of water and sanitation services</li> <li>Increase the per capita water supply for human and animal consumption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encroachment of human activities into catchment areas</li> <li>Inadequate water reticulation network</li> <li>Inadequate sanitation facilities in urban and rural areas</li> <li>Declining of water levels in boreholes, wells and springs due to effects of climate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection and rehabilitation of waters sources and catchments areas such as water towers and rivers</li> <li>Development of appropriate water reticulation network to promote equitable water distribution throughout the county</li> <li>Appropriate sanitation infrastructure including collection, disposal and treatment system be developed in all urban areas within the county</li> <li>Use of suitable technologies to exploit underground water potential to increase the total supply of water in the county</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Justified, Line spacing: Multiple 1.15 li, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Normal, Don't add space between paragraphs of the same style, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existence of water sources e.g dams, permanent rivers</li> <li>• <a href="#">Existing water reticulation system</a></li> </ul>	<a href="#">changeUnder exploitation of underground water</a>	
<b>Solid Waste Management</b>		
Existing solid waste management facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased solid waste generation</li> <li>• Inadequate solid wastes management facilities</li> <li>• Inefficient solid waste management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide and upgrade integrated solid waste management facilities</li> <li>• Promote the, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (3Rs)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Explore other modes of solid waste management such as recycling of waste materials and waste-energy facilities</a></li> </ul>
<b>ICT</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Existing National Optic Fiber Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI)</a></li> <li>• Increased demand for ICT services</li> <li>• <a href="#">Laying of fiber optic network by the National Optic Fiber Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Poor access to ICT infrastructure</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">High cost of ICT equipment</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Disparity in access to internet services</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Impediments to ICT infrastructure development</a></li> <li>• Poor connection, low coverage, unreliability, high costs and skewed distribution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase ICT relevant infrastructure</li> <li>• <a href="#">Expansion of the existing network to all urban areas and rural growth centers</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Incentivize expansion of the existing network to all urban areas and rural growth centers</a></li> <li>• Mainstreaming ICT in all sectors to promote service delivery</li> <li>• <a href="#">Improve ICT adoption</a></li> </ul>
<b>Sporting Infrastructure</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existence of many regional and national tournaments that need to be hosted in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Poor management of existent infrastructure</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Skewed distribution</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Address imbalances in distribution of sporting infrastructure by establishing modern stadia</a></li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: Bold

good quality stadia; sports tourism	• Lack of proper repair and maintenance structures	• Develop sound stadia repair, upgrade and maintenance policies
-------------------------------------	--	---

Strategy 2: Promoting Balanced Regional-Intra-County Development		
Opportunities	Constraints	Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devolution of resources and <u>Enabling legal and policy framework</u></li> <li>• Devolution</li> <li>• Resource endowment</li> <li>• Other inherent potentials including green energy generation, irrigation, agro-based industries, tourism and mining</li> <li>• power</li> <li>• Member of Mount Kenya Aberdares Region economic bloc to promote the economic growth of these regions through resource mobilization and policy harmonization</li> <li>• Classified as a medium potential region due to its high potential for agriculture through rain-fed, irrigation and livestock keeping</li> <li>• Has high potential for large scale livestock-keeping</li> <li>• Other inherent potentials include green energy generation, irrigation, livestock based industries, tourism and mining</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Inadequate infrastructural facilities and services</u></li> <li>• <u>Under-exploitation of the natural resource potential</u></li> <li>• <u>Weak linkages between rural and urban areas.</u></li> <li>• <u>Skewed regional growth where areas with lower agricultural potential are less developed compared to areas with more potential</u></li> <li>• Colonial policies</li> <li>• Under-exploitation of the natural resource potential</li> <li>• Insecurity</li> <li>• Regional disparities</li> <li>• Food and nutrition insecurity</li> <li>• Inadequate utilization of knowledge and innovation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Increase investment in infrastructure and services</u></li> <li>• <u>Encourage equitable exploitation and sound management of natural resources while ensuring local participation for improved economic development</u></li> <li>• <u>Establish strong rural -urban linkages</u></li> <li>• <u>Promote Irrigation activities for improved productivity in quantity and quality of yield</u></li> <li>• <u>Promote industrialization and value addition through the provision of support infrastructure in the less developed areas as well as strengthening the better developed areas</u></li> <li>• <u>Establish economic zones in the region according to the potential of every region to promote processing and value addition of the various products</u></li> <li>• Encourage equitable exploitation and sound management of resources while ensuring local participation for improved economic development</li> <li>• Promote industrialization and value addition in the less developed regions and strengthening the better developed region</li> <li>• Promote Irrigation activities for improved productivity in quantity and quality of yield in the potential regions</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Normal, Indent: Left: 0 cm

### Strategy 3: Promoting Rural Development

Opportunities	Constraints	Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource endowment in rural areas (agriculture, large-scale livestock production and tourism)</li> <li>• Human resource (both skilled and unskilled)</li> <li>• Existing physical and social infrastructure (roads, schools, health centres, administrative units)</li> <li>• Enabling policy and legal frameworks</li> <li>• Devolution County Endowed with resources such as crop and livestock production, tourist attraction sites</li> <li>• Enabling policy framework to support rural development e.g. Vision 2030, NSP, NLUP etc.</li> <li>• Governments agenda for Development of Northern corridor</li> <li>• Transitional area with poverty levels below 50-70%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weak rural-urban linkages</li> <li>• Insufficient and dilapidated infrastructure facilities and services</li> <li>• Under exploitation of resources</li> <li>• Insufficient and dilapidated infrastructure facilities and services</li> <li>• Slow adoption of technology</li> <li>• Low productivity</li> <li>• Land fragmentation</li> <li>• Slow adoption of technology</li> <li>• Low productivity</li> <li>• Regional disparities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish strong rural-urban linkages</li> <li>• Plan and develop appropriate transport and infrastructural facilities and services to support the exploitation of the natural resources in the county as well as the opportunities they present to spur economic development</li> <li>• Provide a spatial framework for harnessing natural wealth e.g. renewable energy, from both solar and wind</li> <li>• Promote rural industrialization which includes, rural tourism, mining and agro-based industries</li> <li>• Adoption of modern technology</li> <li>• Promotion of irrigation activities for improved productivity in quantity and quality of yield within the low potential areas</li> <li>• Promotion of sustainable land uses and discouraging land subdivision</li> <li>• Develop appropriate transport and infrastructural facilities and services to support the exploitation of the natural resources</li> <li>• Promote rural industrialization which includes, rural tourism, mining and agro-based industries</li> <li>• Promote commercial and large-scale livestock production practices in the weak and transitional cluster of rural areas through provision of education and training by the established institutions, adoption of modern technology, provision of extension services and incentives to the farmers</li> <li>• Enhance the ASALs climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and desertification mitigation</li> <li>• Provide a spatial framework for harnessing natural wealth eg. renewable energy, from both solar and wind</li> <li>• Promote sustainable land uses that are capable of meeting the rangeland needs and guaranteeing secure livelihoods for economic and social growth</li> </ul>

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote urban containment to reduce effects of urban sprawl into rich agricultural and rangeland areas as well as encouraging eco-villages in the rural areas</li> </ul>
<b>Strategy 4: Urbanization</b>		
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Constraints</b>	<b>Strategies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing and proposed infrastructural developments</li> <li>Devolution</li> <li>An enabling policy framework</li> <li>Proposed Northern Corridor that is expected to spur growth of urban centres particularly in the northern parts of the country</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribbon development</li> <li>Inefficient solid waste management services</li> <li>High rate of urbanization</li> <li>Weak and uncoordinated development control and enforcement systems</li> <li>Weak rural-urban linkages</li> <li>Lack of Role Specialization of urban centers</li> <li>Lack of appropriate transport infrastructure and utilities</li> <li>Land and governance issues.</li> <li>Ribbon development</li> <li>Unbalanced distribution of urban centres</li> <li>Poor implementation of development plans and planning policies</li> <li>Land and governance issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create an enabling environment for commercial and industrial development within the urban areas</li> <li>Formulate policies and establish programs to promote sustainable waste management</li> <li>Promote the development of centers as per their potential and population as per their classification as local, market, rural, urban centers and growth centers</li> <li>Create an enabling environment for commercial and industrial development within the urban areas</li> <li>Provide alternative areas for development of urban centers by provision of services and infrastructure closer to the rural areas</li> <li>Enforce, harmonize and regularly review the existing legislative and regulatory instruments</li> <li>Strengthen urban-rural linkages through provision of integrated transportation and communication systems to reduce the rate of urbanization and improve the rural economy</li> <li>Promote the development of centers as per their potential and population as local, market, rural, urban centers and growth centers</li> <li>Plan and provide appropriate and adequate transport infrastructure and utilities</li> <li>Strengthen existing land management institutions</li> </ul>

**Formatted:** Justified, Space After: 0.4 line, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma, 12 pt

**Formatted:** Justified, Line spacing: Multiple 1.15 li, Tab stops: 0.97 cm, Left

**Formatted:** List Paragraph, Justified, Add space between paragraphs of the same style

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Justified, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

--	--	--

DRAFT

## **4.2 Spatial Policy Guidelines**

The National Spatial Plan has stipulated policies to provide a foundation upon which to anchor the strategies enumerated therein. The primary aim is to inculcate discipline in the use of land and natural resources of the country thus stemming duplication and wastage of the resources.

This section seeks to provide the spatial policy guidelines and measures aimed at promoting the achievements of the objectives of the National Spatial Plan using its guidelines. They aim at enhancing global competitiveness and economic efficiency, optimizing the use of land and natural resources, promoting the regional balanced development and conservation of the environment. These policies are supported by a wide range of measures which spell out the specific actions to be undertaken to actualize the policy intentions. The policies shall ensure that the county is globally competitive as an investment especially in emerging sectors such as the ICT. The policies shall also be implemented by the county government's agencies responsible for planning and development control as well as the authorities responsible for land administration.

The following are the policies and measures specific to Tharaka-Nithi County;

Table 3: Policy Guidelines for Tharaka Nithi

Thematic Area	Policy Guidelines	Measures
<p><b>Resource Potential Growth regions: Region 2</b>                      Tharaka-Nithi to be developed based on its potentials including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rain fed and irrigated agriculture</li> <li>Livestock production</li> <li>Nature-based, cultural and historical and archeological tourism potential</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tharaka to be developed based on its irrigated agriculture and livestock production potential</li> <li>Enhance irrigation agriculture and livestock production and value addition</li> <li>Increased investment social and physical infrastructure</li> <li>Sustainable use and exploration of natural resources</li> <li>Environmental protection and conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure provision to support value addition initiatives and human settlement</li> <li>Protect and Conserve water towers and resources</li> <li>Rural development through provision of infrastructure, agricultural sector development and related economic activities</li> <li>Develop/ rehabilitate key infrastructure in underserved locations</li> <li>Provide services to under-served populations</li> <li>Prioritize environmental protection and conservation of wildlife and forest resources</li> <li>Conserve wildlife and forest resources</li> <li>Enhance agricultural and food production</li> <li>Invest in physical and social infrastructure</li> <li>Develop tourism infrastructure</li> <li>Mineral mapping and geological surveys to establish viability of mineral deposits</li> </ul>
<p><b>Spatial Structure</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise the National Spatial Plan (NSP) as the guiding framework to achieve integrated and sustainable spatial development</li> <li>NSP shall be the basis for preparation of lower tier physical and land use development plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of County and Local Physical and Land use plans shall be guided by the objectives and policies of NSP</li> <li>Align Spatial/Physical Plans to conform to the objectives and policies of the NSP</li> <li>5-year review of medium term Physical and Land Use Plans shall take into account provisions of the NSP</li> <li>Sectoral policies to take cognizance of objectives and policies of NSP</li> <li>Provide planning authorities with adequate human, financial and technical resources</li> </ul>

- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma
- Formatted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0.63 cm + Indent at: 1.27 cm
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, English (United States)
- Formatted: List Paragraph, Left, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, English (United States)
- Formatted: List Paragraph, Left
- Formatted: List Paragraph, Add space between paragraphs of the same style, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, English (United States)
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Enhancing National Competitiveness**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The selective concentration concept shall be adopted for the planning and location of urban based economic activities in the county to leverage on national competitiveness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrate urban based economic activities in selected urban areas</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The major urban areas in the County shall be planned and provided with appropriate infrastructure to enhance efficiency and quality of life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritize preparation of Spatial Development Plans</li> <li>Provide appropriate trunk infrastructure and</li> <li>Improve the road infrastructure by providing for modal split, linkages and interchanges</li> <li>Enhance the Livability Index for urban areas by providing quality social and physical infrastructure</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land and natural resources shall be utilized optimally and sustainably</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the modernization of agriculture including value addition</li> <li>Explore and exploit the mineral, energy and water potentials of the county</li> <li>Provide transportation networks and other necessary infrastructure to support the exploitation of land and other natural resources</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The efficiency of the transportation network shall be enhanced to take advantage of the strategic location and position of the county</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare spatial development plans for the main transportation corridors to guide their development for sustainable economic growth and transportation</li> <li>Renew and modernize the existing national trunk roads to spur economic development</li> <li>Provide for robust transportation for efficient, modern and low-cost connectivity by Air, Rail, Road and Fibre Optic</li> <li>Establish efficient transport linkages to Points of Entry and Exit</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced cooperation in spatial and economic planning with neighboring counties and regional blocs such as the Mount Kenya and Aberdares Regional Bloc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The planning of inter-county resources, transport corridors and infrastructure as well as border urban areas shall be undertaken jointly</li> </ul>

**Formatted:** Justified, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Hanging: 0.44 cm, Line spacing: Multiple 1.15 li, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Normal, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

**Formatted:** Normal, Left

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

**Formatted:** Left

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt, English (United States)

**Formatted:** List Paragraph, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Hanging: 0.44 cm, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt, English (United States)

<p><b>Modernizing Agriculture</b></p>	<p>Tharaka-Nithi county shall be safeguarded against the threat of subdivision and urbanization and shall be developed and used optimally for large-scale livestock production. Agro-climatic zones IV, V and VI (rangelands) shall be developed and used optimally for large-scale commercial production of livestock to support downstream processing of livestock products and promote balanced regional development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of high potential agricultural land through preparation and implementation of urban spatial development plans and setting urban growth limits</li> <li>• Strictly regulate subdivision of land</li> <li>• The County Spatial Plans, prepared shall by counties to guide and promote the development of large scale livestock productions</li> <li>• Prioritize provision of requisite infrastructure (water pans, dams, cold storage facilities and laboratories) to support ranching</li> <li>• Modernize livestock keeping through appropriate animal husbandry (high-yielding breeds, extension services and research and disease control), product processing and timely marketing</li> <li>• Appropriate rangelands management practices shall be adopted including observance of carrying capacity, conservation of the natural vegetation and adaptation and mitigation against climate change and its impacts</li> <li>• Early warning systems, prompt response and recovery systems shall be taken to cushion the county and make it more resilient to the perennial drought cycles</li> </ul>
	<p>The irrigation potential of the county shall be optimized by promoting investment in irrigation agriculture for high value crops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand and rehabilitate existing irrigations schemes</li> <li>• Research shall be undertaken to identify the irrigation potential in all the sub-counties</li> <li>• Research shall be undertaken to identify the irrigation potential in all the subcounties throughout the country</li> <li>• New irrigation schemes shall be established in areas with irrigation potential such as Tharaka area</li> <li>• Small holder irrigation schemes shall be encouraged through sensitization campaigns and reducing the cost of irrigation equipment</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

	<u>The fishing potential of the county shall be optimized to increase the food stock and export earnings</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Encourage small holder farmers to establish fish farms in areas with potential throughout the county</u></li> <li>• <u>Provide appropriate infrastructure to support the fishing industry</u></li> </ul>
<b>Diversifying Tourism (Central and Great Rift-Valley Circuit)</b>	Promote diversification of tourism by offering diverse products in the different tourist <del>circuits throughout</del> the country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Plan and develop tourism in the county</u> <del>Plan and develop the circuit</del> to offer; safari and wildlife, cultural and heritage, archeological and historical, filming, ecotourism and adventure tourism products</li> </ul>
	Appropriate Tourism support infrastructure and facilities shall be provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out an inventory of tourism infrastructure and facilities in all the tourism circuits</li> <li>• Formulate planning regulations and standards to guide tourist specific infrastructure and facilities</li> <li>• Develop the requisite tourism support infrastructure and facilities</li> <li>• Upgrade the existing tourism facilities and infrastructure</li> <li>• Provide and upgrade the ICT infrastructure to support tourism</li> </ul>
	Tourist attraction areas and sites shall be conserved and protected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify, map and protect all wildlife migratory Corridors</li> <li>• <u>Prepare plans for the wildlife migratory</u> and dispersal corridors and wildlife habitat as a unit</li> <li>• <u>Prepare physical development plans to</u> Prohibit the location of incompatible land uses activities</li> <li>• Strictly regulate developments within the tourist attraction sites</li> <li>• Protect wildlife watering points</li> </ul>
	Appropriate Transport infrastructure shall be provided to link the different tourist circuits, attraction areas and sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare and implement an integrated Transportation Master Plan <u>for the County</u></li> <li>• <u>Upgrade the existing road network and land transportation facilities</u></li> <li>• <u>Encourage the application of low carbon options in transport infrastructure</u> <del>a transportation</del></li> </ul>

**Formatted:** Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

**Formatted:** Font: (Default) Tahoma

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt, Bold

**Formatted:** Normal, No bullets or numbering

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt, Bold

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

		<p>facilities Upgrade the air transportation facilities Encourage application of low carbon options in transport infrastructure</p>
	<p>Governance of the tourism sector shall be enhanced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare integrated spatial plans to guide development of the tourism sector</li> <li>• Prepare and implement <u>National Policies</u> <u>County Policies</u> on land use, wildlife and tourism</li> <li>• Enhance tourists security <u>dedicated security to the tourism sector</u></li> <li>• Identify and map potential eco-tourism development sites</li> <li>• Undertake awareness campaigns on the value of eco-tourism to the industry players both locally and <u>nationally globally</u></li> <li>• Develop standards for eco-tourism establishments</li> <li>• Facilitate access to eco-tourism development incentives</li> </ul>
	<p>Spatial Development plans shall be prepared and implemented to guide <u>implementation of the flagship projects in the</u> tourism sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare Ecosystem area plans for all parks and reserves in conjunction with respective county governments to address problems of unplanned development of lodges and poor access roads</li> <li>• Prepare plans for the cultural heritage sites <u>in the County</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Managing Human Settlements</b></p>	<p>The expected increase in population in urban areas shall be anticipated and accommodated particularly for the main growth areas <u>eg (Kathwana and Chogoria towns)</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the housing stock by planning and redeveloping existing housing areas</li> <li>• Plan and designate land for new housing schemes</li> <li>• Upgrade the existing and provide additional infrastructure and facilities to support housing development in the urban areas</li> <li>• Formulate enabling local policy frameworks to support employment and income generation</li> <li>• Locate industrial and service development activities with the <u>global reach in</u> main urban areas</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: List Paragraph

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide efficient transportation and quality infrastructure in human settlements to support industrial and service sectors.</li> <li>• Promote adoption of technology and fiscal incentives and market support for the informal sector</li> </ul>
	<p>Alternative urban areas shall be developed and supported to promote balanced regional development and spur growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop <del>primary</del> principal towns of County Tharaka in accordance with their local regional potentials and be promoted as alternatives to the three main growth areas</li> <li>• Develop urban centres as intermediate centres between the rural and the principal towns</li> <li>• Provide principal towns and urban centres with the requisite infrastructure to support their growth and development</li> <li>• Prepare local physical development plans to define the urban growth limits for the principal urban centres</li> <li>• Enforce strict regulations and justifications on development control processes</li> <li>• Intensify the supply of vesting urban infrastructure in principal towns and urban centers within the area contained to make them attractive for investment</li> </ul>
	<p>Rural growth centres shall be rationalized and supported to act as central places and settlements clustered to free the rich agricultural land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide basic services such as extension services, health facilities, markets, sanitation, water, power and education to improve the quality of rural life</li> <li>• Undertake sensitization and awareness campaigns on the need to conserve agricultural land by discouraging land fragmentation</li> <li>• Progressively link growth centres by means of secondary roads as a minimum</li> <li>• Promote sectors such as agriculture that have potential to stimulate rural development</li> <li>• Incorporate disaster management and mitigation in planning of rural settlements</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

	<p>Human settlements shall be developed in line with environmental and natural resources conservation to improve living conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map out and prohibit development in environmental sensitive areas</li> <li>• Plan and provide an integrated waste management system <del>in the major urban centres in of the County</del></li> <li>• Prepare and implement zoning guidelines to ensure compatibility of land uses in human settlement areas</li> <li>• Promote social organization and environmental awareness through the participation of local communities in the identification of public service needs</li> <li>• Strengthen the capacity of the local governing bodies to effectively deal with environmental challenges associated with rapid and sound urban growth</li> <li>• Empower community groups, nongovernmental organizations and individuals to assume responsibility and authority for managing and enhancing their environment</li> <li>• Deliberately provide adequate and functional open spaces in urban place</li> <li>• Prescribe planning standards for open/green space on private development</li> </ul> <p><del>Encourage non-motorized transport (NMT) and re-introduction of public transport in major cities and urban centres</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Aim for zero carbon building standards by 2032 and e</del>Ensure all buildings meet energy efficiency criteria</li> </ul>
	<p><del>NSP advocates for the P</del>provision of an efficient, reliable and effective transport system for human settlements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate land use and transportation planning to encourage development patterns which reduce transport demands</li> </ul> <p><del>Establish an efficient mass transit public transportation system for Tharaka</del></p>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an effective transport management system that enhances the reliability and efficiency of the transport system</li> <li>• Improve the road conditions and expand the to human settlements</li> <li>• Integrate NMT with existing transport infrastructure</li> <li>• Incorporate the concept of green energy in transport systems planning and redevelopment</li> <li>• Prepare a transportation strategy for each urban area or city, as part of the integrated urban development plan required under the Urban Areas and Cities Act 2011</li> </ul>
	The management and governance of Human Settlements particularly the urban areas shall be improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build institutional capacities of the <u>municipal and town/urban areas</u> management boards</li> <li>• Integrate technology in management of human settlements to strengthen urban data systems</li> <li>• Coordinate and strengthen development control mechanisms</li> <li>• Provide adequate human resource and improve their capacity in management of human settlements in the sectors of; housing, settlement, land, infrastructure, construction,</li> <li>• energy and disaster management</li> <li>• Conduct research into migration trends to inform effective planning and provision of human settlements</li> <li>• Enable public private partnerships in the provision of housing</li> </ul>
	<del>NSP shall advocate for</del> Upgrading of the existing settlements and forestalling of new informal settlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage redistribution of urban income through integrated development planning encompassing social, economic and physical factors</li> <li>• Prepare Local Physical Development Plans for purpose of renewal and/or redevelopment of the informal settlements</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate a housing policy that will focus on providing affordable and accessible housing</li> <li>• Ease the process of issuance of ownership to the legal owners in order to encourage formal developments</li> <li>• Enforce development control regulations and adherence to building code and standards</li> <li>• Enhance coordination of donor agencies activities within informal settlements by relevant authorities for optimal returns</li> </ul>
	Peri-urban development shall be managed and controlled to contain urban growth within its limits and protect rural land uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate policy for urban containment and densification</li> <li>• Formulate and implement planning legislation on peri urban planning and management</li> <li>• Institute sanctions on idle land to encourage productive and sustainable land utilization</li> <li>• Create green belt buffer zones to define the urban and peri-urban areas</li> </ul>
<b>Conserving the Natural Environment</b>	All environmentally sensitive areas shall be protected and utilized in a sustainable manner (Wetland, Forests and Mountain Ecosystems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare integrated wetland resource management plans to promote sustainable use of freshwater and wetland resources</li> <li>• <u>Prepare integrated forest resource management plans to promote sustainable use of forest resources</u></li> <li>• <u>Develop and implement a county strategy for rehabilitation and restoration of degraded natural and indigenous forests and protect water catchment areas</u></li> <li>• <u>Develop and implement strategies and action plans for sustainable management of mountain ecosystems</u></li> <li>• <u>Promote integrated watershed management and alternative livelihood opportunities to enhance community participation and empowerment in the conservation and management,</u></li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Font: (Default) Tahoma

Formatted: Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

	<p>All environmentally fragile areas shall be conserved and utilized in a sustainable manner (ASALs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement an Integrated Land Use(Development) Plan</li> <li>• Promote integrated natural resource management</li> <li>• Ensure application of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)</li> <li>• Promote efficient adaptation measures for productive and sustainable resource management</li> <li>• Mainstream dry land issues into all <u>county physical national</u> development plans and policies</li> <li>• Gazette and manage emergency drought reserve areas and encourage the development of buffer areas of crop and forage production as part of contingency planning</li> <li>• Mainstream climate foresight and climate adaptation into planning at all levels by strengthening the climate resilience of communities and promoting sustainable livelihoods</li> <li>• Explore opportunities and develop appropriate mechanisms through which communities can benefit from bio-carbon initiatives</li> <li>• Protect and increase forest over, riverine vegetation and critical water catchment areas <u>in the ASALs, including special ecosystems</u></li> </ul>
	<p>All government agencies <u>shall integrate shall integrate</u> environmental <u>concerns in concerns in</u> policy formulation, <u>resource planning resource planning</u> and <u>development processes development processes</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in waste Management and Pollution Control</li> <li>• Develop and maintain an inventory of all vital habitats in the country, and create a <u>biodiversity information biodiversity information</u> data base of all plant and animal species, indicating their potential use</li> <li>• Identify species which are rare and <u>endangered with endangered with</u> the aim of protecting them from <u>extinction through extinction through</u> the establishment , where necessary, of more biosphere reserves, <u>national parks national parks</u> and reserves, botanical</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

		<p>gardens, arboreta, and through their propagation and captive breeding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devise means to measure the value of unexploited natural resources, especially biodiversity, in economic terms</li> <li>• Encourage the participation of local communities in conservation and management of the environment by giving incentives for effective conservation of the environment by local communities</li> <li>• Jointly develop and implement harmonized <u>regional inter-county</u> plans for sustainable management of trans-boundary resources</li> <li>• Translate into practical conservation actions the provisions of international conventions and agreements relating to conservation of biodiversity to which Kenya is a party</li> <li>• Implement the National Action Plan (NAP) to combat desertification and revitalize the <u>Desertification Trust Fund and National Drought and County Drought and Disaster Contingency Fund</u></li> <li>• <u>Mainstream the provisions of</u> <del>Implement</del> the National Climate Change Strategy and the National Climate Change Action plan <u>in the County policies and plans</u></li> <li>• Strengthen Environmental Governance <u>and harmonize and harmonize</u> sectoral policies, legislation and regulations</li> </ul>
	<p>Community participation shall be mainstreamed in the protection and conservation of natural resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitize communities living around the <u>natural resources</u> <del>natural resources</del> on the need for conservation of <u>these sources</u> <del>these sources</del></li> <li>• Develop mechanisms for sharing benefits accruing from the natural resources by the conservation agencies in consultation with the local communities</li> <li>• Identify and map all disaster-prone areas <u>in the county</u> for sustainable management</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

	<p>The National and County Physical Planning departments shall mainstream climate change into their planning processes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build and strengthen research capacity on climate change and related environmental issues</li> <li>• Promote water conservation including reversal of degradation of the main water towers and rehabilitation and restoration of all water catchments</li> <li>• Promoting growing of drought tolerant traditional high traditional high value crops</li> <li>• Supporting sustainable livelihoods in drought prone areas of the County ASALs</li> <li>• Develop and promote the use of green energy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Integrating the Transportation Network</b></p>	<p>An integrated and functional transport system for the urban areas shall be developed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide access and linkage, between the county headquarters; county headquarters and sub-county headquarters and for local access and link them to national transportation corridors</li> <li>• Expand all roads connecting the county headquarters to sub-county headquarters to at least 30m and developed to bitumen standard</li> <li>• Develop roads connecting infrastructure installations of county and national importance and resource areas resource areas to bitumen standard</li> </ul>
	<p>An efficient and affordable Mass Public Transport for all urban areas in the country shall be developed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public transport system based on bus rapid transport system for the principal towns of Tharaka</li> <li>• Adopt transit-oriented development in the planning, design and development of all public urban transport</li> <li>• Integrate land use with urban transport planning</li> <li>• Configure urban based activities to support mass transit systems and reduce the need for travel</li> <li>• Design and develop integrated transport networks that considers all different modes of transport</li> <li>• Prioritize public transport while planning for urban transportation and progressively promote a modal split of 50:50</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Highlight

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

An urban transport policy that facilitates an integrated, balanced and environmentally sound urban transport system in which all modes efficiently play their roles shall be developed

- Develop a public transport policy to regulate planning and management of public transport
- ~~The Each~~ county government to develop policies to limit use of private transport and maximize on public transport
- Develop a main public transport terminus in ~~the all metropolitan,~~ major urban areas and county headquarters to cater for all the various transport modes, including NMIMTs (Non-Motorized and Intermediate Means of Transport) to enhance efficiency and connectivity between transport modes
- ~~The County Ggovernments, urban areas and cities to~~ provide a framework for development and management of public service termini by the private sector through public private participation
- Plan, construct and manage designated terminal facilities in the periphery of the urban areas to accommodate parking spaces for the private vehicles and interchange to the public transport system
- Plan and develop satellite towns to complement and decongest major urban areas
- Designate, plan and regulate strategic areas for taxis operation in ~~the all county headquartersities and other major~~ urban areas to enhance safety and order

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

<b>Providing Appropriate Infrastructure</b>	Safe, adequate, reliable <del>and affordable and</del> <del>affordable</del> electricity for <del>both urban both urban</del> and rural settlements shall be provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tap into large <del>scale production of green energy in Tharaka-Nithi County for sale to the national grid.</del></li> <li>• <del>Mainstream and enforce green energy options in the design of buildings</del></li> <li>• <del>Provide safe connections for all informal settlements in urban areas for safety</del></li> <li>• <del>Mainstream and enforce green energy options in the design of buildings</del></li> <li>• <del>Increase access to electricity through upgrading and expansion of the national power transmission and distribution network</del></li> <li>• <del>Support the flagship projects that are geared towards increasing electricity supply from both renewable and non-renewable sources</del></li> </ul>
	Expansion and improvement of <del>f</del> water reticulation systems to facilitate the access to clean, safe, adequate, reliable and affordable water in human settlements shall be promoted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate water provision in all physical development plans</li> <li>• <del>Implementation of the Development of</del> national rainwater harvesting strategy and water storage investment plans for all the villages and urban centres; and revision of building by-laws to require all new development to have rain water harvesting</li> <li>• Expand water supply in Tharaka-Nithi County</li> <li>• <del>Restoration and rehabilitation of e</del> all the water towers in the County. <del>This shall entail rehabilitation and protection of Mt. Kenya</del></li> <li>• Build water kiosks and yard taps, develop water supply pipeline systems and sewers, and a comprehensive mapping of all water supplies systems in the informal settlements</li> </ul>
	Appropriate, quality, efficient and cost effective ICT infrastructure in both rural and urban areas shall be promoted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Integrate e-youth ICT platforms. The sub-sector will establish a youth portal to enhance information access by the youth</del></li> <li>• Develop and upgrade ICT Infrastructure in all</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted Table

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend ICT infrastructure to cover all the rural and local growth centres</li> <li>• Mainstream use of ICT in all levels of government and the private sector (e-government)</li> </ul>
	<p>The expansion of sewerage systems and waste management facilities shall be promoted to improve sanitation in human settlements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service all urban settlements by a centralized sewerage treatment system and solid waste disposal facilities</li> <li>• Develop a sanitation system in the County including storm water drains and treatment facilities</li> <li>• All spatial plans to make provision for development of sewer systems and treatment works and solid waste disposal sites</li> <li>• Expansion of urban boundaries to be guided by investment in infrastructural services</li> <li>• Enactment of laws at County levels to incorporate private public partnerships in infrastructure investments</li> <li>• Adopt appropriate technology to facilitate reduction, recycle and reuse of waste (3R's)</li> <li>• Expand sanitation in Tharaka</li> <li>• Apply appropriate technology solutions to sewerage treatment in rural and low density housing areas</li> <li>• All spatial plans to make provision for development of sewer systems and treatment works and solid waste disposal sites</li> <li>• Expansion of urban boundaries to be guided by investment in infrastructural services</li> <li>• Enactment of laws at National and County levels to incorporate private public partnerships in infrastructure investments</li> <li>• Adopt appropriate technology to facilitate reduction, recycle and reuse of waste (3R's)</li> <li>• Undertake rehabilitation of storm water drainage systems in all urban areas</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct waste water treatment plants and solid waste management projects in well established permanent settlements in the arid</li> </ul>
	<p>Sporting infrastructure shall be planned, developed, maintained and the existing rehabilitated to promote sports development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish County Sports Talent Centers to act as feeds to the international centre to scout, nurture and develop sports talents at the sub-national levels</li> <li>Rehabilitate all the 47 county stadia to international standards to enable the youth to actively develop and tap the immense talent in sports will be undertaken</li> </ul>
<p><b>Towards a Rapidly Industrializing County Nation</b></p>	<p>The cluster development strategy shall be promoted to focus on proximity to raw materials and markets of region specific products</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concentrate urban based industries</li> <li>Mineral based industries to be located in situ where the minerals are found</li> <li>Locate cottage industries and crafts in situ</li> <li>Concentrate livestock products industries Locate agro-based industries, mineral-based and cottage industries in situ</li> <li>Promote value addition in processing of local produce</li> <li>Promote value addition in processing of local produce</li> </ul>
	<p>Specific sites for industrial development shall be identified, planned and serviced with the appropriate infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan and set aside land for industrial development in every sub- county</li> <li>Provide an integrated, efficient, reliable and sustainable transport network infrastructure (road, rail and air) to support the industrial zones</li> <li>Integrate the industrialization process and environment conservation</li> <li>Increase availability of clean water and improve sanitation</li> <li>Encourage adoption and utilization of ICT in the county in order to enhance the county's transformation towards an advanced Information Society</li> </ul>

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0 cm + Indent at: 0.63 cm, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

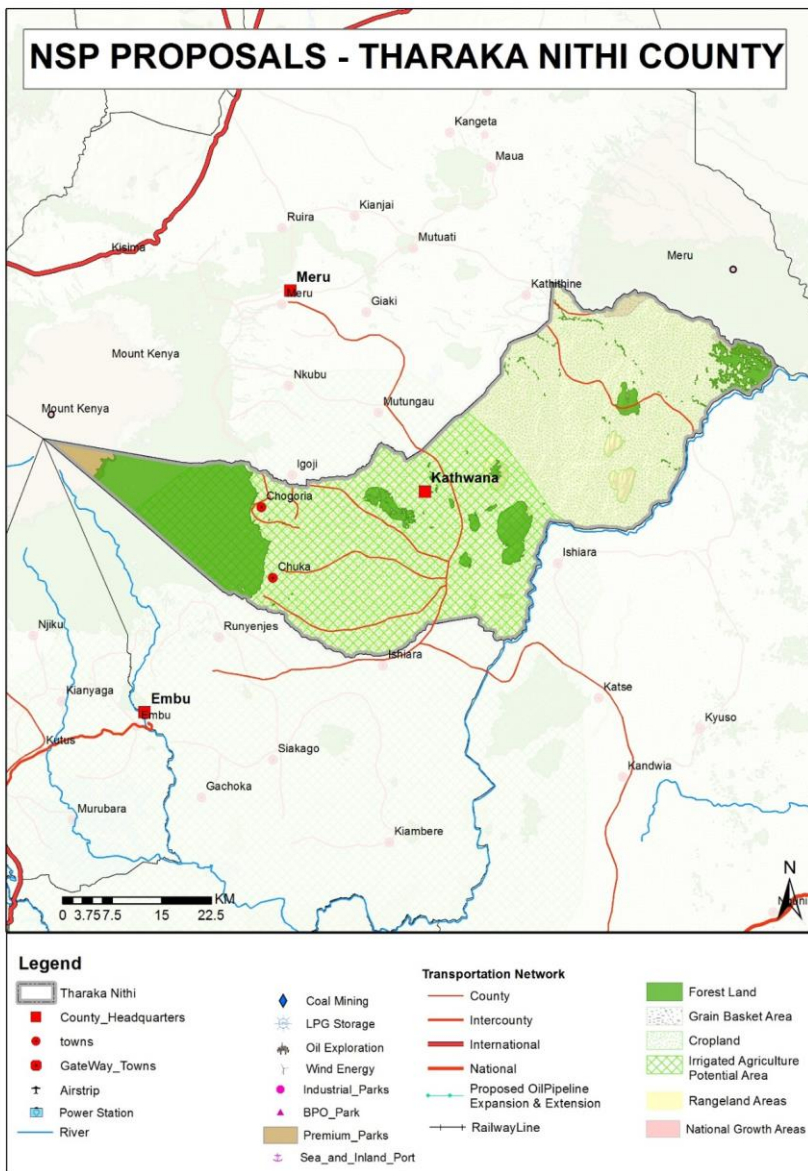
	<p>Adequate and affordable energy supply for the industrial sector <del>shall</del><u>shall be</u> provided</p>	<p>aside land for industrial development in every <del>sub County</del><u>county</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Adopt renewable energy generation programmes by provision of incentives and enforcement of building laws requiring utilization of renewable energy</del></li> <li>• <del>Incentivize large industries to promote co-generation of power</del></li> <li>• <del>Promote the adoption of energy efficient technologies to lower the demand for energy</del> <del>Provide reliable energy infrastructure by extending the national grid network</del></li> <li>• <del>Expand, modernize and upgrade electricity generation and supply</del></li> <li>• <del>Adopt renewable energy generation programmes by provision of incentives and enforcement of building laws requiring utilization of renewable energy</del></li> <li>• <del>Incentivize large industries to promote co-generation of power</del></li> <li>• <del>Promote the adoption of energy efficient technologies to lower the demand for energy</del></li> </ul>
--	---	--

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

DRAFT

The [Map 3](#) below indicates the proposals for Tharaka-Nithi County as spelt out in the NSP

Map 3: NSP Proposals for Tharaka Nithi County



Source; State Department for Physical Planning, 2022

## **5 Implementation and Adoption of The Guidelines**

### **5.1 Overview**

The implementation framework identifies activities and further ties them with responsible actors, resources and timeframes adequate for their execution. It constitutes a deliberately established method, means or system of ensuring that the policies, strategies and measures outlined in the guidelines are continuously and consistently executed to achieve their objectives.

To effectively implement the guidelines, the various sectors, actors and levels of planning have been identified and have to work together and the mandate of the sectors at the National and County levels of planning have to be integrated.

### **5.2 Implementation Approaches**

The County Specific Guidelines will be implemented through various approaches including:

1. Preparation of spatial plans to integrate and conform to the proposals of the County Guidelines. The plans include:
  - Inter-County Physical and Land Use Development Plans for Metropolitan regions, conservation zones, river basins, water towers, coastal ecosystems, trans-boundary resource areas and transport corridors, among others.
  - County Physical and Land Use Development Plans.
  - Local Physical and Land Use Development plans for Cities, Urban areas, special area plans, subject plans and detailed neighborhood plans, among others.
  - Sectoral plans
2. Integration of the guideline policies, strategies and measures into the County sector plans, programs and projects. Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), County and National Departments identified in the plan to administer the policies, strategies and measures are required to translate them into action plans, programmes and projects and to include them in their subsequent sector plans.
3. Formulation of policies, regulations and standards to guide development control

### 5.3 Implementation Framework

The implementation of the various policies, strategies, measures, programmes and projects under these Guidelines will involve a wide range of actors. It will require a coordinated approach and partnership between the National and County Governments and non-state actors. It may require re-engineering of institutions and a number of actors to undertake the implementation through a harmonized approach.

The National Spatial Plan identified a multi-leveled framework for implementation of the plan that incorporates all levels of actors. In this regard, the institutions identified in the NSP to undertake implementation of the plan at County-level shall also be mandated to ensure implementation of this Guidelines.

The following are the Institutions mandated to ensure implementation of the County Specific guidelines;

#### 5.3.1 County Physical Planning Committee

The role of the County Planning Committee shall be to ensure aspirations of the guidelines are articulated in preparation of the County Spatial Plans, County Integrated Development Plans and Local Physical and Land Use Development Plans.

The composition of this committee consists of;

- i. The Governor who will be the Chairperson,
- ii. the Deputy Governor,
- iii. the County Executive Committee Members from various sectors
- iv. Directors from various relevant County Departments including Lands and Physical Planning, Economic planning, Agriculture, Industrialization, Tourism, Environment, Transport and Infrastructure

The functions of the committee include;

- 1) To promote effective integration between physical, economic and sectoral planning within the framework of county development policies.
- 2) To provide policy guidance for the implementation of strategic spatial projects
- 3) To ensure that the guidelines policies and measures are mainstreamed in the various county plans.

- 4) To mobilize resource for implementation of the Guidelines.

### **5.3.2 County Planning Unit (CPU)**

The technical Unit shall provide technical support to the various implementing County departments on issues relating to physical planning.

The CPU shall;

- i. Monitor the Implementation of the guidelines.
- ii. To disseminate components of the guidelines to the various county departments.
- iii. Update the County Physical Planning Committee on a regular basis on the implementation of the guidelines.

The County Director of Physical Planning shall be responsible for preparation of an annual state of planning report which shall among other things appraise the status of implementation of the guidelines.

### **5.3.3 National Land Commission**

The National Land Commission shall play its oversight role in land use planning to ensure efficient implementation of the NSP and the guidelines. Other functions of the Commission in the implementation of the NSP and the guidelines include the following:

- To formulate mechanisms and parameters for monitoring and overseeing land use planning.

- i. To ensure that relevant planning authorities carry out their functions as required by law.
- ii. To make recommendations for improvements of the planning systems in the county.
- iii. To mobilize resources to support physical/land use planning.

## **5.4 Monitoring and Evaluation**

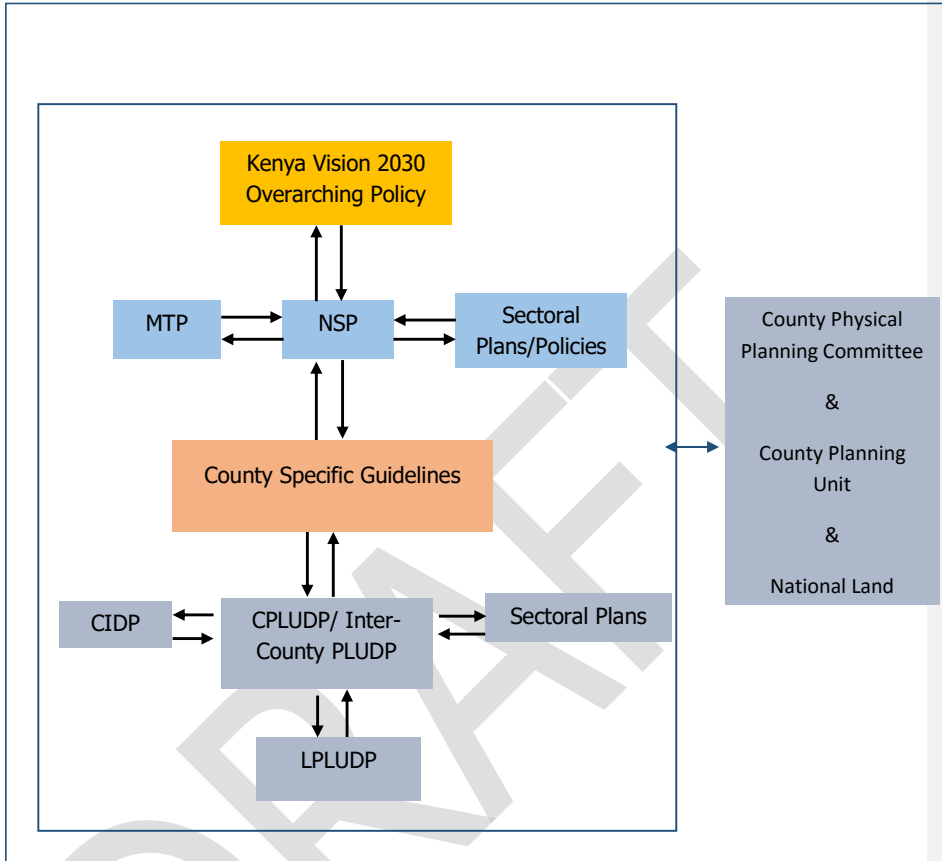
Implementation of the guidelines will be monitored and evaluated to measure both outputs and outcomes and ensure that the intended actions are implemented in a timely manner. To facilitate attainment of the objectives of the guidelines, performance indicators will be developed by the County Physical Planning Department

for efficient monitoring. Periodic reports will be prepared in relation to progress being made in their implementation.

The graphic below illustrates the implementation structure for County Specific guidelines.

DRAFT

Figure 2: Implementation structure of the guidelines



Source: State Department for Physical Planning, 2022

## 5.5 Conclusion

The application of these guidelines will be undertaken by a number of actors and hence the need for a coordinated approach. The lead agency will be Tharaka Nithi County Government which will be responsible for implementing various county specific initiatives proposed by the guidelines.

The National Government, County Government of Tharaka Nithi, the private sector and the general public will be critical in actualizing the objectives of these guidelines. The County Physical Planning Committee shall develop a communication strategy to enhance the synergies.

The National Department of Physical Planning shall undertake sensitization, training and capacity building of the County Government and National Government institutions and agencies that will be involved in the implementation of these guidelines. Special attention will be given to the County physical planning units, as they will be expected to provide technical expertise in the implementation of the County specific policies and strategies.

