

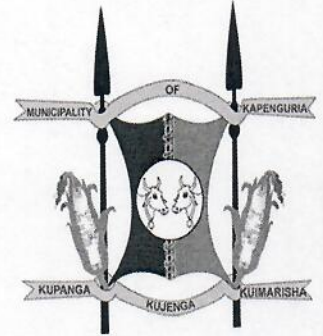
Kapenguria Municipality Gender Engagement Framework



REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF WEST POKOT

KAPENGURIA  
MUNICIPALITY

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Gender Engagement Framework

Kenya Urban Support Program II (KUSP II)

Prepared by: Kapenguria Municipality

Year: 2026

## **Kapenguria Municipality Gender Engagement Framework**

### List of Abbreviations

GBV – Gender-Based Violence

KUSP2 – Kenya Urban Support Program 2

NGDP – National Gender and Development Policy


## **Kapenguria Municipality Gender Engagement Framework**

### **FOREWORD**

Kapenguria Municipality is committed to promoting inclusive and equitable urban development. As part of the Kenya Urban Support Program II (KUSP II), the municipality recognizes the importance of integrating gender considerations into municipal planning, infrastructure development, and service delivery.

This Gender Engagement Framework provides guidance on how the municipality will ensure that women, men, youth and vulnerable groups benefit equitably from urban development investments. The framework supports participation, economic empowerment and safe public spaces for all residents.

The municipality remains committed to strengthening institutional capacity and promoting inclusive development through gender-responsive governance.



**David Kiptum Yator**

**Chairperson, Municipal Board**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Kapenguria Municipality acknowledges the support provided by the State Department for Housing and Urban Development under the Kenya Urban Support Program II (KUSP II). The municipality also appreciates the contributions of Municipal staff, community stakeholders, women groups, youth groups, and development partners who participated in the preparation of this Gender Engagement Framework.

Their participation and insights were essential in ensuring that this framework reflects the needs and priorities of the residents of Kapenguria Municipality.





**Donato Longal**

**Municipal Manager, Kapenguria Municipality**

**APPROVAL AND ADOPTION PAGE**

This Gender Engagement Framework for Kapenguria Municipality has been reviewed and approved for implementation under the Kenya Urban Support Program II (KUSP II). The framework provides guidance on integrating gender equality, inclusion of vulnerable groups, and equitable access to municipal services in urban development initiatives.

Name	Designation	Signature	Date	Full Board Minute number
<b>Donato Longal</b>	Municipal Manager		6/2/2026	FB 1/6/2/2026
<b>David Kiptum Yator</b>	Chairperson, Municipal Board			

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## 1.0 Background and Gender Context in Kenya

In Kenya, gender laws and policies have been evolving to promote gender equality and address issues related to gender-based discrimination. The Constitution of Kenya (2010) provides a strong legal foundation for gender equality and non-discrimination. Article 27 guarantees equality before the law and freedom from discrimination, while Article 81 emphasizes the two-thirds gender rule in elective and appointive bodies.

Several legislative frameworks also support gender equality, including the Sexual Offences Act (2006), the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act (2015), the Employment Act (2007), and the Health Act (2017). These legal instruments promote protection against gender-based violence, equal employment opportunities, and access to reproductive health services.

National policies such as the **National Gender and Development Policy (NGDP)** and the **National Policy on Gender and Development (2019)** guide gender mainstreaming in government programs and development initiatives. These policies promote women's economic empowerment, access to education, participation in governance, and protection against gender-based violence.

Despite progress, gender disparities remain evident in areas such as access to employment, economic opportunities, and participation in decision-making processes. Women continue to face structural barriers related to cultural norms, limited access to resources, and unequal economic opportunities.

The **Kenya Urban Support Program II (KUSP II)** seeks to address these disparities by strengthening urban institutions, improving infrastructure resilience, and ensuring inclusive participation in urban development processes across participating municipalities.

Municipalities such as **Kapenguria Municipality in West Pokot County** play a key role in implementing the program at the local level. As urban centers expand and municipal services improve, it becomes critical that gender considerations are integrated into municipal planning, infrastructure development, service delivery, and private sector engagement.

Integrating gender considerations at the municipal level ensures that women, men, youth, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups benefit equitably from urban development investments.

## **1.6 Gender Engagement Framework in the Context of Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP2)**

The Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP2) is designed to build upon the successes of its predecessor, KUSP, with a focus on strengthening urban institutions, improving infrastructure resilience, fostering private sector engagement, and integrating refugee settlements into host communities. Recognizing the importance of addressing gender disparities within these objectives, a Gender Engagement Framework has been developed to ensure that gender considerations are embedded throughout the program. KUSP2 aims to enhance the capacities of urban institutions across 45 counties and 79 municipalities, including two municipalities that host refugees. The program seeks to equip these areas with the necessary tools and resources to handle climate change challenges effectively, improve urban infrastructure and services, and increase private sector involvement in urban planning and development. Additionally, the program focuses on the transition of refugee camps into integrated settlements with host communities. Incorporating gender considerations into KUSP2 is essential for achieving equitable and sustainable urban development. Gender dynamics significantly impact access to and control over urban services and infrastructure. Women, men, and marginalized groups often face different barriers and have varied needs. For instance, women may encounter obstacles in accessing safe transportation, sanitation facilities, and healthcare, while they may also have limited representation in decision making processes related to urban planning. These gender disparities can affect the overall effectiveness of development efforts. The unique challenges in refugee-hosting municipalities further highlight the need for gender sensitive approaches. Women and girls in refugee settings often face heightened vulnerabilities, including issues related to safety, health, and economic stability. Addressing these gender-specific needs is crucial for facilitating the successful integration of refugee and host communities for the greater good of the program. The Gender Engagement Framework for KUSP2 aligns closely with the program's development objectives. By ensuring that urban infrastructure and services are designed to meet the needs of all genders, the framework aims to improve service delivery. It also promotes gender-balanced participation in urban planning and private sector initiatives, ensuring that diverse voices are heard and considered as well as consideration of all genders in implementation of sub-projects at the municipal level. Furthermore, the framework addresses the specific needs of women and marginalized groups to support effective refugee integration.

The information that has informed the development of this framework has been solicited through extensive and engagement with key stakeholders, including county governments/municipalities, gender advocacy organizations, community groups and review of KUSP reports on infrastructure investments and various technical visits to counties and their municipalities.

## Kapenguria Municipality Gender Engagement Framework

This approach ensures that the framework addresses real needs based on practical experience and leverages local knowledge. During the County system assessment to inform development of KUSP2, some level of gender analysis was conducted to identify existing disparities and needs. This, has guided the framework's strategies and objectives. By integrating gender considerations into all aspects of KUSP2—from infrastructure development to stakeholder engagement—the Gender Engagement Framework aims to enhance the program's effectiveness and ensure that the benefits of improved urban infrastructure and services are equitably shared among all community members. This framework is a vital component of KUSP2's strategy to promote inclusive and resilient urban development in Kenya. It aims to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment are central to the program's objectives, including strengthening urban institutions, improving infrastructure resilience, engaging the private sector, and supporting refugee integration.

### 1.2 Application of the Gender Engagement Framework in Kapenguria Municipality

Kapenguria Municipality, located in West Pokot County, is one of the municipalities participating in the **Kenya Urban Support Program II (KUSP II)**. As the administrative and economic center of the county, Kapenguria is experiencing gradual urban growth and increased demand for improved infrastructure, municipal services, and economic opportunities.

Within this context, gender disparities remain visible in several aspects of municipal development. Women and youth dominate the informal economy, particularly in small-scale trading, market activities, and service provision. However, they often face challenges such as limited access to formal business opportunities, limited participation in municipal decision-making forums, and barriers to participating in public procurement processes.

Women in Kapenguria Municipality also face challenges related to access to safe public infrastructure, including sanitation facilities, street lighting, and safe market environments. These challenges highlight the need for gender-responsive urban planning and service delivery.

The **Gender Engagement Framework under KUSP II** provides Kapenguria Municipality with a structured approach to integrate gender equality into municipal governance and urban development initiatives. Through this framework, the municipality will ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed in the planning, design, and implementation of municipal programs and projects.

## Key Gender Priorities for Kapenguria Municipality

To operationalize the Gender Engagement Framework, Kapenguria Municipality will focus on the following priority areas:

### 1. Gender-Responsive Urban Infrastructure

Infrastructure projects implemented under KUSP II will be designed to respond to the needs of different social groups. This includes:

- Safe and accessible sanitation facilities
- Adequate street lighting to enhance safety
- Safe and inclusive market infrastructure
- Accessible walkways and public spaces for all users

These interventions will help ensure that women, youth, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities can safely access municipal services.

### 2. Inclusive Participation in Municipal Planning

Kapenguria Municipality will promote inclusive public participation in urban planning and project implementation. During stakeholder consultations and community engagement forums, the municipality will ensure representation of:

- Women groups
- Youth groups
- Persons with disabilities
- Community-based organizations

This approach will ensure that development priorities reflect the needs of the entire community.

### 3. Women Economic Empowerment

The municipality will encourage participation of **women-owned enterprises, youth groups, and vulnerable groups** in municipal procurement opportunities under KUSP II.

This will be achieved through:

- Awareness campaigns on procurement opportunities
- Support for women and youth groups to register as suppliers through awareness creation.
- Inclusive advertisement of municipal tenders

These measures will enhance economic opportunities for local communities and promote inclusive growth.

#### 4. Strengthening Institutional Capacity

Kapenguria Municipality will build the capacity of municipal staff and stakeholders on gender mainstreaming in urban development. This includes training on:

- Gender-responsive planning
- Gender-sensitive service delivery
- Monitoring gender outcomes in municipal projects

The **Municipal Manager, Municipal Board, and Social Safeguards Officer** will play a key role in ensuring gender integration within municipal operations.

#### Monitoring Gender Outcomes

To ensure accountability and continuous improvement, Kapenguria Municipality will integrate gender indicators into KUSP II monitoring and reporting systems. Key indicators will include:

- Participation of women and youth in public participation forums
- Number of women-owned enterprises participating in procurement
- Access to gender-responsive infrastructure and services
- Inclusion of gender considerations in municipal planning processes

Regular reporting will help the municipality track progress and identify areas requiring improvement.

#### Conclusion

The integration of this Gender Engagement Framework within Kapenguria Municipality will contribute to **inclusive urban development, equitable service delivery, and improved economic opportunities for all residents.**

By aligning municipal practices with national gender policies and KUSP II program objectives, Kapenguria Municipality will strengthen its commitment to **gender equality, social inclusion, and sustainable urban development.**