

## **CHAPTER FOUR: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION**

### **4.1 Introduction**

Legal Notice 101 of EMCA 2015 (The Environmental Regulations, 2003) requires that all environmental assessment processes in Kenya incorporate Consultations and Public Participation (CPP). The aim is to ensure that all stakeholder interests are identified and incorporated in project development, implementation and operation. Of necessity, stakeholder consultations should take place alongside project design and implementation to ensure that the project puts in place measures to cater for stakeholder concerns in all project phases.

### **4.2 Approach to Public Participation and Consultations**

In the case of the proposed Paves-Sebit-Sunflower access road project, CPP followed these steps:

#### **1) Identification of Stakeholders**

Like in all civil works projects, the core stakeholders comprise people to be directly served by the access road and include traders, businessmen, passengers, pedestrians along the upgraded access road and the general surrounding community. This is the group that is likely to benefit or be affected by the proposed development hence the primary stakeholders. This study also identified a second category of stakeholders comprised of County Government of West Pokot officers, county government heads and institutions in charge of diverse sectors (Ministry of Transport, among others), which are likely to be impacted by the access road to the construction project. This category was also consulted as key informants on sectoral policy and to advise this ESIA study on mitigation measures to be put in place so as to minimize adverse impacts in respective sectors. Each category of stakeholders called for a different approach to consultation.

#### **2) Modalities for stakeholder consultation**

The following techniques and instruments were used for public participation and consultation;

➤ **Photography and direct observation** Photography was particularly useful as it captured the real situation on the ground that was relevant to the study. Direct observation involved site viewing of the proposed project location to see the extent of development on it and the condition of the existing structures.

#### **Photograph of Stakeholders CPP – October 18, 2017**

##### **➤ Interviews**

Interviews and stakeholder engagements were carried out in the form of a public meeting where attendance sheets were filled in and minutes of meeting taken. It also included filling in of questionnaires to solicit views regarding this project from these persons. The status of the project as well as its design was disclosed to the stakeholders at this point. The questionnaire initially gave introduction and created awareness to these stakeholders of the proposed project. Afterwards, the

ESIA team enquired on the acceptance of the project and whether the project would cause any negative impacts on the following;

- a. Local residents and their businesses;
- b. Ecology of the area;
- c. Human environment;
- d. Recreational and leisure facilities;
- e. Public health and safety;
- f. Effect on water resources and quality;
- g. Effect on the soils;
- h. Effect on road transport and;
- i. Waste disposal.

The said parameters were directly mentioned to foresee which could have intense negative impact. In total, about 40 persons were consulted. These were mainly traders in the area along the road to be upgraded, political leaders and boda boda riders. Interviewed also were members of the local matatu group, business people along the road to be upgraded and representatives of the county government of West Pokot.

#### 4.3 Issues Raised

The issues raised in the public meeting held on May 13, 2020 are as represented in the table below;

Mr. William Loktari requested that once the road is complete speed bumps should be constructed along the road.	The Consultant said that that was well noted.
Madam Rhoda Chebet asked whether the youth shall be given employment once the project commences.	The consultant assured them that the contractor is usually advised to recruit casual labor from the local community so that they can directly benefit from the project. The Consultant added that a project management team shall be set up headed by engineer.
Mr. Kiptoo asked when the project was likely to start and end.	The Consultant told the stakeholders that the project is still under procurement process so it is expected that it will start earliest June 2020 and it will take a period of 3 months to be completed.

Further issues are as reflected in the minutes of meetings in the Annexure.  
The questionnaires and minutes of meeting for CPP will be attached to this report.