



NAKURU

Voluntary Local Review



NAKURU COUNTY
COUNTY OF UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES



NAKURU
-CITY-
EMPOWER • GROW • PROTECT



Voluntary Local Review of the City of Nakuru

October 2024

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Message from the Governor



It is my humble pleasure to present the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) of the City of Nakuru as part of my government's six-point urban agenda. One of the pillars of the 6-point urban agenda is data, which has been the cornerstone of this VLR.

The VLR of the City of Nakuru is developed jointly and collectively with the City Board of Nakuru with support from the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) under the project titled "Fostering Covid-19 recovery and SDG implementation through local action in Asia-Pacific, Arab and African countries" funded by the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund. It is Nakuru's first VLR, undertaken soon after the municipality was elevated to city status in December 2021, making it the youngest city in Kenya. Coordinated by a Multi-Stakeholder Task Force, the VLR process was highly inclusive and participatory engaging policy-makers, public authorities, private sector, and community in equal measure.

As evident in other cities in the region, Nakuru is witnessing a high rate of urbanization. The last 60 years have seen the rate of urbanization change driven by a growing population and an evolving economic sector that realigns to the growth trajectory from primary economic activities such as agriculture to processing and manufacturing. The population in the City of Nakuru has increased rapidly from 570,674 in 2019 to 686,630 in 2022 (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2022). The population is projected to grow rapidly to 1,054,735 by 2030.

Through this VLR, Nakuru City seeks to report on their efforts and plans towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As an instrument for guiding strategic planning, financing, and future initiatives to support a resilient and inclusive future for the City, this VLR sets the foundation for



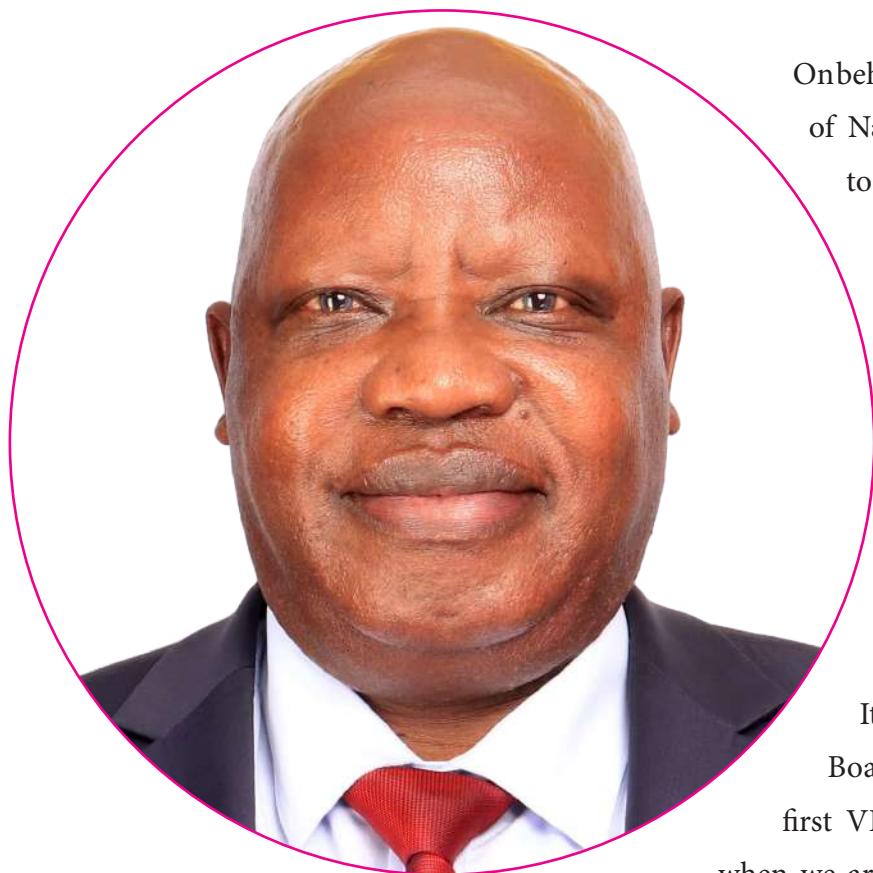
localized disaggregated data that would contribute to the Voluntary National Review (VNR). Furthermore, the VLR harmonizes the development ambition expressed through of a number of existing development plans, which include Nakuru County Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022), Nakuru Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023, Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034, Nakuru County Spatial Development Plan (2015 – 2025), and Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2024 – 2034). These plans all align to the Kenya Vision 2030, which is the national development blue print.

The City Board, in developing this first VLR, have shown their commitment to sustainable urban development and we take pride in joining other African Cities in expressing commitment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Our gratitude goes to UN-Habitat, UNDESA, UNECA, UCLGA for partnering with the County to deliver the City VLR. We look forward to successive VLRs in the coming years as we double of efforts to contribute to the SDGs during this last decade of action.

H.E Susan Kihika, EGH

Governor, County of Nakuru

Message from the Chairman, City Board



On behalf of the City Board and Management of Nakuru City, I take this opportunity to thank the County Government for facilitating the partnership between the City and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

It is through this partnership that the Board has been able to publish the very first VLR for the City. Coming at a time when we are putting together the key building blocks for our young city, this VLR would not have been

more timely, and we are proud to join the family of 20 African cities that have undertaken VLRs.

Our city's sustainable development landscape is currently shaped by three pathways adopted by the Board that aligns to the 6-point urban agenda of H.E The Governor. One of these is the Vision 2050 Pathway, which compounds the citizens long-term development aspirations as we embrace the transition from municipality to city. The second is the Urban Regeneration Pathway, which embodies the link between the city and other urban centers in the County. The third is the Urban Resilience Pathway, which defines a strategy for reducing the shocks and stresses brought about by climatic change. All these pathways converge in the Integrated Urban Development Plan (IDeP), which is our 5-year development blue print and links to the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP).

The development process of Nakuru VLR has been highly enriching, especially in the assembly and analysis of data by multiple stakeholders and the digitization of the data on the VLR Dashboard. This digital form of VLR has created wide interest due to its accessibility and further created awareness on the SDGs amongst a host of actors, in public as well as private. As a Board, we are committed to expand the versatility of the dashboard to apply it as the primary accountability interface with the citizens of Nakuru.



I wish to conclude by making special mention to the VLR Task Force convened by the City Manager and supported by the VLR Consultant for the well-coordinated approach through the entire review. The County department of Housing and Urban Development effectively coordinated all other departments in the VLR process. We further acknowledge all the stakeholders and citizens, who in one way or the other, contributed to the VLR. Ultimately, this would not have been possible without the goodwill of the County Government under the leadership of H.E Governor Susan Kihika, who made the partnership with UN-Habitat, UNDESA, UNECA, and UCLGA possible.

Stephen Muli

Chairman, City Board



Joint Foreword from the Implementing Partners

We offer our congratulations to Nakuru City for the development of this unique and innovative Action-Oriented Voluntary Local Review (VLR). This review is the result of a collaborative process led by the Nakuru City, involving numerous stakeholders including the county government and community members, and supported by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

By joining the VLR global movement, Nakuru City stands alongside over 300 localities worldwide that have published VLRs, collectively representing the realities of more than 460 million people. Nakuru's VLR is among the 20 such reviews in Africa to date, further showcasing the city's leadership in sustainable development efforts on the continent.

VLRs have proven to be powerful tools for accelerating SDG localization, enhancing participation, building ownership, and mobilizing local actors toward achieving the SDGs and sustainable development. We commend Nakuru's VLR for going beyond diagnostics; it reviews the progress of seven SDGs and proposes action-oriented recommendations, including evidence-based policies and next steps. This approach aligns with the Action-Oriented VLR Methodology developed by UN-Habitat and UCLG and is in harmony with the city's urban plans and the country's development goals.

We particularly commend Nakuru City's inclusive approach to governance throughout the VLR process. This inclusive governance effort of the VLR Task Force and Nakuru City Board in actively engaging communities and stakeholders in the VLR process has ensured that the resultant VLR is based on realities on the ground and owned by the people it affects.

Additionally, the digitalization of Nakuru's VLR into an interactive, living online dashboard is a groundbreaking initiative. This innovation not only enhances transparency and accessibility but also paves the way for continuous engagement between the government and its citizens. Nakuru's plan to enable live commenting and contributions from residents is an exemplary practice, demonstrating a forward-thinking approach to governance that prioritizes community input and addresses residents' needs in decision-making processes.

We are grateful for the opportunity to support the VLR of Nakuru, which not only underscores the city's dedication to sustainable development but also serves as a model for how local governments can



lead the way in driving meaningful, transformative change. We hope that this VLR will serve as a strategic tool for future planning and development of policy and projects. We also believe it can become a model of progress, inspiring other local government authorities in the country and beyond to join the VLR movement. We encourage further collaboration and investment in these efforts to ensure the successful implementation of the recommendations, which will ultimately contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive future for Nakuru and its residents.

Shipra Narang Suri, Chief of the Urban Practices Branch, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ANC -----	Antenatal care
AU -----	Africa Union
CHV -----	Community Health Volunteers
CIDP-----	County Integrated Development Plan
CRP -----	Cities Resilience Program
CUIDS -----	County Urban Institutional Development Strategy
CURS -----	City Urban Resilience Strategy
ECDE -----	Early Childhood Education
FTYIP -----	First Ten Year Implementation Plan
IATWC -----	Inter-Agency Technical Working Committee
IDeP -----	Integrated Development Plan
ISUDP -----	Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan
KISIP -----	Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project
KNBS -----	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KURA-----	Kenya Urban Roads Authority
KUSP -----	Kenya Urban Support Program
MRFs -----	Material Recovery Facilities
MSEA -----	Micro and Small Enterprise Authority
NAWASSCO-----	Nakuru Water and Sanitation Services Company
NHIF -----	National Health insurance
POCUS -----	Point of Care Ultrasound services
PwDs-----	Persons with Disabilities
SDGs-----	Sustainable Development Goals
SHIF -----	Social Health Insurance Fund
TVET -----	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UCLGA -----	United Cities and Local Governments in Africa
UMF -----	Urban Monitoring Framework
UN-Habitat -----	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNDESA -----	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNECA-----	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
VLR -----	Voluntary Local Review
VNR -----	Voluntary National Review
WHO -----	World Health Organization

Key Highlights of the Review

Nakuru City is one amongst other African and Global Cities bolstering their commitment to fulfill the initiatives set out under the United Nations 2030 Agenda as part of its sustainable development quest. As Kenya's youngest city, the City Board recognizes and embraces the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) as instrumental in bridging between their short term¹ and long-term² sustainable development agenda. With the adoption of the VLR, Nakuru boldens their intention of orienting planning, closing the data gap, and enhancing accountability and transparency, all in support of a resilient and inclusive future for the city.

The first VLR for Nakuru sets the foundation for measuring the City's progress towards achieving the SDGs. It serves as an important entry point for Nakuru as a young city into the global city competitiveness. Through the VLR, Nakuru is not only able to account for its contribution to the national SDG framework, but mirror itself against other regional global cities. Through this, the city can learn and draw lessons that would better position it to strengthen service provision to its populace and attract partnerships to accelerate progress towards the SDG targets. As a young city, Nakuru has a set of development plans and strategies catering for both short-term and long-term goals. These include Nakuru County Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022), Nakuru Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023, Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034, Nakuru County Spatial Development Plan

(2015 – 2025), Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023 – 2033). These plans and strategies, in addition to national plans such as Vision 2030, formed the bedrock of the VLR situation analysis and alignment to the priority SDGs.

The VLR was developed over a period of one year and involved obtaining and analysis of data, organizing it in SDG discussion papers, facilitating participatory events and workshops to interrogate the VLR document, and building consensus on the final draft of the Nakuru City VLR. Since the commencement of the VLR process in July 2023, the City Board has deployed a robust stakeholder and community engagement approach anchored by a multi-stakeholder Task Force. The data collection process involved multiple institutions and agencies from all the key development sectors that are prioritised in the IDeP. Two citywide stakeholder forums bringing together over 120 stakeholders from community, public, private and civil society was amongst the various stakeholder engagement processes undertaken. Central to the VLR is the VLR digital dashboard, which enables access to the VLR through a digital platform that also links the IDeP to the long term Vision 2050. The VLR dashboard is also purposed to serve as the governance and management accountability instrument for the City.

The VLR presents progress of seven prioritized SDGs using 19 targets and 25 indicators, tracking the impact of the initiatives undertaken in progressing towards the respective targets. The selected indicators constitute 15 per cent of the national indicators³. The VLR reveals that out of the 25 indicators, 60 per cent (15) registered positive



progress, while 40 per cent were regressing. In terms of the six goals, there appears to be positive progression, though slow and off target and unlikely to meet the 2030 timeline. This is not a perfect picture and requires significant efforts as suggested through the various action oriented recommendations. Notable too, is that a number of accelerator investments have been lined up that are likely to propel Nakuru closer to the targets. These include significant investments in affordable housing, stimulus markets, solid waste management, transportation and slum upgrading. The City Board also envisages expanding the horizon of the VLR to include additional targets that have not been analyzed in this first VLR.

The city's drive to moving closer to the targets is evidently expressed through the Board's commitment to embrace transparent and accountable governance practices anchored and driven by technology. Digital governance that has been presented through the VLR dashboard is an

important score by the Board. The intension to explore the versatility of this dashboard to serve as the core instrument for development accountability exemplifies the progressiveness of the governance regime of the city.

Challenges however exist, and the Board has taken this in good stride. The recommendations adduced in this VLR are intended to strengthen process as well as output. It is however noted that there are many competing interests, mainly driven by the significant shortfall in the City's budget to meet the ambitions as set out in the popularly endorsed plans and strategies. To this extent, the Board and City management seek to build confidence and trust amongst the various partners and stakeholders to forge a joint and collective platform in the pursuit of sustainable development. This effort is in furtherance of the Governor's six-point urban agenda, that lays great emphasis on data and evidence-based development.

The VLR Dashboard

The Nakuru VLR is built on a digital platform that provides a dashboard (<https://nakurudashboard-test.vercel.app/>) for ease of access to the data and reports. This dashboard reflects the City Board's dedication to transparent and inclusive governance that 'leaves no one behind'. While the data entry profile is currently limited to the City Management, the dashboard has features that can be easily activated to allow for citizens feedback as well as allow for data entry by multiple actors. Through the County Urban Institutional Development Strategy (CUIDS), the Board has laid out plans to increase the versatility of the dashboard in the coming few years.



Scan the QR Code
to access the Nakuru
VLR Dashboard

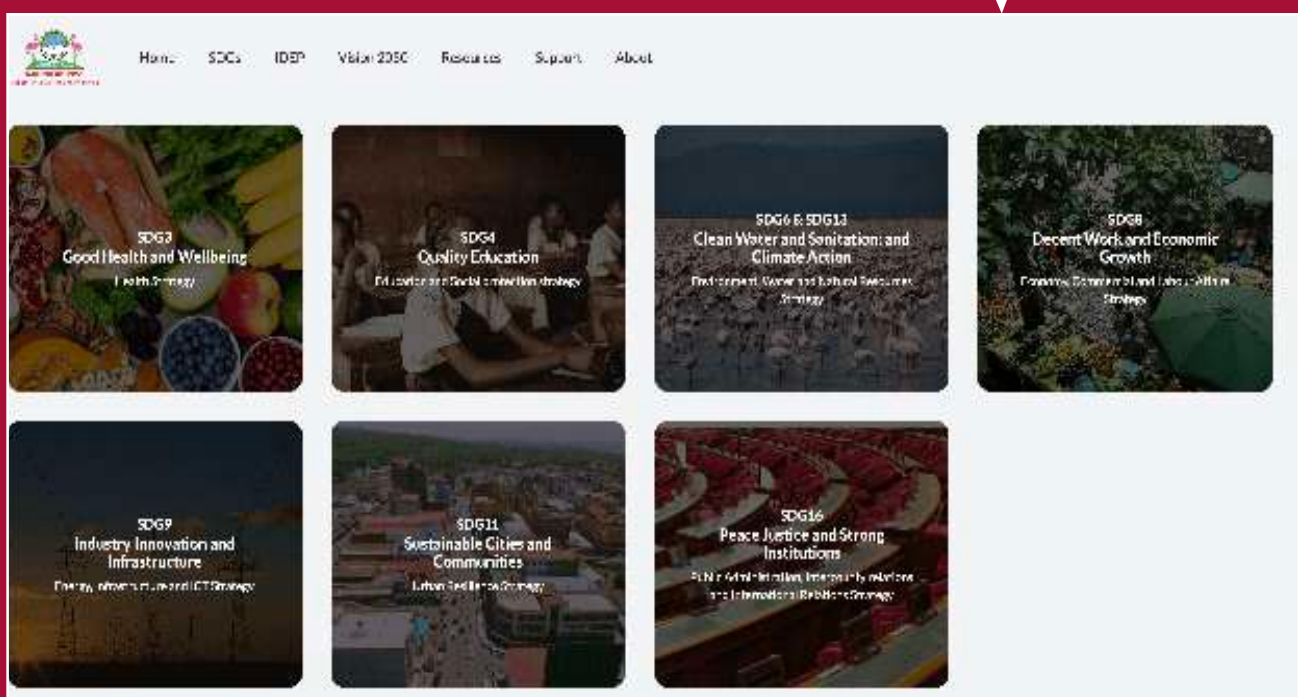


Figure 1: Nakuru VLR Dashboard home page



CHAPTER 1: Introduction



1.1 Overview

Nakuru City is one amongst other African and Global Cities bolstering their commitment to fulfill the initiatives set out under the United Nations 2030 Agenda as part of its sustainable development quest. As Kenya's youngest city, the City Board recognizes and embraces the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) as instrumental in bridging between their short term⁴ and long-term⁵ sustainable development agenda. The Board, serving as an agent for the County Government of Nakuru, further recognizes their leading role in driving the County urban regeneration agenda⁶.

The Nakuru Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023 defines the city's sustainable development pathway as it transitions from the municipality to city status⁷. Embodied through the vision of, "A municipality of choice to visit, work, live and invest", this plan formed the core foundation for the Voluntary Local Review. Other key plans and strategies aligned to the IDeP include the Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034, and the Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023-2033).

This action oriented Voluntary Local Review (VLR) is Nakuru's primary measure of accountability to its citizens on the progress towards

the 2030 Agenda. It applies the combination of the UN SDGs and Urban Monitoring Framework (UMF) to demonstrate the significance of the local actions in meeting the global goals. Through the VLR, the Board has demonstrated commitment to participatory process in reporting their efforts and plans towards achieving the SDGs. To facilitate open and sustained stakeholder and community engagement, the Board adopted a digital platform in the form of a dashboard in presentation of the VLR.

From the inception of the VLR process in July 2023, the Board deployed a robust stakeholder and community engagement approach anchored by a multi-stakeholder Task Force. The data collection process involved multiple institutions and agencies from all the key development sectors that are prioritised in the IDeP. Two citywide stakeholder forums bringing together over 120 stakeholders from community, public, private and civil society was amongst the various stakeholder engagement processes undertaken. Ultimately, the City Board has adopted the VLR digital dashboard as the citizens accountability platform for basic service delivery viewing the VLR as a continuous process for evaluating their achievements and shortcomings in the pursuit of the SDGs.



1.2 Background

In 2021, Nakuru, which was previously designated as a municipality, was elevated to city status through Charter awarded on 01 December, making it the youngest city in Kenya. For an urban area to acquire city status in Kenya, it must have a population of at least 250,000 and the ability to provide services such as water and sanitation, street lighting, proper drainage systems, and an effective public transport system. It must also have a fire fighting and disaster management system in place, and is expected to have several recreational facilities, including public parks, stadiums and community centers.

Nakuru City lies in Kenya’s Great Rift Valley region. The City is witnessing a high rate of urbanization. The last 60 years have seen the rate of urbanization change driven by a growing population and an evolving economic sector that realigns to the growth trajectory from primary economic activities such as agriculture to processing and manufacturing. The population in the City of Nakuru has increased rapidly from 570,674 in 2019 to 686,630 in 2022 (KNBS, 2022). The population is projected to grow rapidly to 1,054,735 by 2030. The changes represent a population growth rate of 6.36% annually.

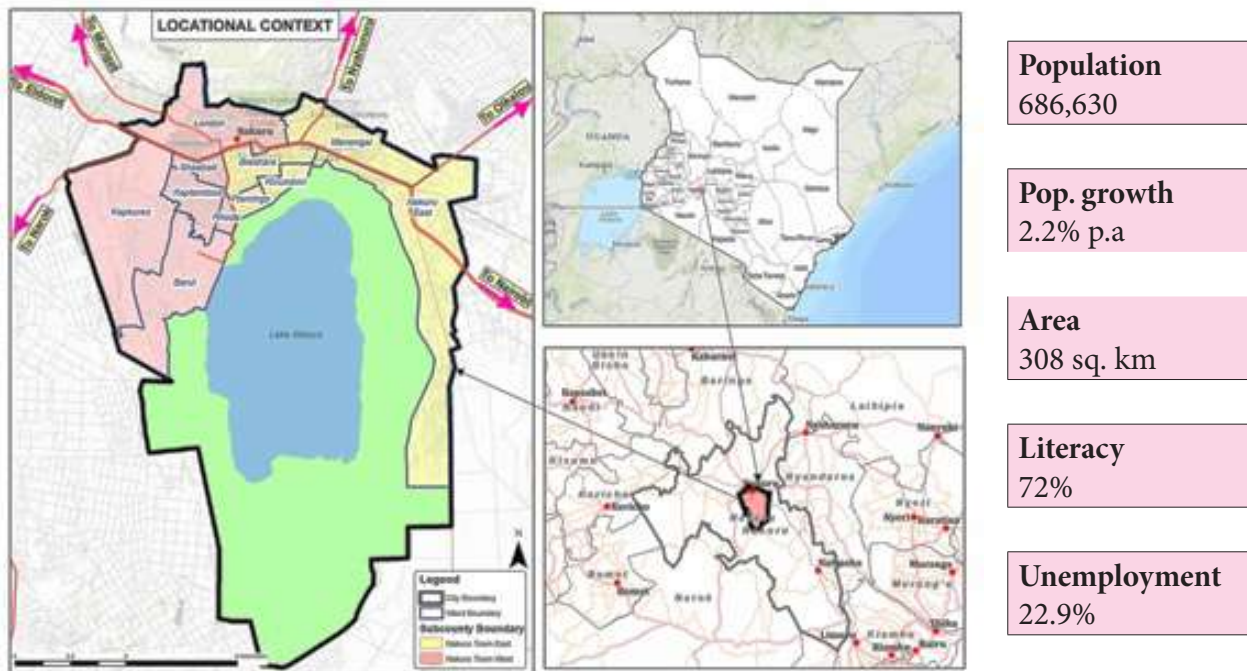


Figure 2: Location of Nakuru in Kenya (Source: GoK, Nakuru City Resilience Report)



Nakuru’s main topographic features include the floor of the Rift Valley, Menengai Crater, and Lake Nakuru. Areas around the Menengai Crater have the steepest slopes and are, therefore, not suitable for human settlements and urban development. The Menengai forest area and the Lion hill within the park have fairly steep slopes, while the Milimani and Kiamunyi areas have gentle slopes offering varied growth opportunities. The City of Nakuru’s CBD and adjacent areas are located on gently sloping land with a gradient of 0-2 degrees and are hence conducive for urban development.

The principal activities in Nakuru include commerce, manufacturing service industries, entertainment, transport, tourism, horticulture, and other auxiliary services to support the vibrant agricultural sector in the hinterlands. Similarly, Nakuru provides the surrounding agricultural sector with a ready market for farm produce for both consumption and industries. In addition,

Nakuru City has tourist attraction sites including Lake Nakuru National Park and Menengai Crater that drive the hospitality industry. The industry offers employment opportunities for the residents making it one of the most important drivers of the county’s economy. The city’s dominant income source is drawn from wholesale and retail followed by transportation.

The Nakuru Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023, which is the primary blue print for the City’s development, outlines nine priority areas for sustainable development as illustrated below. The IDeP is the link between the City development strategies and that of the County, which is presented through the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP). Public resources from national government and own source revenues are directed towards implementing the plans as outlined through the CIDP and IDeP.

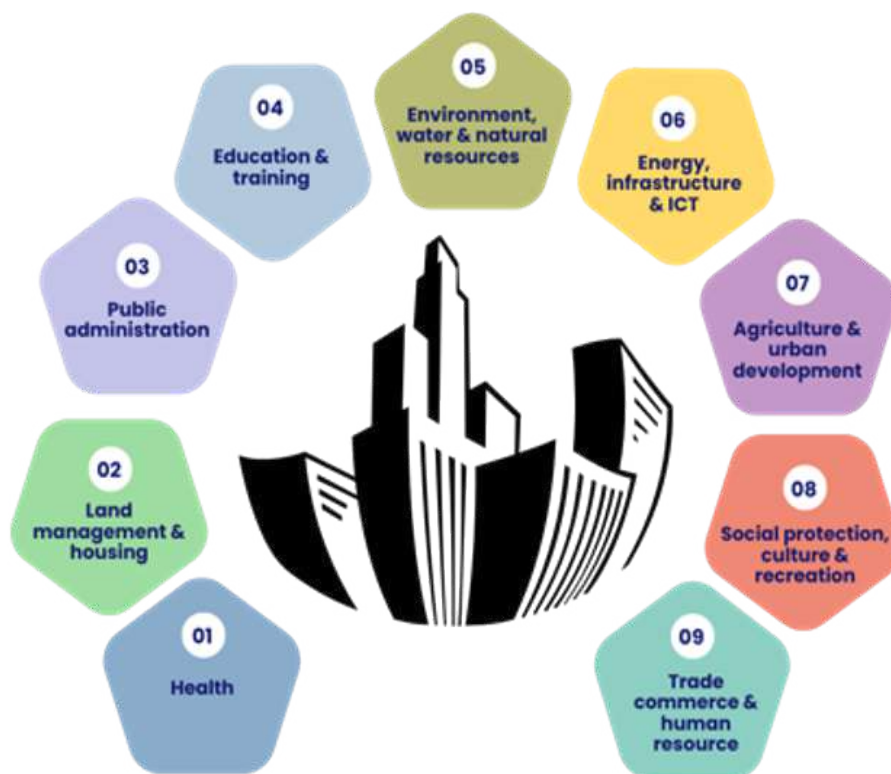


Figure 3: Nakuru Integrated Development Plan 2019-2023 Priority Sectors



The Urban Resilience Strategy 2023-2033 for the city of Nakuru is one of the most comprehensive strategies developed in the new era of city status. This strategy responds to the myriad of shocks and stresses identified through five focus areas, seven goals, sixteen objectives and seventy eight outlined activities that build on existing efforts that have

been pursued through the IDeP. The city Board and the local community have reached a consensus on integrating the city resilience strategy with the new generation IDeP (2024 – 2028). The figure below illustrates the link between the priority areas and activities.

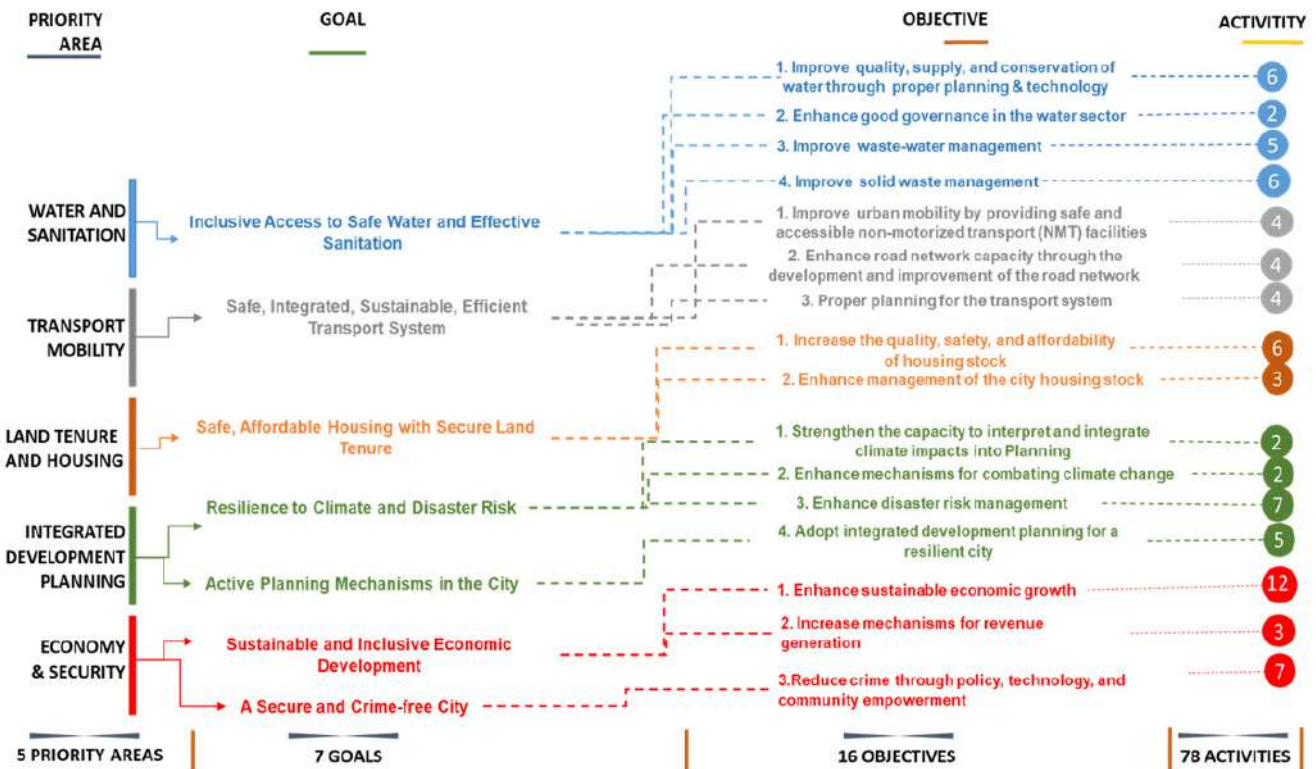


Figure 4: Urban Resilience Strategy 2023-2033 for Nakuru City Priority Areas



1.3 Linkage between the AU Agenda 2063 and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Kenya

1.3.1 Linkage of SDGs to AU 2063

The 2024 Kenyan Voluntary National Review (VNR) has adopted the AU Agenda 2063 as an integral part of the review process. In the review of the first ten-year implementation plan of the AU Agenda 2063, Kenya reported a notable

improvement moving from 51% to 61%⁸ of the indicators in the First Ten Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP), registering positive progression. To put this into SDG context, a link is drawn between the Africa Agenda 2063 priority areas and the SDGs (see table below).

Table 1: The link between AU 2063 Agenda and UN 2030 Agenda (Source: <https://au.int/agenda2063/sdgs>)

Agenda 2063 Goals	Agenda 2063 Priority Areas	UN Sustainable Development Goals
1. A high standard of living, quality of life and wellbeing for all citizens.	Incomes, jobs and decent work Poverty, inequality and hunger Social security and protection, including persons with disabilities Modern, affordable and liveable habitats and quality basic services	1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable Economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
2. Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation.	Education and science, technology and innovation (STI) driven skills revolution	4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
3. Healthy and well-nourished citizens.	Health and nutrition	3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
4. Transformed economies.	Sustainable and inclusive economic growth STI driven manufacturing, industrialization and value addition Economic diversification and resilience	8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
5. Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production.	Agricultural productivity and production	2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
6. Blue/ocean economy for accelerated economic growth.	Marine resources and energy Port operations and marine transport	14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.



<p>7. Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities.</p>	<p>Bio-diversity, conservation and Sustainable natural resource management. Water security Climate resilience and natural disasters preparedness</p>	<p>6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.</p>
<p>10. World class infrastructure criss - crosses Africa.</p>	<p>Communications and infrastructure connectivity.</p>	<p>9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.</p>
<p>11. Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched.</p>	<p>Democracy and good governance Human rights, justice and the rule of law</p>	<p>16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.</p>
<p>12. Capable institutions and transformative leadership in place.</p>	<p>Institutions and leadership Participatory development and local governance.</p>	<p>16.Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.</p>
<p>13. Peace, security and stability is preserved.</p>	<p>Maintenance and preservation of peace and security</p>	<p>16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.</p>
<p>17. Full gender equality in all spheres of life.</p>	<p>Women and girls empowerment Violence and discrimination against women and girls</p>	<p>5.Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p>
<p>18. Engaged and empowered youth and children.</p>	<p>Youth empowerment and children's rights</p>	<p>4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p>
<p>19. Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful co-existence.</p>	<p>Africa's place in global affairs Partnerships</p>	<p>17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.</p>
<p>20. Africa takes full responsibility for financing her development Goals.</p>	<p>African capital markets Fiscal systems and public sector revenue Development assistance</p>	<p>10. Reduce inequality within and among countries. 17.Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.</p>



1.3.2 Summary of the National SDG Indicators

The overall management and coordination of the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the SDGs process in Kenya is the responsibility of the State Department for Economic Planning through SDGs Coordination Directorate. The Inter-Agency Technical Working Committee (IATWC) that was set up in early 2016 supports the Directorate. The IATWC is Co-chaired by Kenya Private Sector Alliance and the SDGs Kenya Forum.

Through this coordination, the Government of Kenya has adopted 162 of the 248 global SDG indicators to provide a framework⁹ for the VLRs and VNRs in the country (see figure 6). The national SDG indicators framework provides the basis for assignment and alignment of indicators for the local development plans in the Nakuru VLR.

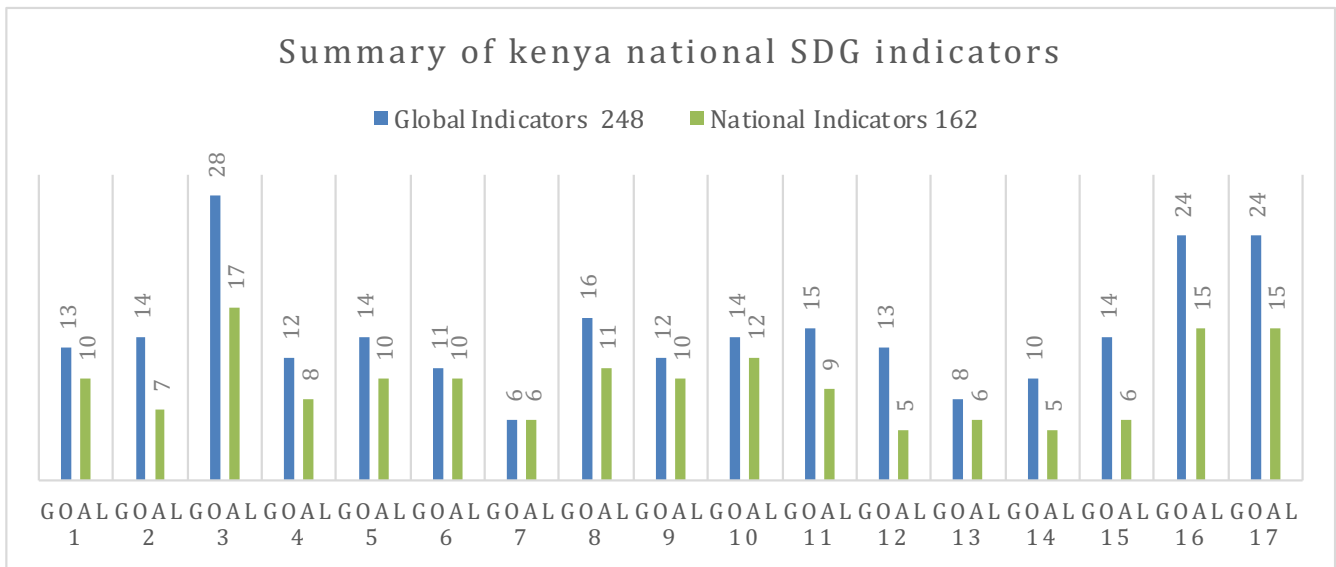


Figure 5: Comparison of the Global and Kenya Adopted SDG Indicators

Goal	Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5	Goal 6	Goal 7	Goal 8	Goal 9	Goal 10	Goal 11	Goal 12	Goal 13	Goal 14	Goal 15	Goal 16	Goal 17	
Global Indicators 248	13	14	28	12	14	11	6	16	12	14	15	13	8	10	14	24	24	
National Indicators 162	10	7	17	8	10	10	6	11	10	12	9	5	6	5	6	15	15	
Per cent	76.9	50.0	60.7	66.7	71.4	90.9	100.0	68.8	83.3	85.7	60.0	38.5	75.0	50.0	42.9	62.5	62.5	
Indicators in the National Indicator Framework (NIF)	1.1.1	2.1.1	3.1.1	4.1.1	5.2.1	6.1.1	7.1.1	8.1.1	9.1.1	10.1.1	11.1.1	12.3.1	13.1.1	14.1.1	15.1.1	16.1.1	17.1.1	
	1.2.1	2.1.2	3.1.2	4.1.2	5.2.2	6.2.1	7.1.2	8.2.1	9.1.2	10.2.1	11.2.1	12.4.1	13.1.2	14.3.1	15.1.2	16.1.3	17.1.2	
	1.2.2	2.2.1	3.2.1	4.2.1	5.3.1	6.3.1	7.2.1	8.3.1	9.2.1	10.4.1	11.3.1	12.4.2	13.1.3	14.4.1	15.3.1	16.1.4	17.3.2	
	1.3.1	2.2.2	3.2.2	4.2.2	5.3.2	6.3.2	7.3.1	8.5.2	9.2.2	10.4.2	11.4.1	12.7.1	13.2.1	14.5.1	15.7.1	16.2.3	17.4.1	
	1.4.1	2.a.1	3.3.1	4.3.1	5.4.1	6.4.1	7.a.1	8.6.1	9.3.2	10.5.1	11.5.1	12.a.1	13.2.2	14.7.1	15.a.1	16.3.2	17.5.1	
	1.4.2	2.a.2	3.3.2	4.5.1	5.5.1	6.4.2	7.b.1	8.7.1	9.5.1	10.6.1	11.6.1		13.a.1		15.c.1	16.3.3	17.6.2	
	1.5.1	2.c.1	3.3.3	4.a.1	5.5.2	6.5.1		8.8.2	9.5.2	10.7.2	11.7.1					16.4.2	17.7.1	
	1.5.3		3.3.4	4.c.1	5.6.1	6.5.2		8.9.1	9.a.1	10.7.3	11.b.1					16.5.1	17.8.1	
	1.5.4		3.4.2		5.a.1	6.a.1		8.10.1	9.b.1	10.7.4	11.b.2					16.6.1	17.11.1	
	1.a.2		3.6.1		5.b.1	6.b.1		8.10.2	9.c.1	10.a.1						16.6.2	17.12.1	
			3.7.1					8.a.1		10.b.1						16.7.1	17.13.1	
			3.7.2							10.c.1						16.8.1	17.17.1	
			3.8.2													16.9.1	17.18.2	
			3.a.1													16.10.2	17.18.3	
			3.b.1													16.a.1	17.19.2	
			3.b.2															
			3.c.1															

Table 2: Outline of the Specific Kenya National SDG Indicators

1.3.3 Localization of the SDGs

The VLR for Nakuru is predicated on three interrelated urban development pathways that have been adopted by the City Board of Nakuru. These pathways are anchored on specific plans that have been considered in the VLR process. Importantly, the plans are a combination of the short-term (5 year) and longer term (10+ years) development priorities, for which the VLR has been developed as a bridging instrument. The brief description of these pathways is presented below;

a) **The Vision 2050 Pathway** – this pathway projects a long-term development ambition for the city propelled by the current short-term vision that envisages a model city that enhances quality of life and fosters economic prosperity. Four pillars (see illustration below) driving the vision have been adopted from the long-term Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP 2014-34), and Spatial Plan 2015-25 and published in “Nakuru’s Pathway To Vision 2050¹⁰”.

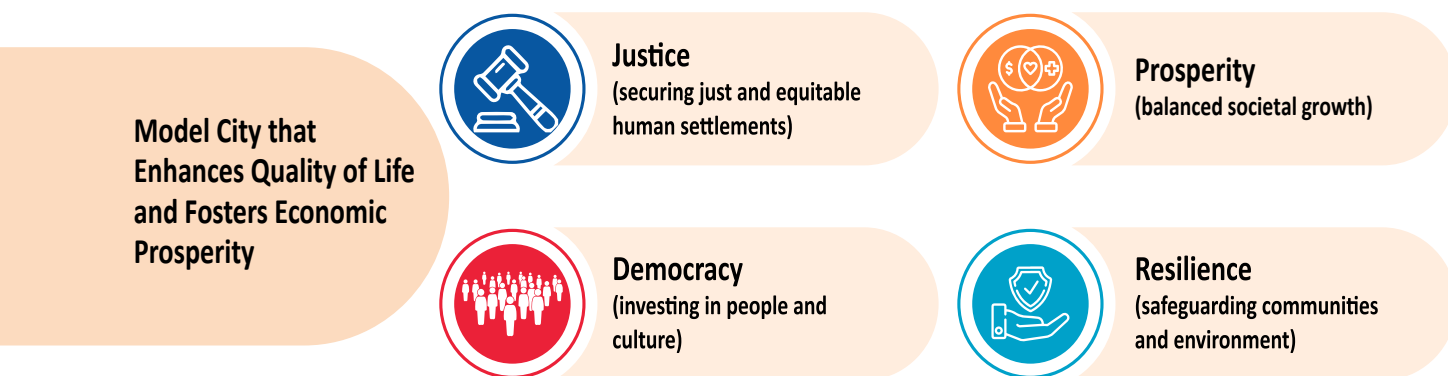


Figure 6: The Nakuru Vision 2050 pillars

b) **The Urban Regeneration Pathway** – this pathway embodies the short-term development ambition for the city (Regeneration Plan 2019) and medium term Nakuru Integrated Development Plan 2019-2023. Embracing a vision; “A municipality of choice to visit, work, live and invest”, this pathway identifies 9 priority sectors for transforming urban development in the short-term (see illustration below). The plan responds to the need for transition

from municipality to city status of Nakuru, which was granted in December 2021. Identification of the local actions are guided by the 6-point urban agenda strategy adopted by the County Government and inspired by the classification of additional urban areas as Municipalities and Townships consistent with the provisions of Urban Areas and Cities Act (2011, amended 2019).



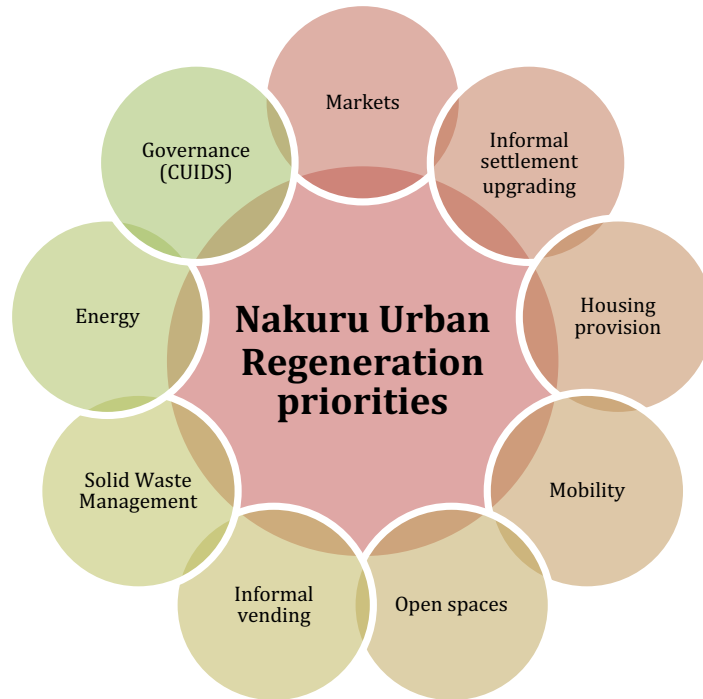


Figure 7: The Nakuru Urban Regeneration Priorities

c) **The Urban Resilience Pathway** – this pathway places Nakuru as one amongst five cities in Kenya under the Cities Resilience Program (CRP). The pathway is guided by the Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023-2033) developed from an urban resilience diagnosis and identifies 5 priority areas, 16 initiatives and 78 projects within a ten-year time plan. Nakuru has published¹¹ the first series of

urban resilience dissemination package in Oct 2023. The resilience strategy identifies unemployment as the biggest threat to the city’s resilience at 16.7% followed by alcohol and substance abuse at 14% (see figure 9).

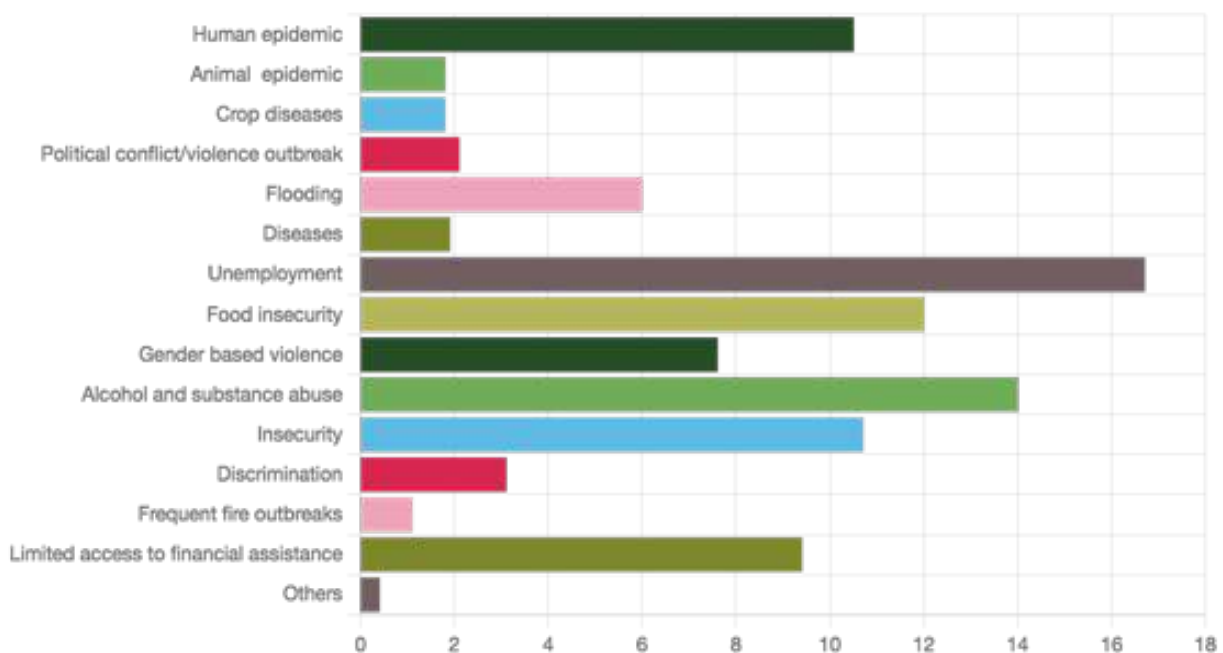


Figure 8: Nakuru City Shocks and Stress Indicators (source: Nakuru City Resilience Strategy)



1.3.4 Link between the Vision 2050 Pillars and Urban Regeneration Initiatives

Nakuru City has taken steps to bring life to the vision 2050 through strategic catalytic projects /

initiatives commenced in the 2024/25 financial year. A sample of these projects / initiatives and their link to the vision 2050 pillars is presented in the table below.

Table 3: Catalytic Projects / Initiatives under the Nakuru Vision 2050 framework

Vision 2050 pillar	Urban Regeneration Strategy / Initiatives
Justice Pillar – Sustainable urban settlements	Urban safety, reducing informality and housing development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 informal settlements for upgrading through investments in opening and improving road networks and drainage within the settlements as well as other services such as lighting and mobility (KISIP) • Investment secured in urban housing targeting 20,000 new houses in the city accompanied by the establishment of the Nakuru Affordable Housing Board
Democracy pillar – People and culture	Open spaces and citizens mobility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments secured for improvement of parks and open spaces and expansion of the NMT lanes to improve safety in mobility • Research on demand/supply of housing being undertaken in partnership with KIPPRA
Prosperity Pillar – Prosperous livelihoods	Rejuvenating the city economy through stimulus markets, informal vending improvement, energy provision for 24-hour economy and waste service improvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans to build a massive stimulus modern market within the city at a cost of KES 1.2Billion • Investment in developing a mini-grid of power using solar energy in selected settlement areas • Investment in the establishment of mini material recovery facilities (MRFs) for solid waste recycling to build enterprise in the waste recycling sector and increase the material recovery rate from the city waste stream • Investment in the establishment of informal markets through developing decent informal vending facilities that will be located in strategic areas within the city
Resilience Pillar - Community resilience	Institutional responsiveness and accountability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in strengthening institutional structures for governance and management in the city to support the service delivery efforts of the city board. • Incorporation of the Settlement Executive Committees (SEC) structures to serve as citizens forum conveners within their respective localities. • Incorporation of technology and IT in settlement development initiatives as well as governance to encourage inclusive planning and implementation of projects.



1.4 Objectives of the VLR

Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) are a participatory process in which local and regional governments report on their efforts and plan their progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a globally recognized tool for assessing and accelerating sustainable development from the grass-root level, VLRs are critical for guiding strategic planning, financing, and future initiatives to support a resilient and inclusive future. Nakuru VLR is purposed to orient planning, close the data gap, enhance accountability and transparency, all in support of a resilient and inclusive future for the city.

In the Nakuru VLR process, two key elements of the VLR have been institutionalised to inform progressive planning and monitoring by the City Board, namely;

- VLRs as a **participatory process** in which the City Board continuously report on their efforts and plan their progress towards achieving the SDGs. To this end the VLR dashboard has been developed as digital platform for enhancing citizens interaction and engagement with the local development landscape including feedback mechanisms to keep public accountability on the actions.

- VLRs as **critical for guiding** strategic planning, financing, and future initiatives to support a resilient and inclusive future. In this context, the City Board has adopted the VLR as the bridging tool linking the short-term development aspirations captured through the IDeP and the longer-term development aspirations carried through the vision 2050.

Nakuru joins over 300 VLRs that have been published worldwide, with Africa accounting for about 20 VLRs representing the lived realities of over 350 million people¹². Amongst the Africa VLRs are; Busia County, Kenya (2019), Kwale, Kenya, (2019), Marsabit, Kenya (2019), Taita Taveta County, Kenya (2019), Ngora District, Uganda (2019), Harare, Zimbabwe, (2020), Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (2020), Yaounde, Cameroon (2020), Accra, Ghana (2020), Cape Town, South Africa (2019, 2020), and Mwanza (Tanzania). Nakuru is one amongst four recent VLRs, others being Emboreet (Tanzania), selected as a pilot to benefit from the 2030 Agenda Sub-fund project, “Fostering COVID-19 recovery and SDG implementation through local action in Asia-Pacific, Arab and African countries”.





Figure 9: Aerial View of a section of the City of Nakuru





CHAPTER 2: Methodology

2.1 The VLR Process

The VLR process commenced in Nakuru in July 2023 and has involved securing political goodwill, obtaining and analysis data, organizing it in a spatial SWOT from the various sources, facilitating participatory events and workshops to interrogate

the VLR document, and building consensus on the final draft of the Nakuru City VLR.

This process was spread over a 12-month period from July 2023 to June 2024 as illustrated in the figure below.

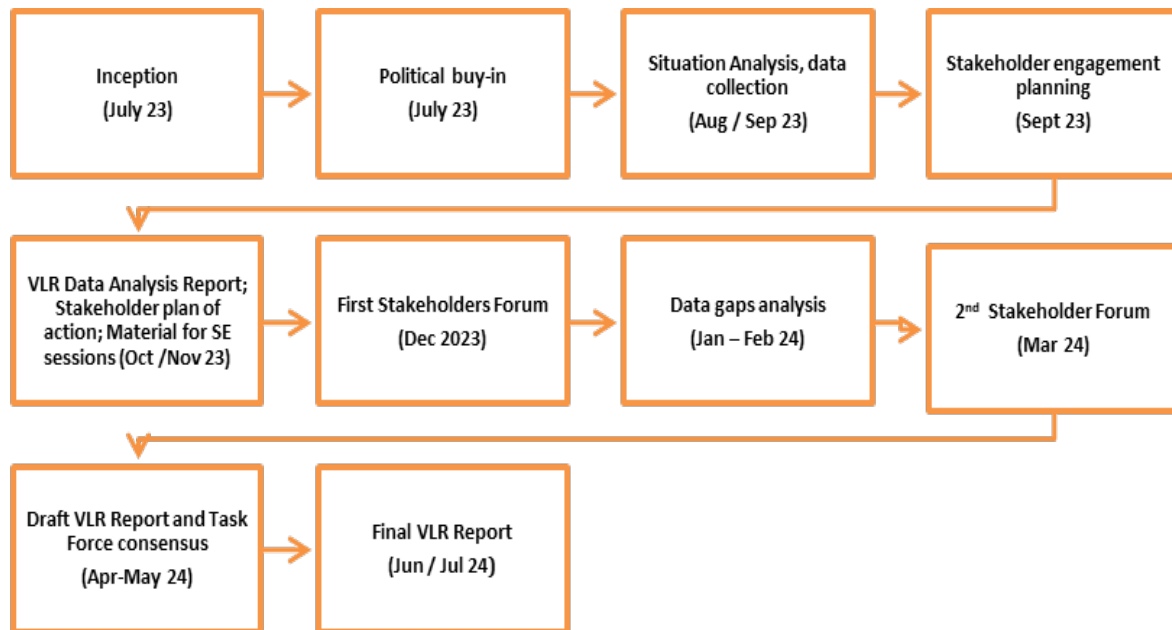


Figure 10: The process map of the VLR process in Nakuru

At the inception of the VLR in July 2023, emphasis was laid on the political buy-in through a series of introductory meetings with the County and City leadership. This introduction came against the backdrop of the City Board initiative to institutionalize stakeholder dialogues as a governance accountability mechanism. A meeting with the Board of the city to introduce the VLR was convened through the City Manager, who also serves as the Secretary of the Board. During this meeting, a nexus was drawn between the Board's ongoing initiative to develop a long term vision (Vision 2050) for Nakuru and the data that the VLR process would contribute to this process. To coordinate the VLR process, the Board appointed a multi-stakeholder task force drawing

representation from the priority sectors identified in the IDeP. During this stage, sensitization on the overall benefits of the action oriented VLR was carried out progressively by the City Board and Task Force, targeting the County Executive, County Legislature and Departments to deepen buy-in.

Three important attributes that set the optimal conditions for undertaking the VLR, namely political buy-in, access to reliable data and institutional support were investigated as part of the foundational setting for the VLR. These investigations, led by the Task Force and guided by the VLR Consultant, were also critical in determining the capacity needs at all levels and revealed the following.





Political Buy-in	Access to Reliable Data	Institutional Support
Ownership and endorsement grounded on existing alignment of plans to SDGs	Existing plans and strategies with some alignment to SDGs	City Board at the forefront and established internal secretariat
Institutionalized City Board open public dialogues	County Statistical Abstracts and departmental data accessible	Appointment of the multi-stakeholder task force by the City Board
High-level political support through 6-point urban agenda	Task Force sector data in accessible form	Planning department custodian of data

Figure 11: Findings on the pre-conditions for the action-oriented VLR

The VLR Data Tool¹³ developed by the SDG Localization and Local Governments Team of UN-Habitat was used to guide the VLR situation analysis process. It assisted with the first six steps¹⁴ of the situation analysis and corresponding data track, guiding the stocktaking of relevant national/local/strategic plans and their priorities and indicators. Through this step, four national plans and five local (County and City) plans and strategies were identified as relevant and analyzed to mine the key attributes. These were then subjected to alignment with the SDGs and the UMF, before undertaking an in-depth exercise on selection of relevant indicators for the Nakuru VLR (see Table 4). At this stage twelve¹⁵ SDGs were in focus. Based on the analysis that yielded 12 SDGs, an assessment of available data sources was conducted under the coordination of the VLR Task Force. This formed the premise of initiating the development of the VLR dashboard. In the process of the development of the dash board, data gaps were determined and adjustments made to prioritize SDGs and UMFs where data was available or would be accessible in the course of development of the VLR. The identified data gaps were subjected to a second round of data collection and analysis, which took place after

the first Stakeholders Forum. The additional data was compounded with existing data in the VLR dashboard and applied in generating the SDG priorities and discussion papers.

This situation analysis that took place in the period August to September 2023 was coordinated by the Task Force members. Convened by the City Manager, the members of the task force took stock of and assembled various sector plans and strategies at the local level from their respective sectors as outlined above. These plans /strategies included County Statistical Abstracts, Sector performance reports, variety of City Development Plans, County Development Plans, City Development Strategies, and Annual Development Plans. The national level analysis was conducted by the Consultant based on review of national plans and strategies, resulting in four plans, which included the Kenya Vision 2050, Kenya National Spatial Plan (2015-2045), Kenya National Adaptation Plan (2015-2030), amongst others. A review was also made of the Kenya Voluntary National Review 2020. The data mined from this process was imported and analyzed using the VLR Data Tool and a comprehensive report of the analysis of the situation developed



and reviewed by the Task Force. A digital Expert was recruited to digitize this data in the form of a VLR Dash Board. This dash board formed a critical tool for the progressive development of the VLR as it presented an easily accessible and continuous interface with the stakeholders. Continuous skills transfer on the data entry and dashboard management was offered to the planning department personnel during the whole process

To prepare for the stakeholders engagement track, mapping of the stakeholders was carried out and a categorization of these stakeholders in order of interest and influence established. This process involved a team of research assistants assembled from the Planning Department of the City of Nakuru. In consultation with the Task Force, a detailed plan for the stakeholder engagement was developed in the month of September 2023. This plan involved analysis of stakeholder interests and influence in the urban development agenda in Nakuru. The plan was informed by the proceedings of five sector dialogues that had been convened by the City Board in late 2022 and early 2023. In addition, the development of the plan benefited from the ongoing stakeholder engagement framework for the City Vision 2050 formulation process. Once the plan had been detailed, materials for the stakeholder engagement sessions was developed from the VLR Data Analysis report and subjected to three sessions of review by the Task Force and one session with the City Board for concurrence.

The first stakeholder forum was held in December 2023. With 50 attendees representing

various stakeholder groups, the forum engaged with the data analysis report, identifying the data gaps as well as refreshing some of the misrepresentations of data. These were all captured in the Stakeholder Forum report that was circulated to all participants and additional inputs received. The inputs were applied in updating the VLR Dash Board. The stakeholder forum further prioritized the SDGs that were determined as most relevant to the Nakuru City situation.

Based on the gaps analysis report from the Stakeholder Forum, a team of Data Collectors coordinated by the Planning Department of the City and under the supervision of the City Manager undertook a second round of targeted data collection. This team was accompanied by the VLR Dash Board developer to ascertain that there was no duplication of data. This process was conducted between January and February 2024 and run in parallel with the development of the SDG discussion papers. Two key outputs from this process were an updated VLR Dash Board and seven SDG Discussion Papers based on the priority SDGs identified by the first stakeholder forum.

The second stakeholder forum convened in the month of March 2024 brought together seventy two (72) stakeholder representatives. Prior to the second stakeholder forum, a session was held with the City Board and Task Force members to review and make input to the SDG discussion papers and the updated VLR Dash Board. In the Forum, effort was made to ensure inclusion, with a good number of representatives of people living





with disabilities, youth and women in attendance. Guided by the Task Force, the forum reviewed and made inputs to the SDG discussion papers, further re-affirming the seven prioritized SDGs. The forum assigned the Task Force responsibility to consolidate their inputs into the development of the draft VLR.

Drafting of the VLR was in three main stages. The first draft that consolidated the inputs from

the second stakeholders forum was subjected to the task force review and concurrence obtained through a virtual session conducted in April 2024. The second stage involved presentation of the draft VLR to the City Board in May 2024 for their concurrence. The final stage involved the presentation of the third draft VLR to the City management and VLR Task Force for their approval before finalization of the VLR.

2.2 VLR Task Force

A multi-stakeholder Task Force was constituted with responsibility for the overall coordination

of the local VLR process including the stakeholder engagement track. The structure of the Task Force was designed as follows

Position	Role
Convener	Responsible for leadership of the Task Force held by the City Manager
Co-Conveners	Responsible for convening on priority SDGs - (SDG 6: Nakuru Water and Sanitation Company (NAWASCO); SDG 8: Micro and Small Enterprise Authority (MSEA); SDG 9: Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA); SDG 11: County Commissioner; SDG 13: National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); SDG 16: Midrift Hurinet)
Expert Panel	Responsible for technical and advisory inputs and overall formulation of the VLR
City VLR Liaison (Focal Point)	Representative of the City Board tasked with the coordination of actors / stakeholders in their interface with the Task Force
Secretariat	Domiciled at the City Manager's office and responsible for day-to-day coordination of VLR activities, logistics for TF meetings, compiling documentation for the TF and local custodian of all information relating to the VLR
Working Groups	Six working groups aligned to the SDGs prioritized and led by institutions selected from amongst the appointed stakeholders



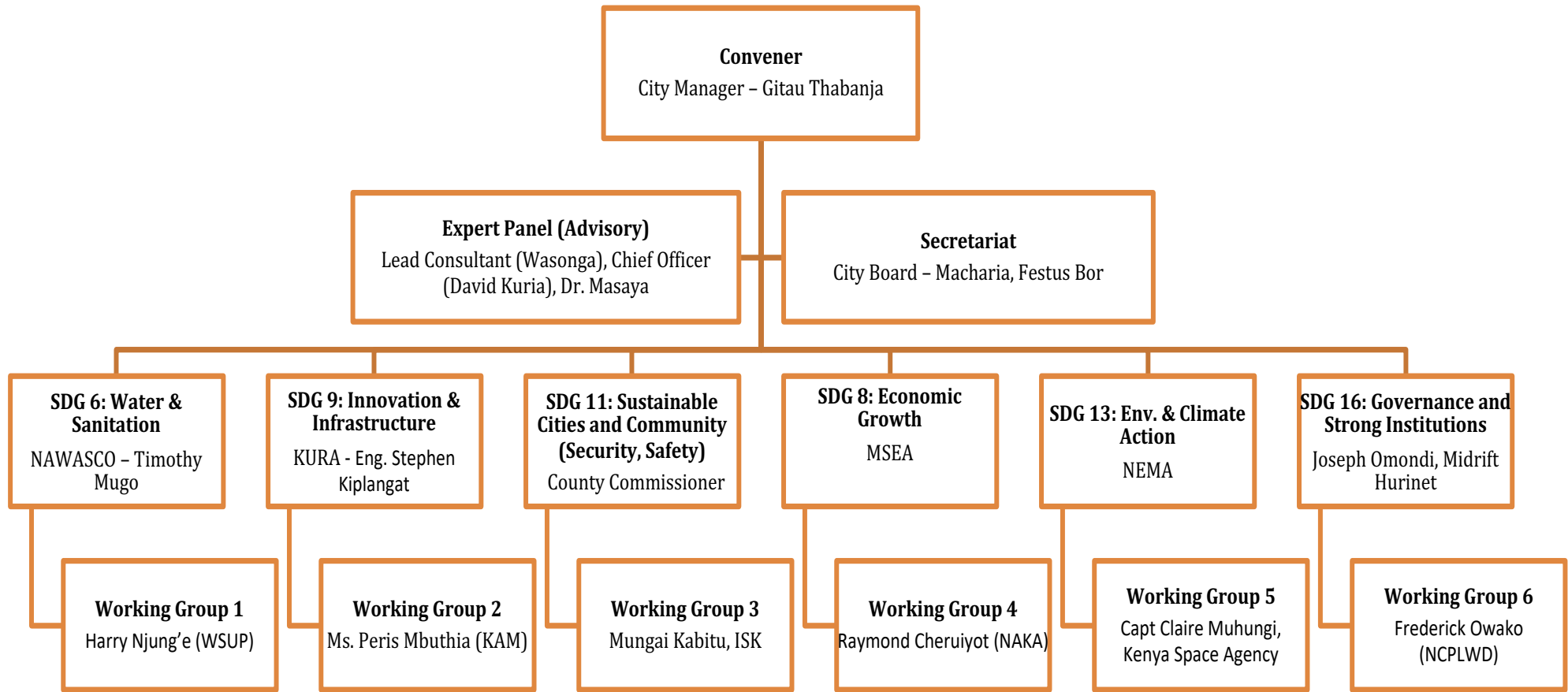
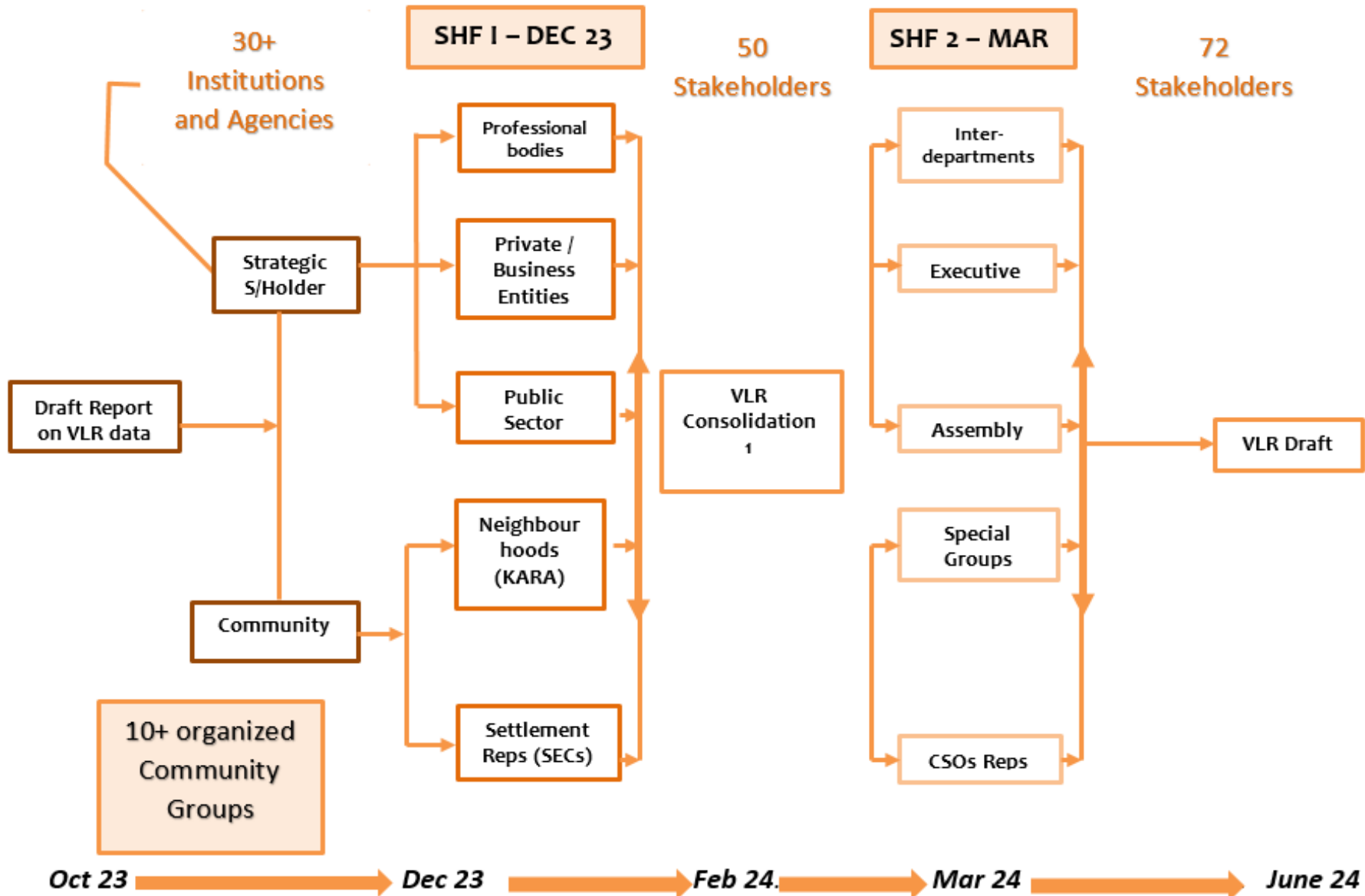


Figure 12: The Structure and membership of the VLR Task Force





The framework for the Stakeholder engagement including first and second stakeholder forums is outlined below.



2.3 Nakuru's Plans and Strategies Aligned to SDGs

The VLR comes at a time when Nakuru is in transition from municipal to city status that was granted in December 2021. At the helm of the governance for the city is the Board constituted by eleven members appointed and delegated agency responsibility by the County Government. Under a framework of principal-agency relationship, the Board is constituted as a body corporate with sufficient autonomy to exercise powers and conduct city governance and management affairs within the ambit of delegated functions and powers as stipulated in the Urban Areas and Cities Act¹⁶ (2011, amended 2019).

The Board of Nakuru, like all Boards of urban areas in Kenya, is relatively new. For this reason, the structures and instruments of governance and management are largely in their formative stages. A top priority of the Board at the time of undertaking the VLR, was the development of a long term vision (Vision 2050) to anchor the long term agenda for the city's sustainable development aspirations and strategic priorities as popularly developed by the citizens. This long term development horizon will provide a framework for the five-year mid-term Integrated Urban Development Plans (IDePs), which are the legal instruments and blue print for the public budgets. The Nakuru Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023 formed a strong basis for the VLR. To provide the Board

with an instrument for continuously orienting their planning, closing data gaps, and enhancing accountability and transparency, the VLR Dash Board was developed. This dash board links the IDeP to the Vision 2050, using the SDG indicators as the accountability parameter.

Organizational form of the city is in its building stages, and most departmental functions are presently supported by the County Directorates. The planning department of the city is the most established and carries the function of coordinating development and implementation of plans under the guidance of the City Manager. This department also serves as the focal point for the SDGs and hosts the data for the VLR. It is however evident that organizational structure of the city as currently constituted is short of the desired level. According to the City Manager, additional staffing is envisaged with the inception of the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) Phase 2 that commences in the last quarter of 2024. Through KUSP support, a County Urban Institutional Development Strategy (CUIDS) has been developed that will receive financing to strengthen the human resource capacity of the city. The CUIDS identifies the following staff as having been recruited in the city, namely; City Manager, Administrative Officer, Accountant, City Planner, Procurement Officer, Engineer, Environmental Officer, Social Safeguards Officer, and Economist

Nakuru has a set of development plans and strategies catering for both short-term and



long-term goals. These include Nakuru County Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022), Nakuru Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023, Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034, Nakuru County Spatial Development Plan (2015 – 2025), Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023 – 2033).

Using the VLR Data Tool, these plans and strategies have been aligned to the SDGs / UMF as tabulated below.

Local level plans	Topic Area	Sector	SDG / UMF	Indicator
Nakuru County Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022)	Integrated Development.	Economy and labour	SDG1 No Poverty	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)
		Agriculture and Rural development	SDG2 Zero Hunger	1.3.6 (UMF-22) Food insecurity
		Urban Development	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing
		Energy, infrastructure and ICT	SDG7 Affordable and Clean Energy	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption
		Health	SDG3 Good Health and Wellbeing	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services
		Social protection	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities
		Education	SDG4 Quality Education	4.1.2 Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education)
		Environment, water and natural resources	SDG13 Climate Action	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
		Public administration	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically

Table 4: Alignment of Plans / Strategies to SDG / UMF





Local Level plans	Topic Area	Sector	SDG / UMF	Indicator
Nakuru Municipality Integrated development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023	Integrated Development	Urban agriculture indicator	SDG2 Zero Hunger	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture
		Land Management	SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
		Housing	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing
		Energy, Infrastructure and ICT	SDG9 Industry Innovation and Infrastructure	9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport
		Health	SDG3 Good Health and Wellbeing	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services
		Education and Training	SDG4 Quality Education	4.a.1 Proportion of schools offering basic services, by type of service
		Trade, Commerce and Human Resource	SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training
		Environment, Water and Natural Resources	SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation	1.1.2 (UMF-02) Safely managed drinking water services
		Social Protection, Culture and Recreation	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities
		Public Administration and External relations	SDG16 Peace Justice and Strong Institutions	5.2.5 (UMF-71) Efficiency in urban governance





Local Level Plans	Topic Area	Sector	SDG / UMF	Indicator
Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034	Strategic Development	Transportation indicator	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
		Water and Sanitation indicator	SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
		Community Facilities indicator	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	4.1.1 (UMF-53) Culture for Social Cohesion
		Education indicator	SDG4 Quality Education	4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex
		Health indicator	SDG3 Good Health and Wellbeing	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services
		Environmental Management indicator	SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
		Disaster Management	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population
		Cultural and Heritage Conservation	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.4.1 Total per capita expenditure on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by source of funding, type of heritage and level of government





Local level plans	Topic Area	Sector	SDG / UMF	Indicator
Nakuru County Spatial Development Plan (2015 – 2025)	Land Use Planning	Environment and Natural resources	SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
		Population and demographics	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	4.1.1 (UMF-53) Culture for Social Cohesion
		Economy	SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	2.2.2 (UMF-28) Youth not in education, employment, or training (NEET)
		Transport and Physical infrastructure	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
		Social Infrastructure	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
		Agriculture	SDG2 Zero Hunger	1.3.6 (UMF-22) Food insecurity
		Human Settlements and Housing	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing
		Spatial planning and land use	SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development





Local level plans	Topic Area	Sector	SDG / UMF	Indicator
Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023 – 2033)	Urban resilience	Housing	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	5.3.3 (UMF-74) Local disaster risk reduction strategies
		Economy and Security	SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training
		Transport and Mobility	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
		Water and Sanitation	SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
		Integrated development planning	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities

Table 5: Summary alignment of Plans / Strategies to SDGs





Plans/strategies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Nakuru County Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022)	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		✓				
Nakuru Municipality Integrated development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	
Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034			✓	✓		✓					✓	✓					
Nakuru County Spatial Development Plan (2015 - 2025)		✓						✓			✓	✓					
Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023 - 2033)						✓		✓			✓						



2.4 The Priority Development Sectors and Aligned SDGs / UMF

Section 2.3 reveals the analysis of the various plans and strategies, and their alignment to the SDGs as summarized in table 5. This outcome was subjected to a series of consultative processes that involved the Board and the VLR Task Force.

Through this consultative process and with the coordination of the Task Force, the priority development sectors and attendant aligned SDGs / UMFs were established and appropriate indicators assigned as tabulated below. At this stage, ten SDGs were identified. It was however clear that the development of the next generation IDEP (2024-2028) would expand the horizon of the SDGs with attendant data to enable a wider assessment of progress.

Table 6: The priority development sectors aligned to the SDGs / UMF

SDG / UMF	Priority Sector	Indicator
SDG3 Good Health and Wellbeing	Health	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services
SDG4 Quality Education	Education and Training	4.a.1 Proportion of schools offering basic services, by type of service
	Education	4.1.2 Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education)
SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation	Environment, Water and Natural Resources	1.1.2 (UMF-02) Safely managed drinking water services
	Water and Sanitation	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
SDG7 Affordable and Clean Energy	Energy, infrastructure and ICT	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption
SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	Trade, Commerce and Human Resource	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training
	Economy and Security	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training
	Economy	2.2.2 (UMF-28) Youth not in education, employment, or training (NEET)
SDG9 Industry Innovation and Infrastructure	Energy, Infrastructure, and ICT	9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport





SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	Human Settlements and Housing	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing
	Transport, social and Physical infrastructure	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
	Transport and Mobility	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
	Public administration	11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically
	Social Protection, Culture and Recreation	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities
	Integrated development planning	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities
	Community Facilities indicator	4.1.1 (UMF-53) Culture for Social Cohesion
	Population and demographics	4.1.1 (UMF-53) Culture for Social Cohesion
	Housing	5.3.3 (UMF-74) Local disaster risk reduction strategies
SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production	Environmental Management indicator	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
	Land Management	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
	Spatial planning and land use	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
SDG13 Climate Action	Environment, water and natural resources	3.2.2 (UMF-45) Education for Sustainable Development
SDG16 Peace Justice and Strong Institutions	Public Administration and External relations	5.2.5 (UMF-71) Efficiency in urban governance



The City Board, in consideration of the young age of the city, having been elevated to city status in December 2021, ranked the SDGs in consideration of the functions that have so far been delegated by the County as well as the data availability. With

consensus of the Task Force, seven SDGs were determined as the dominant ones based on the sector development priorities of the city. These are outlined below.



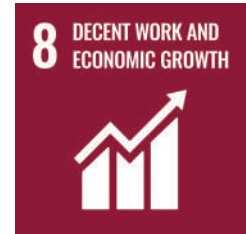
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.



Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.



Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.



Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



2.5 The Voluntary Local Review Dashboard

Nakuru City Board, being in its early stages of building a governance and management system that allows for transparency and inclusiveness, adopted a digital avenue of interface between their plans and the citizens. The decision to deploy a digital form of presentation was informed by the outcome of five public dialogues that were held by the City Board with various stakeholder groups in the process of building towards the Vision 2050 development. A common thread through all these dialogues was the limitation to access of the city plans and strategies by the public, rendering them as observers in the local city development landscape.

To bring the public into active play in the local development discourse, the VLR Task Force adopted a digital platform to link the short-term development

aspiration as contained in the IDEP and the longer term Vision 2050 using the SDG indicators as means of assessing progress. The Nakuru VLR is therefore built on a digital platform that provides a dashboard (<https://nakurudashboard-test.vercel.app/>) for ease of access to the data and reports. This dashboard reflects the City Board's dedication to transparent and inclusive governance that 'leaves no one behind'. While the data entry profile is currently limited to the City Management, the dashboard has features that can be easily activated to allow for citizens feedback as well as allow for data entry by multiple actors. Through the County Urban Institutional Development Strategy (CUIDS), the Board has laid out plans to increase the versatility of the dashboard in the coming few years.



Figure 13: Nakuru VLR Dashboard



The dashboard is designed to bridge the short-term (IDeP) and long-term (Vision 2050) plans with the VLR serving as the monitoring tool for performance as well as reporting on the SDGs. In the context of the VLR, the dashboard helps the Board to;

- Institutionalize the participatory processes in which the City Board continuously report on their efforts and plan their progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To this end the VLR dashboard has been developed as digital platform for enhancing citizens interaction and engagement with the local development landscape including feedback mechanisms to keep public accountability on the actions.

- Guide strategic planning, financing, and future initiatives to support a resilient and inclusive future. In this context, the City Board has deployed the VLR as the bridging tool linking the short-term development aspirations captured through the IDeP and the longer-term development aspirations carried through the vision 2050.

The VLR analysis that follows in the next chapter is easily accessible on the dashboard, which has been developed with a user-friendly interface and high navigability. The dashboard carries immense data and is versatile to accommodate additional features that enhance the users experience.



Figure 14: Nakuru City Board Chairman, Mr. Stephen Muli making contribution during the 2nd Stakeholders Forum





CHAPTER 3: SDG Report



This chapter of the VLR presents progress of the seven prioritized SDG Goals using 19 targets and 25 indicators, tracking the impact of the initiatives undertaken in progressing towards the respective targets. The selected indicators constitute 15 per cent of the national indicators¹⁸. The report reveals

that out of the 25 indicators, 60 per cent (15) registered positive progress, while 40 per cent were regressing. In terms of the six goals, there appears to be positive progression, though slow and off target and unlikely to meet the 2030 timeline.

3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

3.1.1 Overview

Nakuru's health sector is the largest devolved function, accounting to an average of 34.5% of the County budgetary allocation over the last five years. The City of Nakuru's health sector is guided by the overarching County health sector goal, which seeks to reduce inequalities in health care services and reverse the downward trend in health-related outcomes in the county. This is delivered through a total of 16 health facilities, which constitute of dispensaries, Health centers, VTC stand-alone, and level IV & V hospitals. To achieve the objective, the City's focus is on delivery of equitable access to health services, improve quality and quick response to emergency services. In this period of the plan, attention is paid to three facets, namely; effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery, fostering of partnerships and improving funding for the health service delivery.

3.1.2 Context

The VLR applied the baseline of 2020, which was the last period when Kenya prepared the last Voluntary National Review. Within the context the financial year (2021/22), there were some notable steps taken in each of the three facets that bear significance to the health sector performance.

Devolution in Kenya assigns health as a devolved function to be undertaken by the County governments, who further delegate the functions to the city as a governance entity. An overarching feature in Nakuru is the enactment of the Nakuru County Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Care Bill of 2019, which has provided the much-needed legislative impetus for the health sector. This has facilitated inclusion of trained Community Health Volunteers in the care of pregnant mothers and referral of expectant mothers to maternal facilities. It has further reinvigorated efforts towards enhancing effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery through enabling promotion of 777 health workers in various categories to boost the human resource capacity in the healthcare facilities. Investments in non-motorized transport (NMT) corridors and disability ramps developed to increase access to healthcare facilities have been made possible through programmes such as the Kenya Urban Support Program¹⁷ (KUSP). To further boost the performance of the health sector workers, Nakuru has collaborated with strategic partners to offer series of skills development and training initiatives aimed at improving health information management, leadership, and governance in the city health facilities.



SDG / UMF Tracking

Four SDG targets and 10 indicators were applied for the health sector performance as summarized in the table below.

Table 7: Targets and Indicators for health sector performance

SDG Goal	SDG Target	SDG / UMF Indicator
SDG 3 – Good Health and Wellbeing	Target 3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births	Indicator 3.1.1: Maternal mortality ratio
		Indicator 3.1.2: Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (Percentage) 1.1.5 (UMF-05): Proportion of Births in Health Facilities
	Target 3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births	Indicator 3.2.1: Under-five mortality rate 1.1.1 (UMF-01): Under-5 mortality rate
		Indicator 3.2.2: Neonatal mortality rate
	Target 3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases	Indicator 3.3.1: Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations
		Indicator 3.3.2: Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population
		Indicator 3.3.3: Malaria incidence per 1,000 population
		Indicator 3.3.4: Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population
	Target 3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes	3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods
		3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group



3.1.3 Progress Report

Nakuru city is on course to meet **Target 3.1**: By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births. The maternal mortality ratio reduced by 25% from a value of 111 in 2020 to 83 in 2021, progressing towards the global target of 70. Amongst other factors, this decrease is attributable to the reported increase in immunization¹⁹ from 216,883 in 2020 to 235,580 in 2021, an increase of about 9%. In the same period, the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel increased marginally from 87% in 2020 to 88% in 2021. This however is a marked improvement from the 2018 figure that stood at 67%, keeping Nakuru on a positive trend towards the target. It is important to note that 2022 witnessed the digitization of maternal health care services through a program dubbed Mama Hub that was piloted at Bondeni, Annex, and Bahati Health facilities.²⁰

Progress towards **Target 3.2**: “By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as

low as 25 per 1,000 live births” remains on track, though registered a spike between 2020 and 2021. The under-five mortality rate improved from 32 in 2018 to 29 in 2021 per 1,000 live births, even though the 2021 figure was a rise from the 23 low in 2020. The neonatal (infant) mortality rate improved from 19 to 17, a drop of 10% signaling a positive trend towards the target. Significantly, these trends are aligned to the city’s boost in child immunization for select diseases, which rose from 216,883 in 2020 to 235,580 in 2021²¹.

Positive trends have also been registered towards **Target 3.3**; “By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases”. According to the Health Sector Report 2022, the number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population slightly decreased in 2021 for age 0-14 years and 15 to 24 years. AIDS related deaths also reduced among age 0 to 14 but increased in the other age cohorts. Similarly, Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population decreased significantly in 2021 maintaining a trend of decrease from 2019.



Tuberculosis incidence per 1,000 Population

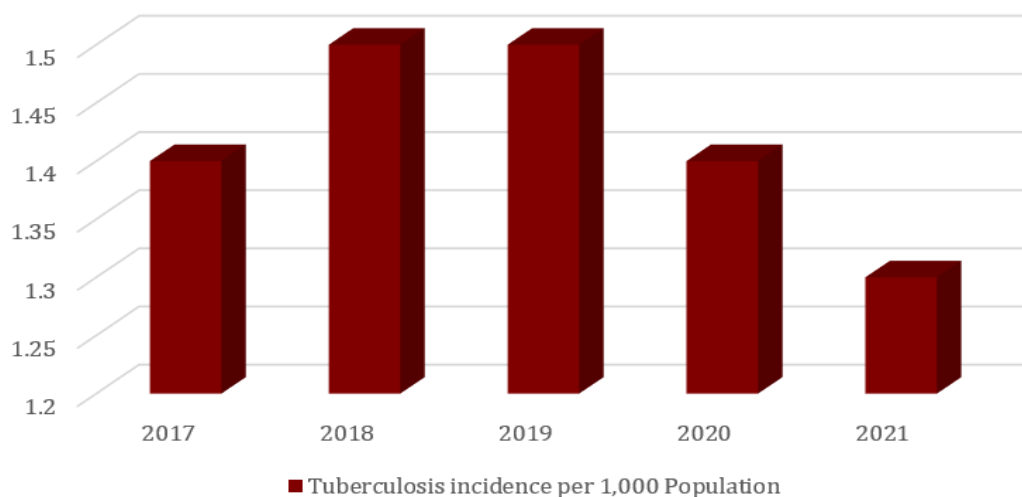


Figure 15: Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population

Conversely, Malaria incidence per 1,000 population and Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population registered an upward trend, moving further away from the target. The tracking of communicable diseases has improved through the introduction of modern Point of Care Ultrasound services (POCUS) equipment for use in remote and resource-poor areas²².

The trends towards Target 3.7; “By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration

of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes” have declined and off target. The proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods declined from 38.7 in 2020 to 32.3 in 2021. Similarly the Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group registered a rise between 2020 and 2021.

In summary, of the ten indicators assessed, six (60%) are on track while four (40%) have regressed further from the targets.

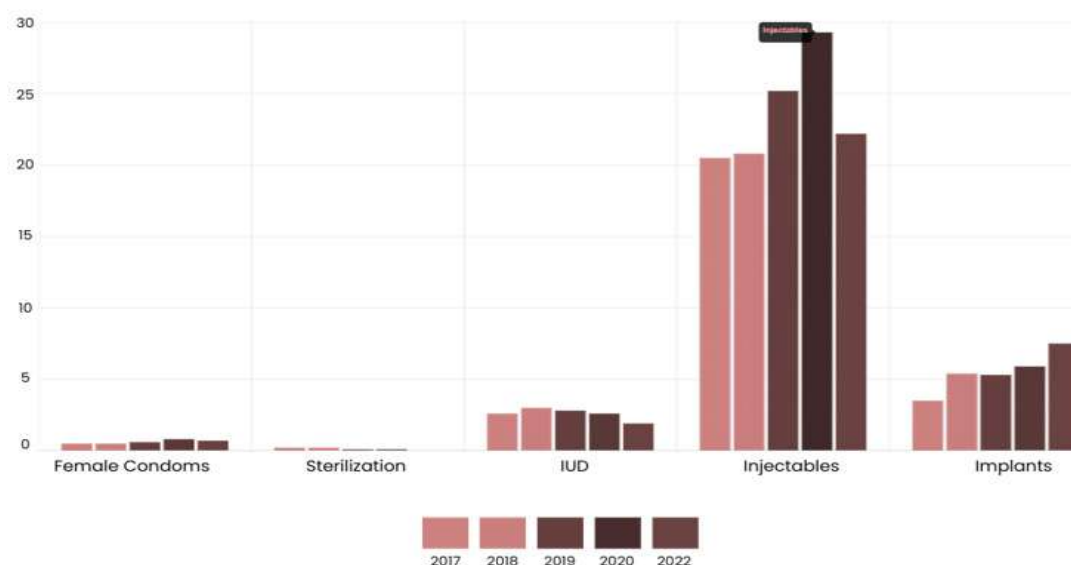



Figure 16: Trends on proportion of Women reproductive age using various family planning methods from 2017-2021





The table below presents this overview.

SDGs Goal	Target	UMF	SDG Indicator			Source	Progress Analysis	
SGD 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	Target 3.1: By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births	1.1.5 (UMF-05): Proportion of Births in Health Facilities	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio	111	83	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
			3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	87	88	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
	Target 3.2: By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births	1.1.1 (UMF-01) Under-5 mortality rate	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate	23	29	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
			3.2.2 Neonatal /Infant mortality rate (Deaths per 1000 live Births)	19	17	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
	Target 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases		3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations	1.4	1.3	Health Sector Report, 2022		
			3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population	1,868	1,765	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
			3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population	6.9	7.4	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
			3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population	0.1	0.2	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
	Target 3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes		3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	38.7	32.3	County Statistical Abstract 2022		
			3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group	0.1 (10-14) 14 (15-19)	0.22 (10-14) 17 (15-19)	County Statistical Abstract 2022		

Key:

Target is on track to be achieved 

Target is achieved 

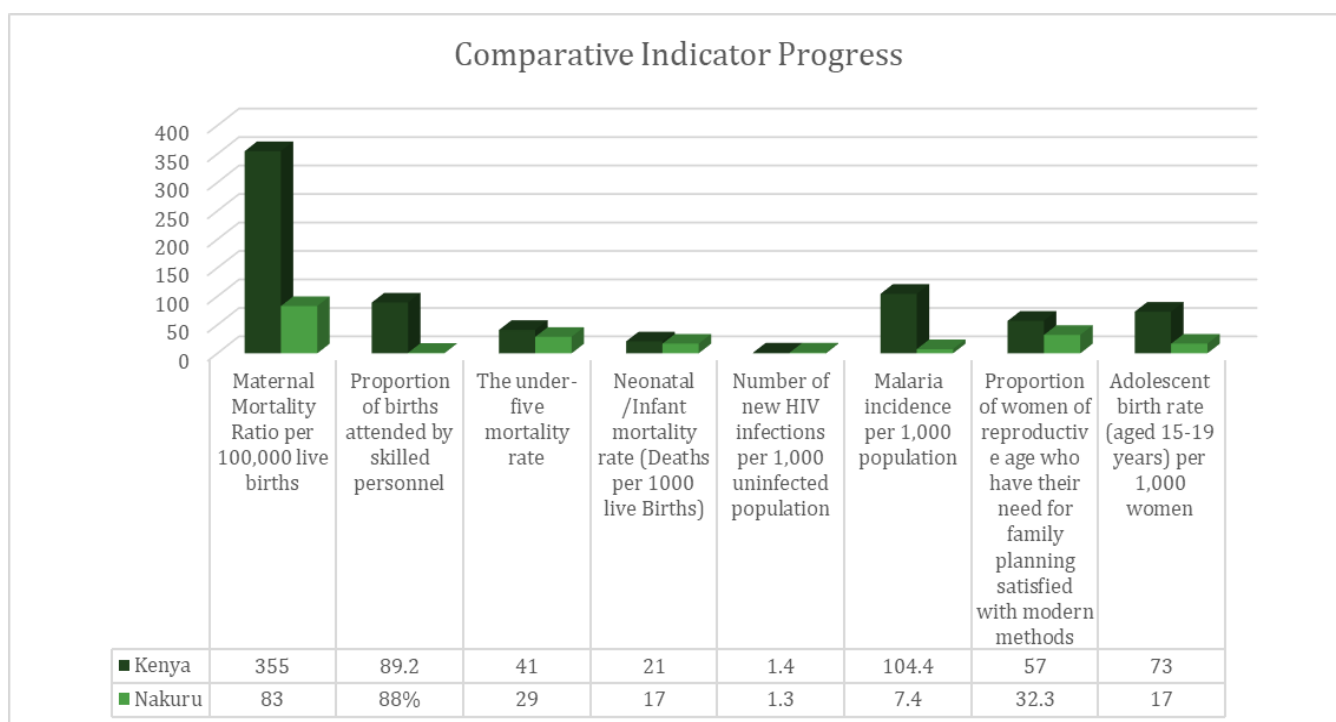
Target is getting receding 



3.1.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

With the exception of TB incidences, Nakuru generally registers better performance than the national average as reported in the Kenya VNR 2024.

Indicator	Kenya	Nakuru
Maternal Mortality Ratio per 100,000 live births	355	83
Proportion of births attended by skilled personnel	89.2	88
The under-five mortality rate	41	29
Neonatal /Infant mortality rate (Deaths per 1000 live Births)	21	17
Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population	1.4	1.3
Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population	348	1765
Malaria incidence per 1,000 population	104.4	7.4
Proportion of women of reproductive age who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	57	32.3
Adolescent birth rate (aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women	73	17



3.1.5 Good Practices



Mama Hub Application Program

Nakuru piloted the Mama Hub application in Bondeni, Annex, and Bahati Health facilities to help digitize maternal health information through the digitization of the Antenatal care (ANC) booklet for mothers using the facilities. This has helped to ensure timely interventions from the community level during the pregnancy journey since the Community Health Volunteers (CHV)

can refer the mothers to the health facilities near them to get necessary services. Plans are underway to roll this throughout the County. A consortium of partners including Kabarak, Strathmore Universities, Technical University of Mombasa, IntelliSoft Consulting, and e-Med Solutions, developed the application.



3.1.6 Challenges

- a. The health sector in Nakuru is dominated by an ageing workforce and is likely to face increasing staffing shortfalls with their retirement
- b. Inadequate funding that has led to stock out of essential vaccines and drugs as well slow investment in equipment and machines for diagnosis and treatment
- c. Emerging health issues like increasing cases of non-communicable diseases and teenage pregnancies
- d. Uncertainties brought about by the transition in the health care insurance policy from National Health insurance (NHIF) to Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF)

3.1.7 Lessons Learnt

- a. Setting conducive local legislative and policy environment is key in boosting the exercise of the devolved function thereby encouraging partnerships and innovation for improved health service delivery
- b. Use of digital technology in healthcare such as the 'Mama Hub' application, presents opportunities to improve healthcare delivery, access, and outcomes
- c. It is important to adopt strategies that enable the city to draw on the skills, expertise, resources and good-intentions of the private sector partners to complement the health service delivery.
- d. To eliminate the fear of an ageing health sector workers workforce, it is important to put in place a robust Human Resource Scheme for Health Workers that includes incentives such as training and continuous capacity development to attract younger staff.



3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education

3.2.1 Overview

In the IDEP, the Education sector commits to the vision of a globally competitive education, training, research and innovation system for sustainable development. This is to be delivered through provision of quality education, training, science, and technology to all. Two Directorates

are in place with the mandate of early Childhood Education (ECDE) and technical and vocational education and training (TVET). ECDE focuses on promotion of early childhood development and education while TVET focuses on vocational training and skills upgrading.



3.2.2 Context

The education sector has demonstrated significant commitment to improving education quality through various initiatives. In financial year 2022-2023, notable efforts included confirming 67 Early Childhood Development (ECD) teachers on permanent and pensionable basis, promoting 84 staff, and furnishing 187 ECD classrooms with age-appropriate furniture. The sector disbursed Ksh 178 million worth of bursaries, benefiting 48,000 needy students within Nakuru County. Progress in the Division of Vocational Training was also evident, with the procurement of modern tools and equipment, construction of Vocational Training Centres, and

comprehensive staff training on supervisory and management skills.

The department also secured some investment in social protection in financial year 2022/23, which included the construction of four social halls, distribution of 279 mobility devices for persons with disabilities (PwDs), and training for 350 creative economy artists.

Three SDG targets and four indicators were applied for the health sector performance as summarized in the table below.



Table 8: Targets and Indicators for the Education Sector Performance

SDGs Goal	SDG Target	SDG/UMF Indicator
SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Target 4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex
		Indicator 4.1.2 Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education 1.2.3 (UMF-11) Education completion rate
	Target 4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	Indicator 4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex
	Target 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university	Indicator 4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the p 2.3.2 (UMF-32) Youth and adults informal and non-formal education and training previous 12 months, by sex

3.2.3 Progress Report

Nakuru is generally on a positive trajectory on all the three targets, though in some areas very marginal improvement was recorded. Target 4.1; “By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes” has positively progressed. There has been a steady rise in public primary school enrollment in

all the grades with the highest average in grades 1 and 2 standing at 3 per cent rise between 2020 and 2021. The proportion of children and young people in grades 2/3 and at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level increased between 2020 and 2021. In 2022, instructional materials were supplied to 1,015 ECD Centres, significantly improving the book-pupil ratio from 1:6 to 1:5



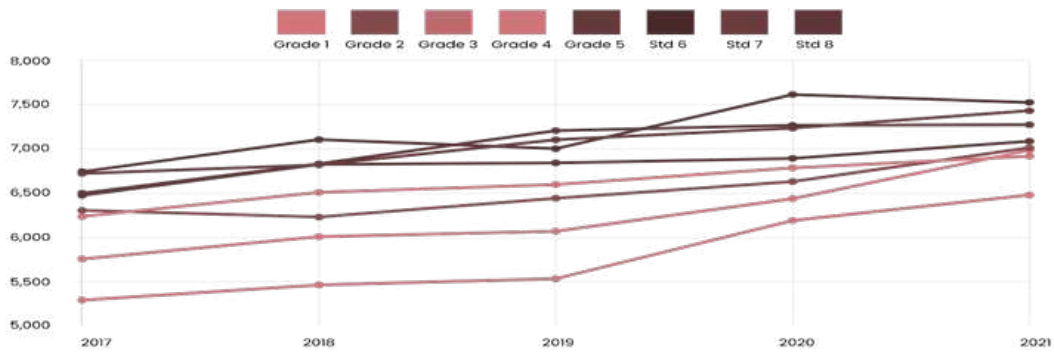


Figure 17: Public Primary School Enrolment by Grade

Completion rate measured by way of KCSE candidature proportionality recorded a significant rise of 15 per cent between 2020 and 2021. This rise may be indicative of the recovery post the Covid-19 pandemic that struck in 2020. The national completion rate for Kenya was 17.5 per cent in

2019 at the end of primary education, with rural areas having a high of 18 per cent over 16.1 per cent in urban areas and there were no significant differences in completion rates between boys and girls in both primary and secondary schools.

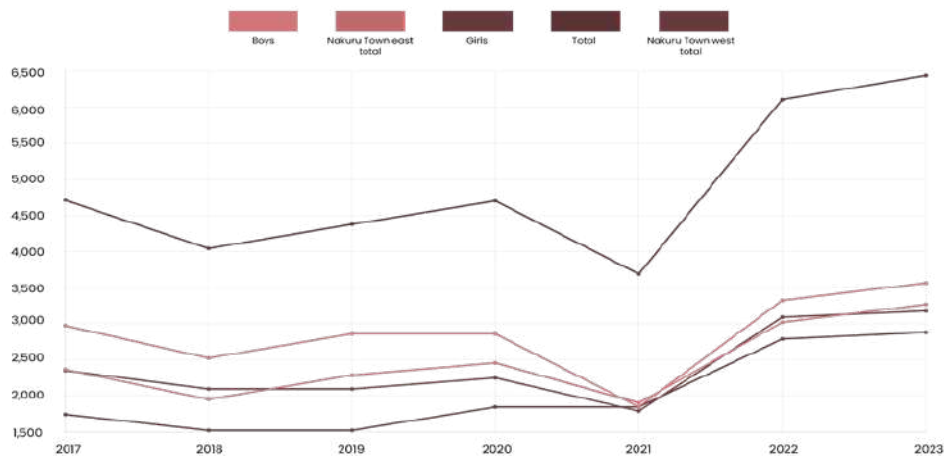


Figure 18: Pupil Enrollment in ECDE Centers by Sub County, Ward and Sex, 2017-2023

Target 4.2; “By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education”. While there was a dip between 2020 and 2021 in the enrolment in ECDE

centers, the steady rise to a high of 6,440 (36 per cent) with gross enrollment²³ at 96 per cent, indicative of a rise in proportion of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being. This rise in enrolment



was as a result of equipping 187 ECD classrooms with age-appropriate furniture, rehabilitating 8 ECD classrooms to improve the learning environment for ECD pupils, and constructing 38 ECD classrooms across the sub-county to improve

access to quality ECD Education²⁴.

The enrolment of youth in TVET, which is a vocational training avenue, improved by 20% between 2020 and 2021.



Figure 19: The first stakeholder forum participants engaging in Nakuru in December 2023

In summary, of the four indicators assessed, all are on track progressing towards the targets, though

relatively slower than the national average.



The table below presents this overview.

SDGs Goals	Target	UMF	SDG Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Current (2021)	Source	Progress
SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Target 4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	1.2.3 (UMF-11) Education completion rate	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	27,729 (F) 27,319 (M)	28,704 (F) 27,996 (M)	CSA, 2022	
			Indicator 4.1.2 Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education)	2791 (M) 2608 (F)	3097 (M) 3134 (F)	CSA, 2022	
	Target 4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education		Indicator 4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex	4,702	6,440 (2023)	CSA, 2022	
	Target 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university	2.3.2 (UMF-32) Youth and adults informal and non-formal education and training previous 12 months, by sex	Indicator 4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex	4069 (F) 4059 (M)	4839 (F) 4,999 (M)	CSA, 2022	

Key:

■ Target is on track to be achieved

■ Target is achieved

■ Target is getting receding



3.2.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

Nakuru’s performance on the completion rate (primary education) and participation rate

of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training falls below the national average, while it out performs the national average on the proportion of children aged 24-59 months developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well being.

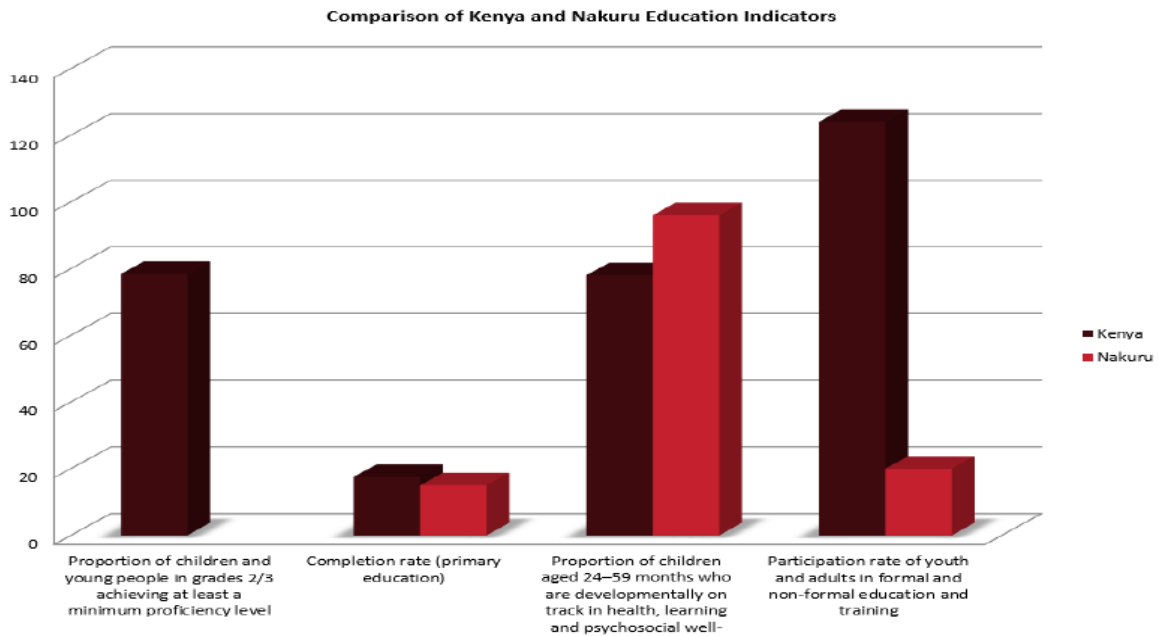


Figure 20: Comparison between Nakuru and Kenya VNR on Education Indicators

3.2.5 Good Practices

Nakuru County Government has doubled the allocation for bursaries to needy students from Kshs 177 million to Kshs 342 million²⁵. Through the initiative of H.E Susan Kihika, EGH, Governor of Nakuru County, this increment has contributed to the promotion of education as the greatest equalizer and transformer of life regardless of learners’ background. The bursaries are intended to reach over 60,000 beneficiaries drawn from universities, colleges, vocational institutions, secondary schools and special schools from across the County. So far, 49,172 secondary school students, 597 special school pupils, and 3,979 college students have directly benefitted, a significant rise from the previous

number of 48,000 beneficiaries.

3.2.6 Challenges

Some of the challenges expressed by the sector stakeholders include;

- General negative public perception on vocational training that has sometimes negated the interest amongst the youth in joining this avenue of learning and skills development despite the availability of government subsidies
- Human Resource capacity deficiencies, particular in staffing of the ECD centers, affecting the quality of service delivered to the young learners
- Mismatch between the ECD and Vocational



Training educational calendars and that of the County government financial year calendar, resulting into delay of disbursements

- d. Slow technological adaptation such as digitization of learning material in vocational training centers in the wake of advancement in technology, making these unattractive to the youthful generation of learners
- e. Low motivation amongst the staff due to insufficient investment in personal skills enhancement and career development programs

3.2.7 Lessons Learnt

- a. In a rapidly advancing technological sphere, it is of absolute necessity to embrace technology in both the development of training curriculum as well as the delivery modes to sustain the interest of the learners and offer them the tools relevant to the present world.

- b. Secondly, the misconception around vocational training being an alternative educational avenue away from mainstream ought to be addressed through continuous public education and awareness measures, particularly targeting the youth.
- c. Thirdly, Progressive alignment of the training curricula of the TVETs to the changing industry and market needs would have a significant catalytic value in driving enrollment and producing market-ready candidates for employment.
- d. Lastly, data is key and instituting regular field monitoring and evaluation is important in ensuring timely collection of data necessary for decision-making, tracking implementation of programmes, guiding development planning and advising future projects planning and design.





Figure 21: H.E Governor Susan Kihika distributing education bursaries to the needy



Figure 22: Stakeholders engagement during the Second Forum





3.3 SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

3.3.1 Overview

The dominant water supply source in Nakuru is piped water that is provided by Nakuru Water and Sanitation Services Company (NAWASSCO). Other sources include boreholes, protected springs, protected wells, and rainwater harvesting. The piped water coverage²⁶ in the city is an

average of 39 per cent with Nakuru West having the higher coverage at 48.9 per cent and Nakuru East at 30.6 per cent. The daily demand for piped water stands at 70,000 cubic meters against a supply of 40,000 cubic meters leaving a deficit of 30,000 cubic meters, which is met from a variety of sources as depicted in the graph below.

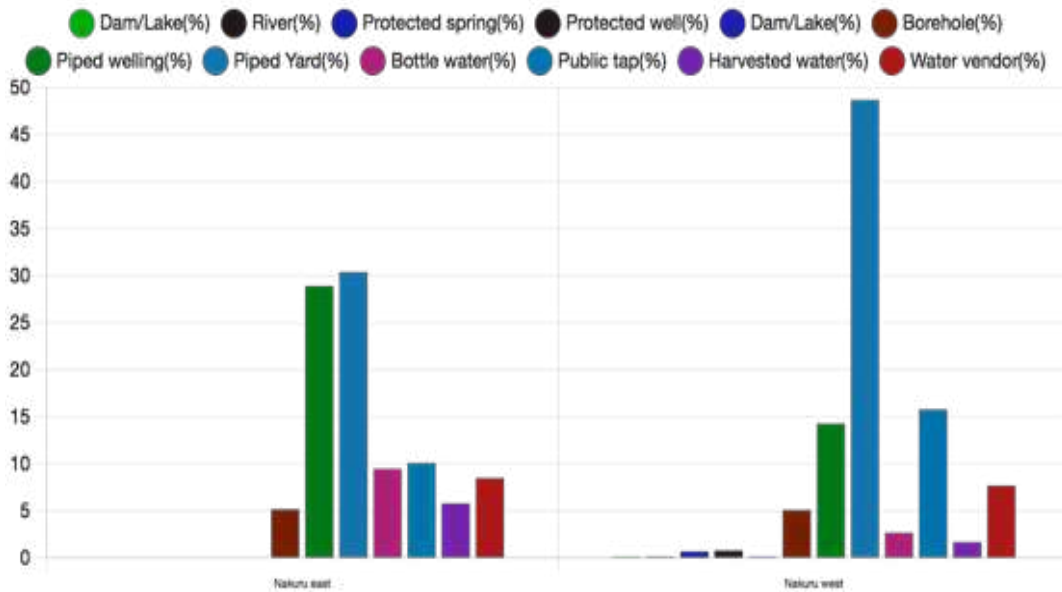


Figure 23: Sources of Supply Of Clean Water in Nakuru(%)

Sanitation condition in the city remains a concern with only 23.5 per cent sewer coverage complemented by septic tanks (20 per cent), pit latrines (30 per cent), bio-septic and cesspools.

The city generates about 280 tons of solid waste daily at a per capita generation rate of 0.41kg per cap per day, and only collects 16 per cent for disposal in the main disposal site at Gioto²⁷.

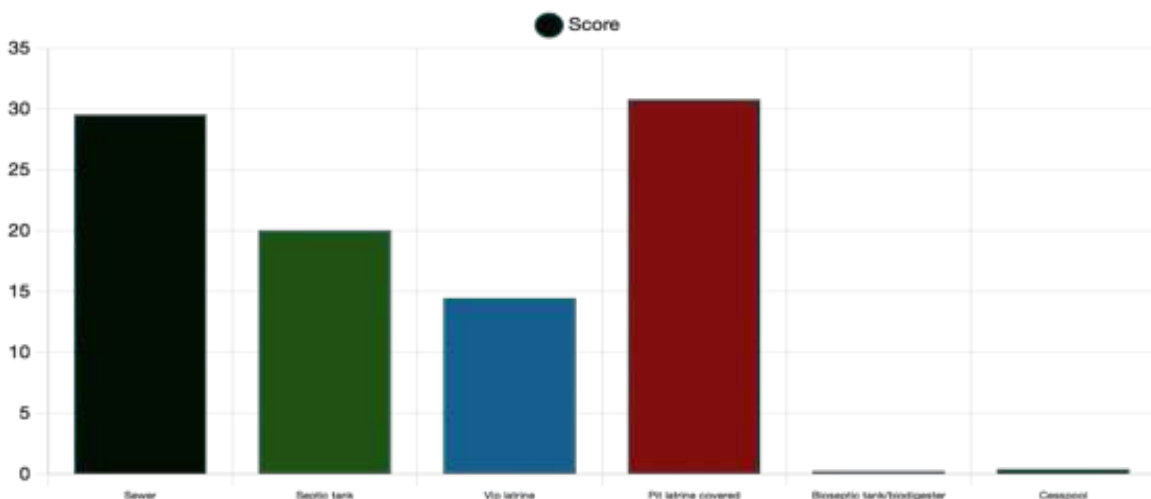


Figure 24: Sanitation coverage by type in Nakuru



3.3.2 Context

According to the IDeP (2019-2023), the water and sanitation sector seeks to increase water supply coverage, improve water quality and disposal of sewage. This is complemented by the City Urban Resilience Strategy (2023-2033) goal of providing adequate, safe and affordable water and sanitation services for all through four focus areas that will be integrated in the next generation IDeP, namely;

- To improve quality, supply, and conservation of water through proper planning & technology
- To enhance good governance in the water sector

- To improve wastewater management
- To improve solid waste management

Through the City Urban Resilience Strategy (CURS), 19 project initiatives have been identified to build onto the progress made in the sector. Some of the reported progress in the financial year 2022/23 include drilling of 21 boreholes and equipping 24 boreholes with solar power and rehabilitating 188 water projects.

Table 9: Targets and Indicators for Water and Sanitation

SDGs Goals	Target	SDG/UMF Indicator
SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.	Target 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	Indicator 6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services 1.1.2 (UMF-02) Safely managed drinking water services
	Target 6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	Indicator 6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services 1.1.3 (UMF-03) Safely managed sanitation services



3.3.3 Progress

Target 6.1; “By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all”. Of the two indicators measured, there was progression recorded towards the targets.

Indicator 6.1.1 on the proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services in Nakuru improved significantly from 26.4 per cent in 2019 to 48.9 per cent in 2022, though this remains lower than the national proportion of 67.2 per cent in 2022²⁸. This may be attributed to the expansion of the water reticulation network and the increase in water supply from 19 to 20 hours daily²⁹. Plans are underway to expand reticulation through the urban regeneration plans that

target rehabilitation of at least three informal settlements. For instance, through the affordable housing program, Bondeni has received water connectivity for 605 households.

The proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services however improved marginally from 64.6 per cent in 2019 to 68 per cent in 2022. Compared to the national average of 40.9 per cent, this value remains higher than the national average.



SDGs Goals	Target	UMF Indicator	SDG Indicator	Baseline (2019)	Current	Source	Progress	
SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.	Target 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	1.1.2 (UMF-02) Safely managed drinking water services	Indicator 6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	26.3	48.9	CSA, 2022		
	Target 6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	1.1.3 (UMF-03) Safely managed sanitation services	Indicator 6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services	64.6	68	CSA, 2022		

Key:



Target is on track to be achieved



Target is achieved



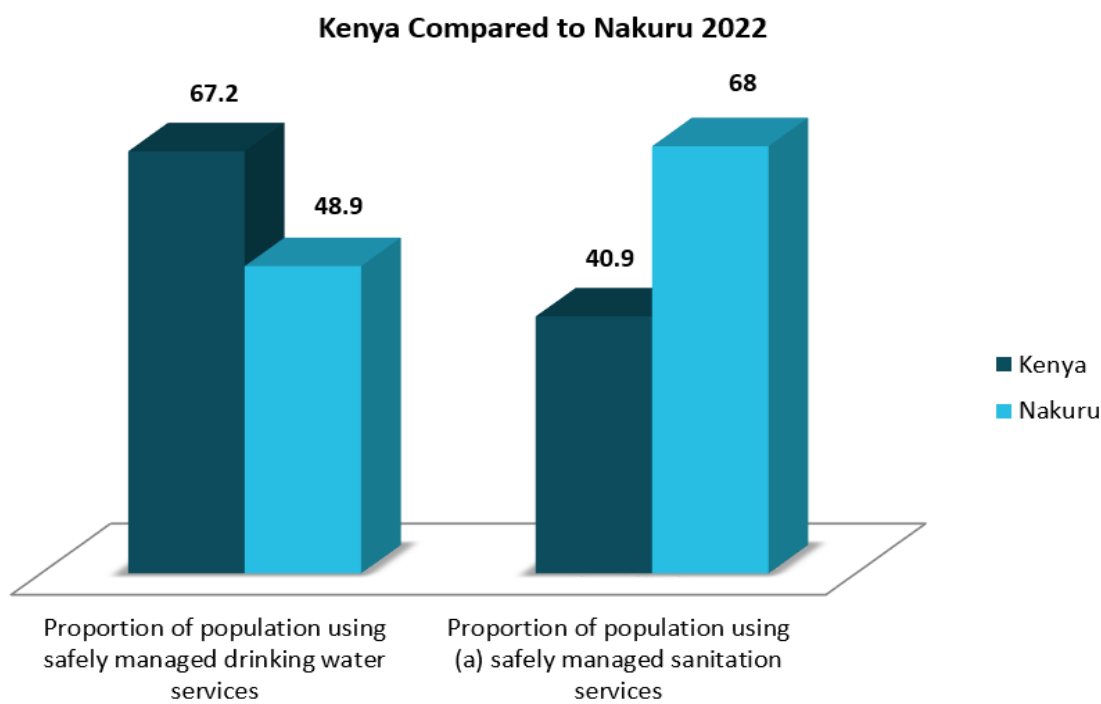
Target is getting receding



3.3.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

The proportionality of population using safe

water and safe sanitation services in Nakuru compared with the national position is reversed, with less proportion in water than national in Nakuru and more in Nakuru than national in sanitation.



3.3.5 Good Practices The De-Fluoridation Initiative



Nakuru is benefiting from an ongoing World Bank-funded water treatment and de-fluoridation plants that will supply them with fluoride-free drinking water. The initiative is part of the second phase of the World Bank-funded

Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP). According to a study commissioned by the County Government, fluoride levels range between 2.15mg per litre to as high as 6.5 mg per litre in the fifteen boreholes sampled, which is above the 1.5 mg per litre allowed by the World Health Organization (WHO). With a significant population relying on borehole water sources, they are exposed to risks of suffering from dental fluorosis and crippling skeletal deformities. Nakuru Water and Sanitation Services Company (NAWASSCO) sources its water from 25 boreholes; one in Kiondo, eight in Kabatini, three in Nairobi Road, five in Baharini, and eight in Olobanitaa within the County. The filters have reduced fluoride levels to below 1.5 mg per litre, greatly improving the quality of drinking water



and reducing the risk of fluorosis and a host of other harmful health effects. This initiative will contribute significantly to increasing the proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.

3.3.6 Challenges

- a. The water and sanitation sector continuous to face a major challenge in the form of unmet supply of water and sewerage services to meet the growing demand from a rapidly expanding population hence posing a threat to the quality of life and environment.
- b. This challenge has been exacerbated by the fact that NAWASSCO relies on 25 Boreholes to supply water to the city and environmental factors are causing depletion of the quantities and quality of water in the boreholes.
- c. Climate change has introduced extreme weather patterns with higher than normal precipitation during wet weather and drier than normal conditions during dry weather seasons, occasioning stress on the water resources and increasing the cost of providing the water and sanitation services.

3.3.7 Lessons Learnt

- a. The climate change impact on the water and sanitation services is likely to continue given the global trends and there is therefore need to focus on data that relate to the interface between climate change and water and sanitation services to guide planning going forward.
- b. Deploying technology such as the one applied in the VLR dashboard is important in keeping all the sector players informed and enabling their contribution through collaborative efforts to bridge the service deficits in water and sanitation services.





3.4 SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

3.4.1 Overview

The sector comprises of Trade, Tourism, Cooperatives Development and Marketing, Industrialization, Labour and Research development. It is operationally divided into five subsectors as illustrated below.

- *Markets sub-sector* is mandated to develop market physical infrastructure and create conducive environment for business activities through rehabilitation/maintenance of existing markets, construction of new markets as well as provision of market user delivery services. Prerequisite basic requirements of market establishment and operations include (Box 2);
- *Trade sub-sector* is mandated to enhance the growth and development of enterprises through business counseling, business

training and formation of business linkages.

- *Tourism subsector* is mandated to facilitate Tourism Development and Promotion through provision of tourism information, tourism marketing and promotion of local tourism.
- *Co-operatives subsector* is mandated to facilitate the growth and development of Cooperatives in the County through empowering of SACCOs, training on Cooperative leadership and governance.
- *Weight and Measures sub-sector* is mandated to promote fair trade practices and enforce consumer protection through conducting of annual and selected spot checks weighing scale calibration as well as sensitization of the traders and consumers.

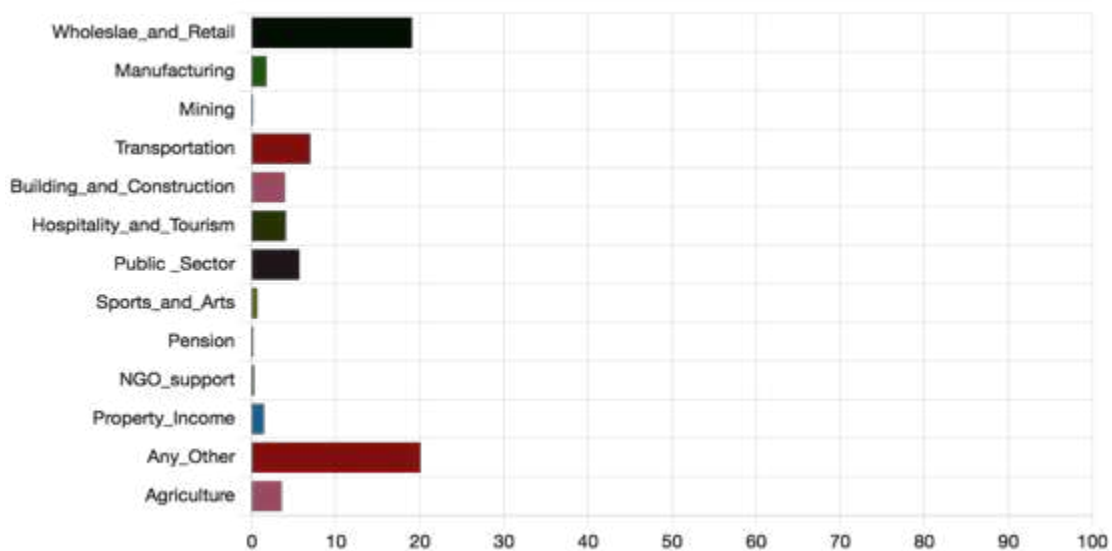


Figure 25: Employment sectors in Nakuru by category



3.4.2 Context

It is estimated that about 36 per cent of the city populace are unemployed, majority being the youth³⁰. Employment is dominated by the wholesale and retail sector at 28 per cent followed by transportation at 7 per cent, with manufacturing registering a low percentage at less than 2 per cent³¹.

The city urban resilience strategy envisages three priority development focus areas to spur economic growth in Nakuru, namely;

- Enhancing sustainable economic growth
- Enhancing mechanisms for revenue generation
- Reducing crime through policy, technology, and community empowerment

A total of 22 specific initiatives identified in the CURS have been lined up for integration in the IDeP (2024-2028), with partnerships envisaged at the centre of driving these initiatives. As part of the ongoing activities, the city has been upgrading the markets to facilitate a more vibrant wholesale and retail economy and investment has been made in staff training in cooperative development to boost the sector.

Three targets and a similar number of indicators have been identified to track progress under this goal as tabulated below.

SDGs Goals	Target	SDG/UMF Indicator
SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.	Target 8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries	Indicator 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita 2.3.1 (UMF-31) City product (GDP) per Capita (PPP)
	Target 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	Indicator 8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex 2.2.1 (UMF-27) Unemployment rate
	Target 8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	Indicator 8.9.1 Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate



3.4.3 Progress Report

The progress in terms of annual growth rate of GDP at the County level is based on a single value of 2020, which stood at 4.86 per cent. This is significant given that during the same period, the national GDP declined significantly to -2.8 per cent in 2020 before rebounding to 5.6 per cent in 2021. The steep national decline was primarily due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Nakuru exhibited resilience in the period. Similarly in the 2020 year, County Contribution to Gross Value Added (GVA) was at 4.9 per cent.

In respect to **Target 8.3**; *“Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services”*, available data on registered businesses and cooperatives was used to review

progress. Business registration numbers declined significantly between 2020 and 2021, from 51,429 to 12,726. However, the active cooperative societies improved marginally from 516 with 91,917 members to 521 with 96,836 members. The deep in business registration may have been occasioned by the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

Target 8.9; *“By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products”*, presented some improvement on account of absolute tourists numbers. The numbers of tourists visiting the museums and parks increased from 6,585 and 110,382 in 2020 to 16,274 and 188,396 respectively in 2021. These higher than average increments at a period when Covid-19 pandemic was in place may be a result of increased domestic tourism.



SDGs Goals	Target	UMF Indicator	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Current (2021)	Source	Progress		
SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.	Target 8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries	2.3.1 (UMF-31) City product (GDP) per Capita (PPP)	Indicator 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita	4.86%	-	CSA 2022			
				4.9%	-	CSA 2022			
	Target 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	2.2.1 (UMF-27) Unemployment rate	Indicator 8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex	51,429	12,726	CSA 2022			
				516 (active) 91,917 (Members)	521 (active) 96,836 (Members)	CSA 2022			
	Target 8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products		Indicator 8.9.1 Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate	6,585	16,274	CSA 2022			
				110,382	188,396	CSA 2022			

Key:



Target is on track to be achieved



Target is achieved



Target is getting receding



3.4.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

While the data obtained limits Nakuru comparison with the national performance, it is similarly noted in the VNR that the tourism sector faced significant challenges due to the

impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and its direct contribution to GDP was only 0.7 per cent in 2020 with the sector experiencing a severe decline, registering a negative growth rate of -47.7 per cent in 2020. However, just as is evident from the Nakuru growth, the 2021 growth soared to a high of 52.6 per cent.

3.4.5 Good Practices



Rejuvenating the city economy through stimulus package

This initiative, supported by the World Bank, focuses on rejuvenating the city economy through stimulus packages targeting markets, informal vending, and energy provision. Key investments include;

- Plans to build a massive stimulus modern market within the city at a cost of KES 1.2Billion
- Investment targeted at developing a mini-grid of power using solar energy in selected settlement areas as part of the wider solarization programme of the county.
- Investment in the establishment of mini material recovery facilities (MRFs) for solid waste recycling to build enterprise in the waste recycling sector and increase the material recovery rate from the city waste stream
- Investment in the establishment of informal markets through developing decent informal vending facilities that will be located in strategic areas within the city.



3.4.6 Challenges

- a. A key challenge has been experienced through the global occurrences that have come in the form of pandemics and climate-related adversities that have created a lasting impact in the young economy of the city.
- b. The transition in the local governance regime from municipal status to city status has also created an air of uncertainty in doing business with many harboring the suspicion that the newly acquired status may lead to increase in the cost of doing business.
- c. The steady decline in the manufacturing and industrial sector of the local economy with industry closures have continued to expose the city to a rising state of unemployment leading to rise in crime and increased youth propensity to resistance.

3.4.7 Lessons Learnt

- a. There is need to align the stimulus packages to the needs of the youth who constitute the bulk of the unemployed and yet are sufficiently educated to contribute to the productive economy. For instance, digital marketing platforms can serve as a source of inspiration for the youth to engage in product trading that is aligned to the stimulus market initiatives.
- a. There should be a re-calibration of the TVET programmes to introduce IT delivery modes and align with current and future workforce demands, particularly in high-growth sectors such as technology and healthcare.



3.5 SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

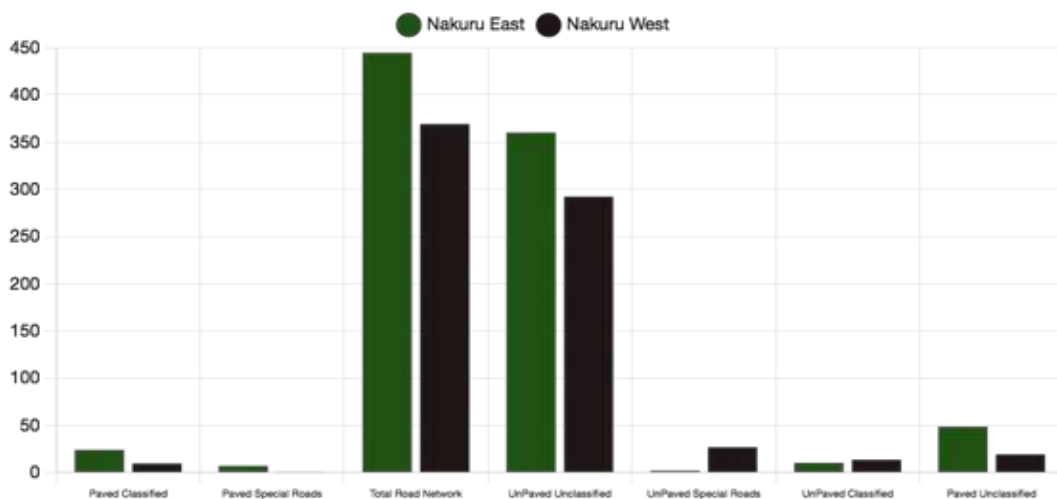
3.5.1 Overview

The Energy, Infrastructure, and ICT Sector are pivotal in propelling sustainable development and economic growth within Nakuru County.

The infrastructure subsector's mandate is the maintenance of Roads and Transport infrastructure including City roads, public terminus and street parking, maintenance of streetlights and the City public works, maintenance of City vehicles and other machineries, and day to day management of the City mechanical and transport unit

The ICT sub-sector is responsible for developing and implementing ICT policy guidelines, strategies and project plans for the County, providing technical and operational support for systems and infrastructure, development of connectivity infrastructure, provision of public relations services, and dissemination of information on County governments operations.

The City has a total road network of about 982 km out of which 243.5km (25 per cent) is tarmacked and about 738.8 km (75 per cent) is unpaved. Within the city, Nakuru East has the bulk of the tarmacked and unpaved roads.



3.5.2 Context

Transport and mobility has been identified as one of the main drivers of economy in Nakuru. In the transport sub-sector, significant progress has been made in road network expansion and maintenance, including the grading of 620.34 km and graveling of 236.77 km of roads. Additionally, 105 streetlights were installed, and 34 boda-boda³² sheds were constructed, enhancing transportation and safety.

In the ICT and e-Government sub-sector,

initiatives aimed at promoting digital literacy and efficiency have been prioritized. This includes the establishment of five digital centers and the installation of internet connectivity at 11 sites, facilitating access to digital resources. Moreover, efforts to automate government services and enhance communication infrastructure through the installation of IP phones have been underway.

Two targets and similar number of indicators have been applied to assess progress under this goal as summarized below.



SDGs	Target	SDG Indicator
SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.	Target 9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all	Indicator 9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport
	Target 9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries	Indicator 9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment

3.5.3 Progress Report

Target 9.1: “Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all”

Indicator 9.1.2: Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport

While data on the disaggregated passenger and freight volumes was not available at the city

level, this indicator was assessed using proxy data on volume (reported cases) of traffic accidents. There was an increase in the cases reported from 411 in 2020 to 501 in 2021, a 22% rise. The level of injuries and fatalities similarly increased within this period from 857 to 1128 reported cases, a 32% spike. The significance of this is that the majority of citizens use public transport at 30.6% in 2021 followed by pedestrian mode at 29.7%, where the bulk of these accidents occur between pedestrians and public transportation users.

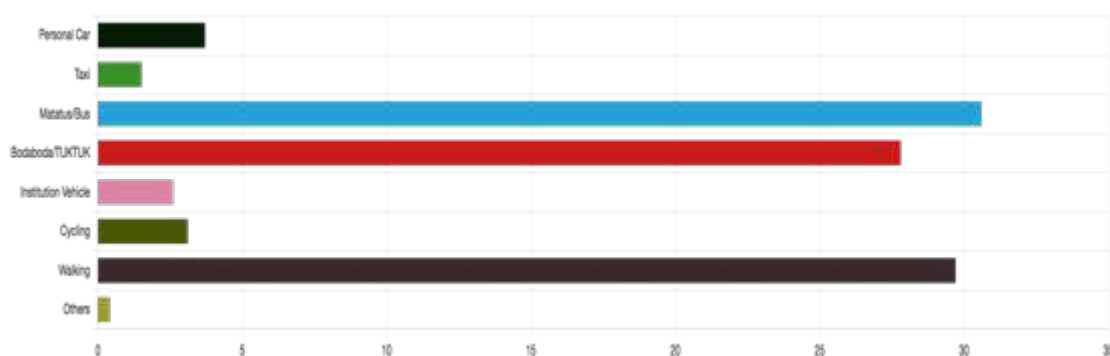


Figure 27: Mode of Transport in Nakuru by percentage usage



Target 9.2; *“Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries”*

Indicator 9.2.2: Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment

The proportionality of manufacturing

employment is measured here on the basis of the number of active manufacturing firms. These range from small-scale firms to large manufacturing entities. These firms reduced from a number of 598 in 2020 to 505 in 2021, a 16% drop. The reduction is mainly attributed to the Covid-19 and its impact in the industry sector that forced closure of a number of firms in this period.



SDGs	Target	UMF Indicator	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Current (2021)	Source	Progress		
SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.	Target 9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all		Indicator 9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport	411	501	CSA, 2022			
				857	1,128	CSA, 2022			
	Target 9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries		Indicator 9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	598	505				

Key:



Target is on track to be achieved



Target is achieved



Target is getting receding



3.5.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

While comparative data on the manufacturing as a proportion of total employment in Nakuru was not obtained, reports³³ reviewed reflect a lower

than national average performance. National figures in Kenya indicate that manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment was at 11.6 per cent in 2020 and 2021.

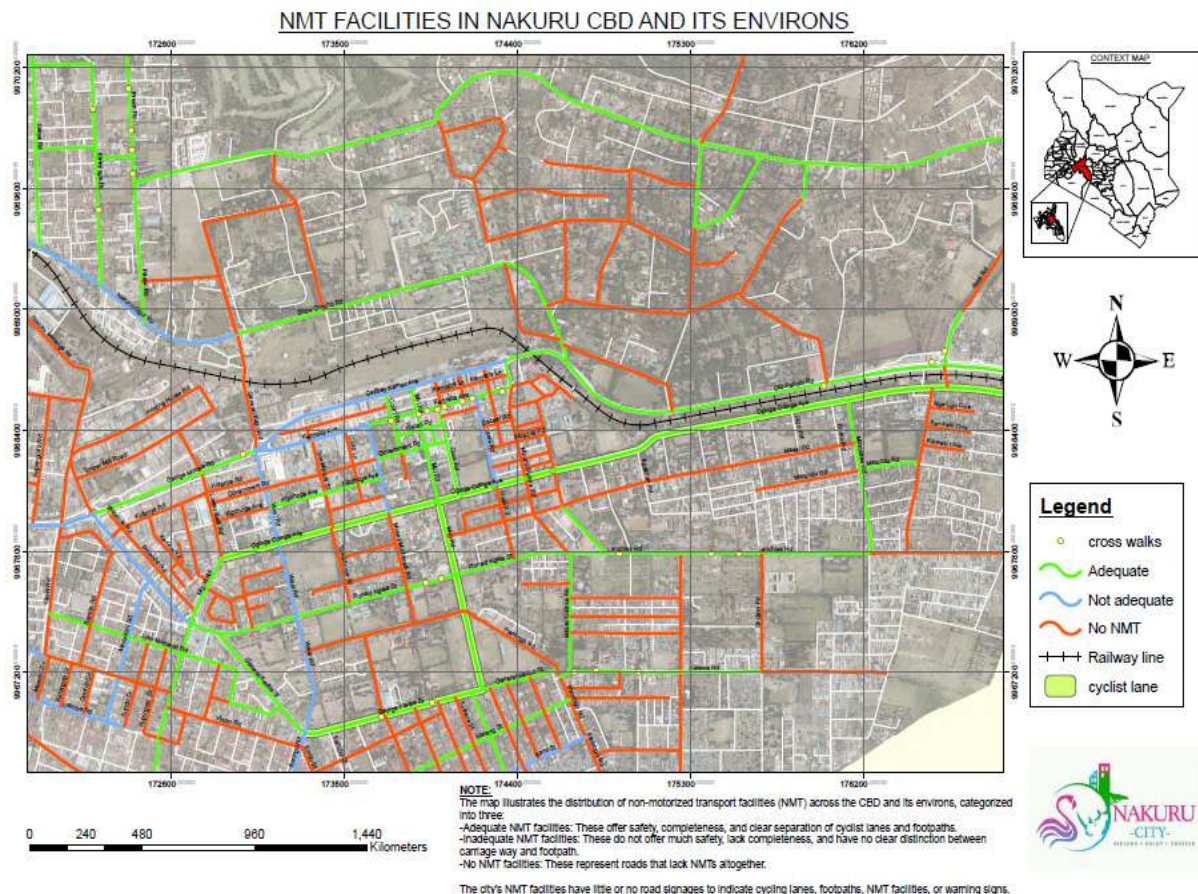


Figure 28: Nakuru NMT Facilities (source: State Department of Housing and Urban Development)

3.5.5 Good Practices

In partnership with the State Department of Housing and Urban Development, Nakuru has embarked on a project that seeks to increase pedestrian safety considering that a good majority of the city residents walk or cycle. The benefits of the project have included:

- Improved safety of cyclist and pedestrian.
- Increased accessibility and mobility
- Improved motorized traffic flow hence reduced cost on time and fuel.
- Improved physical health as more people can walk.
- Reduced motorized traffic hence better air quality
- Empowerment of vulnerable groups



3.5.6 Challenges

- a. While a key challenge remains that of insufficiency of funding to meet the infrastructure demands, it is increasingly emerging that climate change factors pose a significant challenge. The occurrence of unprecedented water level rise occasioned by heavy rains that have also caused landslides and fissures has challenged the design of the current and future infrastructure.
- b. Other challenges include poor enforcement of road safety laws and regulations, and rising emissions from vehicular traffic that has continued to compromise the air quality. The city also lacks the requisite human capacity in its establishment to fully command the services required in the sector.

3.5.7 Lessons

- a. One important lesson emerging is the need for consistent data capture and analysis, especially in the wake of climate change variability, to inform design of resilient infrastructure. In this case, the development of the Nakuru Urban Resilience Strategy 2023-2033 is timely and should be fully integrated in the next generation IDeP.
- b. It is also important to mainstream research findings and technological advancements to drive innovation in the city. There are good examples of application of research findings such as the one carried out on NMT by the University of Nairobi that has informed the construction of NMT along Kenyatta Avenue.



3.6 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

3.6.1 Overview

Nakuru has interpreted its urban sustainability through the urban resilience strategy³⁴. The Urban Resilience Strategy 2023-2033 for Nakuru City strategy adopts a vision a Safe, Livable, Connected, and Economically Diversified City. It envisages a pathway that strengthens the capacity of individuals, communities, key city systems and city governments to cope, adapt, and continue in the event of chronic stresses and acute shocks. These sustainability factors resonate with the SDG 11 Goal of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

In addition, the Vision 2050 focuses on quality of life and prosperity of the people by prioritizing citizen-centric development. This is embraced through;

- a. Recognizing the importance of justice, culture, and societal growth in achieving a sustainable future for the citizenry
- b. Emphasis on creating an enabling environment for modern city growth, without compromising the tenets of inclusivity and equity;
- c. Emphasis on the importance of recognizing the innovative tendencies and knowledge of the citizenry;
- d. Recognizing the resilience capacity of the citizenry and their ability to adopt in the wake of climate induced threats

The Urban Resilience Strategy has been fully adopted in the next generation IDeP (2024-2028) that is under formulation and will be linked to the long-term vision through the VLR dashboard.

3.6.2 Context

The urban landscape in Nakuru is undergoing an intense regeneration program. In the city, three key areas have received significant attention with accompanying investment to improve the city's inclusivity, safety and resilience. These include informal settlement upgrading, housing development and prosperity (wealth creation) initiatives.

1. Upgrading informal settlements in the city:

The urban regeneration initiatives singled out five informal settlements for upgrading through investments in opening and improving road networks and drainage within the settlements as well as other services such as lighting and mobility.

2. Urban housing and infrastructure development in the city: 605 affordable houses fully constructed and availed in Bondeni, which was formerly an informal settlement. Additional investment had been secured for 20,000 new houses in the city accompanied by the establishment of the Nakuru Affordable Housing Board. The Board has embarked on a process to develop 5-year investment strategy for housing supply and research ongoing on demand/supply of housing in partnership with KIPPRA.





Figure 29: Bondeni Affordable Housing delivered 605 units and launched in January 2024

3. Urban prosperity and resilience, with focus on equity and sustainability: Focus on rejuvenating the city economy through stimulus markets, informal vending improvement, energy provision for 24-hour economy and waste service improvement. The initiatives include; Plans to build a massive stimulus modern market within the city at a cost of KES 1.2Billion, investment

in the establishment of mini material recovery facilities (MRFs) for solid waste recycling to build enterprise in the waste recycling sector and increase the material recovery rate from the city waste stream, and investment in the establishment of informal markets through developing decent informal vending facilities that will be located in strategic areas within the city.



Four targets and four indicators have been assessed as summarized in the table below.

Table 10: Summary targets and indicators assessed

SDGs Goals	Target	UMF Indicator	Indicator
SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.	Target 11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums	1.4.1 (UMF-23) Slum population	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing
	Target 11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons	1.2.2 (UMF-10) Access to public transport	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
	Target 11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries	3.4.2 (UMF-51) Efficient land use	11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate
	Target 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	3.1.2 (UMF-41) Solid Waste Collection and Disposal	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities

3.6.3 Progress

Target 11.1: “By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums”

Indicator 11.1.1: Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing

The proportion of urban population in Nakuru living in slums and informal settlements stood

at an average of 38.4 per cent in 2019. There was a higher percentage in Nakuru West sub-county at 49.5 per cent than Nakuru East at 27.3 per cent, Nakuru West being more urbanised. Comparatively, the Kenyan average in 2019 stood at 57.2 per cent. While the proportion in Nakuru is lower than the national average, the newly acquired city status is likely to spur more informal settlement dwellings with more influx of people from the rural hinterland.



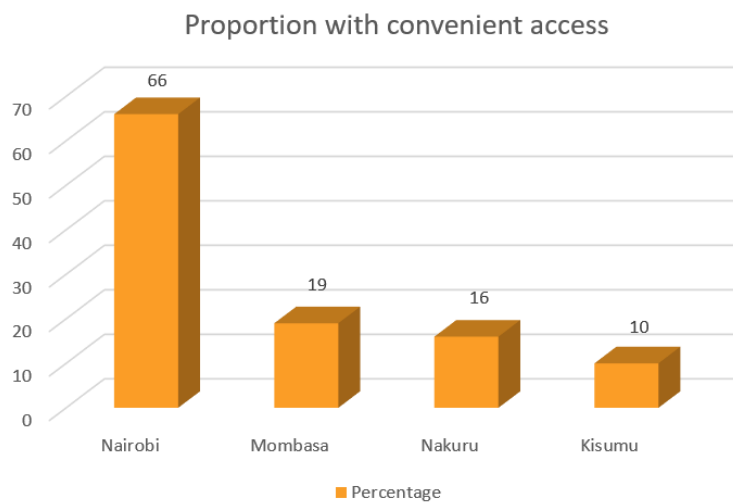
Propotion

Subcounty	Name of Informal Settlement	Approximate Area (Sq. km)	Population proportion By Gender			
			Male	Female	Total	Proportion
Nakuru East	Free Area/Kia Murogi	2	7,952	8,284	16,236	9.2
	Nyamarutu	1	1,910	2,145	4,055	2.3
	Lakeview	1	9,314	9,805	19,119	10.8
	Bordeni	1	4,164	4,732	8,896	5.0
Nakuru West	Kenya Meat	1	1,473	1,340	2,813	1.6
	Bangladesh	1	968	1,018	1,986	1.1
	Kwa Rhonda	2	16,398	15,468	31,866	18.0
	Kiptembwa	2	24,078	21,122	45,200	25.6
	London/Hilton	2	2,946	2,680	5,626	3.2

Target 11.2: “By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons”

Indicator 11.2.1: Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

The proportion of population in Nakuru with convenient access to public transport was reported at 16 per cent in 2019. This figure is much lower than that recorded in Nairobi at 66 per cent for the similar period as well as the other city of Mombasa recorded at 19 per cent. It is however higher than that recorded in Kisumu at 10 per cent. The public transport sector in Nakuru has gone through re-organization to secure passengers safety as well as regulation of the costs of travel through active transport SACCOs.



Target 11.3: “By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries”

Indicator 11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate

Compared to the other four cities in Kenya, the ratio of Land Consumption Rate (LCR) to Population Growth Rate (PGR) in 2019 was highest in Nakuru at 3 per cent. This ratio was matched with Kisumu at a similar percentage but higher than Mombasa at 2.67 per cent and Nairobi at 1.33 per cent.



Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate

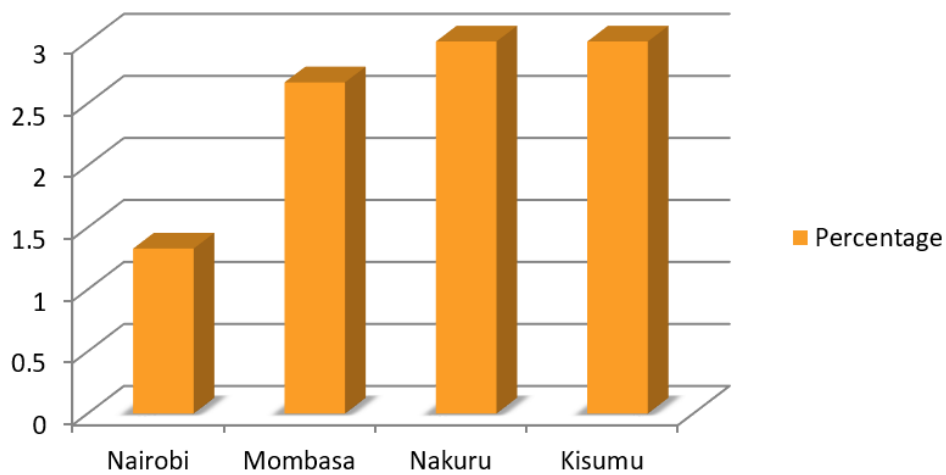


Figure 30: Comparative ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate

Target 11.6: “By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management”

Indicator 11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities

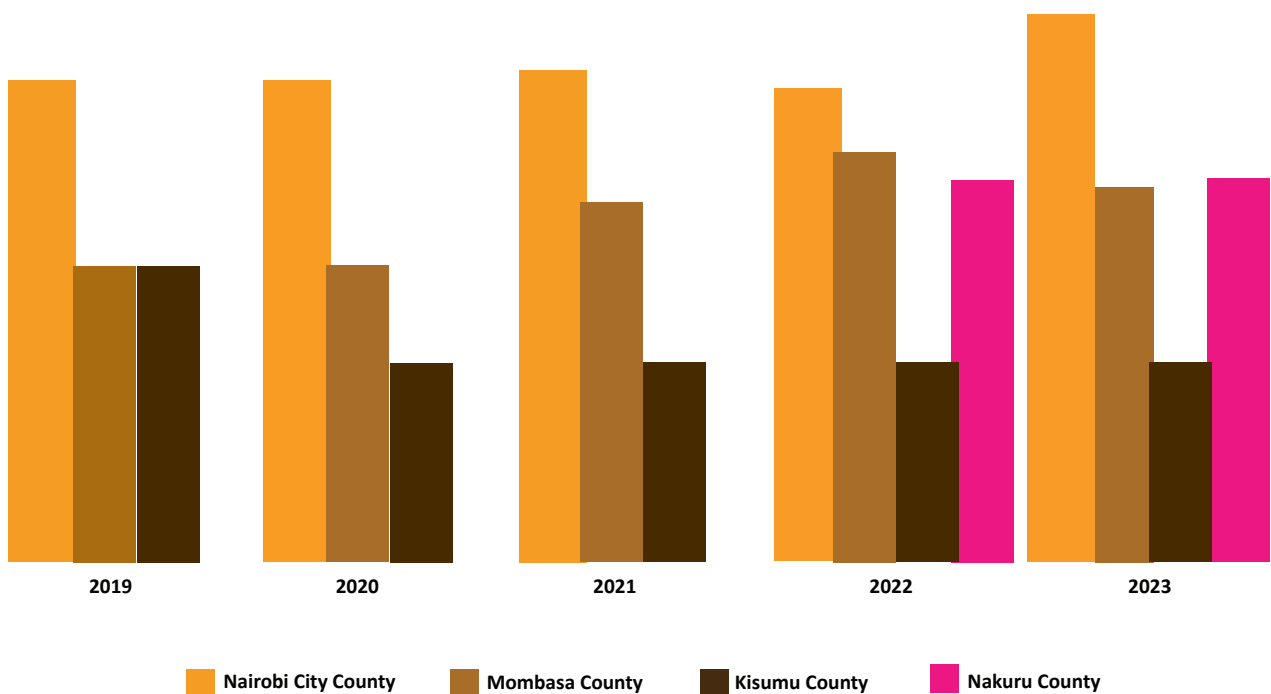


Figure 31: Comparison between solid waste proportions in the four major cities



The Kenya Voluntary National Review 2024 (VNR, 2024) provides a trend that indicates Nakuru's comparative performance in waste proportionality collected and managed in controlled facilities as being only second to Nairobi at 60 per cent in 2023, with Nairobi at 86 per cent. A recent survey using the WACT tool registered approximately 967 tons per day of municipal solid waste generated in the urban areas of Nakuru County, of which 16 per cent is collected and 2 per cent is managed in controlled facilities. This implies that on a daily basis, 84 per

cent of municipal solid waste remains uncollected with a per capita MSW generation of 0.41 kg/capita/day. With a city population of 686,630, the waste generated can be estimated at 282 tons per day. It is important to recognize that the city has taken measures to promote material recovery and plans to construct at least five material recovery centers under the urban regeneration plan. This is likely to supplement the current efforts that stand at 3 per cent material recovery rate and contribute significantly to the reduction of volume of uncontrolled waste.



SDGs Goals	Target	UMF Indicator	Indicator	Current 2019	Source	Progress		
SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.	Target 11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums	1.4.1 (UMF-23) Slum population	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing	38.4	CSA, 2022			
	Target 11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons	1.2.2 (UMF-10) Access to public transport	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	16.1	CSA, 2022			
	Target 11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries	3.4.2 (UMF-51) Efficient land use	11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate	3	CSA, 2022			
	Target 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	3.1.2 (UMF-41) Solid Waste Collection and Disposal	11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities	60				

Key:



Target is on track to be achieved



Target is achieved



Target is getting receding



3.6.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

Nakuru generally compares favorably with the national averages on two of the four indicators, and unfavorably with the other two. The city has a significantly lower proportion of slum inhabitants compared to the national average and would need to keep this path so as not to experience growth in informalization. While there may be conflicting data on the proportion of waste safely contained, the 60 per cent performance of the city is significant and compares well with the national efforts.

However, the higher ratio of LCR to PGR in Nakuru at 3 per cent compared to Nairobi 1.33 percent is not sustainable and ought to be checked. Similarly, the proportion of population in Nakuru with convenient access to public transport is four times lower than the Nairobi one pointing to a need for an accelerated plan to organize the public transport sector and facilitate increased usage

3.6.5 Good Practices



Figure 32: Bondeni Affordable Housing Units

The Bondeni informal settlement has undergone a major upgrading with the construction of 605 affordable housing units under the affordable housing program (AHP) in Kenya and the adjoining construction of a KES 600 Million ultra modern market complete with a bus terminus. Nakuru was the first City to embrace the affordable housing program. The initiatives have transformed Bondeni from a



Figure 33: Bondeni Ultra Modern Market

neighborhood that was best known for harboring crime to an economically vibrant and socially inclusive neighborhood. The affordable housing units were opened for occupation in January 2024 and the market and terminus expected to be completed by the end of 2024.



3.6.6 Challenges

- a. One of the challenges relates to the rapidly expanding population in Nakuru that has been accelerated by the new city status. This continues to put enormous pressure on the young city's capacity to respond to the service needs of all segments of the population, particularly in respect to waste management and transportation safety.
- b. Another challenge presents in the form of land availability for urban renewal initiatives as the public land bank is severely depleted forcing the city to invest in acquisition through purchase of land necessary for city development.
- c. Challenge also presents in the form of the climatic conditions generated by climate change that continuous to stretch the resilience capacity of the city systems and population to respond to shocks and stresses.

3.6.7 Lessons

- a. Given the nascent nature of the city, having only been chartered in December 2021, there is a growing need to envisage planning from a longer-term horizon so as to sustain momentum towards achievement of a broad sustainable development vision for the city. The steps taken by the city to formulate a City Vision 2050 is timely and ought to be fully supported.
- b. There are many moving parts that may overwhelm the city governance capacity given the rising focus by multiple partners to engage in the urban development sphere of Nakuru. The city will do well with setting up and maintain an accessible information gateway that allows the public and partners to engage digitally with the development initiatives. The VLR dashboard is one such attempt.
- c. There a series of planning instruments that are developed consistent with the legal requirements such as the Vision 2050, IDePs, ISUDP, Spatial Plans etc that may create overlaps in implementation monitoring and accountability. Efforts to harmonize these plans is key to establishing a focused development arena.



3.7 SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

3.7.1 Overview

With the advent of devolution, re-formulation of urban governance and management institutions has occurred guided by provisions of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (amended 2019) – UACA. City and Municipal Boards have been established in recognition of the principal and agency relationship between the boards and

their respective county governments'. The Boards are envisaged as body corporates with perpetual succession and a common seal capable of suing and being sued, as well as undertaking contractual obligations. Functions have been delegated and powers assigned in accordance to Section 20 and 21 of UACA.



Figure 34: Nakuru City Board during orientation on the VLR in Dec 2023



3.7.2 Context

To strengthen its institutional performance, the City Board of Nakuru has made significant efforts in a number of fronts. One, the City Board has institutionalized a citizens engagement platform through the establishment of periodic dialogue forums on key sector development themes. The City Board has also established an institutional framework for coordination of sector development priorities by setting up a multi-stakeholder County Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (CoMEC). The CoMEC maintains a database of development information that the Board applies in decision-making. This database is limited at the moment, but expected to grow with the expanded features envisaged on the VLR dashboard.

3.7.3 Progress

Target 16.1: “Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere”

Indicator 16.1.1: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age

The number of persons reported to have committed homicide in Nakuru increased from 30 in 2020 to 43 in 2021, a significant increase of 43 per cent. This increase was steeper amongst the females from 4 in 2020 to 14 in 2021 (250 per cent) than the males from 26 to 29 (11.5 per cent). This is significantly high when compared to the Kenyan average number, which increased from 6 persons in 2020 to 7 persons in 2021. Furthermore, the Kenyan average recorded a reduction in number of females from 4 in 2020 to 3 in 2023 while the number of males increased from 8 in 2020 to 10 in 2021.

SDGs Goals	Target	UMF Indicator	Indicator	2020	2021	Source	Progress
SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	Target 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	5.1.1 (UMF-62) Victims of Intentional Homicide	16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	30	43	CSA, 2022	

Key:

■ Target is on track to be achieved

■ Target is achieved

■ Target is getting receding



3.7.4 Comparing Nakuru with the National Indicator Progress

The numbers registered in Nakuru are significantly above the national average. However, the incidences are more amongst the male than the female in both cases.

3.7.5 Challenges

A notable challenge was the occurrence of the Covid-19 during the period of 2020 and 2021, which had an immense impact on the households due to social and economic embargos instituted.

The framework for psychosocial support is limited in reach and capacity and hence unable to effectively respond in times of high need.

3.7.7 Lessons

There is need to develop a robust institutional system for psychosocial support to mitigate against occurrences that weaken the resilience capabilities of the population. The Nakuru City Urban Resilience Strategy envisages a response to crime and social decay through investment in community social safety nets targeting the households as the primary social unit.





CHAPTER 4: Recommendations



The urban governance and management architecture is in transition in line with the Constitution of Kenya 2010. The City Board of Nakuru is the pioneer governance institution formed under the new dispensation of the Urban Area and Cities Act (UACA), assuming a corporate governance identity within a principal-agency relationship framework with the County Government. At the same time, the city has acquired an elevated identity having been granted city status in December 2021. This elevation comes with added responsibility and heightened expectations from the populace.

To discharge its duties, the City Board has developed a number of instruments, which include plans and strategies to meet the development aspirations of the citizens. These include Nakuru County Integrated Development Plan (2017-2022), Nakuru Municipality Integrated development Plan (IDeP) 2019-2023, Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUDP) 2014-2034, Nakuru County Spatial Development Plan (2015 – 2025), County Urban Institutional Development Strategy (CUIDS) and Nakuru City Resilience Strategy (2023 – 2033). These plans and strategies represent the commitment of the city governance and management to deliver services as prioritised by the citizenry through participatory and consensus building processes.

The accountability obligation for governance and public service delivery by the Board is invested in the Citizens Forum³⁵ as a legal mandate in the UACA. Amongst the responsibilities assigned to the citizens forum is that of monitoring the

Board's performance and making proposals on areas necessary for improvement.

The VLR has emerged as a bridging instrument to account for the Board's corporate performance of the mandate and responsibility assigned by the principal (County) and monitored by the citizens. Applying technology, the Board has embraced the VLR in digital form to enhance accountability and encourage development interaction with all stakeholders and citizens alike. In suggesting the action oriented recommendations, it therefore important to take note of;

- The Board's commitment to participatory processes in which it continuously reports on efforts and plans towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The Board's recognition of VLR as tool for assessing and accelerating sustainable development by tapping into local level innovations, actions and initiatives to advance the well-being of the society.
- The Board's acknowledgement of the link between the VLR and VNR to consolidate local actions into national and global impact.

The recommendations are intended to inspire accelerated local action towards achievement of the SDGs.



4.1 Technology and Innovation

The Kenya Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy (2020-2030) themed “Research for socio-economic transformation, global competitiveness and sustainable development” provides a framework for adoption of digital systems for sustainable development. Services such as procurement and financial management are digitized in the county and city. However, the planning and implementation monitoring of urban plans remain largely analogue. The VLR dashboard provides an entry point to digitizing urban governance and management for sustainable development. The design of the VLR dashboard to bridge between the short-term (IDeP) and long-term (Vision 2050), and its potential for incorporation of real time feedback and multiple reporting mechanism as a public interface should be built upon. The Board could further develop a domesticated policy to govern and regulate the use of the platform.

4.2 Data for SDG monitoring

The data gaps have limited the extent to which the SDG indicators can be applied to demonstrate Nakuru’s efforts and contribution to the sustainable development goals. In this VLR, only 15 per cent of the 168 national SDG indicators have been applied. The main challenge is in the production of disaggregated data at the city level. As part of the solution to bridging data gaps, KNBS developed the Quality Criteria for Validating Citizen-Generated Data (CGD).

The Board should put in place a mechanism that encourages stakeholders and citizens to be part of the data collection system and subject these to the Quality Criteria for CGD. Furthermore, there is need for a sound and complete indicator system that is sustained overtime. This complements the stakeholders and citizens data collection system by ensuring that, once this complete set of indicators and overall monitoring system is put in place, it will have enough human, technical and financial resources to work until 2030 and beyond. The planning department of the city has set up a specific Focal Point to man this system and ensure its progressive development.

4.3 Coordination and Collaboration

The multiple challenges brought about by Covid-19 and climate change occurrences have greatly challenged the city’s ability to respond and recover from the stresses and shocks. The Nakuru Urban Resilience Strategy 2023-2033 (NURS) is a classical response to the shock and stresses than inhibit progress towards the SDG targets. The strategy is however harbours a relatively high ambition in setting out the 5 priority areas to be delivered through 78 project activities at an enormous cost on the public coffers. An important starting point for the Board is to absorb the high priority strategies within the second generation IDeP (2024-28). The City should also adopt and institutionalise the multi-stakeholder coordination framework that was deployed through the VLR Task Force to anchor collaborations towards financing the NURS in complement to public financing.



4.4 Partnerships in Financing

Nakuru, like other urban areas, is a beneficiary of a number of partnership programs. These include the Affordable Housing Program, (AHP), Stimulus Package Program (SPP), Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP), Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Program (KISIP), amongst others. These are nationally designed programs to catalyze local action and clearly aligned to the SDGs, hence facilitating the link between the VLR and the VNR. The programs also serve to strengthen the relationship between the City and National Authorities in the VNR reporting effort and beyond, bringing together the SDG-related strategies, ensuring the decentralization schemes work properly and that multi-level articulation is systemic and institutionalized. The private sector role is integral to this systemic and institutionalized collaboration. In addition, these partnership programs bring a flow of investment in various local development sectors that often are not captured within the local development instruments such as the IDeP. There is benefit in consolidating and harmonizing these financing and investment flows within the IDeP as well as harmonizing the reporting mechanisms between local and national government to drive the SDG targets.

4.5 Capacity Development

Knowledge about SDGs remains relatively low amongst the City leadership and management. There is also varying knowledge on the SDGs

amongst the general populace. Importantly though is the adoption of the VLR as tool that bridges the short-term to the long-term development plans, hence placing the SDG as a regular feature in the city governance and management landscape. In this respect, it is critical to sustain and foster capacities on SDGs amongst the Board and Management through targeted sensitization and awareness sessions, which may include knowledge exchange with other VLR Cities. It is also important to retain the form of the VLR task force as a central feature in extending SDG awareness to the different stakeholder groups. The task force should acquire an institutional identity to prop the awareness and sensitization in the public arena.

The city government is also in the process of building its human resource capacity and governance infrastructure. An important feature to anchor this is the governance operating model (GOM). This is the mechanism used by the Board and Management to translate the elements of the governance framework and policies into practices, procedures, and job responsibilities within the corporate governance infrastructure.

Capacity development in the GOM will;

- Provide insights on how to organize operational, financial, risk management, and reporting processes such that the board receives the information it requires to effect good governance and management and the service units can conduct their activities in ways that comply with regulations and serve strategic ends
- Bring the organization's governance framework



down to the level of roles, responsibilities, reporting lines, and communications to bridge the gap between the governance framework and operational realities

- Assist to answer questions such as; “Why are we doing this?”, “Is this okay?”, “Whose call is this?”, and “Who do we need to tell about this?” and to know when to ask such questions
- Sustain governance by creating a feedback loop in which the board and management can identify and respond to new business, operational, competitive, and regulatory needs

Training opportunity in the GOM is available and Nakuru City was one of the pilot cities during the piloting of the GOM training under KUSP. The Board could at the early stage target the CUIDS urban institutional grant (UIG) under the KUSP II to facilitate such training. The training would incorporate all the specific challenges identified under each SDG in the analysis and assess these on the strength of the lessons learnt to improve

the SDG delivery.

In the public realm, SDG knowledge can be enhanced through further development and improvement of access to the VLR dashboard. Creating an active interface for the public on the dashboard is an investment the City Board ought to prioritize so as not to leave anyone behind in the VLR information and knowledge arena.

This is the first VLR for Nakuru and it sets the foundation for measuring the City’s progress towards achieving the SDGs. It serves as an important entry point for Nakuru as a young city into the global city competitiveness. Through the VLR, Nakuru is not only able to account for its contribution to the national SDG framework, but mirror itself against other regional global cities. Through this, the city can learn and draw lessons that would better position it to strengthen service provision to its populace and attract partnerships to accelerate progress towards the SDG targets.





CHAPTER 5: Conclusion



This is the first VLR for Nakuru and it sets the foundation for measuring the City's progress towards achieving the SDGs. It serves as an important entry point for Nakuru as a young city into the global city competitiveness. Through the VLR, Nakuru is not only able to account for its contribution to the national SDG framework, but mirror itself against other regional global cities. Through this, the city can learn and draw lessons that would better position it to strengthen service provision to its populace and attract partnerships to accelerate progress towards the SDG targets.

There is measurable progress towards meeting the SDG targets. Of the 25 indicators, 15 (60 per cent) have been assessed to have registered positive progress towards the targets while 10 (40 per cent) are regressing. This is not a perfect picture and requires significant efforts as suggested through the various action oriented recommendations. It is also important to note that a number of accelerator investments have been lined up that will propel Nakuru closer to the targets. These include investments in affordable housing, stimulus markets, solid waste management, transportation and slum upgrading. The city board also envisages expanding the horizon of the VLR to include additional targets that have not been analyzed in this first VLR.

The city's commitment to moving closer to the targets is evidently expressed through the Board's zeal to embrace transparent and accountable governance practices anchored and driven by technology. Digital governance that has been presented through the VLR dashboard is an important score by the Board. The intension to explore the versatility of this dashboard to

serve as the core instrument for development accountability exemplifies the progressiveness of the governance regime of the city.

Challenges however abound, and the Board has taken this in good stride. The recommendations adduced in this VLR are intended to strengthen process as well as output. It is however noted that there are many competing interests, mainly driven by the significant shortfall in the City's budget to meet the ambitions as set out in the popularly endorsed plans and strategies. To this extent, the Board and City management ought to build confidence and trust amongst the various partners and stakeholders to forge a joint and collective platform in the pursuit of sustainable development. The Board has for instance committed to further development of the VLR dashboard to enhance its usability and position it as the accountability platform for local development.

Capacity development is key to mainstreaming the VLR agenda into the regular routines of the city operations and management. This should be treated with high priority so as not to lose the initial momentum.





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Footnotes

- 1 Nakuru Municipal Integrated Development Plan (2019 – 2023)
- 2 Nakuru Vision 2050 (unpublished): <https://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/kenia/19677.pdf>
- 3 Kenya has identified 168 indicators in the National SDGs Indicator Framework 2024
- 4 Nakuru Municipal Integrated Development Plan (2019 – 2023)
- 5 Nakuru Vision 2050 (unpublished): <https://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/kenia/19677.pdf>
- 6 The Nakuru County Urban Regeneration is predicated on a 6-point agenda implementing the Governor’s manifesto
- 7 Nakuru municipality was elevated to city status through a charter awarded by the President of Kenya on 01 December 2021.
- 8 <https://au.int/agenda2063/sdgs>
- 9 State Department for Economic Planning developed the SDGs Good Practices Guidelines
- 10 <https://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/kenia/19677.pdf>
- 11 “Nakuru Urban Resilience - A Just Approach to Urban Development, 2023”
- 12 <https://unhabitat.org/topics/voluntary-local-reviews>
- 13 sdglocalization.unhabitat@un.org
- 14 The six steps are: Stocktaking of relevant national / local plans; alignment with SDGs and UMF; indicators selection; data sources assessment; gap analysis; own data collection
- 15 SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16
- 16 The Urban Areas and Cities Act (UACA), is the legislative instrument that provides for the governance and management of urban areas under the Constitution of Kenya 2010. The Boards derive their origin, functions and powers from this law.
- 17 Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) is a World Bank funded national program targeting numerous urban centers in Kenya with a dual focus of institutional strengthening and service delivery enhancement.
- 18 Kenya has identified 168 indicators in the National SDGs Indicator Framework 2024



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- 20 <https://nakuru.go.ke/nakuru-to-digitize-maternal-health-information-through-the-mama-hub-application/>
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- 28 Kenya Voluntary National Review 2024
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- 30 Kenya Unemployment Rate 2022
- 31 Nakuru Urban Resilient Strategy 2023-2033
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