

# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF VIHIGA



## VIHIGA COUNTY INVESTMENT PROFILE

2025

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ALVs- African Leafy Vegetables

CIDP - County Integrated Development Plan

ESP- Economic Stimulus Program

GVA – Gross Value Added

ICT – Information Communication Technology

KDHS – Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

KNCCI – Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry

SDG – Sustainable Development Goals

TTIs – Technical Training Institutes

VTCs – Vocational Training Centres

WASH – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

WHO – World Health Organization

## CHAPTER ONE:

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### 1.1 Introduction

The County Investment Profile provides a comprehensive overview of the investment environment within the county, aimed at attracting local and foreign investors. Its development is aligned with the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the County Governments Act, 2012, the Public Finance Management Act, and Kenya Vision 2030 and The CIDP 2023-2027. This profile forms part of the county's broader economic development strategy, positioning the county as a viable and competitive investment destination.

The county is endowed with a variety of natural, human, and infrastructural resources that provide significant opportunities for investment. Key sectors with high potential include agriculture and agribusiness, tourism, manufacturing, real estate, renewable energy, ICT, and trade and commerce. The devolved system of governance has further enhanced local autonomy, enabling counties to harness their unique strengths and design investor-friendly policies and initiatives.

The development of this investment profile is informed by extensive stakeholder consultations, investment mapping, and an analysis of socio-economic indicators. It outlines the current investment climate, priority sectors, policy frameworks, available incentives, public-private partnership opportunities, and ongoing flagship projects.

In addition, the profile is intended to support the implementation of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) and complement national development blueprints. By showcasing the county's comparative advantages and providing clear, actionable investment information, this document serves as a strategic tool to catalyze private sector participation and drive inclusive economic growth.

## 1.2 Overview of the County

Vihiga County is one of the 47 counties in the Republic of Kenya, located in the western region between longitude 34°30' & 35°0' East and latitudes 0° and 0°15' North. It borders Nandi County to the East, Kakamega County to the North; Siaya County to the West and Kisumu County to the South and covers an area of 563.8 KM<sup>2</sup>. The county is characterized with undulating terrain sloping from East to West. The altitude ranges between 1300m and 1800m above sea level. The average annual precipitation is 1900mm and temperature ranges between 14°C – 32° C with a mean temperature of 23°C. Long rains are experienced in the months of March, April and May while short rains are experienced in the months of September, October and November. The driest and hottest months are December, January and February with an average humidity of 41.75 percent. There are two main agro-ecological zones the upper and lower midlands

Administratively the county consists of six sub counties namely, Hamisi, Emuhaya, Luanda, Sabatia, Vihiga and newly formed Tiriki East. The county is further subdivided into 13 divisions, 41 locations, and 140 sub-locations. Further, there are five (5) constituencies and twenty-five (25) electoral wards in Vihiga County. Hamisi constituency has the highest number of electoral wards at seven (7) while Emuhaya has the least at three (3)

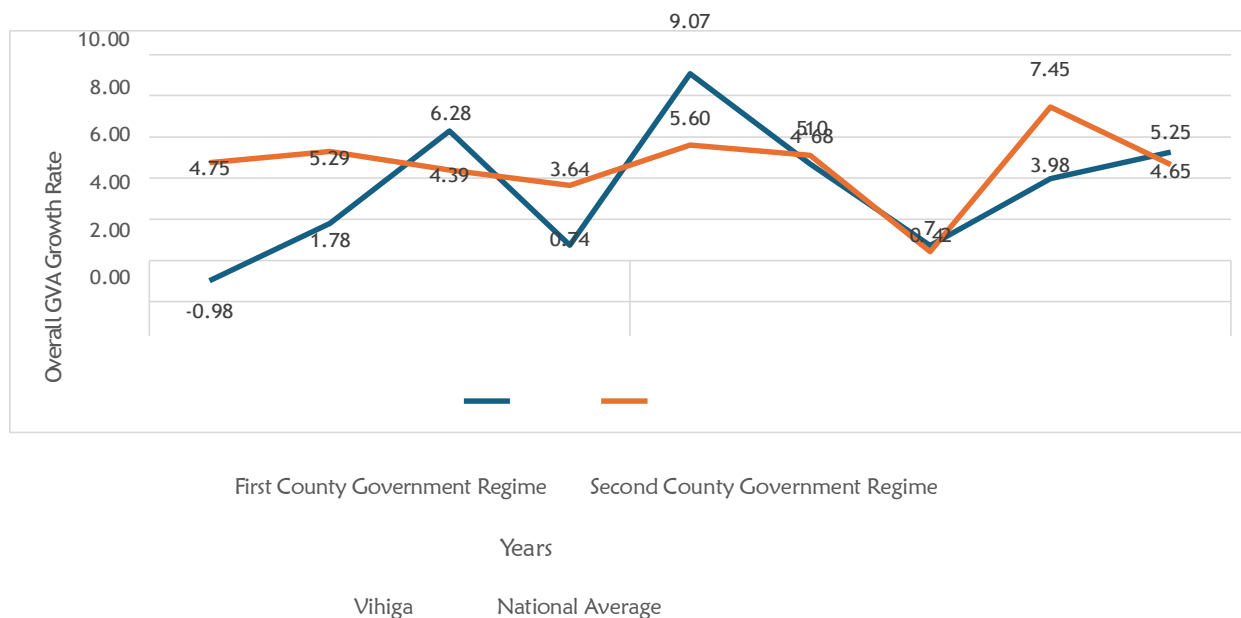
The Population in Vihiga County is projected to have grown to 622,746 comprising of 299,422 males and 323,324 females, with population density of 1,104 persons per square kilometer. The population is estimated to grow to 634,074 persons (304,869 Male, 329,205 Female) by 2027. The growth rate is 0.9 % annually. In terms of age structure, 0–14 years: 230,421 (39%), 15–64 years: 315,276 (53%), 65+ years: 44,295 (7%). The median age is 17 years (male ~15.9; female ~18.2) gender ration is 48 male: 52 female. These depicts youth bulge with 59% of population under the age of 25. Urban areas Mbale, Luanda, Cheptulu, Majengo and Chavakali are fast growing with high population densities.



### 1.3 Key Economic Indicators

Vihiga County contributes on average 0.3 per cent of the National Gross Value added with an average GVA of Ksh 57,7747 million. The GVA per capita for Vihiga County is Ksh 97,923 with an average population growth of 3.7 per cent and overall poverty levels at 48.8 per cent. Vihiga County has shown a steady growth in GVA with an average growth rate of 3.50 per cent from 2013-2022 which is lower than the national average growth of 4.37 per cent as shown in Figure 1. The highest growth rate was in 2018 and lowest in 2014.

Figure 1: Vihiga County GVA growth rate



*Data Source: KNBS 2023-Gross County Product*

#### 1.3.1 Employment

Unemployment stands at around 4.7 % of the labour force. Labour productivity in Vihiga is characterized by majority employed in agriculture mixed farming, manufacturing textile, and wearing apparel and wholesale and retail services

Vihiga County has a total of 315,276 working-age population about 53.44 per cent of the county population. Most of the working-age population is youthful (18-34 years) at 42.67

The employment to population ratio at 65.58 per cent. Most of those working is the non- youth working population (35-64 years) at 37.88 per cent while the employment to population for the youth (18-34 years) is at about 26.74 per cent as shown in Table 5. The percentage of the employed by gender is 40.32 for male and 44.32 for female. The unemployment rate is at 4.68 per cent with unemployment being slightly higher for the youth (18-34 years) at 2.86 per cent. The percentage of persons 5–17 years old working is 2.75 per cent indicating that the county has low levels of child labour.

Youth unemployment has increased with the diminishing opportunities for formal employments. This has led to high dependency ratio and inability of the few employed to save and invest. Cases of insecurity associated with youth unemployment are also on the rise. In this regard, more opportunities need to be created with a view of addressing the unemployment problem.

### 1.3.2 Water and Sanitation

The current water demand in the County is 52,912m<sup>3</sup> per day against 8,889m<sup>3</sup> per day safe water produced from piped water schemes within the County. The population with access to safe and adequate water in the County is 64 % out of which 16.8 % have access to piped water and the rest are 83.2 % served with point sources. The average accessibility to water is 15 minutes.

There are 23 piped water supply schemes within the county some of which are operational while others are under rehabilitation. The major water schemes are Mbale, Maseno, Kaimosi, Sosiani, Hamisi, Vihiga, Vokoli and Kaptech water supplies. The water table is comprised of both surface and ground water. Surface water is available through the year. The main water sources for domestic use are springs, shallow wells and rivers.

A total of 85% of residents in Vihiga County use improved sanitation. The County Government is in the process of improving sanitation in public facilities, urban and market centres by constructing public sanitary facilities.

Vihiga County has made notable strides through multi-stakeholder WASH projects, eco-toilet initiatives in markets, and school-focused efforts. However, effective scaling and institutionalization - particularly for schools and environmental sanitation -are still needed to ensure clean water and health for all residents. Ongoing investment, targeted capacity-building, and infrastructure expansion are key to meeting WHO/SDG standards



Vihiga Governor Dr. Wilber Ottichilo Commission's piped water in North Maragoli Ward, Sabatia Sub County. Endowed with permanent rivers Vihiga boasts of Vihiga cluster water project, numerous water schemes and newly constructed water projects under climate change investments program. Water bottling is just one of the investment opportunity whose products can serve the larger lake region economic bloc

### 1.3.3 Agriculture

#### Picture



A

1. A dairy farm in Vihiga sub county 2. A member of Mama Napier women group in Wemilabi ward, Luanda Sub County in her poultry farm, both are beneficiaries of NARGIP program. Alongside processing and value addition plants, Vihiga has an investment potential in fodder and feeds formulation.

Agriculture Sector is the mainstay of the county's economy contributing over 34 % of the Gross County Product (GCP), and accounting to 80% of both direct and indirect employment. The county has significant agricultural potential driven by fertile soils, reliable rainfall, and a youthful labor force. However, the sector remains largely underexploited due to small landholdings and low adoption of modern techniques.

The rich volcanic soils and bimodal rainfall pattern (1,800–2,000 mm annually) support year-round farming. Despite land fragmentation, intensive farming systems can be adopted for high productivity. The main crops grown include Food crops such as: Maize, beans, sweet potatoes, cassava, bananas. Horticultural crops; ALVs, tomatoes, fruit trees Avocado, pawpaw. Dairy farming is popular in Sabatia, Luanda, and Hamisi Sub counties with great potential in investments of Cooling and processing. Poultry production especially with indigenous and hybrid is on the rise due to increased local demand and thereby profits. Goat and pig farming has growing uptake especially for small holder farmers. Demand for honey has created a niche for commercial bee farming. Fish farming has experienced tremendous growth over years occasioned by the over 400 fish ponds established under ESP, availability of water

sources e.g River Yala and establishment of Mwitoko Fish farm to support aquaculture-based agribusiness. The county has agro-processing potential in Dairy processing, Tea and coffee packaging, Fruit and vegetable drying and juicing and grain milling.

#### 1.3.4 Health Access

The County has one public county referral facility, Vihiga County Hospital at Mbale. The other major health facility is Jumuia Hospital in Kaimosi. There are three level 4 facilities in Sabatia, Hamisi and Emuhaya. There are also 18 health centres, 32 dispensaries and 34 private and mission-based facilities. The average distance to the nearest facility is 5 Km. The County doctor to population ratio is 1:11,840 against the national doctors to population of 1:16,520. The County nurse to population ratio is 1:1,947.

Malaria, HIV/AIDS related illness, upper and lower tract infections, diabetes, hypertension, cancer, diarrhoea and skin diseases are the most prevalent causes of morbidity and mortality. HIV prevalence rate is 4.7 % against the national figure of 5.6%. The most infected age group in the age bracket 15-49 years with women being the most affected. Malaria prevalence rate is 27 %, diarrhoea 5.4 %, respiratory diseases (upper and lower), and skin diseases 19.3 %. In the county 21 % of the total population of children under the age of five are either underweight, stunted or have wasting condition. Of this population, 3.8 % are underweight, 14.6 % stunting and 2.6 % wasting.

Immunization of children is crucial to reducing infant and child mortality. The immunization coverage for the county for the children under 5 is 80.2 %

The awareness of family planning services in the county is above 90% with contraceptive usage at 56.6 % according to KDHS report 2014. A total of 25.8% of married women of ages 15-49 have unmet need for family planning. The maternal mortality ratio in the County is 344 per 100,000 live births against the national 362 per 100,000.





Establishment of The Vihiga Hospital plaza elevates the County Referral Hospital to level 5 A Vihiga Teaching Referral Hospitals a lee way for research alongside other related opportunities

### 1.3.5 Education and Literacy Levels

Education and literacy levels in Vihiga are relatively high at 88.5% compared to nationals 84.5%. This is largely supported by investments made to strengthen pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary institutions including VTCs, TTIs and the Kaimosi Friends University. However, there is need for continuous expansion and modernization of learning institutions to achieve better outcomes.



Governor's Scholarship Program a game changer in developing quality professionals from humble backgrounds, more than 500 bright and needy students have pursued their secondary education in National schools.

### 1.3.6 Infrastructure and Access

Vihiga is served by a growing road network with total length of 1,058.2 Km; bitumen surface covers a length of 201.5 Km, gravel surface 373.7 Km and earth surface 483 Km. These roads interlink to form connections to major highways Kisumu-Kakamega, Kisumu-Busia, and chavakali-Eldoret. The County has a railway length of 20 Km and has one non -operational railway station at Luanda. The County has no airstrip and relies on the neighboring counties for flight services. However, potential exists in reviving an airstrip at Kaimosi, Hamisi sub-county. There are 16 post/sub-post offices and four private couriers, spread across the county. The mobile telephone network coverage is 80%. There are five (5) commercial banks in the County namely: Kenya Commercial Bank, Equity Bank, Cooperative Bank, Post Bank and Barclays Bank. There are also micro-finance institutions namely; Rafiki Bank, Kenya Women Finance Trust and 46 registered SACCOs.



Kakamega-Mbale- Kisumu road

### 1.3.7 Energy Access

Urban household access to electricity is 12% whereas the rural household access to electricity is 7.0 %. 82% of HH use firewood as main source of cooking fuel while 88.7 % use paraffin for lighting. 52 health centres and 164 schools have access to electricity. There are strategies to re-establish the mini hydroelectric power station at Kaimosi dam.

### 1.3.8 Markets and Urban Centres

Vihiga County hosts a total of 146 market centres, which are categorized into three tiers: Strategic Markets, Trade Centres, and Emerging Markets. Strategic Markets represent high-potential hubs that have been earmarked for major infrastructural upgrades and economic integration. Notably, Luanda, Chavakali, Mbale, and Cheptulu have been elevated to Strategic Market status due to their commercial significance and centrality within regional trade corridors. In parallel, seven additional markets—Esibuye, Esirulo, Gambogi, Majengo, Banja, Mudete, and Serem—have been designated as Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) Markets, targeted for accelerated development to boost local enterprise and service delivery.

The remaining market centres, many of which fall under the Emerging Markets category, are characterised by minimal infrastructure and a lack of essential public utilities, such as piped water, reliable electricity, high-mast security lights, street lighting, sanitation facilities, and organised waste management systems. These require structured investment, consistent maintenance, and policy support to enhance their functionality and align them with the county's inclusive economic development agenda.



### 1.3.9 Forestry and Agroforestry

The main forest is tropical rain forest covering a total area of 4,160.9 hectares. These are Kibiri forest consisting of indigenous and exotic tree species on a 3,691.3 ha space, Maragoli Forest consisting of 469.3 ha of exotic tree species. There are also community forests for cultural rites and private forests owned by individuals and churches. Eucalyptus form about 70 % of the tree species grown in farms.



Kibiri forest in Hamisi Sub County

### 1.3.10 Mining

Mining is practiced on small scale basis in Luanda South, Izava/Lyaduywa, South Maragoli and Muhudu wards due to lack of technology and equipment. Prospecting for gold and other minerals is underway at Kichutu in Viyalo, Chavakali and Shiru wards. Currently the granite rocks are transported by unscrupulous middlemen outside the County for processing and then re-sold as building materials such as ballast, terrazzo chips and ornamental stone.

Sulphide and photolytic rocks which produce acids and building murram respectively are in abundance but are unexploited due to poor mining technology. Weathering of Kavirondian sediments which lead to formation of micaceous clays are widely spread in the northern part of the county. These clays are suitable for baking of bricks and pottery. Sand deposits occur locally in most stream beds particularly within the granitic terrain in the southern part of the county. Due to steep gradients much of the sand is, however, washed down and deposited downstream.

The County Government intends to create an enabling environment for development partners to invest in modern mining technology and establish mining plan



Gold mining at Viyalo Sabatia Sub County

### 1.3.11 Tourism

The County has potential for domestic and international tourism. The landscape is endowed with caves, hills and forests ideal for adventure, hiking and ecotourism. Main attractions include the Maragoli and Bunyore Hills, Mungoma Caves, Kibiri and Kaimosi Forest Complex, The Rainmakers Shrines at Esibila, Mudete Tea Factory and Wetland and Wagevere Rocks embossed with 'footprints of Jesus' in Matsigulu. The county also has a rich culture which can create an opportunity for the development of cultural tourism, as well as diverse talent for sports and celebrity tourism. Inadequate entrepreneurial skills, limited land space, inadequate physical infrastructure and

limited access to credit facilities are the main challenges that impede the development of this sector.

There are a number of hotels, easily accessible and distributed across the county. They include Sosa Cottages, Roddy's Green Lounge, Broadpark Hotel, Hemara Hotel, Hermoso Hotel, Mago Guest House and Luanda Oasis Hotel. There is great opportunity to invest in luxury hotels to tap into the high-end tourist market, and campsites to target backpackers and adventure tourists.

### 1.3.12 Industry

The county has one tea processing factory situated at Mudete market in Sabatia Sub-County and milk cooling plants. Total tea production is estimated to be 10.6 million Kgs annually. Milk production is 28.5 million litres which does not meet the county's demand hence the need to increase milk production. Resources will be directed towards creation of investment opportunities for industrial development. The Constituencies Industrial Development Centres (CIDC) established under Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) in Mwibona, Manyatta, Chavakali and Hamisi need be equipped and operationalized. More jua kali sheds will be established in the peri-urban areas and jua-kali associations strengthened. The County Government intends to establish Economic Exclusive Zone (EEZ) in Kaimosi to promote trade and industrialization.

## CHAPTER TWO:

### INVESTMENT ENABLERS

#### 2.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the assets the county possesses and shall leverage on in order to realise its investment goals. These assets position Vihiga as a promising destination for diversified investment, especially in agriculture, manufacturing, trade, housing, energy, ICT, and services.

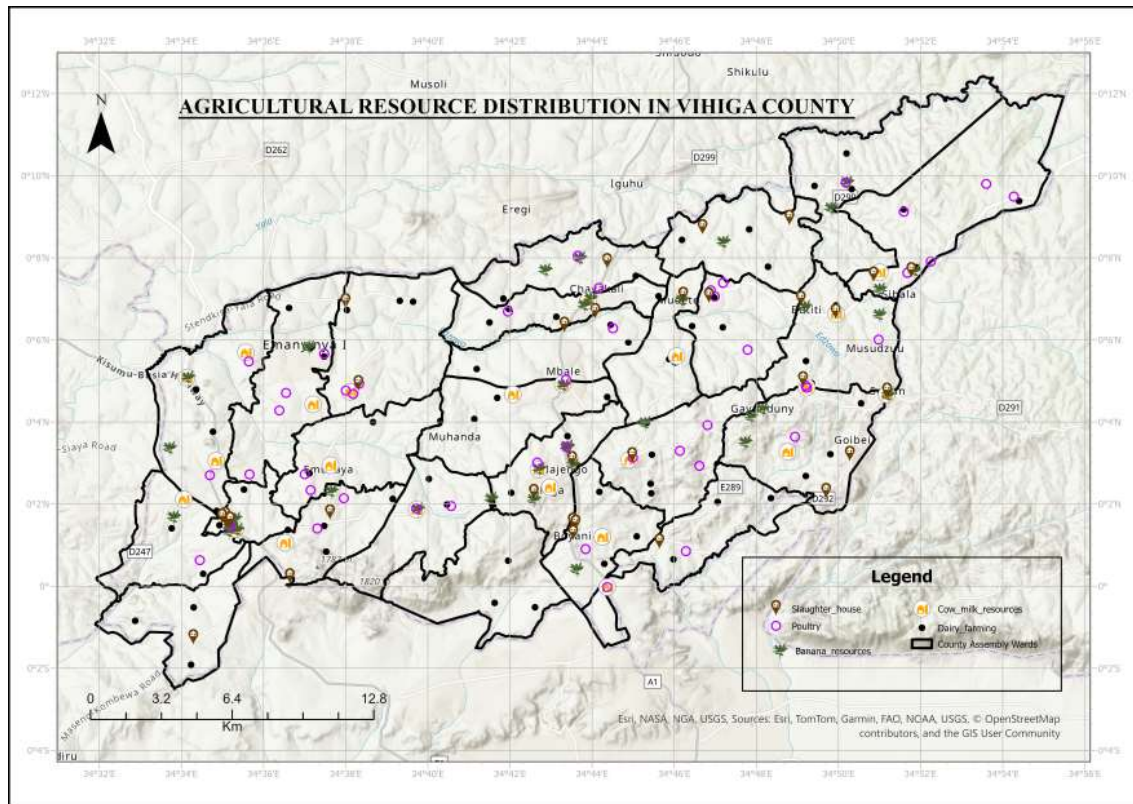
#### 2.1 Natural Resource Potential

##### 2.1.1 Agriculture:

Vihiga County is well endowed with fertile soil and moderate rainfall that supports farming year round. This has positioned the county as a commercial hub for indigenous vegetables such as cowpeas (likuvi), black nightshade (lisutsa), spider plant, amaranth, and jute mallow (mutere). More over the county has piloted an irrigation scheme covering nearly 1,500 acres at Emabungo-Wemilabi supports year-round production, reducing dependency on rainfall. The estimated harvest per acre for ALVs is 15 Sacks per acre per season. Major markets are Kisumu and Nairobi with retailers such as Carrefour having committed to buying directly from farmers. In addition, the favorable climate and fertile soil supports high value crops such as tea, coffee, horticulture



Figure 1: Distribution of Agricultural resources in Vihiga



## 2.1.2 Minerals

The county is endowed with vast granite resource deposits across the five subcounties. with the establishment of granite factory in Emwatsi/Emuhaya, valued at ~KES 2.5 billion , designed to produce ballast, crusher dust, tiles, terrazzo, countertops, and other building materials, the county is poised to experience tremendous growth as the plant shall provide employment especially to women and youth—and provide a reliable market for farm-level stone collectors and artisanal miners, freeing farmland and generating income .Availability of exploitable resources granite put like gold, limestone, oil, or rare earth minerals.

Low-scale gold mining occurs in Luanda and Shaviringa areas—with local prospectors extracting gold-bearing rock using largely manual, outdated methods .Prospecting efforts have picked up at Kichutu in Viyalo and Shiru. The county government in collaboration with Planet GOLD Kenya is in the process of establishing a

demonstration center at Chambiti, aimed at training local artisanal miners in mercury-free, environmentally sustainable gold extraction techniques .Weathering of Kavirondian sediments which lead to formation of micaceous clays are widely spread in the northern part of the county. These clays are suitable for baking of bricks and pottery. Sand deposits occur locally in most stream beds particularly within the granitic terrain in the southern part of the county.

Quarrying of construction stones and sand harvesting are widely practiced but largely unregulated, leading to environmental degradation and revenue leakages. The county government has come up with regulations including levies, licensing structures, and strict timing rules (e.g. no sand extraction at night) as part of its Sand Conservation and Management. These measures aim to formalize operations, safeguard riverine ecology along Yala River and other rivers as well as enhancing county revenue from mining-related fees and penalties

### **2.1.3 Forests and Water Bodies:**

The main forest is tropical rain forest covering a total area of 4,160.9 hectares. These are Kibiri forest consisting of indigenous and exotic tree species on a 3,691.3 ha space, Maragoli Forest consisting of 469.3 ha of exotic tree species and Kaimosi forest

Forest products in the County include timber, fuel wood, charcoal, construction poles, and medicine among others. Other than the tropical rain forest which is gazetted, the rest are on farmlands. Non-gazetted forests cover an area of 48ha. Kibiri forest comprises of exotic and indigenous soft timber of high value. Maragoli forest comprised of exotic soft woods.

Farmers in the county have small-woodlots and trees dotted all along the landscape on their small farms where they generate small incomes from forest products such as timber poles, firewood and charcoal. Farmers are also encouraged to engage in alternative sources of generating income in an effort to protect and conserve the forests. The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) is collaborating with other stakeholders to plant trees in major towns, market centers, along roads, schools and other public places in the County.

In collaboration with other stakeholders, local farmers and local herbal practitioners are encouraged to plant high value medicinal and indigenous tree species in their farmlands.

Maragoli hills forest is a key water catchment area with rich indigenous trees and forms part of eastern arc forests system. Forested hills with ecological significance, important for soil conservation and micro-climate regulation.

The county is set to gain through investments in Eco-tourism development – nature trails, bird watching, indigenous tree conservation. Community forestry and agroforestry to support livelihoods. Watershed protection for sustainable water supply downstream, research and biodiversity conservation, especially medicinal plants and endemic species.

River Yala has a potential for irrigation, small-scale hydro-power, and fish farming. River Isiukhu and Edzawa Serve as tributaries to Yala and are vital for domestic and agricultural use. The county has over 600 natural springs Vital for rural water supply, especially in areas not yet served by piped water. Vihiga has small seasonal and permanent wetlands in low-lying areas (e.g., Mahanga). Important for groundwater recharge, flood control, and aquatic biodiversity. There exists potentials in rain water harvesting and spring protection to enhance domestic water supply, irrigation schemes to support agriculture, Aquaculture and fish farming in constructed dams and swamps, Hydro power potential on Yala river and other hilly streams, environmental conservation and restoration of degraded riparian zones



Maragoli Forest



Figure 2 Vihiga County land use and cover map

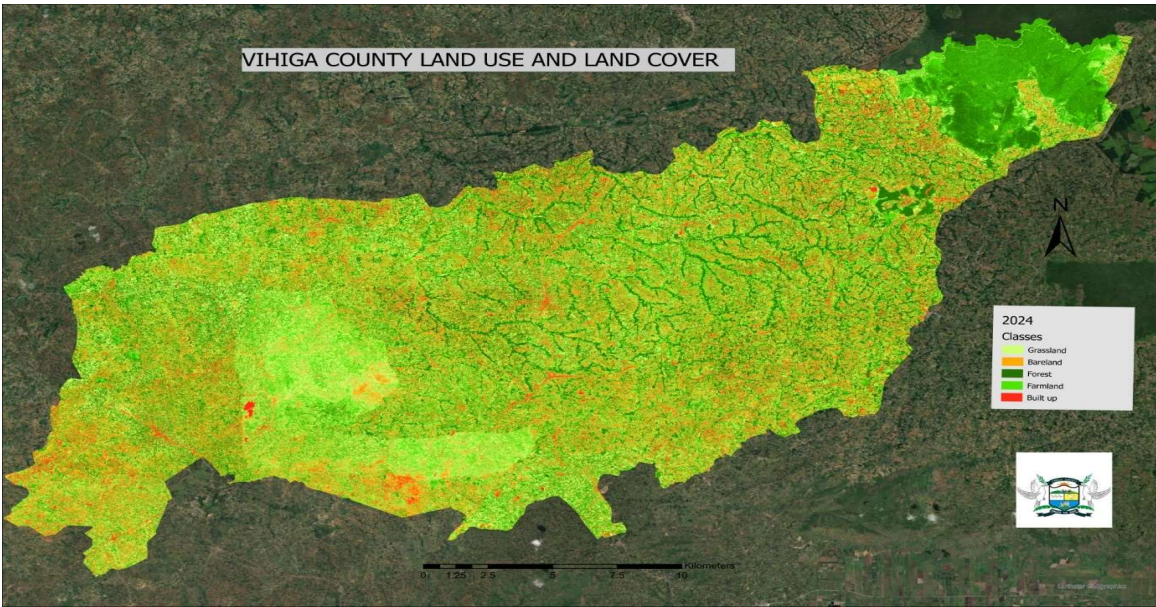
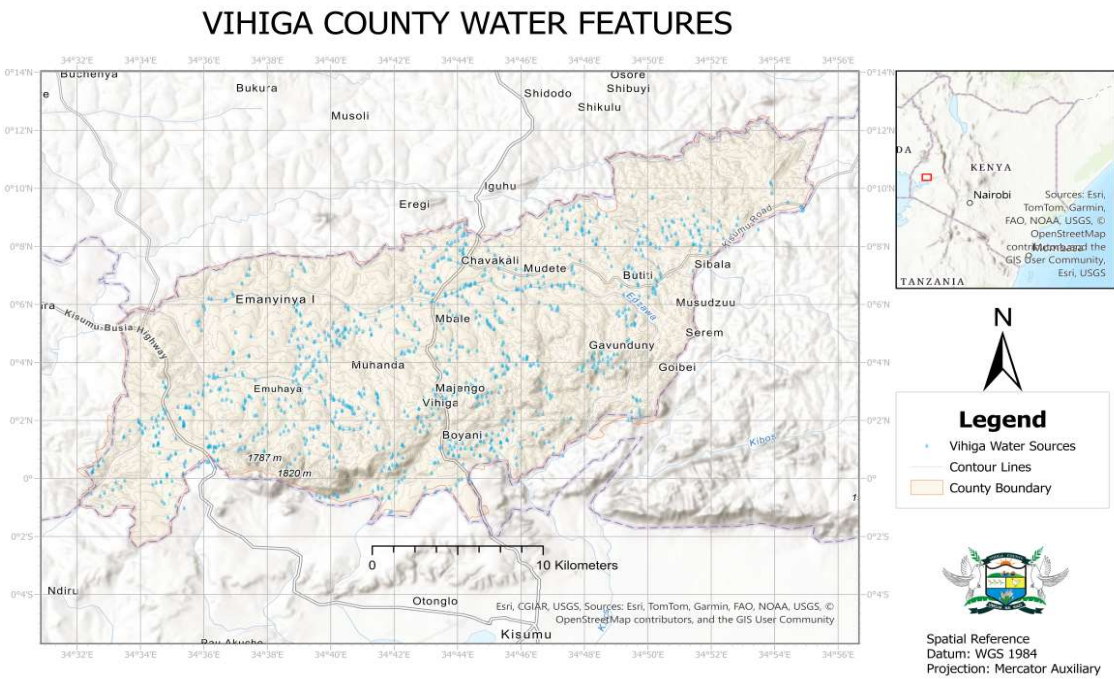


Figure 3 Vihiga County water features





## 2.2 Infrastructure Development

### 2.2.1 Road and Rail Network

There is growing demand for efficient and sustainable transportation infrastructure. While the county lacks a developed rail system, it has opportunities to expand and upgrade its road network and explore integration with regional rail networks. The county is served by key strategic roads i.e **Kisumu–Kakamega–Webuye road (A1)**, Kisumu–Majengo–Chavakali–Hamisi road. Opportunities exist in upgrading of feeder roads to bitumen standards to open up rural and agricultural zones , Construction of bypasses and ring roads to reduce congestion in market areas i.e Mbale , Chavakali and Luanda , Road connectivity to markets and health and education centres as well as intercounty connectivity with Kisumu, Kakamega and Nandi to boost regional trade and movement .Enhanced road networks shall support Agricultural value chains especially Tea, Banana, ALVs and Dairy , facilitate tourism through improved access roads to site like Maragoli Hills, Kibiri Forest, and cultural sites and Creating Job opportunities through construction and maintenance works .

There exist potential for rail integration between Kisumu, Maseno, Luanda, Feasibility for a regional light rail or commuter link between Kisumu, Maseno, Luanda, and Mbale. This shall enhance operationalization of CAIP while improving regional labour mobility and trade. Potentials exist in airstrip establishment which shall ease movement of goods and people

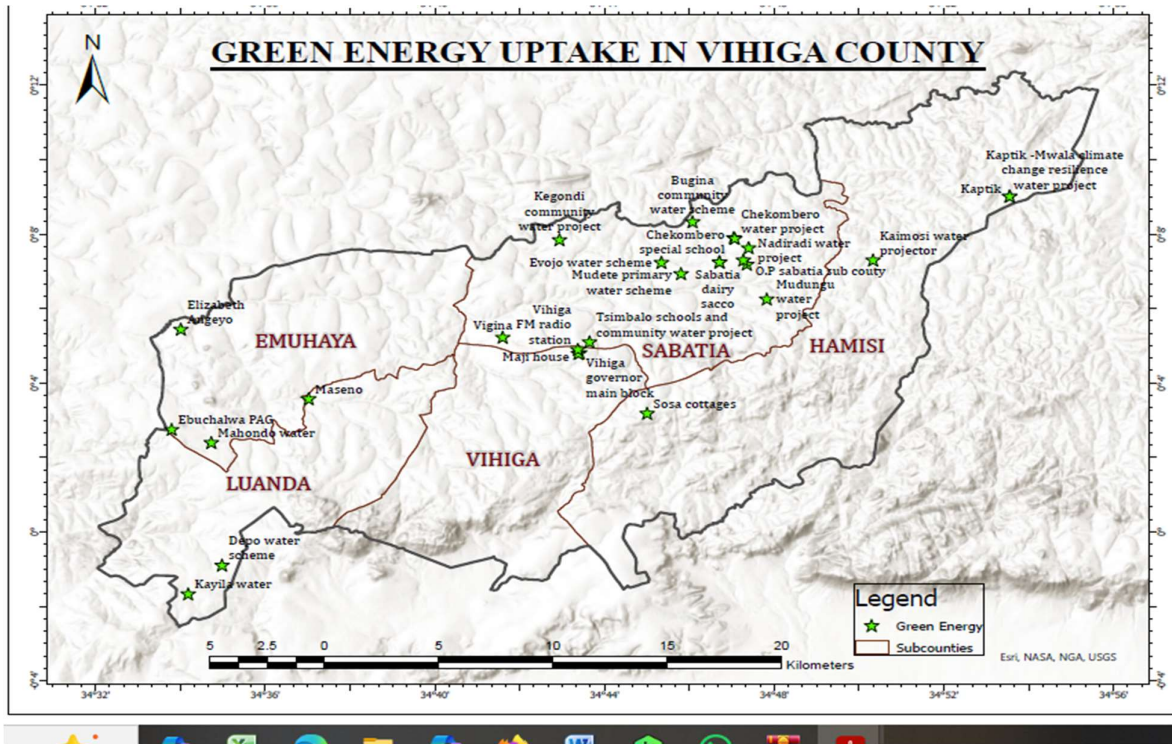
### 2.2.2 Energy Supply

Vihiga County faces challenges in energy access, especially in rural and peri-urban areas. However, it also holds untapped potential in various renewable and alternative energy sources that can drive sustainable development, enhance productivity, and improve livelihoods. Opportunities exist in investing in solar energy through solar home systems, solar powered pumps and irrigation, solar mini grids in villages and trading centers as well as solar street lighting. In addition, there are potentials in Biogas, Bio slurry as organic fertilizer, Establishment of Small hydro power along River Yala in Hamisi and establishment of waste to energy plants



Solar plant at Kaimosi water project

Figure 4: Energy Uptake in Vihiga



### 2.2.3 ICT Infrastructure

Vihiga County, with its growing youthful population and dense settlement patterns, has significant potential for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development. While ICT infrastructure is still in early stages compared to urban centers, there are clear opportunities for expansion, innovation, and digital transformation to support socio-economic growth, governance, education, and service delivery. Currently G/3G is available in most parts; 4G is limited to major towns like Mbale, Luanda, Chavakali, and Hamisi, internet **penetration** is moderate, with most access via mobile phones, fixed broadband and fiber are limited to urban areas and government offices. Opportunities exist in Fibre optic expansion in public institutions , investments in WiFi hotspots in urban centers and markets , rollout of 4G/5G in underserved areas .

In addition opportunities exists enhancement of e-government and smart county services , intensifying ICT adoption in education , Digital economy and innovation hubs as well as e-Health and e-Agriculture .

## 2.3 Agro-Processing & Agribusiness

### 2.3.1 Value addition

Vihiga County, with its vibrant agricultural base, emerging small-scale industries, and strategic location within the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB), has untapped opportunities for value addition across key sectors. Enhancing value addition can boost income for farmers and entrepreneurs, reduce post-harvest losses, create jobs, and promote inclusive economic growth. Potentials exist in Banana flour, chips, juice, and wine, Avocado oil extraction and export , dairy processing , processing, packaging and branding of ALVs, Hides and skins, commercial feeds production

Other opportunities include small scale manufacturing and cottage industries and waste to value including composting for organic fertilizer, plastic recycling



African Leafy Vegetables at Gamalenga in Tambua Ward

## 2.4 Industrial Potential

Vihiga County has considerable potential for industrial development, particularly in agro-processing, construction and building materials, ICT and innovation hubs, textile and Apparel small-scale manufacturing, mineral-based industries, and green industries. While large-scale industries are currently limited, the county's dense population, agricultural base, emerging infrastructure, and strategic location within the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB) position it well for industrial expansion.

## 2.5 Tourism & Culture

Vihiga County, though small in size, is rich in cultural heritage, scenic landscapes, biodiversity, and historical significance—making it an untapped tourism destination in Western Kenya. Its strategic location near Kisumu, Kakamega, and Nandi counties also provides opportunities for inter-county tourism circuits.

Opportunities exist in panoramic views, hiking trails, nature walks, rock climbing, ecolodges in Kibiri and Maragili Hills , traditional shrines , Maragoli , Triki and Bunyore Cultural festivals





The Cultural Festival

## 2.6 Urbanisation and Housing

Vihiga County is experiencing rapid urbanization, driven by a growing population, improved infrastructure, devolution, and increasing demand for services. With urban centers like Mbale, Luanda, Chavakali, Majengo, and Hamisi evolving into commercial hubs, there is immense potential for urban growth and affordable housing development.

Opportunities exist in establishing shopping complexes, open air markets and Financial institutions, development of public amenities including urban roads drainage streetlighting , recreational parks and greens spaces and smart towns

In addition opportunity exist in affordable housing, rental apartments , staff housing ,mixed use developments and green housing

## 2.7 Financial Services & Fintech

Vihiga County presents strong potential for growth and expansion of financial services, driven by its dense population, growing urban centers, vibrant informal sector, and expanding agriculture and trade activities. Although formal financial

inclusion remains relatively low in some rural areas, the demand for inclusive, accessible, and diversified financial products and services is increasing.

Opportunity exists in Expansion of Agency and Digital banking to reach unbanked rural populations, promoting digital savings and loan platforms for small traders and farmers, formation of SACCOs and Cooperatives , Agri insurance , Mobile banking apps and Fintech

## 2.8 Education & Skills Development

Vihiga County has a strong foundation in education, with high literacy levels compared to the national average and a rich history of producing skilled professionals. However, it also faces challenges in quality, infrastructure, and relevance of education to market needs. This presents vast potential for transformation through investment in education and skills development aligned to 21st-century demands.

Opportunities exist in improving learning infrastructure, Training Teachers and instructors' integration of Nutrition and health especially in ECDE, e-learning



Mundichiri primary school ECDE pupils in central Bunyore ward after they have been moved to the newly built ECDE classroom by Governor Ottichilo. More than 300 ECDE centres have been constructed and equipped.

## 2.9 Healthcare

Vihiga County has made progress in expanding basic healthcare services but still faces significant gaps in infrastructure, service delivery, and specialized care. The county has strong potential to become a regional model for community-based, preventive, and technology-enabled healthcare by leveraging strategic partnerships, investing in health infrastructure, and addressing workforce and service quality needs.

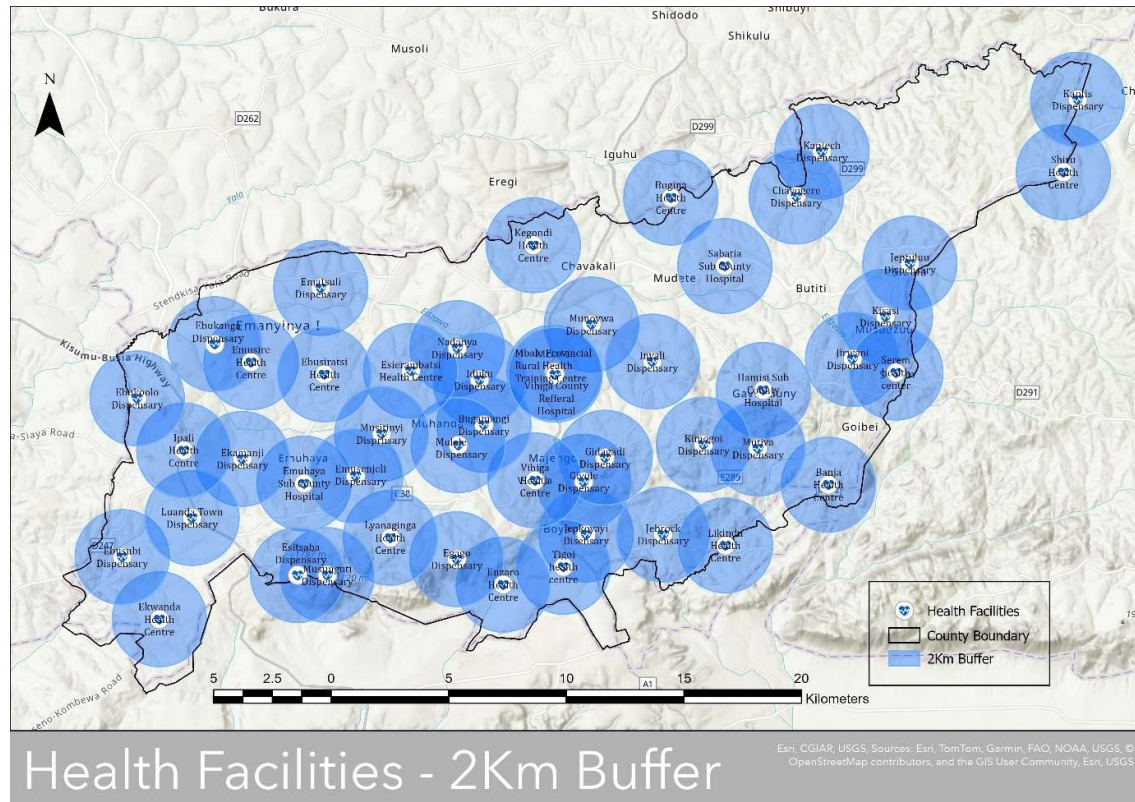
Key opportunities are in infrastructure development, Investment in specialized care and referral services, Community health strategy, Pharmaceuticals, telemedicine and Digital health , Preventive and public health



Hamisi Theatre Block



**Figure 5 Distribution of Health facilities in Vihiga**



## 2.10 Trade & Investment Policy Environment

Vihiga County, with its strategic location, expanding infrastructure, educated population, and vibrant agricultural base, presents significant untapped potential for trade and investment. As a key player within the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB), Vihiga can attract both public and private sector investments that spur economic transformation, job creation, and regional competitiveness.,

Strategic location of luanda, Mbale, Chavakali, Hamisi, and Majengo along major high ways presents an advantage to boost trade and mobility of labour. Investment opportunity exists in Agro-processing, Manufacturing and cottage industries, real estate and Housing, Retail and wholesale trade, Tourism and Hospitality, Financial and ICT

Key enablers for trade include Transport infrastructure, energy supply, land availability, urbanization and ICT & E-commerce.



## CHAPTER THREE:

### KEY INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Chapter summarizes investment opportunities in Vihiga County, Kenya. It outlines opportunities in key sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, tourism, infrastructure development, ICT, Health, sports, culture & recreation and natural resources. The county government aims to attract private investment to boost these sectors and drive economic growth. It provides incentives like tax breaks and identifies priority projects in areas like roads, Eco-lodges, Bulking and renewable energy. The Governor invites investors to take advantage of Vihiga's resources and business-friendly environment.

#### 1.1 AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND ACQUACULTURE

The Agriculture Sector is the mainstay of the economy, employment and source of food and nutrition security in the county. Agriculture, livestock and fishing remains the dominant contributor at 39% of the County Gross Product (GCP) and serving as a primary source of livelihood. The county's Agriculture Department is supporting modern abattoirs, cold storage, and aggregation centers to commercialize local outputs. Equally, there's growing potential in tilapia and catfish farming—especially if linked to local cold storage or market aggregation operations. The county encourages investment in processing plants for bananas, African leafy vegetables, local poultry, avocado and dairy products. Therefore, the County Government has identified the following investment opportunities to further accelerate growth of the sector hence improving living standards of the population. These include;

- Construction and equipping of an Agriculture Training and innovation centre
- Promotion of African leafy vegetable production and processing
- Promotion of agricultural extension services through Farm Resource Management model
- Establish processing plants for Avocadoes and TC Bananas

- Establishment of organic fertilizer processing plant in Luanda south
- Establishment of animal multiplication centre
- Promote use of climate smart agricultural technologies
- Establishment of post-harvest storage facilities, Aggregation centers and warehousing
- Establish crop insurance and contract farming
- Dairy animal production and value addition by establishment of forage bulking sites and on-farm feed formulation, modern slaughter houses, milk cooling plants, tannery and leather products, modern animal husbandry techniques
- Poultry production and value addition by establishment incubation and brooding facilities, modern slaughter houses
- Establishment of a county veterinary laboratory
- Establishment of cold chain infrastructure and modern slaughterhouses
- Establishment of fish feed cottage production plant

## 1.2 TRADE, MANUFACTURING AND TECHNOLOGY

With the county desire to spur rapid economic activity, enhance economic participation of the youth, women and the marginalized as poverty alleviation and employment strategy, the County strives to enhance the competitiveness and efficiency of informal producers of agricultural products, mining, retail, and Food Processors through investment in Common User manufacturing facilities targeting the four value chains. This drive for employment creation seeks to create decent jobs and work environments for the MSMEs while enhancing access to capital and markets for both product and tech based innovators. Therefore, the county has identified the following investment areas;

#### a. Trade and Cooperative

- Establishment of modern market/Mall in Cheptulu
- Upgrade existing markets in Mbale, Serem, Esibuye, Chavakali, and Majengo—into modern, multi-storey structures with improved infrastructure (paving, sanitation, drainage, water supply).
- Development of Market stalls, sheds, green energy based cold rooms, Market lights and toilet facilities
- Promote cooperative bulking, value addition and market access
- Establishment and roll out of cooperative information management system



## **b. Industry & Manufacturing**

**Agro-Processing and Mineral Value Addition:** Vihiga is rich in agricultural output (tea, dairy, banana, poultry) and quarrying (granite). Opportunities exist to set up processing facilities including;

- Banana crisps/flour, dairy packaging, granite façade, finishing and small-scale mining—under the County’s industrialization strategy with local interest support.
- Establishment of corporate and Youth-led micro processing plants in (briquette-Making, Brick making for ABTs)
- Establishing of artisanal mining centres
- Promote establishment of Water Bottling plants
- Promote establishment of Gold mining, Granite Factory, Waste Recycling factories
- Promote establishment of Fruit (banana and avocado) Processing and Value addition factory

**Industrial Aggregation Hub / Park:** The county has land reserved in Luanda sub-county for the establishment of County Aggregation and industrial park (CAIP), ideal for SMEs in agribusiness, light manufacturing, and logistics support. Public–Private Partnerships could help materialize the infrastructure

## **c. Tourism & Eco-tourism**

**Cultural and nature-based tourism:** Vihiga boasts Yala Swamp, Maragoli Hills, proximity to Kakamega Forest, and cultural landmarks like the Mungoma caves, Ebusiekwe rain forest, **Maragoli Cultural Festival** in Mbale. Potential lies in eco-lodges, guided tours, bird watching packages, farm stays or homestays. The County Government of Vihiga leveraging on the above stated opportunities has identified the following investment areas:

- Establishment of tourism facilities namely; Eco-lodges, curio markets and green parks
- Branding and marketing of county tourism potential - cultural sites, heritage and physical feature

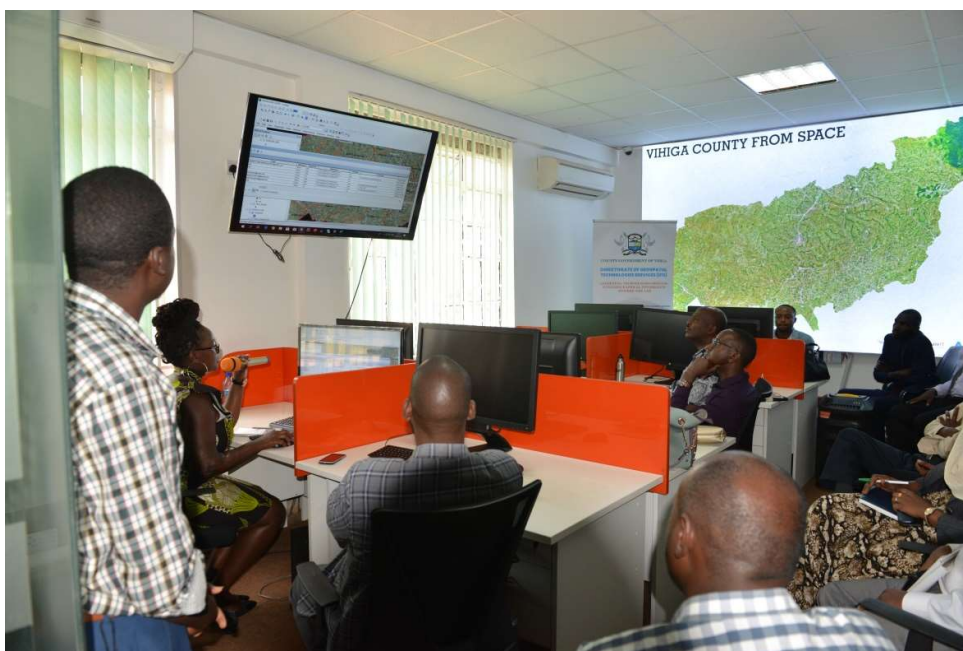
### 1.3 ICT & DIGITAL ECONOMY

**GIS & Geospatial Technology:** Vihiga County boasts of being a leader in geospatial technology in the region having a GIS and spatial-data capability covering urban planning, agriculture, disaster management, land information systems, and environmental monitoring. Investment opportunities in this space include developing GIS-based platforms, drone-based surveys, real estate mapping, and analytics services to support data-driven county planning

**ICT Digital Villages & Revenue Digitization:** The County government has rolled out automation of revenue through an automated own source revenue system, GIS-based mapping, trade licenses, market automation, and public engagement platforms. To leverage on this, investments could include developing customer portals, local data centers, digital payment solutions, or vendor tracking systems

**County-Wide ICT Network & Service Infrastructure:** Vihiga's existing ICT infrastructure is minimal. Local area & wide area networks (LAN/WAN) in urban centers like Mbale, Luanda, Hamisi, Majengo is bare minimal. There's scope for investors to deploy affordable internet access, community WiFi networks, digital kiosks and call centers in existing urban centres

**ICT Hubs & Youth Digital Skills Centers:** In the CIDP (2023–27), the county envisaged establishment of five ICT hubs—one per sub-county. These hubs can be equipped to offer coding, digital literacy, freelancing, fintech onboarding, and BPO skills training



The Vihiga GIS Lab

## 1.4 HOUSING AND URBANIZATION

Vihiga County has a land size of 563 km<sup>2</sup> with a mean land holding size of 0.2 hectares and a population density of 1047 persons per square kilometer according to the 2019 census. With this and the ever increasing urban population this has resulted in huge demand for housing as well as urban utilities. The County Government is keen to partner with investors to undertake the following investments;

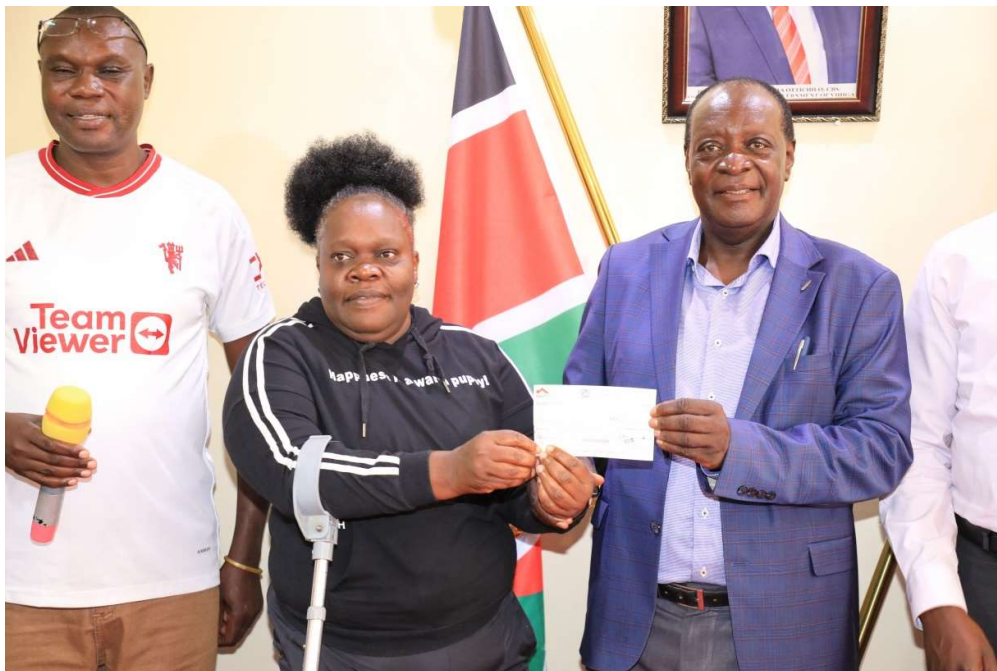
- Construction of affordable houses within designated areas in the County
- Construction of low cost housing in Mbale town
- Development of the Mbale recreation park
- Establish a solid and waste management sites
- Promote the Adoption of modern building technologies
- Establishment of Vihiga Cluster Sewerage system



## 1.5 SPORTS, TALENT, CULTURE AND ART PROMOTION.

Vihiga County is home of legendary sports personality in football, rugby, volleyball among other disciplines yet does not have a standard sports facility. There are 2 sports facilities though not fully developed by county government. There exist open play grounds on public land which require development. To enhance talent development, the County Government has identified the following

- Kidundu and Hamisi sports complexes for development;
- Rehabilitation of public playgrounds
- Development of Sports and talent academy to cater for various sports disciplines.
- Establishment of Vihiga youth school



Vihiga Governor Dr. Wilber Ottichilo hands over a cheque to Vihiga para-volleyball team. The County has set up a sports fund to support talents

## Culture promotion

Vihiga county boasts of rich culture from the three dominant sub-tribes of Maragoli, Tiriki and Banyore yet the cultural facilities are inadequate. The Mungoma caves, Ebusiekwe forest and Cultural forests in Tiriki remain largely underutilized yet provides an opportunity for investment through conservation and value addition of sites and its artefacts. The County Government has identified the following investments to boost culture and heritage;

- Establishment of arts gallery and museum (theatre & music halls, arts and galleries)
- Documentation and digitization of cultural projects, indigenous knowledge and intellectual assets
- Establishment of Moses Mudamba Conference and Cultural Centre

## 1.6HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

Vihiga County has over 100 Facilities, 75 of which are run by the County Government with an estimated catchment population of 700000 persons and outpatient utilization rate of 3.2. Investment is required to combat rising cases of communicable and non-communicable diseases, reduce maternal, new born and child mortality, meet the rising demand for emergency treatment services and serve the unmet demand for high quality coroner services. Therefore, there exist opportunities in the following areas:

- Construction of the unit, purchase of MRI machine, installation and commissioning
- Modern medical Laboratory investment
- Upgrade VCRH to level 6 teaching and referral hospital through infrastructure improvement, equipping and consultancy services



- Green energy in health facilities across the County



CHPs conducting rural outreach program

## CHAPTER FOUR:

### INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

#### 4.0 Overview

Vihiga County presents a comprehensive and investor-centric incentive framework aimed at reducing entry barriers, enhancing operational efficiency, and ensuring sustainable returns on investment. Through strategic reforms in land administration, fiscal policy, business licensing, and regulatory harmonization—complemented by targeted grants and subsidies—the County offers a conducive environment that prioritizes ease of doing business, transparency, and investor confidence.

The investment incentive structure is anchored on five core pillars:

1. **Taxation Regime**
2. **Business Licensing**
3. **Land Access and Tenure**
4. **Policy and Regulatory Framework**
5. **Grants, Subsidies, and Waivers**

Each pillar is underpinned by global best practices and tailored to reflect Vihiga's unique comparative advantages, positioning the County as a leading subnational investment destination in Kenya and the broader region.

#### 4.1 Taxation Regime

##### 4.1.1 Competitive, Predictable County Rates and Taxes

Vihiga County upholds one of Kenya's most competitive and transparent subnational tax environments, offering predictability and fairness that promotes long-term investor planning. The County's taxation framework is structured to support inclusive economic growth, equitable service delivery, and sectoral development through:

1. **Taxes:** Guided by Section 161 of the Public Finance Management Act, the County Assembly formulates taxation laws through a participatory legislative process, ensuring alignment with national fiscal principles and local priorities.

2. **Service Charges:** Investors are subject to fees for a wide range of services, goods, and works—legislated by the County Assembly. These include levies for:
  - Business licenses (supporting Trade and Investment),
  - Refuse collection and parking services (enhancing urban efficiency),
  - Entertainment venues and public/sports grounds (promoting Culture, Sports and Recreation),
  - Access to regulated information and physical plan approvals (enabling Housing and Urbanization).
3. **Fines:** Enforced for breaches of County laws—such as delayed rate payments, unlicensed trading, or public nuisance—these penalties reinforce compliance and accountability.
4. **Rates:** Applied on immovable property and capital developments, with differentiated structures based on land use and location:
  - Industrial zones benefit manufacturing operations,
  - CBDs and commercial corridors cater to Trade, Investment, and Technology,
  - Peripheral rural zones support Agricultural activity and rural enterprise.

Through its Annual Finance Acts, Vihiga reviews and calibrates tax rates and levies to:

- Promote formalization of businesses and expansion of the taxable base,
- Encourage spatially balanced development across rural and urban zones,
- Ensure cost structures are aligned with service delivery, infrastructure access, and economic potential,
- Preserve accessibility to public amenities in the cultural and recreational sectors.

All proposed rates and charges undergo rigorous public participation, ensuring that investor voices, community needs, and sectoral stakeholders are meaningfully represented in fiscal planning.

#### Comparative Insight:

Unlike many subnational governments that adopt rigid or extractive tax systems, Vihiga County mirrors global best practice models seen in Rwanda and South Africa—where predictability, fairness, and public participation in tax setting are key drivers of compliance and private sector growth. According to the World Bank Subnational Doing Business Indicators (2020), counties or provinces with transparent, tiered tax regimes experience up to 30% higher business registration rates and reduced informal sector activity. Vihiga’s approach demonstrates fiscal maturity and strategic alignment with investor expectations, positioning it competitively within Kenya’s devolved governance landscape.

#### 4.1.2 Performance-based Rebates

Vihiga County has instituted a progressive performance-based rebate system that aligns fiscal incentives with measurable socioeconomic outcomes. This approach ensures that tax relief is earned through tangible development contributions such as job creation, capital investment, value addition, and local sourcing—thereby reinforcing a results-oriented investment culture.

These rebates are targeted and conditional, making them a powerful tool for driving investments in the County’s priority sectors:

- **Agriculture:** Agribusinesses that meet specific local employment thresholds, engage in contract farming, or integrate local suppliers into their value chains qualify for preferential tax reductions.
- **Manufacturing:** Rebates are extended to firms engaged in agro-processing, green manufacturing, and light industrial activities, particularly those located within industrial clusters or export-oriented facilities.
- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** Incentives support enterprises involved in ICT, e-commerce, logistics, and digital infrastructure development, accelerating Vihiga’s transition to a modern, knowledge-driven economy.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Developers who invest in infrastructure such as water, roads, and affordable housing—as part of mixed-use or PPP arrangements—may qualify for partial rebates on land rates and approval fees.

This strategic model shifts incentives from static tax holidays to performance-linked benefits, ensuring that fiscal expenditure by the County yields tangible returns in employment, skills development, local enterprise growth, and infrastructure improvement.

**Operational Highlights:**

- Rebates are administered transparently under the County Finance Act, with eligibility tied to audited performance metrics.
- Oversight and verification are conducted jointly by the Revenue Department and Investor Facilitation Office.
- Annual performance reviews determine renewal or adjustment of rebate levels.

**Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga's performance-based approach reflects emerging global best practices seen in Singapore, Mauritius, and Rwanda, where rebates are tied to outcomes rather than blanket sector designation. According to the World Bank Group (2020), performance-linked incentives have led to a 35% increase in job-rich investments, a reduction in tax evasion, and stronger investor retention. By calibrating incentives to impact, Vihiga not only ensures fiscal prudence but also reinforces investor accountability—creating a virtuous cycle of growth, transparency, and shared prosperity.

#### **4.1.3 National Tax Incentive Integration**

Vihiga County has strategically positioned itself to leverage national tax incentive frameworks by securing the designation of an **Industrial Park** and an **Export Processing Zone (EPZ)**. These designations grant eligible investors direct access to high-impact fiscal benefits administered by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), without incurring additional county-level levies or charges.

**Key Incentives Accessible Through EPZ and Industrial Park Status:**

- **Corporate Tax Holidays:** Multi-year income tax exemptions for qualifying export-oriented manufacturers and investors.
- **Duty Exemptions:** Relief from import duties on capital equipment, machinery, and production inputs, significantly lowering startup and operational costs.



### Strategic Alignment with Thematic Areas:

- **Manufacturing:** The EPZ status supports industrial establishments such as processors, assembly lines, and packaging plants, especially those in agro-processing, textiles, and renewable technologies.
- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** Enables streamlined integration with KRA-administered benefits, enhancing competitiveness for ICT firms, e-logistics platforms, and digital exporters.
- **Agriculture:** Agri-tech firms and exporters of value-added produce (e.g., avocado, tea, macadamia) benefit from duty-free access to modern processing equipment, bolstering global market access and value chain efficiency.

By harmonizing County investment promotion with national tax frameworks, Vihiga ensures **cost predictability**, **investment scalability**, and **regulatory coherence**—factors that significantly de-risk large-scale investments in capital-intensive sectors.

### Comparative Insight:

This approach mirrors successful subnational strategies seen in **Vietnam’s Economic Zones**, **Ethiopia’s Industrial Parks**, and **Malaysia’s Free Trade Zones**, where integrated tax and regulatory frameworks have catalyzed rapid industrialization. According to **UNCTAD (2023)**, EPZ-aligned zones with county-national coordination attract up to **40% more FDI** and experience higher rates of technology transfer and export growth. Vihiga’s model not only elevates its status in Kenya’s investment landscape but also aligns with globally recognized models for industrial and trade competitiveness.

#### 4.1.4 Inclusive Concessions

In alignment with Kenya’s Vision 2030 and the Persons with Disabilities Act (2003), Vihiga County has instituted **inclusive fiscal concessions** to promote equitable economic participation. Through a **60% waiver on all county-imposed fees and charges**, the County supports certified Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and PWD-led enterprises to overcome structural barriers to business entry and growth.

These targeted concessions apply across multiple sectors, ensuring that inclusivity is not only a social imperative but an economic strategy:

### Thematic Impact Areas:

- **Agriculture:** PWD-owned agribusinesses receive significant relief on land rates, produce market fees, and farming permits—facilitating participation in high-value agricultural chains.
- **Trade and Investment:** Fee reductions on business licenses and advertising enable PWD entrepreneurs to formalize and scale trade and service enterprises with minimal startup capital.
- **Manufacturing:** PWD-led light manufacturers and cooperatives benefit from lower costs on development permits and lease charges, supporting localized production and value addition.
- **Culture, Sports and Recreation:** Enterprises in arts, crafts, sports training, and recreation—particularly those showcasing PWD talent—gain discounted access to public venues and reduced signage charges.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Inclusive real estate ventures and housing cooperatives receive expedited processing, technical support, and access to subsidized urban markets through the County's **Investor Facilitation Office**.

#### **Operational Facilitation:**

- Concessions are automatically granted upon validation by the **National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD)**.
- PWD applicants benefit from **fast-tracked approvals**, dedicated support staff, and inclusive service delivery mechanisms.

This holistic policy positions inclusivity not just as a welfare intervention but as a **core investment promotion strategy**, enhancing diversity in Vihiga's entrepreneurial ecosystem and advancing the County's commitment to socially responsive development.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga's inclusive incentive model aligns with global best practices such as **Malaysia's Free Trade Zones** and **Rwanda's Socially Inclusive SEZ Framework**, where businesses led by or employing PWDs and other marginalized groups receive enhanced fiscal benefits. According to the **World Bank (2020)**, such frameworks result in higher enterprise survival rates, greater community trust, and **up to 25% higher local**

**employment among vulnerable populations.** Vihiga’s integration of social equity into its incentive architecture positions it as a forward-looking, inclusive investment destination within the devolved governance space.

## 4.2 BUSINESS LICENSING

### 4.2.1 Unified Permit System

To enhance efficiency, transparency, and investor confidence, Vihiga County has rolled out a **digitally integrated permitting framework** anchored on two core platforms:

- **Electronic Development Applications Management System (EDAMS):**  
Streamlines approval processes for development permits, including change-of-use applications, building plan submissions, and site inspections.
- **County Land Information Management System (CLIMS):** Centralizes land records—covering parcel registration, title verification, lease tracking, and spatial planning overlays—for tamper-proof, transparent tenure management.

#### Key Benefits:

- Real-time workflow tracking across departments (e.g., physical planning, public health, environment)
- Same-day approval for compliant standard applications
- Reduction of average processing time from 60 days to less than 7 days
- Over 90% reduction in manual paperwork
- Fully integrated e-invoicing and payment system for 24/7 accessibility

#### Thematic Alignment:

- **Agriculture:** Accelerates approvals for value chain infrastructure—such as greenhouses, packhouses, cold storage, and irrigation structures—supporting commercial agribusiness development.
- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** Facilitates swift and remote permit application by SMEs, tech-enabled traders, and diaspora entrepreneurs via digital portals.

- **Housing and Urbanization:** Streamlines building and land use approvals, boosting real estate development and compliance in both rural and urban areas.
- **Manufacturing:** Enables prompt licensing for light and medium-scale industries, especially those within designated industrial zones and EPZs.

By reducing bureaucratic delays and improving regulatory transparency, this system positions Vihiga as one of the **most digitally responsive counties** in Kenya, significantly improving its ease-of-doing-business rankings.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga’s unified permitting model mirrors global best practices in **Estonia’s X-Road platform** and **Rwanda’s Irembo System**, where cross-ministerial digital integration has led to faster business onboarding and reduced informal sector bottlenecks. According to the **World Bank (2020)**, such digitized permitting systems can result in **up to 45% growth in business registrations** within two years, along with a marked reduction in corruption and service delivery delays. Vihiga’s innovation in this space reflects not only administrative efficiency but a commitment to **investor-centric governance**.

### **4..2.2 Zonal Fee Structure**

Vihiga County has adopted a tiered, geographically responsive licensing framework that aligns business permit fees with local infrastructure availability, economic density, and spatial development priorities. This zonal approach, structured across four economic classifications—Zones A to D—ensures that licensing costs reflect market realities and development potential, while advancing inclusive growth and formalization.

#### **Zonal Classifications:**

- **Zone A – Deep Rural Settlements:**  
Characterized by low-density, agriculture-dominated areas with minimal infrastructure. Businesses here benefit from up to 70% licensing fee reductions, promoting micro-enterprise, agri-services, and rural processing hubs.
- **Zone B – Semi-Rural Townships:**  
Includes trading centers with modest infrastructure (e.g., feeder roads,

electricity, local markets). Moderate fees support SMEs, cooperatives, and emerging digital enterprises.

- **Zone C – Urban Peripheries:**  
Encompasses built-up areas around major towns (e.g., Majengo, Chavakali) offering better infrastructure, public services, and ICT access. Licensing rates here are balanced and geared towards enterprise expansion and innovation.
- **Zone D – Central Business Districts (CBDs):**  
High-density urban centers like Mbale and Luanda, where premium infrastructure exists. Fees are relatively higher but remain competitive, with revenue reinvested into urban amenities such as lighting, solid waste systems, and market upgrades.

#### Thematic Alignment:

- **Agriculture:** Deep rural discounts enable agribusiness formalization, supporting value addition, aggregation, and small-scale farm enterprises.
- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** Semi-urban and peri-urban zones promote business-friendly environments for SMEs, fintech startups, and digital cooperatives.
- **Culture, Sports and Recreation:** Creative sector entrepreneurs—such as entertainment venues and sports centers—can access formal markets affordably in Zones B to D.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Revenues from urban license fees are channeled back into essential services and infrastructure maintenance, improving liveability and investor appeal.
- **Manufacturing:** Small manufacturers operating in Zones B and C are incentivized through favorable fee regimes, encouraging industrial activity closer to raw materials and consumer markets.

This spatially differentiated fee structure reinforces Vihiga’s commitment to balanced regional development, economic inclusivity, and ease of entry for enterprises across all sectors and geographies.



#### Comparative Insight:

Vihiga's zonal licensing approach is aligned with global practices such as South Africa's Provincial Integrated Development Plans and Ghana's District Assembly Fee Structures, which use zoning to promote equitable economic participation and reduce urban overconcentration. According to UN-Habitat (2021), subnational regions that implement differentiated fee policies experience greater rural enterprise uptake, improved revenue collection, and more efficient allocation of infrastructure resources. Vihiga's model positions it as a leader in spatially intelligent investment facilitation within Kenya's devolved units.

#### 4.2.3 Automated Payment

To enhance fiscal transparency, operational efficiency, and investor convenience, Vihiga County has implemented a robust **automated electronic payment (e-payment) platform**. This system is fully integrated with the County's licensing, permitting, and land management portals, enabling businesses to complete transactions remotely, securely, and in real-time.

##### Key Payment Channels:

- **Mobile Money (MPesa Paybill)**
- **Bank Transfers**
- **USSD Codes**

These options ensure accessibility across all business segments, including rural-based enterprises and diaspora investors.

##### Thematic Alignment:

- **Agriculture:** Enables rural agripreneurs, cooperatives, and agro-dealers to remit fees without the burden of physical travel—boosting inclusivity and reducing transaction costs for remote areas.
- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** Digital compliance mechanisms increase confidence among ICT firms, e-commerce platforms, and external investors seeking seamless government interfaces.

- **Manufacturing:** Simplifies license renewal and permit payments for industrial operators, particularly SMEs in processing and fabrication, while **penalty waivers for mid-year entrants** support early-stage cash flow.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Urban developers benefit from streamlined payments for planning approvals, building permits, and land-related fees—supporting adherence to development timelines.

This e-payment infrastructure reinforces **compliance, predictability, and accountability** across all sectors, fostering a digitally mature business environment that is especially advantageous to **MSMEs and first-time investors**.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga’s e-payment rollout mirrors successful models in **Rwanda, Estonia, and Ghana**, where digital public finance systems have significantly enhanced revenue collection, transparency, and investor trust. According to the **World Bank (2020)**, automated payment systems at the subnational level can increase business compliance by **over 40% within two years** and reduce revenue leakages by up to 25%. Vihiga’s digital integration sets a benchmark for other counties seeking to modernize service delivery while promoting inclusive economic participation.

#### **4.2.4 Dedicated Investor Facilitation Office**

To streamline investor onboarding and reduce procedural inefficiencies, Vihiga County has established a **Dedicated Investor Facilitation Office (IFO)** that operates as a centralized, single-window support hub. The IFO provides personalized, end-to-end assistance to investors at all stages of the project lifecycle—from opportunity mapping and feasibility analysis to permitting, invoicing, and compliance guidance.

This model ensures seamless coordination between departments and accelerates investor timelines, significantly improving the ease of doing business at the subnational level.

#### **Thematic Alignment:**

- **Agriculture:** The IFO supports agribusinesses by facilitating access to land, conducting project viability assessments, and assisting with environmental approvals—particularly for ventures in irrigation, agro-processing, and climate-smart farming.

- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** ICT startups, logistics firms, and diaspora investors receive tailored onboarding support, including help with registration, licensing, and regulatory navigation—promoting Vihiga as a digital-ready investment destination.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Real estate developers benefit from guidance on zoning regulations, spatial planning frameworks, and expedited processing of development approvals, enabling faster project rollouts.
- **Manufacturing:** The office provides strategic location assessments, infrastructure mapping, and support in navigating sector-specific compliance—especially for firms establishing operations in the County’s industrial park or EPZ zones.

By adopting this **single-window facilitation model**, Vihiga County not only reduces administrative burdens but also cultivates an investment climate marked by responsiveness, clarity, and efficiency.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

This facilitation framework draws inspiration from international models such as **Singapore’s Economic Development Board (EDB)** and **Estonia’s Enterprise Estonia**, where centralized investor support systems have played a pivotal role in attracting and retaining high-impact investments. According to the **World Bank (2020)**, jurisdictions that implement one-stop-shop investor support services can reduce investment processing time by **over 50%** and significantly improve investor satisfaction. Vihiga’s approach aligns with this global trend, reinforcing its commitment to building an agile, investor-centric public administration.

## **4.3 Land Access and Tenure**

### **4.3.1 Industrial Parks**

To catalyze industrial growth and diversify its economic base, Vihiga County has established a **13.1-acre industrial park** in Luanda, fully serviced with internal access roads, utility connections, and proximity to rail transport infrastructure. This initiative is supported through a **KSh 750 million public-private investment package**, positioning the park as a flagship zone for light industrial development.

By offering **favorable lease rates during the initial years of operation**, the County lowers capital entry barriers and attracts high-impact, job-creating enterprises.

### Thematic Alignment:

- **Manufacturing:** The park provides purpose-built infrastructure to accommodate agro-processing units, textile assembly lines, light engineering firms, and packaging operations—supporting industrial takeoff at the county level.
- **Trade, Investment and Technology:** Strategically located logistics and warehousing operations benefit from shared facilities, while tech-enabled production hubs (e.g., food traceability, smart manufacturing) thrive within a connected, cost-efficient environment.
- **Agriculture:** Agro-processing firms within the park benefit from backward linkages to rural farmers, enabling value addition for crops such as tea, avocados, bananas, and indigenous vegetables.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** The industrial park stimulates urban expansion in Luanda and neighboring areas, generating demand for residential, commercial, and social infrastructure—including transport, housing, schools, and health services.

This integrated industrial park is a **cornerstone of Vihiga’s investment strategy**, linking rural production zones with urban growth centers through an inclusive, infrastructure-led development model.

### Comparative Insight:

Vihiga’s approach mirrors successful models such as **Ethiopia’s Hawassa and Bole Lemi Industrial Parks**, where a combination of serviced land, concessional leasing, and public-private financing has attracted both domestic and foreign investment. According to the **IFC (2021)**, such parks increase investor occupancy rates by **over 30% within the first two years**, boost exports, and generate significant employment—especially for youth and women. Vihiga’s park similarly positions the county to attract sector-specific investment while catalyzing spatial transformation in line with global industrial development trends.

### 4.3.2 Secure, Long-Term Leases

To ensure land tenure security and reduce administrative delays, Vihiga County provides investors with access to **99-year leaseholds**, processed through the **County Land Information Management System (CLIMS)**. This digital platform guarantees transparent, tamper-proof registration, and ensures that **lease applications are finalized within 30 days**, thereby eliminating bureaucratic uncertainty and minimizing legal friction.

These long-term leases are a strategic asset for de-risking private investment, especially in capital-intensive and land-dependent sectors.

#### Thematic Alignment:

- **Agriculture:** Commercial farmers and agribusinesses benefit from guaranteed tenure, enabling investment in irrigation infrastructure, perennial crops, and mechanized farming systems.
- **Manufacturing:** Secure leaseholds are critical for establishing processing plants, industrial workshops, and export-oriented facilities—providing the land certainty required for long-term industrial growth.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Real estate developers enjoy legal clarity in land transactions, allowing for timely execution of mixed-use developments, affordable housing projects, and estate planning.
- **Trade and Investment:** Reliable property rights strengthen investor confidence, particularly among diaspora investors and institutional financiers who prioritize legal predictability.

By combining **long lease durations with digital title assurance**, Vihiga fosters a stable investment environment where enterprises can plan, grow, and reinvest without risk of tenure disruption.

#### Comparative Insight:

This model aligns with global best practices seen in **Vietnam's industrial zones** and **India's Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**, where long-term leases—facilitated by digital land registries—have significantly improved investor uptake. According to the **World Bank Land Governance Assessment Framework (2022)**, secure and digitized tenure arrangements can reduce land disputes by **over 70%** and cut project preparation



times in half. Vihiga's lease offering similarly promotes investment continuity, efficient land use, and long-term economic transformation.

### 4.3.3 Community-Integrated Land Model

Vihiga County has adopted a **community-integrated land governance model** that prioritizes benefit-sharing, inclusive dialogue, and fair compensation. This approach ensures **zero investor-community land conflicts**, promotes local goodwill, and aligns land transactions with the **International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards** on land acquisition and stakeholder engagement.

Through this model, the County collaborates with community representatives, independent valuation panels, and relevant regulatory bodies to ensure that land earmarked for investment is acquired transparently, fairly, and sustainably.

#### **Thematic Alignment:**

- **Agriculture:** Agribusiness investors are encouraged to engage local communities through **outgrower schemes**, joint land use agreements, and contract farming models—enhancing rural incomes and food system resilience.
- **Culture, Sports and Recreation:** Community support is cultivated for development of inclusive recreational spaces, cultural centers, and youth hubs, particularly on community-held or trust lands.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** The model reduces land-related disputes in peri-urban zones, enabling smooth implementation of housing estates, mixed-use developments, and infrastructure expansion.
- **Manufacturing and Trade:** Investors undertaking large-scale projects benefit from **social license to operate**, as communities are actively involved in land negotiations and stand to gain from associated employment and infrastructure spin-offs.

This participatory approach integrates **social safeguards into land-based investment planning**, creating a mutually beneficial framework that enhances project viability and long-term sustainability.

### Comparative Insight:

Vihiga's approach mirrors effective models implemented in **Ghana's Customary Land Secretariat System** and **Mozambique's Community Land Delimitation Program**, where structured community engagement and equitable benefit-sharing have resulted in **lower project resistance, faster land acquisition, and increased investor confidence**.

According to the **World Bank (2021)**, counties or subnational units that embed social license mechanisms into land administration frameworks experience up to **60% faster project rollout** and greater retention of investor capital. Vihiga's model is a best-practice example of how inclusive land governance can unlock investment while promoting peace and community empowerment.

## 4.4 Policy and Regulatory Framework

### 4.4.1 Harmonized County-National Legislation

Vihiga County has established a **coherent and predictable legal framework** by aligning its county-level legislation with Kenya's national constitutional mandates, sector-specific laws, and fiscal policy instruments. This harmonization eliminates overlaps, reduces legal ambiguity, and ensures regulatory clarity—critical factors for both domestic and foreign investors seeking certainty in project development and compliance.

The alignment spans across core economic and governance areas through:

- The **Investment Promotion Bill (Draft)**, which mirrors the national Investment Promotion Act (2004, Revised 2015), covering investor protections, facilitation services, and incentive access.
- The **Vihiga Trade Licensing Act (2017)**, aligned with the Business Registration Service (BRS) and the Companies Act (2015), which streamlines business licensing and classification.
- The **County Finance Acts**, developed annually in line with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA, 2012) and National Treasury guidelines, ensuring fiscal prudence and participatory budgeting.

- **Third-party compliance audits**, which independently verify the consistency of county laws with national statutes—minimizing risk exposure and legal friction for investors.

#### **Thematic Alignment:**

- **Trade and Investment:** Clear and simplified licensing and registration processes boost investor confidence, while reducing administrative delays and compliance costs.
- **Agriculture:** Agro-investors benefit from a consistent regulatory environment that aligns with national value chain development programs, subsidies, and trade protocols.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Integration with national land and planning statutes enables smooth processing of approvals for real estate developers, urban planners, and public-private housing ventures.
- **Manufacturing:** Industrial investors are assured of legal stability and coherence in zoning, taxation, and environmental compliance—essential for long-term capital deployment.

By embedding intergovernmental collaboration and legal consistency into its regulatory fabric, Vihiga presents a **de-risked and business-friendly operating environment** across all priority sectors.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga's harmonization approach reflects international models like **South Africa's Intergovernmental Relations Framework** and **Rwanda's Central–District Policy Alignment Strategy**, where legal coherence between tiers of government has reduced transaction costs, improved investor response times, and supported smoother public-private engagement. According to the **World Bank Doing Business Report (2020)**, subnational jurisdictions with harmonized laws achieve **30% faster investment approval cycles** and **25% lower incidence of project-level disputes**. Vihiga's legal maturity positions it among Kenya's most investment-ready counties.

#### 4.4.2 Public-Private Partnership Readiness

Vihiga County has institutionalized a forward-looking framework to promote **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)** as a vehicle for infrastructure development, service delivery, and innovation. By providing **pre-approved PPP templates, co-investment mechanisms, and technical assistance**, the County creates a de-risked, transparent environment that attracts and retains private capital for high-impact projects.

Key instruments supporting PPP implementation include:

- **Standardized, legally vetted PPP contract templates** aligned with the **Kenya PPP Act (2021)** to reduce negotiation delays and ensure compliance.
- **County equity participation** of up to 20%, contributed in the form of land, utilities, or seed capital, thereby signalling public commitment and aligning risk-sharing incentives.
- **Technical support and project preparation assistance**, in partnership with institutions such as the **Kenya PPP Directorate, Africa50**, and the **World Bank's PPIAF**, to enhance bankability and ensure due diligence on Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), feasibility studies, and transaction structuring.

##### **Thematic Alignment:**

- **Housing and Urbanization:** PPPs support affordable housing schemes, integrated township developments, and public utilities such as waste management and water supply.
- **Trade and Technology:** Strategic partnerships foster investment in **ICT infrastructure**, transport corridors, and digital government services—advancing Vihiga's digital transformation goals.
- **Agriculture:** PPP models facilitate the development of irrigation networks, aggregation and storage hubs, and cold chain logistics to reduce post-harvest losses and enhance food system resilience.
- **Manufacturing:** Industrial utilities—such as power, water, and industrial waste recycling—are co-financed to attract anchor tenants in the County's industrial park and EPZ zones.

This PPP ecosystem strengthens **infrastructure-led growth**, improves service delivery, and enhances investor confidence across all sectors, while allowing the County to scale its development agenda through blended financing.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga's PPP strategy reflects global best practices seen in **Senegal's Independent Power Producer Framework** and **South Africa's REIPPPP (Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme)**, where structured PPP pipelines and public equity participation have mobilized **over \$15 billion in private investment**. According to the **World Bank (2023)**, counties or regions with structured PPP policies and risk-sharing mechanisms attract **up to 50% more private infrastructure investment** and reduce project gestation periods by over 40%. Vihiga's readiness framework positions it as a competitive player in Kenya's emerging PPP landscape.

### **4.4.3 Environmental & Social Safeguards**

Vihiga County has embedded a robust **Environmental and Social Governance (ESG)** framework into its investment facilitation architecture, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable, inclusive, and responsible development. All projects with potential environmental or social impacts are subject to **mandatory Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs)**, in compliance with the **Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA, 1999)** and aligned with international benchmarks such as the **IFC Performance Standards** and **Green Bond Principles**.

The County has further integrated ESG compliance into its **Electronic Development Applications Management System (eDAMS)**, enabling real-time monitoring, efficient inter-agency collaboration, and timely approval processes.

#### **Thematic Alignment:**

- **Agriculture:** Promotes **climate-smart agriculture** and nature-positive farming through ESG-aligned assessments. Agribusiness investors gain access to **green finance** instruments, including climate bonds and concessional funding for sustainable irrigation, agroforestry, and conservation farming.
- **Manufacturing:** Supports **eco-friendly production models**, circular economy initiatives, and industrial energy efficiency through enforceable environmental audits and cleaner production standards.



- **Housing and Urbanization:** Mitigates risks associated with urban sprawl, construction waste, and poor drainage through sustainable planning and inclusive zoning protocols, ensuring green, liveable, and resilient urban settlements.
- **Culture and Social Cohesion:** Encourages **gender-responsive**, youth-inclusive project design and protects **community heritage and social assets**, particularly in tourism, sports, and cultural development initiatives.
- **Trade and Investment:** Enhances Vihiga’s global reputation as a **credible, ESG-compliant destination**, fostering trust with impact investors, climate funds, and sustainability-focused development partners.

This safeguards framework ensures that all investments contribute to **inclusive prosperity**, minimize environmental degradation, and generate broad-based community benefits.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga’s ESG strategy draws from global pioneers such as **Costa Rica, Morocco, and Vietnam**, where integrated environmental and social governance has increased **green investment inflows by over 35%** and significantly reduced project resistance from host communities. According to the **UNEP Finance Initiative (2022)**, subnational regions with ESG-aligned investment environments are more resilient to climate shocks, enjoy higher investor retention, and qualify for a broader range of blended finance instruments. Vihiga’s ESG alignment positions it as a **future-ready, sustainability-driven county**, capable of attracting capital for long-term, responsible growth.

#### **4.4.4 Governance & Transparency**

Vihiga County has institutionalized **transparent, accountable, and investor-responsive governance mechanisms** to reinforce trust, ensure regulatory predictability, and enhance the overall investment climate. These reforms cut across public finance, service delivery, dispute resolution, and stakeholder engagement—providing the backbone for long-term, credible development partnerships.

Key governance pillars include:

- **Quarterly Investor Dialogue Forums and Public-Private Dialogue Platforms (PPDPs)** that bring together government, private sector, and civil society to co-create policies, flag regulatory bottlenecks, and shape fiscal planning.
- **A Dedicated Investor Grievance Redress Desk**, housed within the County Investment Facilitation Office, which ensures timely resolution of licensing delays, service complaints, and land-related disputes.
- **Digitized revenue collection systems** integrated with IFMIS, CLIMS, and eCitizen, enabling real-time transaction tracking, minimizing leakages, and strengthening public finance management.
- **E-procurement and Open Budgeting** practices that align with the **Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act (2015)** and **Program-Based Budgeting (PBB)**—promoting merit-based tendering, transparency, and inclusive fiscal accountability.

#### **Thematic Alignment:**

- **Trade and Investment:** Transparent business registration, billing, and dispute mechanisms lower barriers to entry, reduce compliance costs, and improve investor confidence.
- **Housing and Urbanization:** Developers benefit from publicly accessible budgets, enabling informed investment decisions around infrastructure, utilities, and land value appreciation.
- **Agriculture:** Farmer cooperatives and agribusinesses access fair procurement processes, ensuring equitable participation in government-subsidized programs and input distribution schemes.
- **Manufacturing:** Predictable governance—through audit trails, digital receipts, and investor protection systems—supports long-term planning and industrial competitiveness.
- **Culture, Sports and Recreation:** Inclusive public forums empower creative enterprises, youth groups, and cultural institutions to engage with budget formulation and policy review processes.

Vihiga's governance ethos embeds **rule of law, responsiveness, and data-driven decision-making** into its investment landscape—ensuring efficient public service delivery and investor assurance.

#### **Comparative Insight:**

This governance framework aligns with international benchmarks observed in **Estonia, Singapore, and Rwanda**, where transparent digital government systems have contributed to consistently high investor confidence and fiscal performance. According to the **World Bank's Subnational Doing Business Survey (2020)**, strong governance structures account for up to **40% of investor decision-making** when selecting destinations for capital deployment. Vihiga's reforms thus position it among Kenya's most **accountable and investment-ready counties**, with systems that foster both private sector growth and public trust.

### **4.5 Grants, Subsidies and Waivers**

Vihiga County provides a robust portfolio of grants, subsidies, and waivers tailored to reduce the cost of doing business, stimulate enterprise growth, and promote inclusive economic participation. These instruments directly support investment across all thematic sectors by addressing capital constraints, improving access to productive inputs, and enhancing investor confidence—particularly among startups, youth, women, and rural entrepreneurs.

#### **4.5.1 Vihiga Enterprise Development Fund**

This flagship revolving fund offers **matching grants and low-interest loans**, often with **grace periods**, to catalyze early-stage business development and formalization. The facility draws inspiration from international seed capital models such as Ireland's Local Enterprise Office (LEO) fund, and is specifically designed to unlock entrepreneurship in high-potential but undercapitalized sectors.

#### **Thematic Relevance:**

- **Agriculture:** Supports **agripreneurs, cooperatives**, and agri-fintech firms in crop production, input distribution, and post-harvest handling ventures.
- **Manufacturing:** Enables **light manufacturing enterprises** in agro-processing, small-scale fabrication, and packaging to scale through affordable capital.

- **Trade and Investment:** Facilitates access to working capital for **retailers, wholesalers, and informal sector startups**, easing their path to formalization.
- **Technology:** Opens opportunities for tech-enabled micro-enterprises and youth-led innovation hubs offering digital services.
- **Housing and Urbanization** (*indirect impact*): By supporting peri-urban businesses, the fund indirectly promotes growth nodes in secondary towns, driving demand for housing and municipal services.

**Impact:** The fund lowers entry barriers and expands the entrepreneurial base, especially in rural and peri-urban areas where conventional credit access remains limited.

#### 4.5.2 Sectoral Input Subsidies

Vihiga County offers a structured input support framework in collaboration with national and global partners, designed to enhance productivity, reduce investor risk, and deepen private sector involvement in agriculture and agro-industries.

##### Key Instruments and Thematic Relevance:

- **Fertilizer Subsidy Program**
  - **Agriculture:** Reduces input costs for farmers and agri-enterprises, improving yields and cost efficiency.
  - **Trade and Technology:** Encourages **private distributors** and **agri-tech platforms** to participate in last-mile delivery through a **digital input voucher system**.
- **Matching Grants Scheme** (*via NAVCDP and KCSAP*)
  - **Agriculture:** Promotes investment in **mechanization, storage, irrigation, and agro-logistics**.
  - **Manufacturing:** Supports **value-added processing** facilities like milling, dairy units, and packaging operations.
  - **Housing and Urbanization** (*indirect*): Stabilizes urban food supply chains, benefiting **retail markets and food systems** in towns like Luanda and Mbale.

- **Inclusion Grants**
  - **Agriculture, Trade & Manufacturing:** Tailored support for **youth, women, and PWD-led enterprises**, offering subsidized inputs, start-up grants, and technical assistance.
  - **Culture, Sports and Recreation:** Enables eligible **social enterprises**, e.g., community-based crafts, food fairs, or sports merchandising, to access financial and training support.

**Cross-Cutting Effect:** These targeted subsidies increase sectoral productivity while embedding **equity and innovation** into county value chains—enhancing employment, reducing rural-urban disparities, and accelerating inclusive growth.

**Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga’s blended model of enterprise financing and input subsidy mirrors international best practices in **Bangladesh, Zambia, and India**, where **performance-based matching grants and inclusion-linked subsidies** have significantly boosted **agricultural resilience, MSME survival rates, and youth enterprise uptake**. According to the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 2022)**, such models can increase private investment flows by over **30%** and reduce rural poverty by aligning fiscal incentives with productivity and market access.

### 4.5.3 Donor Collaboration

Vihiga County has strategically cultivated partnerships with international development agencies to catalyze private sector investment through **co-financing, technical assistance, and market access support**. These collaborations reduce investor risk, align local priorities with global development goals, and strengthen the enabling environment for inclusive, climate-resilient growth.

**Key Partnerships and Thematic Relevance**

- **NORAD (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation)**
  - **Agriculture:** Provides grants for **sustainable aquaculture**, supporting hatcheries, feed production, and cold chain logistics—particularly benefiting **youth and women-led fish farming ventures**.
- **World Bank – Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP)**

- **Housing and Urbanization:** Co-finances **urban infrastructure** such as roads, stormwater systems, and markets in Luanda and Mbale.
- **Trade & Investment:** Reduces operational costs for urban SMEs by enhancing municipal service delivery and logistics efficiency.
- **FLOCCA (Flood Control and Climate Adaptation Programme)**
  - **Agriculture:** Supports **climate-resilient farming** through water harvesting, erosion control, and drainage interventions.
  - **Housing and Urbanization:** Builds flood-resilient infrastructure in vulnerable settlements, safeguarding property and attracting real estate developers.
- **NAVCDP (National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project)**
  - **Agriculture:** Provides matching grants for **horticulture, dairy, and poultry aggregation centers, and post-harvest storage units.**
  - **Manufacturing:** Facilitates the growth of **processing facilities**, improving value chain efficiency and competitiveness.
- **GIZ (German Development Cooperation)**
  - **Trade, Investment & Technology:** Strengthens **SME capacity, green enterprise development,** and access to **renewable energy** solutions.
  - **Manufacturing:** Supports clean production practices and skills upgrading in small-scale industries.
- **Kenya Planters Cooperative Union (KPCU)**
  - **Agriculture, Trade & Manufacturing:** Revitalizes the **coffee value chain** by supporting cooperatives with subsidized pulping machinery, specialty market access, and quality upgrades for export readiness.

### **Strategic Impact Across Sectors**

These multi-stakeholder collaborations:



- Unlock **private capital** in priority areas such as **climate-smart agriculture**, **urban regeneration**, and **youth enterprise**.
- Enable **scaling of agro-processing**, **last-mile logistics**, and **renewables adoption** in trade and manufacturing nodes.
- Support **inclusive innovation**, providing tools, financing, and capacity to underserved groups and rural communities.

### **Comparative Insight:**

Vihiga's donor engagement model mirrors effective co-financing frameworks in **Ghana, Uganda, and Rwanda**, where counties that align with development partner priorities have attracted up to **40% more private investment** in **infrastructure, value chains, and MSME finance** (World Bank, 2022). By positioning itself as a **credible, results-oriented partner**, Vihiga demonstrates institutional maturity and fiscal readiness—key attractors for long-term capital.

### **Conclusion**

Vihiga County's investment incentive framework is not only robust—it is purposefully aligned with five high-impact development sectors, creating a cohesive environment for sustainable economic transformation:

- **Agriculture:** Input subsidies, secure land tenure, and tailored grants catalyze productivity, value addition, and agribusiness expansion across rural and peri-urban zones.
- **Trade, Investment & Technology:** Digitized permitting, zonal licensing, and donor-backed SME support enhance ease of entry, transparency, and innovation for startups and established enterprises alike.
- **Culture, Sports & Recreation:** Inclusive waivers and grant access empower community-based ventures, youth enterprises, and cultural industries to participate meaningfully in local development.
- **Housing & Urbanization:** Harmonized legal frameworks, performance-based PPP models, and co-financed urban infrastructure—under initiatives like KUSP—position Vihiga as a rising destination for real estate and smart town development.

- Manufacturing: Industrial parks, long-term lease security, and sector-specific incentives create an enabling environment for light industry, agro-processing, and eco-friendly production.

Backed by global best practices and comparative insights, these interventions elevate Vihiga County as a competitive and forward-looking subnational investment destination—one that blends economic opportunity with inclusivity, sustainability, and investor certainty.

## Annex 1: Fact Sheet

### FACT SHEET

| Information Category   |                           | County Statistics |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>County Area:</b>  |                           |                   |
| Total area (Km <sup>2</sup> )                                  |                           | 563.8             |
| Non-arable land (Km <sup>2</sup> )                             |                           | 126.2             |
| Arable land (Km <sup>2</sup> )                                 |                           | 404.8             |
| Size of gazetted forests (Ha)                                  |                           | 4152.9            |
| Size of non-gazetted forests (Ha)                              |                           | 48                |
| Forest cover (%)   |                           | 14                |
| Approximate tree cover   |                           | 35.9              |
| No. of Rivers: .Yala, Ejordani(Zaaba), Garagoli, Edzava/Esalwa |                           | 4                 |
| Total urban areas (Km <sup>2</sup> )                           |                           | 91                |
| No of quarry sites rehabilitated                               |                           | 0                 |
| No. of climate change adaptation projects/programs             |                           | 5                 |
| <b>TOPOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE</b>                                  |                           |                   |
| Lowest altitude (metres)                                       |                           | 1,300             |
| Highest (metres)   |                           | 1,800             |
| Temperature range:   | High °C                   | 32                |
|  | Low °C                    | 12                |
| Rainfall   | High (mm)                 | 2,000             |
|  | Low (mm)                  | 1,800             |
| Average relative humidity (%)                                  |                           | 41.75             |
| Wind speed (Kilometers per hour/knots)                         |                           | 2.57              |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILES</b>                                    |                           |                   |
| Total population(Census 2019)                                  |                           | 590013            |
| Total Male population (Census 2019)                            |                           | 283678            |
| Total Female population(Census 2019)                           |                           | 306323            |
| Total intersex Population(Census 2019)                         |                           | 12                |
| Sex ratio (Male: Female)                                       |                           | 926:1000          |
| Projected Population   | Mid of plan period (2025) | 622746            |
|  | End of plan period (2027) | 634074            |
| Infant population (<1 year)                                    | Female                    | 5909              |
|  | Male                      | 6233              |
|  | <b>Total</b>              | 12142             |
| Population under five  | Female                    | 32583             |
|  | Male                      | 32055             |
|  | <b>Total</b>              | 64638             |
| Pre- Primary School population (3-5) years                     | Female                    | 20655             |
|  | Male                      | 21005             |
|  | <b>Total</b>              | 41660             |
| Primary school age group                                       | Female                    | 59174             |

| Information Category                                 |               | County Statistics |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| (6-13) years   | Male          | 66831             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 124724            |
| Secondary school age group (14 - 17) years           | Female        | 32432             |
|  | Male          | 32827             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 65259             |
| School Going Population as per CBC Curriculum        |               |                   |
| Pre- Primary School population (3-5) years           | Female        | 20655             |
|  | Male          | 21005             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 41660             |
| Primary school age group (6-12) years                | Female        | 58653             |
|  | Male          | 57871             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 116524            |
| Junior Secondary School age group (13 - 15) years    | Female        | 25819             |
|  | Male          | 25621             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 51440             |
| Senior Secondary School age group (16 - 18) years    | Female        | 22176             |
|  | Male          | 22751             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 44927             |
| Youthful population (15-29) years                    | Female        | 76514             |
|  | Male          | 73001             |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 149515            |
| Reproductive age (15 - 49) years                     |               | 134594            |
| Labour force (15-64) years                           | Female        | 165715            |
|  | Male          | 149561            |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 315276            |
| Aged population(65+)                                 | Female        | 24,787            |
|  | Male          | 19,508            |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 44,295            |
| Population aged below 15 years                       | Male          | 114603            |
|  | Female        | 115818            |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 230421            |
| No. of Urban (Market) Centres with population >2,000 |               | 7                 |
| Urban population (By Urban Centre)                   |               |                   |
| Luanda   | Male          | 6354              |
|  | Female        | 6963              |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 13317             |
| Mbale  | <b>Male</b>   | 8263              |
|  | <b>Female</b> | 9141              |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 17404             |
| Chavakali  | <b>Male</b>   | 6073              |
|  | <b>Female</b> | 6601              |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | 12674             |
| Majengo  | <b>Male</b>   | 5785              |

| Information Category                                  |                                 | County Statistics |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|
|   | Female                          | 6128              |
|   | Total                           | 11913             |
| Serem   | Male                            | 1923              |
|   | Female                          | 2061              |
|   | Sub Total                       | 3984              |
|   | Total                           | 59292             |
| Urban Population                                      | Male                            | 27951             |
|   | Female                          | 30431             |
|   | Total                           | 58382             |
| Rural population                                      | Female                          | 255727            |
|   | Male                            | 275892            |
|   | Total                           | 531619            |
| Population Density<br>(persons per km2) by Sub-county | Emuhaya                         | 1091              |
|   | Vihiga                          | 1058              |
|   | Sabatia                         | 1181              |
|   | Hamisi                          | 1013              |
|   | Luanda                          | 1265              |
|   | Overall population density      | 1047              |
| Mean holding size (in hectares)                       |                                 | 0.4               |
| Labor force by sector<br>(No.)                        | Total                           | 500,000           |
|   | Rural self-employment:<br>Total | 96,139            |
|   | Urban self-employment:<br>Total | 11,310            |
|   | Wage employment:<br>Total       | 175,312           |
| Unemployment levels (%)                               | Overall                         | 19                |
| <b>POVERTY INDICATORS</b>                             |                                 |                   |
| Absolute/overall Poverty index (%)                    |                                 | 38.6              |
| Hardcore Poverty (%)                                  |                                 | 7.6               |
| Rural poverty (%)                                     |                                 | 41.3              |
| Food poverty (% HH)                                   |                                 | 30.2              |
| Overall child poverty (%)                             |                                 | 43.2              |
| Child food poverty (%)                                |                                 | 36.6              |
| <b>HEALTH</b>   |                                 |                   |
| Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)/1000                      |                                 | 32.2              |
| Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (NNMR)/1000                  |                                 | 20.22             |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR/100,000)                 |                                 | 393               |
| Post Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (PNNMR)/1000            |                                 | 11.97             |
| Child Mortality Rate (CMR)/1000                       |                                 | 20.30             |
| Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR)/1000                 |                                 | 73.4              |
| Prevalence of stunting (Height for Age)               |                                 | 16.6%             |
| Prevalence of wasting (Weight for Height)             |                                 | 2.4%              |
| Prevalence of underweight (Weight for Age)            |                                 | 9.2%              |
| Life expectancy                                       | Male                            | 59.8              |

| Information Category           |                      | County Statistics |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
|                                | Female               | 62.1              |
| <b>Health Facilities (No.)</b> |                      |                   |
|                                | <b>By Sub-county</b> |                   |
| Hospitals                      | Emuhaya              | 1                 |
|                                | Hamisi               | 1                 |
|                                | Luanda               | 1                 |
|                                | Sabatia              | 1                 |
|                                | Vihiga               | 1                 |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         | 5                 |
| Health Centres                 | Emuhaya              | 3                 |
|                                | Hamisi               | 4                 |
|                                | Luanda               | 2                 |
|                                | Sabatia              | 4                 |
|                                | Vihiga               | 4                 |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         | 17                |
| Dispensaries                   | Emuhaya              | 6                 |
|                                | Hamisi               | 21                |
|                                | Luanda               | 10                |
|                                | Sabatia              | 5                 |
|                                | Vihiga               | 12                |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         | 54                |
| Private Clinics                | Emuhaya              | 11                |
|                                | Hamisi               | 17                |
|                                | Sabatia              | 8                 |
|                                | Vihiga               | 11                |
|                                | Luanda               | 6                 |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         | 53                |
| Nursing Homes                  | Emuhaya              | 0                 |
|                                | Hamisi               | 0                 |
|                                | Sabatia              | 1                 |
|                                | Vihiga               | 0                 |
|                                | Luanda               | 1                 |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         | 2                 |
| Maternity Bed capacity         | Emuhaya              | 35                |
|                                | Hamisi               | 16                |
|                                | Vihiga               | 47                |
|                                | Sabatia              |                   |
|                                | Luanda               |                   |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         |                   |
| Health Facility Bed Capacity   | Emuhaya              | 65                |
|                                | Hamisi               | 220               |
|                                | Vihiga               | 299               |
|                                | Sabatia              | 184               |
|                                | Luanda               | 222               |
|                                | <b>Total</b>         | 990               |
| ICU Beds                       | Emuhaya              | 0                 |



| Information Category   |              | County Statistics                                 |
|--|--------------|---|
|  | Hamisi       | 0   |
|  | Vihiga       | 5   |
|  | Sabatia      | 0   |
|  | Luanda       | 0   |
|  | <b>Total</b> | 5   |
| Doctor/patient ratio   | Emuhaya      | 1:104424  |
|  | Hamisi       | 1:87135   |
|  | Vihiga       | 1:5308  |
|  | Sabatia      | 1: 48017  |
|  | Luanda       | 1:36028   |
| Nurse/patient ratio  | Emuhaya      | 1:1741  |
|  | Hamisi       | 1:2179  |
|  | Vihiga       | 1:1092  |
|  | Sabatia      | 1:2119  |
|  | Luanda       | 1:1423  |
| Clinical Officers  | Emuhaya      | 1:4177  |
|  | Hamisi       | 1:5446  |
|  | Vihiga       | 1:4968  |
|  | Sabatia      | 1:3861  |
|  | Luanda       | 1:3156  |
| Laboratory Technicians   | Emuhaya      | 1:6143  |
|  | Hamisi       | 1:7922  |
|  | Vihiga       | 1:4171  |
|  | Sabatia      | 1:6860  |
|  | Luanda       | 4504  |
| HIV prevalence (%)   |              | 4.1   |
| Patients on ARVs (No.)   |              | 17274   |
| Average Distance to Health facility (km)                       |              | 2.3   |
| Antenatal Care (ANC) (%)                                       |              | 99.1  |
| Health Facility Deliveries (%)                                 |              | 90.9  |
| Registered traditional herbalists and medicine-men (No.)       |              | ND  |
| Contraceptive use by women of reproductive age (15-49 yrs) (%) |              | 62.4  |
| Immunization coverage (%)                                      |              | 96  |
| CHVs (No.)   |              | 1446  |
| Crude Birth rate   |              | 21.2 /1000 persons                                |
| Crude death rate   |              | 7.7 /1000 persons                                 |
| <b>AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK &amp; FISHERIES</b>                  |              |   |
| <b>Crop Farming</b>  |              |   |
| Average farm size (Small scale) (ha)                           |              | 0.4   |
| Average farm size (Large scale) (ha)                           |              | 3   |
| <b>Main Crops Produced</b>                                     |              |   |
| Food crops (list)  |              | Maize ,Beans ,Cassava, Sweet potatoes ,Vegetables |
| Millet Sorghum   |              |   |

| Information Category  |                             | County Statistics   |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Cash crops (list)   |                             | Tea, Avocado, Banana  |
| Total acreage under food crops (acres)  |                             | 120468.82   |
| Total acreage under cash crops (acres)  |                             | 3748.589  |
| Main storage facilities (Maize cribs, store and warehouses)                             |                             | 2   |
| <b>Livestock Farming</b>  |                             |   |
| <b>Type of Livestock, Population and Value</b>  |                             |   |
| Dairy cattle  | Quantity (Total Population) | 23,067  |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 1,153,350,000   |
| Beef cattle   | Quantity (Total Population) | 1,725   |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 51,750,000  |
| Goat  | Quantity (Total Population) | 30,854  |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 154,270,000   |
| Sheep   | Quantity (Total Population) | 6,145   |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 46,087,500  |
| <b>Livestock Products and Their Value (Annual)</b>                                      |                             |   |
| Milk  | Quantity (litres.)          | 32,000,000  |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 1,600,000,000   |
| Honey   | Quantity (Kg.)              | 69,000  |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 59,102,640  |
| Eggs  | Quantity (Trays)            | 519,152   |
|   | Value (Kshs.)               | 259,576,000   |
| Fish farm families (No.)  |                             | 450   |
| Fish ponds (No.)  |                             | 1200  |
| Area of fish ponds (Ha)   |                             | 84.57   |
| <b>OIL AND OTHER MINERAL RESOURCES</b>  |                             |   |
| Mineral and Oil potential   |                             | The county has gold deposits, granite rocks, sulphide and photolytic rocks, building gravels and sound deposits |
| Ongoing mining and extraction activities.   |                             | Sand harvesting, Gold mining rock quarry, sand harvesting in river beds   |
| No. of gazetted forests   |                             | 2   |
| No. of non gazetted forests   |                             | 3   |
| No. of community forests  |                             | 14  |
| Main forest products  |                             | Timber, Fuel, Poles   |
| Incidences of environmental threats    Loss of biodiversity<br>Deforestation    Drought |                             |   |
| No. of ECD centers  |                             | 930   |
| No. of ECD teachers   |                             | 2,098   |

| Information Category                               |                                  |        | County Statistics |
|--|----------------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Teacher/pupil ratio                                |                                  |        | 1:54              |
| Enrolment  | Gross                            |        | 44638             |
|  | Girls                            |        | 22 002            |
|  | Boys                             |        | 22 636            |
| Average years of attendance (years)                |                                  |        | 3-5 years         |
| Primary Schools                                    |                                  |        |                   |
| Number of primary schools                          |                                  |        | 455               |
| Number of teachers                                 |                                  |        | 4,046             |
| Teacher/pupil ratio                                |                                  |        | 1:41              |
| Total enrolment                                    | Boys                             |        | 85220             |
|  | Girls                            |        | 83,130            |
| Enrolment rate %                                   |                                  |        | 125.70            |
| Special Needs Schools                              |                                  |        |                   |
| Number of Special Needs Schools                    |                                  |        | 16                |
| No. of Integrated Schools                          |                                  |        | 19                |
| Teacher/pupil ratio                                |                                  |        | 1:20              |
| Total enrolment                                    | Boys                             |        | 777               |
|  | Girls                            |        | 708               |
| Secondary Schools                                  |                                  |        |                   |
| Number of secondary schools                        |                                  |        | 164               |
| Number of teachers                                 |                                  |        | 2576              |
| Teacher/student ratio                              |                                  |        | 32                |
| Total enrolment                                    | Boys                             |        | 37,723            |
|  | Girls                            |        | 30,793            |
| Dropout rate %                                     |                                  |        |                   |
| Enrolment rate %                                   |                                  |        | 104.99            |
| Vocational Training Centres                        | No.                              |        | 34                |
|  | Enrolment                        |        | 5674              |
|  | Attendance                       |        |                   |
| Tertiary Education (accredited public and private) | No. of TVETS                     |        | 33                |
|  | No. of universities              |        |                   |
|  | Public                           |        | 1                 |
|  | Private                          |        |                   |
|  | Total                            |        | 1                 |
|  | Enrolment                        | Gross  | 5224              |
|  |                                  | Male   | 3294              |
|  | Female                           | 1930   |                   |
| Retention Rate (%)                                 |                                  |        | 60                |
| Instructor :learner ratio                          |                                  |        | 1:28              |
| Adult Literacy                                     | Number of adult literacy Centres |        | 107               |
|  | Enrolment                        | male   | 284               |
|  |                                  | Female | 881               |
|  |                                  | Total  | 1165              |
| Attendance   | Male                             | 124    |                   |

| Information Category                                     |   | County Statistics |
|--|---|-------------------|
|  | Female  | 129               |
|  | Intersex                                      | -                 |
|  | Total   | 253               |
| Literacy rate (%)  | Male  | 91.3              |
|  | Female  | 86.0              |
|  | Total   | 88.5              |
| Ability to read  | Can read (%)                                  | 98.2              |
|  | Cannot read (%)                               | 1.1               |
| Ability to read and write                                | Can read and write (%)                        | 88.5              |
|  | Cannot read and write (%)                     | 10                |
| Percentage of schools with access to:                    | Electricity                                   | 95                |
| <b>TOURISM AND WILDLIFE</b>                              |   |                   |
| Hotels by category (No.)                                 | Unclassified                                  | 20                |
| <b>Social amenities</b>                                  |   |                   |
| Talent Academies (No.)                                   |   | 0                 |
| Sports stadia (No.)                                      |   | 3                 |
| Libraries /information documentation centers (No.)       |   | 1                 |
| Social halls/Recreation Centres (No)                     |   | 2                 |
| <b>FINANCIAL SERVICES</b>                                |   |                   |
| <b>Number of co-operative societies</b>                  |   |                   |
| Active cooperative societies (No.)                       |   | 115               |
| Dormant cooperatives societies (No.)                     |   | 31                |
| Total Registered Membership (No.)                        |   | 15662             |
| Commercial banks (No.)                                   |   | 5                 |
| Micro-finance Institutions (No.)                         |   | 2                 |
| Village Savings and Loan Associations (No.)              |   | 7,546             |
| <b>ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT</b>                          |   |                   |
| Volume of solid waste generated: Daily/Annual            |   | 100               |
| <b>Daily (Tonnes)</b>                                    |   | 30,000            |
| <b>Annually</b>  |   |                   |
| Volume of solid waste collected & Disposed: <b>Daily</b> |   | 60                |
| <b>(Tonnes)</b>  |   | 18,000            |
| <b>Annually</b>  |   |                   |
| <b>WATER AND SANITATION</b>                              |   |                   |
| Households with access to piped water (No.)              |   | 16,941            |
| Households with access to portable water (No.)           |   |                   |
| Permanent rivers (No.)                                   | Yala, Ejornani/Zaaba, garagoli, Edzava/Esalwa | 4                 |
| Protected springs (No.)                                  |   | 228               |
| Water pans (No.)   |   | 1                 |
| Dams (No.)   |   | 2                 |
| Boreholes (No.)  |   | 27                |
| Distribution of Households                               | Piped into dwelling                           | 1.5               |

| Information Category  |                              | County Statistics |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------|
| by Main Source of water (%)   | Piped                        | 2.8               |
|   | Rain/harvested               | 3.3               |
|   | Borehole                     | 2.1               |
|   | Protected well               | 3.6               |
|   | Protected spring             | 53.1              |
|   | Unprotected well             | 0.7               |
|   | Unprotected spring           | 4.4               |
|   | Stream                       | 24.8              |
|   | Water Vendor                 | 1.0               |
|   | Dam                          | 0.3               |
|   | Pond                         | 0.6               |
| Water supply schemes (No.)  |                              | 23                |
| No of HH access to piped water                                      |                              | 16941             |
| Households with latrines  | Flush toilet                 |                   |
|   | VIP Latrine                  | 26,365            |
|   | Uncovered Pit Latrine        | 13,039            |
|   | Bucket                       | 287               |
|   | None                         | 860               |
| Community distribution by type of waste/garbage disposal (percent): | Collected by local Authority | 1.0               |
|   | Collected by Private firm    | 0.1               |
|   | Burning                      | 9.8               |
|   | Public garbage heap          | 0.4               |
|   | Farm Garden                  | 10.1              |
| <b>ENERGY</b>   |                              |                   |
| Households with electricity connection (No.)                        |                              | 80,000            |
| % of trading Centres connected with electricity                     |                              | 97                |
| HHs distribution by main cooking fuel                               | Electricity                  | 573               |
|   | Gas (LPG)                    | 174               |
|   | Biogas                       | 430               |
|   | Solar                        | 143               |
|   | Paraffin                     | 3,439             |
|   | Firewood                     | 120,075           |
|   | Charcoal                     | 8,454             |
|   |                              |                   |
| HHs distribution by main lighting fuel                              | Electricity                  | 55,023            |
|   | Gas (LPG)                    | 0                 |
|   | Biogas                       | 0                 |
|   | Solar                        | 28,768            |
|   | Paraffin                     | 12,896            |
|   | Tin lamp                     | 40,407            |
|   | Fuel wood                    | 287               |
|   |                              |                   |
| <b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>   |                              |                   |
| <b>Road Length</b>  |                              |                   |
| Bitumen surface (km)  |                              | 201.5             |
| Gravel surface (km)   |                              | 373.7             |

| <b>Information Category</b>                                   | <b>County Statistics</b> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Earth surface (km)  | 483                      |
| Railway line (km)   | 20                       |
| Railway stations (No.)  | 1                        |
| Major bus parks (No.)   | 1                        |
| <b>Telecommunication</b>                                      |                          |
| Mobile network coverage (%)                                   | 80                       |
| Proportion of population with internet/broadband connectivity | 9.6                      |
| Private couriers (No.)  | 4                        |
| <b>TRADE AND INDUSTRY</b>                                     |                          |
| Trading centers (with >2000 population) (No.)                 | 8                        |
| Major industries (No.)  | 1                        |
| Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (No.)                      | 30                       |
| Flood lights/street lights (No.)                              | 527                      |
| No of Market Stalls   | 146                      |

## Annex 2: Successful Investment Project



