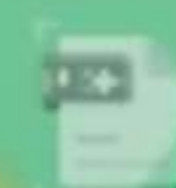




# MURANG'A COUNTY CHILDREN POLICY

2024



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2024



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# FOREWORD

I am greatly delighted to present to you the Murang'a County Children Policy 2024. This policy is a testament to our unwavering commitment to the welfare and wellbeing of children in our county, recognizing that children are not just the future, but the heart of our community today.

We understand that the wellbeing of our children is paramount to achieving sustainable development. They represent our hopes, dreams, and aspirations, and it is our duty to ensure that they grow in an environment that nurtures their potential, protects their rights, promotes their wellbeing and provides opportunities for their holistic development. This policy lays a solid foundation for a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach that seeks to address the diverse challenges faced by our children on such spheres as poverty, health, education, and protection from violence and abuse.

The development of this policy was a collaborative effort, engaging various stakeholders, including children themselves, who shared their thoughts and perspectives. Their voices are crucial in shaping initiatives that directly affect them, ensuring that we uphold the principles enshrined in both our national and international legal and policy frameworks on child rights.

As we look forward to the implementation of this policy, we are committed to fostering partnerships and collaboration among government agencies, development partners, private sector, civil society organizations, and the community at large. Together, we can create a safe and supportive environment where every child in Murang'a County can learn, grow and thrive to their fullest potential.

I urge all stakeholders to embrace this policy, mobilize resources, and consolidate efforts to ensure that the rights of every child in our County are protected and promoted. Let us unite in our efforts to build a brighter future for our children, one that is anchored in love, respect, and the assurance that they are valued members of our society.

**His Excellency Dr. Irungu Kang'ata**  
Governor,  
County Government of Murang'a

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This policy embodies our collective commitment to uphold the rights and welfare of all children in our county, ensuring they have the opportunity to thrive in a safe and nurturing environment.

We believe that every child in Murang'a County deserves a healthy and secure upbringing complete with all rights including access to quality education, protection from violence and exploitation, participate in decisions that affect their lives and thrive in sustainable family environments.

The County Government of Murang'a is indebted to everyone who made contributions towards the successful completion of this policy. The development of this policy was informed by extensive consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, including national and County Government Agencies, non-governmental organizations, Faith-based actors, community-based organizations, and the children. Their knowledge, insights and experiences have been instrumental in shaping a policy that reflects the needs of children in our community.

I wish to specifically acknowledge the immense contribution by the National Council for Children Services, the Council of Governors, The Directorate of Children Services, the National Council for persons with Disability, the Murang'a County Assembly, the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, the Judiciary and the various departments of the County Government of Murang'a. We value and appreciate the technical support from the Catholic Diocese of Murang'a, the Nurture First program, the Legacy for Children (L4C) Kenya program and the Technical Working Group composed of both state and non-state actors who provided leadership throughout the process of developing this policy.

This initiative would not have been possible without the timely involvement of Legatum Foundation who provide timely financial resources through the Catholic Diocese of Murang'a. We also appreciate additional financial support received from the Nurture First program.

Finally, we acknowledge the efforts of all those who played a role in developing this policy and who have not been mentioned here. We owe you all deep appreciation.

## **Noah Gachucha**

County Executive Committee Member  
Department of Sports, Youth, Gender and Social Services  
County Government of Murang'a



# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ACRWC</b>	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
<b>BIC</b>	Best Interest of the Child
<b>CCAC</b>	County Children Advisory Committee
<b>CIDP</b>	County Integrated Development Plan
<b>CPMIS</b>	Child Protection Management Information System
<b>CRPD</b>	Convention on the Rights of persons with Disabilities
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>CTWG</b>	County Technical Working Group
<b>DCS</b>	Directorate of Children Services
<b>ECD</b>	Early Childhood Development
<b>ECDE</b>	Early Childhood Development and Education
<b>HBCC</b>	Home Based Child Care
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communication Technology
<b>KCA</b>	Kenya Children Assembly
<b>KDHS</b>	Kenya Demographic and Health Survey
<b>KNBS</b>	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>NCAJ</b>	National Council on the Administration of Justice
<b>NCCS</b>	National Council for Children's Services
<b>NCPD</b>	National Council for Population and Development
<b>NCPWD</b>	National Council for Persons with Disabilities
<b>NGAO</b>	National Government Administration Officers
<b>SCCAC</b>	Sub County Children Advisory Committee
<b>UNCRC</b>	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
<b>VAC</b>	Violence against Children

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Murang'a County Children Policy, developed to address the diverse needs of children in the region, aims to provide a comprehensive framework for promoting and safeguarding the rights of children. The policy emphasizes the importance of a safe and secure environment for all children, aligning with the principles established in the Kenyan Constitution and various national and international child rights frameworks.

The policy outlines a vision for a county where all children thrive, supported by a coordinated approach that includes all stakeholders, from government to civil society. The goal is to promote holistic growth and development among children through effective and integrated services. Key objectives include safeguarding children's rights to life and family care, protecting them from violence, promoting their growth and participation, and harmonizing the legislative and budgetary frameworks related to children's welfare.

A significant aspect of the policy is its situational analysis, which highlights the challenges faced by children in Murang'a, including poverty, health disparities, and lack of access to education and safe environments. With approximately 63% of the county's population being under 34 years old, addressing the needs of children is paramount. The policy recognizes that 33.5% of children in Murang'a County are multidimensionally poor, significantly impacting their well-being and development.

The policy underscores the need for a multi-sectoral approach that integrates various services, including health, education, social protection, and child welfare. It emphasizes child participation, ensuring that children's voices are heard in matters affecting them, as stipulated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

For optimal implementation, the policy establishes a coordination framework that involves various stakeholders, including the County Technical Working Group and County Children Advisory Committees. This framework is designed to ensure effective monitoring, evaluation, and resource mobilization to support children's services.

Overall, the Murang'a County Children Policy seeks to create an environment where children are safe, healthy, and able to reach their full potential, addressing systemic challenges and fostering community involvement in children's welfare. The successful implementation of this policy is crucial for achieving the desired outcomes for the children of Murang'a County.

# DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGIES

**Alternative care:** The arrangement whereby a child is looked after outside the parental home under the provisions of the Children Act.

**Care reform:** Care reform is a change process within the systems and mechanisms that provide care for children separated from their families or at risk of separation.

**Charitable Children's Institution (CCI):** Is an institution established by any person, either alone or in association with others, religious organization or by a civil society organization and which has been duly registered by the Council for the care, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration or control of children.

**Child:** An individual who has not attained the age of 18 years.

**Child abuse/Violence against Children:** Defined under section 2 of the Children Act to include online and offline physical, emotional, economic, psychological harm or injury to a child.

**Childcare facility:** A child care facility established by a county government pursuant to paragraph 9 of Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution and such other facility as the Cabinet Secretary may, in consultation with a county government, approve or license as a childcare facility.

**Child participation:** The informed and willing involvement of children, including the most marginalized and those of different ages and abilities, in any matter or decision concerning them.

**Child protection:** Is the process of ensuring children are protected from all forms of harm through structures and measures to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence, including putting into place the procedures necessary for handling situations or issues that may arise.

**Disability:** Includes any physical, sensory, mental, psychological or other impairment, condition or illness that has, or is perceived by significant sectors of the community to have, a substantial or long-term effect on an individual's ability to carry out ordinary day-to-day activities.

**Early Childhood Development:** Refers to the cognitive, physical, language, motor, social, emotional, spiritual and moral development between zero to eight years.

**Family-based care:** Short-term or long-term placement of a child in a family environment with one consistent carer and a nurturing environment where the child is part of a supportive family and the community. It includes parental care, kinship care, *kafaala*, foster care, guardianship, adoption, and traditional community approaches to care.

**Home Based Care:** Day or night care that is provided to a group of children by a caregiver in the caregiver's home as distinct from domestic care which is provided by a caregiver in the child's own home.



# Chapter 1: Introduction

## 1.1. Background

Murang'a County is one of the forty-seven counties in the Republic of Kenya and one of the five counties in the Central region of the country. The County occupies a total area of 2,558.8 square kilometres. It is bordered to the North by Nyeri, to the south by Kiambu, to the west by Nyandarua and to the east by Kirinyaga, Embu and Machakos counties. It is divided into nine sub-counties namely Murang'a East, Murang'a South, Kangema, Mathioya, Gatanga, Kigumo, Kandara, Kahuro, and Ithanga/Kakuzi.

The 2019 National Population and Housing Census enumerated the total population of Murang'a County to be 1,056,609 persons consisting of 523,940 males and 532,669 females with an annual population growth rate of 0.4%. The County population is relatively youthful with approximately 63% of the total population aged 0-34 years. The proportion of older persons aged 60 years and above is relatively high, accounting for about 11% of the total population. The County population size and structure is summarized as 0-4 years (110,514); 5-9 years (114,251); 10-14 years (117,758); and 15-19 years (105,467).

In 2020, the KNBS published the comprehensive poverty report - the first-ever national attempt to measure poverty in a comprehensive manner, including multidimensional and monetary approaches, for different population groups notably children, the youth, women, men, and the elderly. The report findings confirmed that using a monetary measure alone does not capture high incidence of multidimensional poverty. The monetary poverty rate for Murang'a County is 24.6%, which is 11-percentage point lower than the national rate of 35.7%, with approximately 259,751 people in the County being monetarily poor. Murang'a County has a multidimensional poverty rate of 43.2%, which is 19-percentage point lower than the monetary poverty rate of 24.6%, with 456,156 people being multidimensionally poor. When disaggregated by age groups, 33.5% of children in Murang'a are multidimensionally poor. This is 19 percentage points lower than the national average of 52.5%. Among the youth, 43.6% are multidimensionally poor, compared to a national average of 48.1%, while for the elderly population, 40.9% are multidimensionally poor, compared to a national average of 55.7%.

Regarding children, the roles of the County governments are well spelt out under section 61 and 62 of the Children Act (Cap 141). They include providing or facilitation of the provision of pre- primary education; provision or facilitation of the provision of childcare facilities; and establishing welfare schemes to provide or facilitate the provision of childcare facilities and programs for children including children with disabilities. Section 63 of the Act requires the establishment of children rescue centers in every County for the temporary care of children in need of care and protection pending placement in alternative care or other interventions. Noteworthy, under section 54 of the Act, County Government officers are members of the County Children Advisory Committees (CCACs) whose functions include providing a platform for collaboration between the national and county levels of government on children matters.

## 1.2. Vision

A county where all children thrive in a safe and secure society.



### 1.3. Goal

To promote holistic growth and development of all children in the County through a coordinated and multi-sectoral approach.

### 1.4. Objectives

Implementation of this policy will be guided by the following objectives:

1. To safeguard the right to life, family and community based care for all children.
2. To protect all children from all forms of violence and provide mechanisms of redress in case of violations.
3. To promote the holistic growth and development of all children.
4. To promote meaningful participation of children in all matters affecting them.
5. To provide for harmonization of the County policy, legislative and budgetary frameworks for enhanced coordination and implementation of children rights.

### 1.5. Rationale

Article 53 of the Constitution of Kenya provides for the rights of children which includes the right to free and compulsory basic education, basic nutrition, shelter and health care; protection from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhuman treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labor; parental care and protection to mention but a few. These rights are also provided under Article 43 of the Constitution. Article 45 of the Constitution provides for the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society in which children should grow, develop, and attain their full potential. Chapter 11 of the Constitution provides for devolved governance while the Fourth Schedule sets out the distribution of functions between the national and county levels of government.

The Children Act came into force on 26th July 2022 to, among other objectives, give effect to article 53 of the Constitution. The Act assigns specific roles and responsibilities to County governments on matters of children. This policy therefore seeks to provide Murang'a County with a comprehensive policy framework to anchor the realization of these roles and for promoting and protecting the rights and welfare of all its children. Besides establishing mechanisms for strengthening and coordinating child rights programming in the county, the policy also mainstreams child participation systems to promote their best interest. In addition to assigning roles and responsibilities for effective implementation of key interventions herein, this policy also provides for resource mobilization and allocation strategies by both the County government and its partners.

### 1.6. Policy development Process

This policy has been developed through an inclusive, participatory and widely consultative process with representation of multiple stakeholders. Key stakeholders and institutions that have been part of process include children, County government departments, National Council for Children's Services, Directorate of Children Services, Directorate of Social Development, Council of Governors, Judiciary, Ministry of interior and National Administration, National Council for Persons with Disabilities, Faith based organizations, Media, Council of elders (Kiama kia ma) and community based organizations working in the children right sector. Annex II provides a brief highlight of the activities undertaken in developing this policy.

## 1.7. Scope

This policy provides for a multi-sectoral approach in promoting and protecting the rights of all children in Murang'a County. It applies across the County and binds state and non-state actors (individuals and institutions) who partner with the County government in the implementation of policies, programmes and projects that seek to safeguard and protect the rights and welfare of children.

## 1.8. Guiding Principles

This policy is anchored on the following guiding principles:

**Non-Discrimination:** Children should enjoy their rights and never be subjected to any form of discrimination. It is the obligation of the Murang'a County government to provide equal opportunities for all children.

**Best interests of the child (BIC):** The best interest of the child shall be the primary consideration in all actions and decisions that concern children. The best interest considerations under Section 8 and the First Schedule of the Children Act shall guide such actions and decisions.

**Meaningful child participation:** Children have a right to freely express their views on matters that affect their lives. In all matters affecting a child, the child shall be accorded an opportunity to express their opinion, and that opinion shall be taken into account having regard to the child's age and degree of maturity.

**Multi-sectoral approach:** This policy will be implemented through a collaborative and partnership approach involving both state and non-state actors.

# Chapter 2: Situational Analysis

This chapter provides a contextual basis of this policy. It seeks to provide a brief status update, review trends and identify any gaps in order to inform strategic interventions and activities. In addition to a review of the legal and regulatory framework, and regional and international benchmarks the situational analysis is premised on the 4 main pillars of the UNCRC namely the right to survival, the right to protection, the right to development and the right to participation.

## 2.1. Legal and policy framework

### a. Global and regional level landscape

Article 2 (6) of the Constitution states that any treaty or convention ratified by Kenya shall form part of the national law. Kenya is a party to multiple global and regional conventions, treaties, and declarations that guarantee the rights and welfare of children. This policy draws from these instruments, which place obligations upon states to protect, respect, promote, and fulfill the rights of children.

At the global level these instruments include the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC); the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights; the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Intercountry Adoption; UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD); the International Labor Organization Minimum Age Convention and Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention; and the 2019 United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child.

Important instruments at the regional level include the African Charter on Human and People's Rights; the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC); and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa.

### b. National Level

Kenya has a robust Constitutional and legislative framework that seeks to promote and protect the rights and freedoms of children. Article 53 outlines specific provisions for children including the principle of the best interest of the child and attendant rights, inter alia, the right of access to free and compulsory basic education, access to basic nutrition, protection from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, inhumane treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labor.

Further, article 27 outlaws discrimination on any grounds including age while article 45 recognizes the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society and the necessary basis of social order, and shall enjoy the recognition and protection of the State.

Among the key legislative frameworks at the national level include the Children Act (Cap 141), the Early Childhood Education Act, 2021, Basic Education Act 2013, Protection against Domestic Violence Act 2015, the Health Act 2017, Persons with Disability Act 2003; Sexual Offences Act, 2006; Employment Act, 2007; Marriage Act, 2014; Computer Misuse and Cyber Crimes Act, 2018; Victim Protection Act, 2014; HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control Act 2011, Legal Aid Act, 2016, Data Protection Act, 2019, Law of Succession Act, Cap 160 and the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010.



This policy also borrows from national policy frameworks and strategies including the National Policy on Family Promotion and Protection 2023; National Social Protection Policy 2023; National Care Reform strategy for Children in Kenya 2022-2032; Standard Operating Procedures on Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Kenya 2024; National Positive Parenting Programme Guidelines and training manual 2023; The Kenya Health Policy 2012 – 2030; the draft Kenya Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) Policy 2024; the Kenya Community Health Policy 2020-2030, and Policy on Rehabilitation of Street Families, 2024.

### c. County level

Part II of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution assigns County governments specific functions relevant to children rights and welfare. Accordingly, the County government of Murang'a has developed diverse policies, legislations and strategies, which have a bearing on the rights and welfare of the child. They include the Murang'a County Health Policy 2022-2027 that focuses on the key obligations of health: accessibility and affordability of healthcare services. The County Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP) 2020-2025, which sets ambitious targets for the scale-up of nutrition interventions. The plan identifies priority multi-sectoral nutrition actions for each sector, defines targets for each intervention, and provides a monitoring and accountability framework as well as costing of interventions, which the county can use for subsequent planning and budgeting. The Murang'a County Health Services Act, 2020 provides an implementation framework for health services across the county, Murang'a County Alcoholic Drinks Control Act of 2014, Murang'a Agro-ecology Policy, 2022-2032, Murang'a County Agro ecology Development Act, 2022.

## 2.2. Child Survival

### a. Child Health

Section 16 of the Children Act affirms that every child has the right to enjoy the best attainable state of physical, mental and psychological health. This includes the right to access age-appropriate information on health promotion and the prevention and treatment of ill- health and disease, mental health and reproductive health and confidentiality regarding his or her health status and the health status of a parent, care-giver or family member, except when maintaining such confidentiality is not in the best interests of the child.

According to the 2022 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS), in Murang'a County under-5 mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births) stands at 47 compared to national average of 41 while neonatal mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births) is at 36 compared to a national average of 21. The percentage of the household population with access to an insecticide-treated net (ITN) is at 31% compared to a national average of 50%.

According to the 2022 Study on status of the family in Kenya by the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), 63% of Murang'a County residents have no medical insurance while 35% reported NHIF as the main type of insurance cover. Through the CIDP 2023-2027, the County proposes a two-pronged approach to address this challenge. First is strengthening the NHIF coverage, and secondly, establishing a fund to cover the costs of every expectant mother seeking pre and post-natal services in the county public health facilities through a fund dubbed "*Kang'ata Care*." In 2022, the County Government of Murang'a signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the NHIF; that has expanded the health scheme coverage to approximately 40,000 households, which translates to approximately 120,000 individuals.



According to the 2019 National Population and Housing Census, the majority (95.5%) of births taking place in the county occurred in a health facility. The County is undertaking initiatives aimed at enhancing the capacity of healthcare providers. For example, in July 2023, Jacaranda Health and the County Government graduated the first cohort of 68 mentees and in-facility mentors under the MENTORS' programme to support delivery of comprehensive care to mothers and their babies.

## b. Nutrition

According to the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report 2021, 68% of the population in Kenya is food insecure. According to 2022 KDHS, in Murang'a County 10% of the children under 5 are stunted (Too short for their age) while 6% of children under 5 years are underweight (too thin for their age). The Murang'a CIDP 2023-2027 proposes to adopt and implement nutrition interventions affecting pregnant mothers, school going children, and the vulnerable families. The Murang'a County Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP) 2020-2025, which aligns to the Kenya Nutrition Action Plan, recognizes nutrition as a fundamental human right and a driver of economic development. The County has an *uji* (porridge) program targeting ECD pupils in 650 public ECD centres reaching out to 42,000 ECD pupils. The CNAP provides a roadmap and monitoring tool for nutrition programs across the county.

Murang'a County has developed food pharmacies in a bid to increase its residents' access to healthy and nutritious food. The food pharmacies promote consumption of medicinal foods in addition to conventional medicine. Since 2022, through a nutrition program dubbed Malezi Bora, the County has embarked on a drive to administer deworming drugs and give vitamin A supplement to children aged up to five years. The program, administered bi-annually targets 100,000 children.

## c. Children with disabilities

According to the 2019 Kenya National Population and Housing Census, the number of persons with disabilities was 102,527, which accounted for 9.7 percent of the total county population. The age between 0-14 years' accounts for 53.9 percent of the total county population of persons with disability. According to Cheshire Disability Services Kenya and CRESNET report "Exploitation of Children with Disabilities in Kenya", some children – including children with disabilities, children with HIV or children who are in institutional care – are more vulnerable to violence due to stigma, discrimination or heightened risk, and warrant special attention. The County also provide assistive devices and chairs for the people with disability.

The 2022 Study on the status of the family in Kenya by the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) indicates that 52% of families have a member with disability and only 45% of those with a member living with chronic illness are able to provide for the needs of these vulnerable members of the family respectively.

Murang'a County has several special schools and integrated units within regular schools that cater for children with disabilities. These institutions provide specialized education, therapy, and care. They include Murang'a School for the Hearing Impaired, Giachuki Special School for the Mentally Handicapped, Miharati Special School, and Integrated Units in regular Schools e.g. Kabati Special Unit (for children with intellectual disabilities) and Kangema Special Unit (for children with hearing impairment).

## d. Water, Sanitation and hygiene

The Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019 indicated that 27.9% of the population obtain piped water from water service providers while 37.2% obtain their water from



either improved or unimproved springs, wells or boreholes. Over 29% received their water supply from other unsafe sources like streams, lakes, ponds and 5.9% received water from water vendors. The sector is faced with high levels of non-revenue water (45%) water that is produced but is not accounted for.

According to the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene report, Kenya has made progress in improving sanitation services, but as of 2022, an estimated 8.5% of Kenya's population still practiced open defecation.

According to KDHS 2022, the percentage of the household population with access to at least basic drinking water service is 81% compared to national average of 68%. While household population with at least basic sanitation service stands at 50% compared 41% at national level.

## 2.3. Child protection

According to the 2019 national VAC survey, nearly half of females (45.9%) and more than half of males (56.1%) experienced childhood violence in Kenya. Among the 15.6% of females who experienced childhood sexual violence, nearly two-thirds (62.6%) experienced multiple incidents before age 18. According to the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022, Murang'a among other counties exhibit the highest prevalence of sexual violence against women aged 15-49, with 24.3 % of reports of sexual violence cases. This alarming trend underscores the urgent need for intervention and support mechanisms for affected individuals including children.

According to the Murang'a County Crime Outlook 2020 report by the National Crime Research Centre, child abuse (including child neglect) accounted for 31.1% against 26.9% at the national level; defilement at 32.6% and 31.3% at national level; loitering for prostitution (including child prostitution) 0.8% against national average of 0.5%

According to the KDHS report, drug addiction and abuse shows 7% (15 to 19 years), also 10 to 18 years are affected. Further it shows that in Kenya, there are an estimated 26, 673 people who inject drugs with 1.5% (412) estimated to be in Murang'a County. As of December 2021, only 63% (16,725) Country wide were reported as active of whom 1% (161) were adolescents aged 15-19.

According to the National Council on Administration of Justice report (2022-2023), Murang'a had 276 child offenders. Theft was the highest recorded crime involving minors, with 78 cases. A further 40 children were booked for possession of narcotics and 34 were in conflict with the law for housebreaking.

The numbers in Murang'a paint a grave situation with high numbers of minors engaging in capital offences. From the report, 28 children were recorded to have defiled others, while 8 attempted sodomy or rape and one committed sodomy.

According to the 2022 KDHS, the prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation in Murang'a is 17% against the national prevalence of 15%.

According to a study published in June 2024 in Reviewed Journal of Education Practice that examined the impact of child labor on school attendance and academic performance among pre-primary and lower primary school pupils in the region. Child labor remains a significant concern in Murang'a County, adversely affecting children's education and well-being. The findings revealed that child labor negatively influences both school attendance and academic performance, primarily due to socio-economic factors. The study emphasized the urgent need for coordinated efforts to combat child labor and its detrimental effects on educational outcomes.

## 2.4. Child Development

### a. Family and Community based care

The National Care Reform Strategy for Children in Kenya (2022-2032) envisions that “all children and young people in Kenya live safely, happily and sustainably in family and community-based care where their best interests are served”. Kenya has an estimated 45,000 children living in over 845 Charitable Children Institutions (CCIs). Institutions in Murang’a County hosts approximately 700 children in about 14 CCIs, 2 SCIs and 1 children remand home. The County government of Murang’a runs two SCIs (Koimbi and Kandara) with a combined population of approximately 100 children.

Section 67 of the Children Act stipulates that the placement of a child in a CCI shall only be done as a last resort. Under the transitional provisions of the Act, it is expected that CCI shall not undertake any activity after 2032. The Act assigns various roles and responsibilities to County governments including providing or facilitating the provisions of pre-primary education; providing or facilitating the provision of childcare facilities; establishment of welfare schemes; and establishment of children rescue centres. Section 12 of the Act extends social security support for children in alternative care.

The 2022 Study on the status of the family in Kenya by the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) indicates that 42% of families have a member consuming alcohol while 27% have a member consuming tobacco. 42% of the respondents in rural areas preferred leaving their children under the care of their spouses/partners. 15% of caregivers in urban areas compared to 2% in rural areas reported day-care as their main childcare arrangement. 35% of separated/divorced/widowed parents indicated that they leave their children under the care of grandparents. 25.2% of separated/divorced/widowed parents leave their children alone. The study concludes that parental skills need to be enhanced to play an active role while teachers and religious communities can play important and complementary roles in developing a positive intercultural and global outlook among children.

Noteworthy, daycare and other home-based childcare facilities lack the requisite support, recognition and regulations necessary to offer optimal childcare services. Despite the Constitutional and legislative provisions regarding the role of counties in this regard, there is lack of a clear national policy and regulatory framework that outlines minimum standards, norms, practices, and operating guidelines for these critical childcare providers.

### b. Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE)

The Nurturing Care Framework 2018 and the draft Kenya Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy 2024 underpins the critical role played by the formative years of a child’s growth and development. Age of 0-8 years is critical for human development. This is the period when the brain develops most rapidly and the neural connections formed are the foundation of a child’s physical, mental health, lifelong health, and holistic wellbeing.

The fragmented nature of service provision in the current Early Childhood Development (ECD) ecosystem and its attendant services at the national, county and community levels, is guided by various policies, strategic plans and service guidelines that have been developed and implemented at all levels by state and non-state actors. There is also fragmented data on the number of ECD centres in Murang’a including services provided by Day/Night care centres and Home Based Child Care (HBCC) providers.

ECDE is the foundation of education, offered in both private and public schools to promote cognitive development through a curriculum that provides play-based learning,



socialization, and an exploration environment. Section 61 of the Children Act obligates County governments to provide or facilitate the provision of pre-primary education.

According to the Murang'a CIDP 2023-2027, the county has 648 public ECDE Centres, with a total enrolment of 41,373 pupils. The ECDE programmes have been successful in the following areas: feeding program raising enrolment in the sector, access due to free tuition, provision of scholarship fund for 4700 bright and needy students as an intervention program, improved monitoring and assessment, 99% transition of pre-school learners from ECDE to primary education, construction and renovation of classrooms. However, the following challenges were noted: inadequate resources, bureaucracy in the procurement process, shortage of teachers, and rise in absenteeism due to the withdrawal or inconsistency of the lunch program, poor and dilapidated infrastructure, inadequate & proper teaching and learning materials and inadequate play and rest materials.

### c. Social protection

The Government of Kenya has established the National Safety Net Programme (NSNP) to provide an operating framework for the four (4) cash transfer programmes: The Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (CT-OVC); the Older Persons Cash Transfer (OP-CT); the Persons with Severe Disabilities Cash Transfer (PwSD-CT) and the Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP).

According to the KNBS Comprehensive Poverty Report 2021, there is a slightly higher poverty prevalence rate in households with children (36.3%) compared to those without (31.3%). Urban households with children had a lower poverty headcount rate of 33.1% compared to their rural counterparts at 38.0 per cent. However, it is noted that there is less variation between households with and without children in rural areas, as measured by poverty incidences and poverty gap.

The report further highlights the percentage of poverty rates for the children in Murang'a County as follows: 19.1% for children between 0-5 years, 30.1% for children between 6-13 years and 29.6% for children between 14-17 years. The 2022 Study on the status of the family in Kenya by the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) indicates that 55.8% of the families are not saving at all. Families seem to be borrowing a lot to sustain their daily livelihood as reported by about 1 out of 10 families that they are heavily burdened by debts. The proportion of older persons aged 60 years and above is relatively high, accounting for about eleven percent of the total population. The total dependency ratio is 69.2 with child dependency ratio at 54.8. The CIDP 2022-2027 commits to the sensitization and mobilization of the community members toward cash transfer programs, women's funds and other social activities.

According to Situational Analysis Report launched on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 by Forum for African Women Educationalist Kenya (FAWEK) Murang'a County was among the counties that recorded the lowest rates of teenage pregnancies at 9.2% against an average of 27.4% among the surveyed 20. Whereas the low percentages are encouraging. The number of children affected are still a cause for concern. Teenage pregnancies threaten rights of children under article 53 of the Constitution. These rights include education, health and the overall best interests of the child.

The county has adopted a multisectoral approach to reducing teenage pregnancies by bringing together stakeholders comprising of government representatives, community leaders, educators and health professionals discussing strategic interventions and policies conducive to decreasing teenage pregnancy rates and re- entry of teenage mothers back to school. School re-entry guidelines for survivors of teenage pregnancies and child mothers have also been touted as necessary in realizing the right to education of the survivors.

The County has continuously given bursaries to the needy secondary school children. The County runs the County Scholarship Fund for continuing high school students under “Nyota Zetu” - Equal Education Opportunity for Every Murang’a Child Program. Additionally, the County often extends bursaries to orphaned and vulnerable children and those with disabilities or whose parents have disabilities.

The County Government in collaboration with the World Bank has started an Economic Inclusion Program (EIP) in Murang’a North and South Sub-counties targeting 1,500 families who were chosen as beneficiaries who get Ksh. 2000 stipends monthly to combat effects of poverty.

#### **d. Recreation, leisure, and cultural activities**

Section 14 of the Children Act entitles every child to leisure, play and participation in non-harmful cultural and artistic activities. The Act requires every county government to appoint and designate specific areas in estates and villages as public child play and recreational facilities, which shall be accessible to all children, including children with disabilities.

The Murang’a County Youth Empowerment Bill 2022 obligates the County government to, among other interventions, identify and establish an area for leisure in each of the urban areas in the sub-counties, encourage private sector participation in the promotion of arts and sports, and establish institutions to promote diverse arts and cultural activities.

## **2.5. Child Participation**

Article 12 of the UNCRC provides that a child who is capable of forming his or her own views has the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.

Citizen participation is among the national values and principles of governance under article 10 of the Constitution. Statutorily, the right to child participation is explicitly provided for under sections 8 and 28 of the Children Act. The main platform for facilitating child participation is the Kenya Children’s Assembly (KCA). The Operational Guidelines for Children’s Assembly 2021, the Charter for the Kenya Children Assembly (KCA) 2021 and the 2021 Kenya Children Assembly (KCA) Standing Orders provide a national level framework for child participation. Child participation has also been facilitated by the Ministry of Education through school students’ leadership. At the national level, plans are underway to review the Child Participation Guidelines, 2011 to harmonize child participation framework in the country.

The Kenya Children Assembly and Students governments have provided opportunities for child participation in Murang’a County. KCA has representation up to the sub-county level. Children in Murang’a County participate in preparation, planning and celebrations for the annual national Children’s days including the Day of the African Child and World Children’s Day. Children are also involved in the development process of legislation and policies. They also participate in devolution conferences organized by the Council of Governors.

# Chapter 3: Policy Statements and Strategies

The chapter outlines the county's commitment to safeguarding the rights and welfare of children. It sets clear policy directives aimed at addressing key challenges affecting children, such as access to education, protection from abuse, health care, and social services. The strategies in this chapter provide a roadmap for implementing these policies, focusing on collaboration with stakeholders, resource allocation, and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that the well-being of children in Murang'a County is prioritized and enhanced.

## 3.1. Child survival

### 3.1.1. Policy Statement 1: Provide holistic health care services for the wellbeing of all children

#### Interventions

1. Develop community referral mechanisms to promote access to primary healthcare for children.
2. Expand access to health insurance to achieve universal health coverage for children.
3. Create linkages and collaboration with key stakeholders and build their capacities to provide effective child health care services.
4. Promote mental health for all children
5. Provide accessible health care services to support women and teenage mothers seeking antenatal, delivery and postnatal care.

### 3.1.2. Policy Statement 2: Promote multi-sectoral approaches for sustainable food security and nutrition for all children

#### Interventions

1. Provide nutritious diets to all children.
2. Build capacity of the community on economic empowerment programmes to supplement nutritional needs of children.
3. Strengthen coordination mechanism to implement the Murang'a County nutrition action plan and other related interventions.
4. Promote resilient agricultural practices to increase food productivity and adoption of effective post-harvest handling and storage to minimize wastage.

### 3.1.3. Policy statement 3: Promote comprehensive care and support for children with disabilities

#### Interventions

1. Provide for early detection through screening for congenital birth defects, and identification of delayed milestones for effective disability management.
2. Provide appropriate medical treatment, special care, education and training free of charge for all children with disabilities.
3. Promote holistic family and community based care for children with disabilities.

4. Promote and enforce infrastructure standards to protect and safeguard the rights and welfare of children with disability.
5. Provision of targeted community and caregiver services for effective support and care of children with disability.

### **3.1.4. Policy Statement 4: Promote access to safe, clean drinking water, proper sanitation and hygiene services to all children**

#### **Interventions**

1. Provide safe clean drinking water for all children
2. Promote sustainable management of water resources
3. Promote good sanitation practices
4. Promote an open defecation free county

## **3.2. Child Development**

### **3.2.1. Policy Statement 1: Promote growth and development of children in a safe and sustainable family and community based care where their best interests are served**

#### **Interventions**

1. Transition and repurpose Kandara and Koimbi SCIs into child rescue centres or other family care-responsive childcare facilities.
2. Promote the establishment of child welfare programs by CCIs to address needs of children without parental care.
3. Provide for approval, registration, licensing, and monitoring of childcare facilities.
4. Promote positive parenting programmes for holistic child development and wellbeing.

### **3.2.2. Policy statement 2: Provide quality and holistic Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE)**

#### **Interventions**

1. Renovate and equip ECD and ECDE centres to promote holistic child development and education.
2. Promote capacity building programs for ECD and ECDE stakeholders.
3. Promote quality assurance for compliance in ECD and ECDE centres.
4. Enhance ECD and ECDE feeding programs to promote child nutrition in partnership with the National government.

### **3.2.3. Policy Statement 3: Provide for social protection measures to protect and promote the wellbeing of children**

#### **Interventions**

1. Strengthen families and communities to enhance social protection
2. Adopt and integrate social cash transfers that link to complementary programmes

3. Develop and strengthen social protection capacity-building programme.

### **3.2.4. Policy Statement 4: Provide safe and adequate public child play and recreational facilities for all children including those with disabilities**

#### **Interventions**

1. Designate specific areas in estates and villages as public child play and recreational facilities.
2. Promote multi-stakeholder participation in the promotion of arts and sports.

## **3.3. Child Protection**

### **3.3.1. Policy Statement 1: Strengthen family and community mechanisms to prevent, and respond to child abuse**

#### **Interventions**

1. Promote positive parenting for better care of children
2. Promote and reinforce intergenerational stability and positive cultural practices
3. Provide holistic support to children and families to prevent and respond to online and offline child abuse
4. Strengthen collaboration and partnerships among child protection stakeholders.

### **3.3.2. Policy Statement 2: Prohibit and eliminate all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse against children**

#### **Interventions**

1. Develop county specific laws, policies, plan of actions and Standard Operating Procedures to prevent and respond to sexual abuse for children.
2. Build capacity of stakeholders and structures that prevent and respond to child sexual abuse for effective reporting and referral mechanisms.
3. Establish programmes and interventions that support survivors of child sexual abuse and their caregivers.

### **3.3.3. Policy statement 3: Provide prevention, rehabilitation, reintegration and other support services for children in conflict and in contact with the law**

#### **Interventions**

1. Promote educational support, vocational training, counselling, and mental health services to children in conflict and in contact with the law.
2. Enhance the capacity of the various actors to handle children in conflict and in contact with the law to promote the child's best interest.
3. Promote measures to re-integrate and rehabilitate children in contact and conflict with the law.

### **3.3.4. Policy statement 4: Promote education, sensitization, bursaries and other educational support for teenage pregnancy survivors and teenage mothers**

#### **Interventions**

1. Support to teenage mothers in getting back to school.
2. Consider teenage mothers and other childhood pregnancies survivors in bursary allocation and disbursement.
3. Facilitate teacher and parent sensitization forums on handling teenage mothers with the unique care they need to facilitate their learning process.
4. Create community engagements on reducing teenage pregnancies as the pregnancies interfere with education of children.
5. Provide counselling services for teenage mothers with the goal of reorienting them towards the importance of education and getting them back to school.
6. Facilitate tracing and identification teenage mothers and survivors of teenage pregnancies with the intention of making sure they are in school or getting them back to school.

### **3.3.5. Policy statement 5: Establish legal frameworks and enforcement mechanisms to prevent, identify, and eliminate all forms of child labor**

#### **Interventions**

1. Review and update county-level laws and regulations to align with national laws and international conventions and standards on child labor
2. Develop clear guidelines for labor inspectors and law enforcement agencies on identifying and addressing child labor,
3. Impose strict penalties and sanctions on parents, employers and industries found violating child labor laws.

## **3.4. Child participation**

### **3.4.1. Policy statement 1: Promote the meaningful involvement of children in all matters affecting them**

#### **Interventions**

1. Involve children in County policy, legislation and budget-making process having regard to their ages and degree of maturity.
2. Strengthen child participation structures to promote meaningful engagement of children.

## 3.5. Child protection and safeguarding system strengthening

### Component 1: Leadership and Governance

#### 3.5.1. Policy Statement: Establish a children's section under the Department responsible for children matters

##### Interventions

1. Recruit/deploy and capacity build the personnel.
2. Provide for a multi-sectoral mechanism to oversee the implementation of the children policy.
3. Provide for a County Child Welfare Fund to facilitate the realization of the rights and welfare of children.

### Component 2: Legal and regulatory framework

**Policy statement:** Create a conducive legal and regulatory environment to implement policies and strategies affecting Children

##### Interventions

1. Develop and review relevant laws, policies, guidelines and standards to address the rights of children.
2. Promote compliance with this policy by all stakeholders.

### Component 3: Service Delivery

**Policy statement:** Promote effective social services delivery to the children by state and Non-state actors

##### Interventions

1. Multi-sectoral mainstreaming of children welfare programs.
2. Harmonization of service delivery for children by state and non-state actors.

### Component 4: Social Service workforce

**Policy statement:** Enhance the capacity of the social service workforce for effective service delivery for children

##### Interventions

1. Promote effective case management services for children in need of care and protection
2. Promote the welfare and wellbeing of the social workforce
3. Promote compliance with code of ethics, regulations and standards

# Chapter 4: Coordination and Implementation Framework

## 4.1. Leadership and Oversight in implementation

The policy will be domiciled in the department responsible for children matters. Under the leadership of the County Executive Committee Member (CECM), the department will promote a multi-sectoral and multi stakeholder approach in coordinating the overall implementation of the policy. Additionally, implementation will be done in collaboration with the mechanisms established under the Children Act. This policy will also be implemented in consideration of the County Integrated Development Plan, Sectoral plans, Annual Development Plans and other plans laid down by the County government.

Part VI of the County Governments Act (Cap 265) provides for decentralization structures in counties. Murang'a County has implemented some of the structures. Section 50 of the County Governments Act establishes the office of the Sub County administrator and sets out the functions of the Sub-County administrator. The Sub-County administrator is responsible for the coordination, management and supervision of the general administrative functions in the sub county unit including the development of policies and plans, service delivery, developmental activities to empower the community, the provision and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities of public services, the county public service, exercise any functions and powers delegated by the County Public Service Board, facilitation and coordination of citizen participation in the development of policies and plans and delivery of services. In carrying out the functions and obligations in subsection the sub county administrator is responsible to the relevant county chief officer including chief officer responsible for children matters.

Section 51 further decentralizes the same functions to the Ward administrator who is responsible to the Sub County administrator. Murang'a County has also established municipalities under the Urban Areas and Cities Act (Cap 275). These municipalities are responsible for urban planning and service delivery. This policy has infrastructural and service delivery provisions for children including those with disabilities. These provisions require implementation by the municipalities.

## 4.2. The County Children Advisory Committee (CCAC)

Section 54 of the Children Act establishes the County Children Advisory Committees (CCAC) composed of national and county government officers and non-state actors working on child rights programs in a county. Arising from the duties assigned to the Committee under this section, the Murang'a County advisory Committee will, inter alia, provide a platform for collaboration between the national government and the Murang'a county government on children matters. In addition to the membership provided under the Act, the Murang'a CCAC shall co-opt additional members as may be needed to properly perform its functions.

### 4.3. Sub-county Children Advisory Committees

Section 55 of the Children Act provides for the establishment of Sub-county Children Advisory Committees (SCCAC) whose functions shall be to advise the County Children Advisory Committees on, and make recommendations for, the implementation of such child welfare programmes as may be necessary for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child. There shall be established SCCAC in the respect of all sub-counties in Murang'a County.

### 4.4. The Children Technical Working Group (CTWG)

The County Government shall establish a County Technical Working Group (CTWG) composed of County level state and non-state actors. Chaired by the CECM or his/her designate, the CTWG will be responsible for tracking the overall implementation of the policy and recommending any action necessary for effective coordination. The CTWG shall be a platform for documentation of learning and sharing of experiences in the implementation of this policy. To effectively undertake this responsibility, the CTWG shall meet quarterly.

# Chapter 5: Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, Accountability and Learning

At the national level, section 5 of the Children Act requires that the Cabinet Secretary shall ensure development, review and implementation of relevant policies, laws and programs to progressively achieve the full realization of the rights of the child. Section 61(2) of the Children Act requires that every county government, in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary, shall develop policies and guidelines for the better carrying out of the functions specified under Part II of the Fourth Schedule. At the County level, section 36 of the County Governments Act 2012 obligates the County Executive Committee to supervise the administration and delivery of services in the county and all decentralized units and agencies in the county. The CECM in the department responsible for children matters shall be the principal agent responsible for the overall monitoring, evaluation, reporting and accountability for the implementation of this policy.

**a. Monitoring:** To ensure a coordinated and multi-sectoral monitoring of implementation of this policy:

- The department shall develop and standardize data collection, analysis, and storage and dissemination tools to monitor implementation.
- The County will integrate its data management with CPIMS as a means to manage data management.
- The CTWG shall develop quarterly reports on the status of implementation recommending any necessary remedial measures for the policy to attain its objectives.
- The department shall undertake annual reviews of the policy to ensure its implementation is on track.

**b. Evaluation**

- The department shall undertake a mid-term evaluation/review of this policy in 2028 to align it with the next CIDP.

**c. Accountability**

- The department will ensure continuous follow-up of activities planned during the entire policy implementation period.
- Allocated funds for the policy implementation will be periodically audited to ensure that checks and balances are well aligned with the activities done.

**d. Reporting**

- A reporting and feedback mechanism will be put in place to incorporate views from various stakeholders involved in the policy implementation including the children.
- Stakeholder engagement forums will be conducted for information sharing, emerging issues, and policy reviews.



**e. Learning**

- Documentation of challenges, best practices, and lessons learned within and without the County will be done for sharing with the stakeholders.
- The County shall make necessary arrangements to learn and share experiences with other counties and institutions through exchange visits, sharing of documents, and training etc. with other counties that are already implementing the child policy for benchmarking and learning purposes.

**5.1. Resources mobilization and financing**

- The County government will allocate funds for the implementation of this policy.
- The department responsible for children matters shall mobilize resources from non-state actors and development partners to support the implementation of this policy.

# ANNEX I: IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

Short term: Within 1 year  
 Medium term: 1-3 years  
 Long term: > 3 years

POLICY STATEMENT	INTERVENTION	ACTIVITIES	LEAD PERSON/ DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY	TIMELINES
3.1.1 Provide holistic health care services for all children	Develop community referral mechanisms to promote access to primary healthcare for children	Training forums for CHPs	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
		Health sensitization forums for expectant mothers	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
		Creating linkages to health service providers	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
		Stakeholders' sensitization forums on health insurance cover	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Expand access to health insurance to achieve universal health coverage for children	Community-based education and sensitization programs	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Mass community-based registration drives	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Linking health insurance systems with existing digital information management system	Department responsible for Health	Medium term

Create linkages and collaboration with key stakeholders and build their capacities to provide effective child health care services	Stakeholder mapping exercise	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Private-sector participation forums	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Establishing formal agreements with private hospitals and clinic	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Training workshops for healthcare providers	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Create and disseminate standardized referral protocols	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Capacity strengthening forums for CHWs	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Collaborate with stakeholders to harmonize and share data	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Train health workers and stakeholders on data management.	Department responsible for Health	Short Term
	Create awareness on children's mental health	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Initiate safe environments for children	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
Promote mental health for all children	Community, children and young people's sensitization forums on drugs and substance abuse	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Provide regular exercise platforms through sports, dance, or outdoor activities	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Provide resources and training for parents on supporting children's mental health	Department responsible for Health	Continuous

	Provide access to mental health professionals for children	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
Provide accessible health care services to support women and teenage mothers seeking antenatal, delivery and postnatal care.	Community awareness forums on healthcare needs of teenage mothers	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Train and integrate CHPs into the formal healthcare system to encourage referrals to health facilities	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Equip health facilities with adequate essential Maternal and newborn health supplies and postnatal care follow-up programs	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Provide counseling services for teenage mothers	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Provide teenage-friendly healthcare services	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
3.1.2 Promote multi-sectoral approaches for sustainable food security and nutrition for all children.	Mapping of households and child-care facilities	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Provide nutritious diets to all children		

Build capacity of the community on economic empowerment programmes to supplement nutritional needs of children.	Provision of seeds and seedlings	Department responsible for Agriculture	Continuous
	Community training program on post-harvest handling	Department responsible for Agriculture	Continuous
	Community forums for economic empowerment	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Procurement and provision of supplementary feeds for management of malnutrition.	Department responsible for health	Continuous
	Training forums on nutrition awareness	Department of Health/Department responsible for Children matters	Medium Term
	Training forums on financial literacy, budgeting, and savings	Department responsible for finance and economic planning	Medium Term
	Training community members on sustainable farming practices and crop diversification	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium Term
	Provide materials for establishment of home vegetable/kitchen gardens	Department responsible for Agriculture	Continuous
	Initiate programs to provide food supplements for malnourished children	Department responsible for Health	Continuous
	Organize fairs to showcase local food products and educate families on nutrition	Department responsible for Health	Continuous

Strengthen coordination mechanism to implement the Murang'a County nutrition action plan and other related interventions	Create a comprehensive list of stakeholders	Department responsible for Health	Short term
	Conduct workshops to share best practices	Department responsible for Health	Short term
	Advocate for policies that support nutrition initiatives	Department responsible for Health	Short term
	Organize events to foster partnerships among stakeholders	Department responsible for Health	Short term
Promote resilient agricultural practices to increase food productivity and adoption of effective post-harvest handling and storage to minimize wastage	Forums on sustainable farming and climate-change responsive agriculture	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
	Training on best practices for post-harvest handling techniques	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
	Annual tree planting initiatives by children	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
	Demonstration farms showcasing resilient agricultural practices	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
	Provision of high-quality, drought-resistant seeds and inputs that promote resilience	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
	Support the construction or improvement of community storage facilities	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term

		Collaboration with agricultural research institutions to develop and disseminate innovative farming and storage techniques.	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
<b>3.1.3 Promote comprehensive care and support for children with disabilities</b>	Provide for early detection through screening for congenital birth defects, and identification of delayed milestones for effective disability management.	Sensitization forums for expectant mothers on adherence to focused ANC and hospital delivery	Department responsible for Agriculture	Medium term
		Community Assessment forums/camps	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Community caregiver's sensitization forums	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Establish clear referral protocols for suspected cases to specialized care centers.	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Psychosocial services and support groups for families of children with congenital defects or developmental delays.	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Screening programs to identify children with disabilities early enough	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
		Establish partnerships with local healthcare facilities to provide medical treatments and therapies	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
	Provide appropriate medical treatment, special care, education and training free of charge for all children with disabilities.	Establish and equip accessible educational and learning centres for children with disabilities and those with special needs across the County	Department responsible for Education	Continuous

	Facilitate implementation of inclusive education practices in schools	Department responsible for Education	Medium term
	Training teachers on inclusive teaching strategies	Department responsible for Education	Medium term
	Provision of free access to occupational, physical and speech therapy services	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
	Provision of free assistive devices	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
	Establishing support groups and counselling services for families	Department responsible for Health/ Department in charge of children matters	Medium term
	Promote holistic family and community-based care for children with disabilities	Undertake comprehensive mapping, identification and registration of children with disabilities	Medium term
		Provision of financial and human resources to support reunification of children with disabilities from CCs to family and community-based care.	Medium term
	Promote and enforce infrastructure standards to protect and safeguard the rights and welfare of children with disabilities	Develop comprehensive guidelines for accessible infrastructure	Long term
		Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	

Provide targeted community and caregiver services for effective support and care of children with disability.	Continuous sensitization for architects, urban planners, and builders	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Long term
	Ensure disability rights are integrated into urban planning and infrastructure development	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Long term
	Perform assessments of existing infrastructure	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Long term
	Community sensitization on the rights of children with disabilities	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Long term
	Training sessions focused on the needs of children with disabilities.	Department responsible for children	Short term
	Create caregivers support groups	Department responsible for children	Short term
	Organize community health clinics to provide regular check-ups and necessary medical care	Department responsible for children	Medium term
	Provide educational materials and resources	Department responsible for children	Medium term
	Psycho social services to help families	Department responsible for children	Medium term
	Organize life skills training forums	Department responsible for children	Medium term

3.1.4 Promote access to safe, clean drinking water, proper sanitation and hygiene services to all children	Provide safe clean drinking water for all children	Water treatment for institutions of learning CCIs, SCIs, HBCC facilities and other childcare facilities	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Connecting schools to piped water	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Build child-friendly and age-appropriate sanitation blocks in all public places	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
	Promote sustainable management of water resources	Educate communities about the importance of water conservation and sustainable usage practices	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Adoption of water-saving technologies and practices	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Build reservoirs, ponds, and cisterns to store water	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Involve local communities, government agencies, and organizations in the planning and management of water resources.	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Establish community-based structures to plan and manage water resources including in situations of emergency	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
		Develop and enforce policies that promote sustainable water management practices.	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
	Promote good sanitation practices	Hygiene and sanitation campaigns in schools and communities	Department responsible for Education	Medium term
		Workshops to demonstrate proper sanitation	Department responsible for Education	Medium term

	Establish clubs in schools that promote sanitation	Department responsible for Education	Medium term
	Continuous sensitization of health-care providers on sanitation practices	Department responsible for Health	Medium term
	Construction and maintenance of clean and accessible toilets in public places	Department responsible for roads, public works and infrastructure	Medium term
	Develop Waste management regulations/guidelines	Department in-charge of water and sanitation services	Medium term
	Community clean-up events	Department responsible for water and sanitation services	Medium term
	Promote an open defecation free county	Department responsible for Environment	Medium term
	Sensitization and awareness campaigns on open defecation free environment	Department responsible for Environment	Medium term
	Construction of adequate, accessible and child friendly ablution blocks in homes, schools, CCLs, SCs, childcare facilities and public places.	Department responsible for Environment	Medium term
	Conduct regular toilet and sanitation inspection in homes, learning institutions, CCLs, SCs, HBCC and other child care facilities	Department responsible for Environment	Medium term

3.2.1 Promote growth and development of children in a safe and sustainable family and community-based care where their best interests are served	Transition and repurpose Kandara and Koimbi Charitable Children Institutions into child rescue centers or other family care-responsive childcare facilities			
		Sensitization of parents, children and other stakeholders on the transition process and care reform agenda	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Developing a transition strategy/roadmap	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Sensitization of staff on case management for transition and child welfare programming	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Provision of human and financial resources to support the transition and repurposing	Department responsible for children	Medium term
	Promote the establishment of child welfare programs to address needs of children without parental care	Community outreach events to sensitize on foster care	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Identification, Training and registration of foster care.	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Create foster Care Support Groups and networks in all sub-counties.	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Community and stakeholders' forums on alternative childcare	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Developing transition strategies/roadmaps	Department responsible for children	Medium term
		Sensitization of CCIs on childcare reform, transitioning and child welfare programming	Department in charge of children matters	Medium term
		Establish emergency shelters for temporarily accommodation of children in crisis situations	Department responsible for children	Medium term

	Create a mentorship program linking teens in care with mentors	Department responsible for children	Medium term
Provide for approval, registration and licensing of childcare facilities	Map and assess the child care facilities (including HB) within the county and create a services database	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
	Develop and implement guidelines/regulations/quality standards on minimum requirements for child-care facilities	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
	Train childcare providers on requirements of approval, registration, licensing and monitoring child care facilities	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
	Create a county service network for registered childcare providers to promote their participation in multi-sectoral planning and coordination forums	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
Promote positive parenting programs to promote child development and wellbeing	Train the social service workforce on the national positive parenting manual/guidelines	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
	Sensitization of parents and caregivers on positive parenting using the national positive parenting manual/guidelines	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
	Establish positive parenting support groups and networks	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
	Sensitize community and stakeholders on the national family promotion and protection policy	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
		Department responsible for children	Medium Term

		Develop and disseminate culturally-responsive IEC and learning materials on positive parenting	Department responsible for children	Medium Term
<b>3.2.2 Provide quality and holistic Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE)</b>	Renovate and equip ECDE centers to promote holistic child development and education	Provide guidelines for inclusive and child Friendly ECD and ECDE facilities.	Department responsible for Education	Medium Term
		Construct and/or renovate ablution blocks to meet hygienic standards	Department responsible for Education	Medium Term
		Construct ramps and accessible facilities for children with disabilities	Department responsible for Education	Medium Term
		Provide culturally-sensitive IEC and learning materials in ECD and ECDE facilities	Department responsible for Education	Medium Term
		Training and sensitization of ECD and ECDE stakeholders on child-care and child wellbeing	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
	Promote capacity building programs for ECDE and ECD stakeholders	Create networks and form linkages among ECD and ECDE state and non-state actors	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Establish inclusive ECD and ECDE resource centers	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Sensitization of ECD caregivers and ECDE teachers on disability-conscious pedagogy and care.	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
	Promote quality assurance for compliance in ECD and ECDE centers	Recruit accredited caregivers in ECD centers and teachers in ECDE Centers	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Contextualize, disseminate, implement and monitor the IECDE policy, and national caregivers' curriculum	Department responsible for Education	Continuous

	Enhance ECDE feeding programs to promote child nutrition in partnership with the national government	Carry out periodic inspections and monitoring in the ECD and ECDE facilities	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Periodic quality assurance reports for ECD and ECDE facilities	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Develop guidelines on ECD and ECDE feeding program	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Sensitize ECD and ECDE stakeholders on balanced diets and children nutritional needs	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Initiate nutrition-based projects in ECD and ECDE facilities including kitchen gardening and small stocks	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Identify school feeding champions to ensure hygiene of the program	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Organize a centralized kitchen and facilitate transport through vendor hire.	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Develop criteria and tools for identification of vulnerable households	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Multi-sectoral mapping of all vulnerable households and creating a database	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Sensitize the community and stakeholders on social protection programs in the county	Department responsible for children	Continuous
<b>3.2.3 Provide for social protection measures to protect and promote the wellbeing of children</b>	Strengthen families and communities to enhance social protection	Hold periodic multi-sectoral coordination forums on the implementation of information sharing social protection programs in the county	Department responsible for children	Continuous

	Expand the County economic inclusion programs to all vulnerable households	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Adopt and integrate social cash transfers that link to National complementary programs	Conduct community-based targeting and registration to identify eligible households for cash transfers	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Refer and link vulnerable families to available cash transfer programs	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Develop an integrated information management system to track beneficiaries	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Develop guidelines for social welfare	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Establish a coherent and comprehensive framework for the social welfare system			
	Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment survey to gather data on the socio-economic conditions of the target population	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Foster partnerships with businesses and civic organizations to mobilize resources and support.	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Develop and strengthen social Protection capacity-building program	Establish and train beneficiary Welfare Committees	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Sensitize families and communities on existing social protection programs	Department responsible for children	Continuous

		Establish effective complaint and grievances mechanism by beneficiaries of social protection programs	Department responsible for children	Continuous
<b>3.2.4. Provide safe and adequate public child play and recreational facilities for all children including those with disabilities</b>	Designate specific areas in estates and villages as public child play and recreational facilities.	Identify the public spaces available for recreation facilities at the ward level	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Continuous
		Mobilize the community to provide land for child play and recreational facilities	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Continuous
		Identify and reclaim any grabbed and illegally allocated land, play and recreational spaces	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Continuous
		Provide indoor and outdoor child play and recreational utilities in designated public spaces	Department responsible for Housing and Infrastructure	Continuous
		Establish multi-stakeholders ward level arts and sports committees	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Promote multi-stakeholder participation in the promotion of arts and sports.	Organize inclusive talent scouting camps or competitions	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Collaborate with schools, sports federations, and arts organizations to promote and nurture talents	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Collaborate with Directorate of Social Development (National) in dissemination of National Positive Parenting Program (NPPP)	Department responsible for children	Continuous
<b>3.3.1. Strengthen family and community mechanisms to prevent, and respond to child abuse</b>	Promote positive parenting for better care of children			

	Disseminate NPPP key messages and IEC materials to all stakeholders	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Establish peer to peer NPPP support groups	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Map and assess social workforce on NPPP	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Recruit and train master trainers on NPPP	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Facilitate NPPP social workforce through provision of stipend, identification tools, incentives		
	Mainstream Positive Parenting Program in all sectors (health, education, child protection)	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Share data with policy and ODDP to handle crime	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Sensitization forums for parents on drugs and substance abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Promote and reinforce intergenerational stability and positive cultural practices	Capture and document learnings of promising practices	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Produce and disseminate documentaries citing best cultural practices	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Support dissemination of National Positive Parenting Program to parents and caregivers	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Provide holistic support to children and families to prevent and respond to online and offline child abuse	Develop and disseminate child friendly and popular versions of IEC materials on online and offline abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous

	Sensitize children and families on online and offline safety	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Strengthen collaboration and partnerships among child protection stakeholders.	Disseminate the National Plan of Action to tackle OCSEA 2022-2026	Department responsible for children	Continuous
3.3.2. Prohibit and eliminate all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse against children	Develop county specific laws, policies, plan of actions and SOPs that prevent and respond to sexual child abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Develop county specific laws, policies, plan of actions and Standard Operating Procedures to prevent and respond to sexual abuse for children.	Develop and disseminate laws, policies, guidelines and regulations to prevent and respond to sexual child abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Develop a repository for national and county legislative framework that prevent and respond child sexual abuse	Develop a repository for national and county legislative framework that prevent and respond child sexual abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous

	Disseminate laws, policies, plan of actions and SOPs on child sexual abuse to all stakeholders	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Develop monitoring and evaluation framework for all laws that address child sexual abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Build capacity of stakeholders and structures that prevent and respond to child sexual abuse for effective reporting and referral mechanisms.	Develop monitoring and evaluation framework for all laws that address child sexual abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Sensitize stakeholders on existing legislation on sexual child abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Identify and build capacity of champions against sexual child abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Train stakeholders on sexual child abuse prevention and response	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Map services and programs that support child survivors of sexual abuse	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Establish programs and interventions that support survivors of child sexual abuse and their caregivers.	Sensitize survivors of sexual child abuse and their families on available services and interventions	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Establish sexual abuse recovery centers in all healthcare facilities	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Link child survivors to sexual abuse to the recovery centers and other service providers	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Establish support groups and economic support programs for survivors of child sexual abuse, their parents and caregivers	Department responsible for children	Continuous

3.3.3 Provide prevention, rehabilitation, reintegration and other support services for children in conflict and in contact with the law	Promote educational support, vocational training, counselling, and mental health services to children in conflict and in contact with the law.	Provide psychosocial support to children and their families	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Provide bursaries and other educational support to the needy children who have been in conflict and in contact with the law	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Refer children who have been through justice system to the necessary service providers	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Link children who have been through the justice system to vocational training for skill and knowledge development	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Initiate mentorship programs for children in contact and in conflict with the law	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Promote and expand apprenticeship, vocational, technical and alternative skills training to children and young persons who have been in conflict and in contact with the law	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Disseminate through-care guideline to actors in the justice system	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Map and establish database of stakeholders in the justice system	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Enhance the capacity of the various actors to handle children in conflict and in contact with the law to promote the child's best interest.		

	Sensitize stakeholders on available legal framework, programs, services and interventions on children in conflict with the law	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Facilitate induction of newly recruited workforce and refresher trainings for the actors in the justice system	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Initiate a program of recognizing and rewarding best performing actors in the justice system	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Facilitate the actors in the justice system with tools of trade and Equipment (ICT materials and infrastructure)	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Promote measures to re-integrate and rehabilitate children in contact and conflict with the law.	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Developing stakeholder engagement mechanisms for effective diversion of cases of children in conflict and contact with the law	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Initiate collaborative mechanisms for follow-ups on children who have been reintegrated from the justice system	Department responsible for children	Continuous

3.3.4 Promote education, sensitization, bursaries and other educational support for teenage pregnancy survivors and teenage mothers	Partner to support teenage mothers in getting back to school.	Set up a daycare facility at or near the school or collaborate with local childcare providers to offer subsidized services.	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Provide parenting workshops to help mothers balance their responsibilities effectively	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Offer learner oriented basic literacy and numeracy skills	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
	Include and consider teenage mothers and other childhood pregnancies survivors in bursary allocation and disbursement.	Avail bursary application forms for the teenage mothers	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Establish a mentorship program where each bursary recipient is paired with a mentor who can offer academic, emotional, and career guidance	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Organize community outreach programs in schools, health centers, and community centers to inform teenage mothers and young survivors of childhood pregnancies	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
	Facilitate teacher and parent sensitization forums on handling teenage mothers with the unique care they need to facilitate their learning process	Organize workshops for experts, on needs of teenage mothers.	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Creating a Supportive Learning Environment to equip teachers and parents	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Support regular parent-teacher meetings	Department responsible for Education	Continuous

	Create community engagements on reducing teenage pregnancies as the pregnancies interfere with education of children.	Organize community forums, radio broadcasts, and school visits	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Engage Parents and Guardians in Preventive Education	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Organize youth empowerment Programs and Peer Education	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
	Provide counselling services for teenage mothers with the goal of reorienting them towards the importance of education and getting them back to school.	Organize one-on-one counseling sessions with trained counselors	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Create a safe and supportive space for teenage mothers	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Facilitate regular group counseling sessions	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
	Facilitate tracing and identification teenage mothers and survivors of teenage pregnancies with the intention of making sure they are in school or getting them back to school.	Organize community Outreach and School Collaboration for identification	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Set up a referral network involving local schools, community centers, healthcare providers, and NGOs	Department responsible for Education	Continuous
		Launch a campaign aimed at motivating teenage mothers to return to school.	Department responsible for Education	Continuous

3.3.5 Establish legal framework and enforcement mechanisms to prevent, identify, and eliminate all forms of child labor	Review and update county-level laws and regulations to align with national laws and international conventions and standards on child labor	Carry out a thorough review of the current county-level child labor laws and regulations.	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Organize consultations with key stakeholders	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Draft new county-level child labor legislation that aligns with national laws and international conventions	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Develop clear guidelines for labor inspectors and law enforcement agencies on identifying and addressing child labor	Create comprehensive guidelines that outline step-by-step procedures for labor inspectors	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Organize regular training sessions for labor inspectors, police officers, and other relevant personnel	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Set up formal reporting and coordination procedures for labor inspectors and law enforcement agencies	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Impose strict penalties and sanctions on parents, employers and industries found violating child labor laws	Develop a detailed framework outlining the specific penalties and sanctions for violations of child labor laws.	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Create a dedicated enforcement task force to monitor compliance with child labor laws	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Implement a public awareness campaign to publicize the enforcement of penalties for child labor violations	Department responsible for children	Continuous

3.4.1. Promote the meaningful involvement of children in all matters affecting them	Involve children in County policy, legislation and budget-making process having regard to their ages and degree of maturity.	Mapping child participation platforms/structures	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Involving all categories of children in policy, legislation and budget making process.	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Develop child friendly versions of existing policy and legislation documents	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Sensitize children on existing policy and legislations that promote child participation	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Establish child participation structures to the ward level	Department responsible for children	Continuous
3.5.1 Establish a children's section under the Department responsible for children matters	Strengthen child participation structures to promote meaningful engagement of children.	Periodic meetings of the existing child participation structures at the County, sub-county and ward levels	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Harmonize the diverse child participation structures at all levels	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Stakeholders' sensitization forums on child participation	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Development of adverts or deployment plans	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Designing job descriptions and work schedules for the personnel	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Training of personnel on child rights and welfare	Department responsible for children	Continuous

Provide for a multi-sectoral mechanism to oversee the implementation of the children policy.	Convening periodic meetings of the TWG	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Compiling periodic child rights implementation and monitoring reports	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Convening stakeholder forums on sharing of lessons in implementing this policy	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Provide for a County Child Welfare Fund to facilitate the realization of the rights and welfare of children.	Develop the fund regulations and guidelines	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Periodic stakeholder forums on the utilization of the fund	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Periodic Fund management and utilization reports	Department responsible for children	Continuous
<b>3.5.2 To create a conducive legal and regulatory environment to implement policies and strategies affecting Children</b>	Review and align existing county level laws and policies	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Drafting new legislations and regulations to plug in any gaps	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Child participation forums on laws, regulations and policies	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Stakeholder engagement forums on laws, regulations and policies	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Conduct needs assessment to identify key child protection and welfare issues in the county	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Stakeholder sensitization forums	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Stakeholder forums to share experiences and learning	Department responsible for children	Continuous
Promote compliance with this policy by all stakeholders.			

3.5.3 Promote effective social services delivery to the children by state and non-state actors	Comprehensive annual compliance report	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Multi-sectoral mainstreaming of children welfare programs.	Stakeholder engagement forums on child welfare	Continuous
		Integrating child welfare programs in County Integrated Development and sector plans	Continuous
		Child participation forums in county budgeting processes	Continuous
		Joint stakeholder's consultative forum	Continuous
	Hammonize service delivery for children by state and non-state actors.	Co-funding of activities and children initiatives	Continuous
		State and non-state actor forums on county budgets	Continuous
	Joint financial support to CCAC and SCCACs	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Periodic reports of the CCAC and the SCCACs	Department responsible for children	Continuous

3.5.4 To enhance the capacity of the social service workforce for effective service delivery for children	Promote effective case management services for children in need of care and protection	Training of social service workforce in CCBs, SCBs and childcare facilities	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Initiating economic support and empowerment programs for foster parents, caregivers and families reuniting with their children	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Linking vulnerable children and families to the Children Welfare Fund	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Promote the welfare and wellbeing of the social workforce	Provide psycho-social support as necessary	Department responsible for children	Continuous
	Promote compliance with code of ethics, regulations and standards	Recruit/deploy and promote of the social service workforce	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Provide mental wellness for the social service workforce	Department responsible for children	Continuous
		Organize annual employee award ceremonies	Department responsible for children	Continuous

## ANNEX II: TECHNICAL AND STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

DATE/ MONTH	ACTIVITIES	NO. OF PARTICI- PANTS	TARGET GROUP/ PARTICIPANTS
February 2024	Consultations on the need of Murang'a County Children Policy	Multiple	CDM Legacy for Children Kenya Program and the County Government of Murang'a
6 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	The signing of the MOU between Murang'a County Government & the Catholic Diocese of Murang'a	Multiple	The MOU was signed by His Excellency Dr. Irungu Kang'ata Governor Murang'a County Government, and Rt. Rev. James Maria Wainaina Bishop Catholic Diocese of Murang'a Also present: CEC responsible for children matters, County Attorney, County Secretary and Deputy County Secretary, CDM Vicar General; President of Legatum Foundation, Senior Vice President Legatum Foundation, other Murang'a County government and CDM Staff.
7 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Policy drafting Workshop. Designing the policy framework, policy statements, key intervention areas and contextualizing the policy.	31	Technical Working Group(TWG)

19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Policy drafting Work- shop. Development of the draft Policy	19	Technical Working Group
12 <sup>th</sup> Aug.2024	Stakeholder Engage- ment on draft Policy	64	National Government Adminis- tration Officers (NGAO)
13 <sup>th</sup> Aug. 2024		66	Child protection specialists, Media personnel, and business people including transport
14 <sup>th</sup> Aug. 2024		47	Religious Leaders
15 <sup>th</sup> Aug.2024		63	County Court User Committee (CUC),Children Advisory Com- mittee(CAC),OCPDs, OCSs
16 <sup>th</sup> Aug.2024		64	Charitable Children Institu- tions(CCIs), CCI Managers, Day care service providers, and parents
21 <sup>st</sup> Aug.2024		45	Children from the 9- sub-counties
11 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2024	Technical Working Group Review Meet- ing	18	Technical Working Group
13th Nov. 2024	Countywide Public Participation Forums on the draft policy	600	Members of the public
14th Nov. 2024	Forum of the members of the County Assem- bly	45	Members of the County Assembly of Murang'a

# ANNEX III: MEMBERS OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

Noah Gachucha	County Government of Murang'a (Chairperson)
Kenneth Kihato	County Government of Murang'a (Vice Chairperson)
Bernard Kariuki	County Government of Murang'a
Irene Mucheru	County Government of Murang'a
Kairo Kimende	County Government of Murang'a
Liz Kimemia	County Government of Murang'a
Sharleen Wambui	County Assembly of Murang'a
Janet Mwema	National Council for Children Services
Tom Kataka	Council of Governors
Peter Nzeva	Directorate of Children Services
Peter Mutoka	Ministry of Interior and National Administration
Esther Kanyaru	National Council for persons With Disabilities
Joseph Muthuri	Legacy for Children (L4C) Kenya
Jane Karanja	Catholic Diocese of Murang'a
Stella Mbugua	Nurture First
Cornel Ogutu	Children protection specialist
Christopher Wadoyi	Children protection specialist

## ANNEX IV: PHOTO GALLERY



*Signing of the MOU between the County Government and the Catholic Diocese of Murang'a on 6th March 2024*



*Stakeholders forum on 15th August 2024 bringing together the CUC, CCAC and the National Police Service*



*Child participation Forum on 21st August 2024*



*CCLs managers, HBCC services providers and parents during the stakeholders engagements on the draft policy*



*Public participation at Murang'a CDM hall on 13th November 2024*



*A section of the Technical Working Group during the policy drafting workshop*



*Engagement forum with the Hon. members of the Murang'a County Assembly*



*Partners meeting with the County Government on developing the policy framework*

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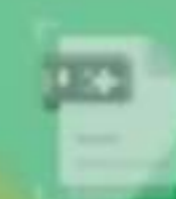






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