



**GOVERNOR KISII COUNTY 2022/2027**  
**HON. PAUL SIMBA ARATI**  
&  
**HON. DR. ROBERT ONSARE MONDA**

**MANIFESTO**

ACCOUNTABLE, TRANSPARENT, VISIONARY AND TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP

OUR PLEDGE TO THE PEOPLE OF KISII COUNTY

**#INAWEZEKANA**



**AZIMIO LA**  
**UMOJA**  
★★★★★

# Forward

## REDEFINING OUR DESTINY AN AGENDA FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE

*Masoge kegima minto Mwanyagetinge!*

Leadership is knowing the way, showing the way and going the way. Knowing the way is having a vision, showing the way is mobilizing all of us as partners and going the way is having the courage to sacrifice all comfort to deliver projects and programs efficiently and effectively.

May I take this opportunity to heartily commend our GUSII Nation as a whole for your solid industrious nature and determination to make the best from the resource endowment in the county. Your resilience and magnanimity is testimony to our nature as Omogusii for it is through our collective efforts that we have earned a strategic and unique space both at national and international arenas. This exceptional determination will outlive many generations. To our partners, welcome to Kisii County – The land of possibilities.

Since the advent of devolution 10 years ago, our development needs and aspirations have been handled fairly at the local level albeit with mixed results. As is provided in our constitution, every five years, leaders seek fresh mandate from the electorate to get a chance to serve citizens in trust.

*Minto Mwanyagetinge*, I hereby present to you my promise and commitment on how to redefine and re-engineer the development path for our great county when given a chance to serve you as your second governor.

This manifesto is a roadmap towards the long journey of transforming Kisii into a model county. It highlights the policies and programs my government will develop and implement in order to actualize the dream of greatness that we all desire. I believe that for us to move this county to greater levels of development, the spirit of 'one people one county' must prevail.

Consequently, under my leadership I will strengthen devolution tenets by carrying out all development plans and policies through a structured and well-coordinated Public Participatory approach, empowering democratic self-governance and collaborative decision making as envisaged in the 2010 Constitution. Wide consultation at all levels with our citizens on policy and development matters will be the backbone of my administration upon which all programs on health, agriculture, roads, water, education, energy and business enterprises will be anchored. This is my first promise to our people.

My political philosophy and platform is social transformation and wealth creation. I believe that a successful county government is built through teamwork, equity, fairness, transparency and accountability. These virtues coupled with integrity will therefore, form the basis and core pillars in my administration. This is my second promise.

My administration will remain firm in creating and promoting social, economic, environmental, cultural and political development opportunities for all. This will be the basis for having a healthier, wealthier, more informed and more exposed people who are focused on creating more wealth and opportunities through private enterprises. Acknowledging that in the midst of the great people of Kisii County, there are persons and families who are either under privileged, or vulnerable, or exposed, my administration will pay special interest to promote the welfare of these groups as contemplated in our 2010 Constitution. This is my third promise.

As a team we shall deliberately engage with our political and development partners locally, regionally and internationally to support our development agenda and philosophy of transformation. I will solidly remain part of the political movement and allies that believe in and promote socio-economic transformation in Kisii County and Kenya at large. This is my fourth promise.

Acknowledging that the Youths and Women are the drivers of the social-economic transformation of our county, my administration will give special attention to their needs by establishing a special Fund for affirmative action and enterprise development under my office. This is my fifth promise.

My team and I, offer this bold and achievable Four-point resolute plan as a summary of ideas we have conceived for transforming Kisii County into a first world with your active participation. This agenda will be my bond and my social contract with my people. A social contract of trust, resilience and victory upon which we shall together realize our dream of achieving greatness.

I request that you give us a contract over the next five years to be your leaders, for we have what it takes to make our Kisii a marvelous example of a great county.

**Ahsante sana!**

God bless Kisii County

God bless our Motherland Kenya

HON. PAUL SIMBA ARATI

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## VISION

A cohesive and prosperous County that cherishes unity, inclusivity and economic development for all citizens of Kisii County

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Promote devolution through fair and equitable distribution of resources, opportunities and development to all citizens of Kisii County

“

Under this MANIFESTO, our agenda will place all the people of Kisii County at the center of inclusive development, with clear plans to achieve the following:

”

## THE 5-POINTPILLARS FOR MY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF2022-27

1



DEVOLUTION  
AND  
GOVERNANCE

2

WEALTH  
CREATION



3

SUSTAINABLE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION



4

SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT



5

ENABLERS  
AND ICT





## PILLAR 1 DEVOLUTION & GOVERNANCE

Deepen and further decentralize the structures of governance and empower our community to hold public officers accountable; offer efficient and proximate services; Entrench the practice of public participation in formulation, prioritization, review and implementation of development programs. My commitment and that of my administration will be to have devolution deliver to the people of Kisii County.

## PILLAR 2 WEALTH CREATION

Pursue economic empowerment programs geared towards poverty eradication and improved livelihood. This will include – offering the best financial services as the hub of our region, operationalizing the 24-hour economy in the municipalities and townships and expanding the retail and hospitality services.

We want to expand employment opportunities by financing the installation of cottage industry machinery, revamping the agricultural sector by reviving the coffee, pyrethrum and other products and linking Kisii to the world markets.

My administration will jumpstart the manufacturing and business engine and turbo-charge it through targeted investments in the sugar, tea and coffee sub-sectors to ensure maximum returns possible to farmers, promote value addition to our bananas, avocados, sugarcane, pineapples, pyrethrum and the development of cottage industries.

Similarly, we will promote and pursue initiatives that will lead to Job creation in various sectors (Kazi Mashinani) through establishment of business innovation and incubation centres that promote entrepreneurship.

Access to markets and marketing through the establishment of aggregation centres, restructuring and development of markets starting with Daraja Mbili & Marikiti, Suneka, Nyakoe, Mogonga, Etago, Nyanguso, Keroka, Nyamache, Magena, Ogembo,

## OUR PILLARS FOR DEVELOPMENT



### PILLAR 2

Mosocho, Masimba, Marani and Kegogi will be a priority in this pillar.

We shall put focus on Infrastructure development to open up the rural economy; pursue sustainable agriculture development in livestock, poultry, fisheries and crop farming, supporting small-scale farmers and access to modern farming technologies and other inputs. We shall promote feasible Land use programs by undertaking practical physical planning and urban development plans and also support access to cheaper, reliable and sustainable energy sources to all.

## PILLAR 3 SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Recognizing that the economy of Kisii County depends on the state natural and environmental resources, my administration will utilize and protect our environment and associated natural resources sustainably by: introducing innovative and participatory management of water towers notably hilltops throughout our county; encourage the planting of indigenous trees that are friendly to other land use practices, reclaim and protect the riparian land, wetlands and conserve our Nyangweta forest. Maintain clean urban areas by establishing modern eco-friendly municipal waste and sewerage management system that will be a model example to bench mark; establish a permanent solution to the rain water and drainage system.

We shall endeavor to improve robustly our education programs

## PILLAR 4 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

in Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE), Vocational training, Village Polytechnics and Home craft through infrastructure development, equipping the centres with modern state-of-the-art facilities; hiring highly qualified and motivated tutors on improved terms of service.



## OUR PILLARS FOR DEVELOPMENT



### PILLAR 4 & 5

Promote access to secondary and tertiary education through a reformed County Bursary Scheme; Innovation and skills development in our vocational centres, academic performance in our schools and promotion of social human capital through empowerment programs targeting youths, women.

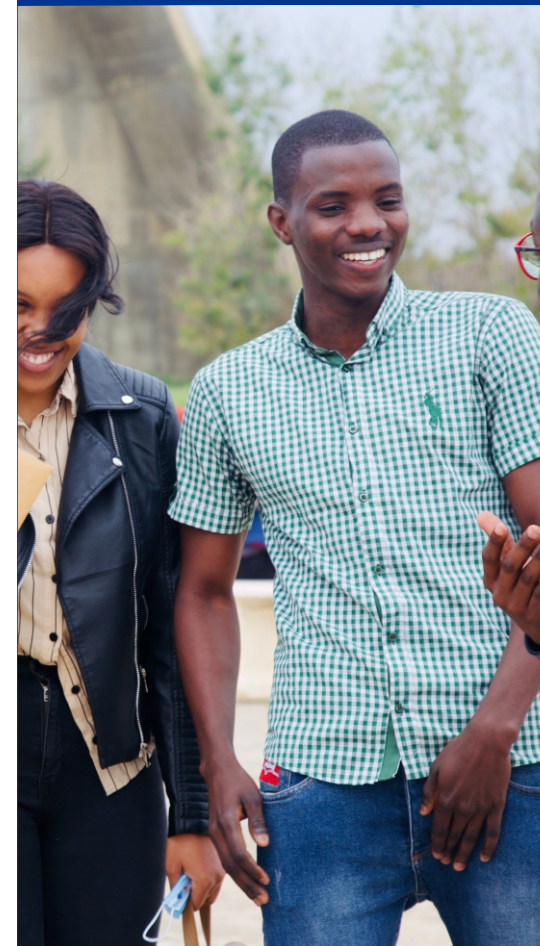
Provision of superior Universal Healthcare Services will be an exigency in our administration. We shall invest substantially in diagnostic, preventive, and curative measures by equipping our hospitals and health facilities with modern medical equipment and essential medicines. Hiring and training of professional healthcare givers and digitalization of all processes and procedures will be a priority.

Provision of clean, safe and reliable water for domestic, urban, agricultural and industrial use will be a priority. Similarly, we will pursue enhanced social protection programs notably the **Simba Shelter Scheme** that will be delivering reliable rural housing schemes and eliminating completely grass thatched houses and dilapidated structures. My administration shall also establish new urban housing schemes for urban populace in addition to an effective social welfare program for the elderly.

Talent development through promotion of sports, culture and arts, Rehabilitation & Rescue programmes for the vulnerable and Skills Development Centres for the destitute and homeless will also be given prominence in my administration.

## PILLAR 5 ENABLERS AND ICT

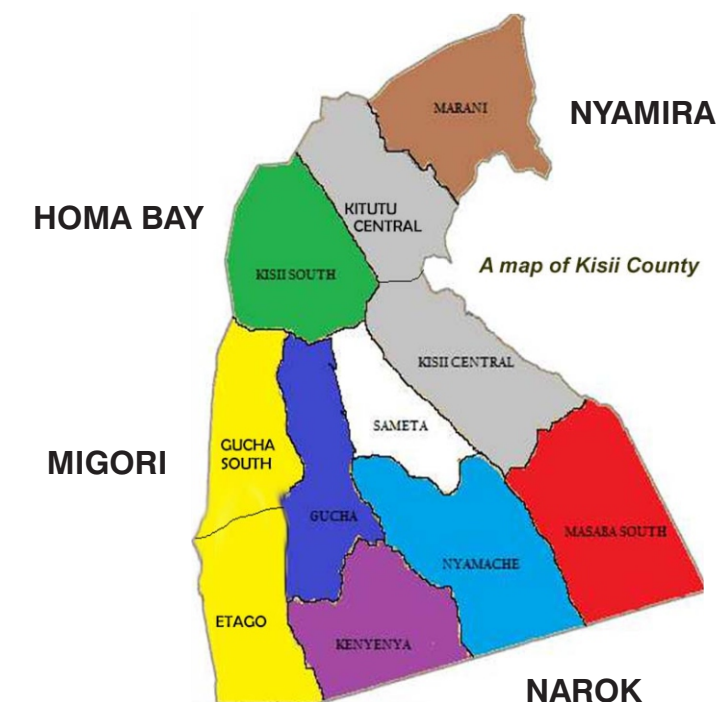
Will involve the automation and digitalization of operations of the government and the expansion of infrastructures to all the 9 Sub Counties of our County.



## CONTEXT

Kisii County borders Nyamira to the Northeast, Narok to the south, and Homa Bay and Migori to the west with a population of about 1.3m people majority being in their youthful age. Kisii is endowed with a rich diversity of natural resources including forests such as Nyangweta, Ritumbe, Ntamocha, Sameta and Mborogo. It has fertile agricultural soils and numerous permanent water sources which include springs, waterfalls and rivers such as Gucha, Nyakomisaro, Riana, Mogusii, Mogonga, Chirichiro and Riyabe.

It has limited mineral deposits key of which are soapstone, granite and ballast.







## CONTEXT

The county covers an area of 1,323km<sup>2</sup> and is part of Kenya's 10 per cent arable land that contributes up to 70 per cent of the country's national commercial agricultural output. Yet its contribution to the GDP over the last 10 years (2013-2022) has averaged only 2.1%. Given its agro-ecological zone, location within the populous and productive Lake Region Economic Block and the community's famed industry and work ethics, it should be a matter of great concern that Kisii output ranks lowly at a distant 15 among the country's 47 counties.

Kisii County sits right at the centre of the western Kenya tourist circuit that includes the Tabaka soapstone cottage industry, Maasai Mara Game Reserve, Lambwe Valley Game Reserve and the whole of the Lake Victoria Basin. Kisii town is the second largest town in the former Nyanza Province after Kisumu and boasts as the financial hub of the Southern Nyanza region with 15 commercial banks with branches and a Central Bank to crown it all. This makes Kisii a major retail and transit town serving the whole of the former Southern Nyanza region.

According to the Kenya Population and Housing Census Report 2019, Kisii County has a total population of 1,266,860 with 308,054 households consisting of 307,254 conventional households and 800 group quarters. With 957 persons/sq. km in the rural areas and 3,611 persons/sq. km in the urban areas, Kisii is one of the most densely populated counties in Kenya. The poverty prevalence rate is estimated at 44.5% which is much higher compared to the national average of 32%. Kisii has also one of the highest age dependency ratios in Kenya of 84.7% compared to the national average of 81.6%.

# 1.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

“

The following are projects that will mark the legacy of our first term in office.

Implementation of these projects will be masterminded by Kisii Development Council (KDC) that we shall establish in the new county government structure.

”



## HEALTH

### WE WILL

- Improve the existing facilities by upgrading all the sub-county hospitals to level 5 to provide quality services comparable to the best public facilities in the country.
- Develop new facilities to address the geographic inequity in distribution and access to healthcare services especially by needy and vulnerable populations.
- Rationalize the staffing needs and invest prudently in the recruitment, capacity building and remuneration of qualified personnel.
- Provide basic medical supplies to all the government facilities by streamlining procurement and supply chains with KEMSA and other service providers.
- Improve medical services through community health extension services on nutrition and public health.
- Improve sanitation in all health facilities by providing clean, reliable water supply and secure sewerage system within the county at all levels.
- Establish a performance based contracting for the health workers in order to improve on service delivery.
- Establish a cancer research and treatment centre to address the emerging cancer challenge within the region.



# 2.

## EDUCATION, SPORTS, SKILLS AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT

### OUR COMMITMENT



- Construct and equip ECDE centres with state-of-the-art facilities in all primary schools and designated ECDE centres across the county
- Work with the ministry on formulation of the appropriate and requisite Policy Framework to centralize basic education data and provide guidelines for data integration. Timely and reliable data is critical for effective policy decisions, planning and service provision.
- Work closely with the national government, Ministry of Education and other stakeholders to improve access, equity, quality, relevance and education financing in primary, secondary and tertiary education.
- Improve our education programs in Vocational training, Village Polytechnics and Home craft through infrastructure development, equipping the centres with modern state-of-the-art facilities; and hiring highly qualified and motivated tutors on improved terms of service.
- Work with all stakeholders to streamline the entire education value chain (ECDE, pre-primary, Primary, Secondary and Tertiary with a special focus on College and TVET). we will hold regular County consultative education transformation forums with all relevant stakeholders (MPs, Teachers etc).
- Revamp the administration of the Bursary Fund in order to enhance access to education opportunities by deserving needy students.
- All bursaries will be awarded to deserving students purely on merit and that the process is open, transparent, accountable and timely.
- Build sports stadia, arts and talent academy studios for skills development and employment creation.

# 3.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

## AGRICULTURE

### OUR COMMITMENT



- Pursue sustainable agricultural development in livestock, fisheries and crop farming by investing in modern agricultural production methods that yields high productivity per unit area.
- Revamping and improving agricultural extension services to farmers in order to achieve high productivity.
- Collaborate with KALRO and other research institutions for adoption of modern agricultural technology for increased productivity.
- Revitalization of the existing key cash crops (tea, coffee, avocado, bananas, pyrethrum, sugarcane) where majority of farmers drive their livelihoods from.
- Lobby for subsidized agricultural inputs such as fertilizer, semen, implements and seeds from the state and development partners through appropriate legislation.
- Provide agricultural incentives through programs such as one dairy cow per household, one chicken one farmer, hybrid avocados, tissue-culture bananas, pyrethrum splits and fish fingerlings to fish farmers.
- Improve dairy breeds through subsidized artificial insemination services.





# 4.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

### TRADE, BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

#### PRIVATE SECTOR

The private sector is the engine of economic growth and development in a market economy. The formal private sector in Kisii is however small and has a narrow base.

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Expand the current narrow base; attract diaspora investments; aggressive mobilization of both Foreign Direct Investment and domestic savings and investment in key areas through appropriate and targeted incentives.
- Reduce some levies and taxes to lower cost of doing business.
- Build a multi-purpose shopping mall at Marikiti market that will house market stalls, eateries, ICT centres, social hall for youths to promote talent and art theatres

#### INFORMAL/SME SECTOR

This sector provides 60% of the employment opportunities in Kisii County which currently is estimated at about 440,000. Most of these are in the transport and jua kali sub-sectors.

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Unlock the full entrepreneurial and job creation potential of the sector through targeted value addition in agricultural produce, cottage industries and export business.
- Enhance access to markets and marketing through the establishment of aggregation centres, restructuring and development of markets starting with the existing ones such as Daraja Mbili & Marikiti, Suneka, Nyakoe, Mogonga, Etago, Nyanguso, Keroka, Keumbu, Riosiri, Tabaka, Nyamache, Magena, Kenyeny, Ogembo, Mosoch, Masimba, Marani and Kegogi.
- Operationalise the Kisii County Credit Scheme to offer affordable credit services to entrepreneurs.
- Establish and operationalize the Kisii Bodaboda Savings and Credit Cooperative Society



# 5.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

### MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRY

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Grow the manufacturing sector through agroprocessing and development of light industries.
- Build the base for new emerging knowledge-based economy through adopting ICT.
- Undertake Industrial development through targeted investments in the sugar, tea and coffee sub-sectors to ensure maximum returns possible to farmers.
- Promote value addition to our bananas, avocados, sugarcane, pineapples, pyrethrum and the development of cottage industries.





# 6.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

### WATER AND SANITATION

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Reservoirs at designated points to channel it to the villages (Gravity & reticulation) in rural areas.
- Build storm water management systems in built up areas.
- Provide effective water and sanitation services in urban areas.
- Provide clean and accessible water to ALL homes, municipalities and town centres that will be powered by solar and other green energy.
- Provide watering points at all market centres for improved sanitation and hygiene.



# 7.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

### CLIMATE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Utilize and protect our environment and associated natural resources sustainably through innovative and participatory strategies.
- Establish a modern solid and liquid waste management system including recycling of plastics, waste water, paper and other municipal waste.
- Introduce innovative and participatory management of water towers notably hilltops throughout our county.
- Promote planting of indigenous trees that are friendly to other land use practices.
- Reclaim and protect the riparian land, wetlands and conserve our forests.
- Maintain clean urban areas by establishing modern eco-friendly municipal waste and sewerage management system that will be a model example to bench mark.
- Establish a permanent solution to the rain water and drainage system.
- Promote soil conservation through planting of appropriate trees based on the tree profiles and agro-ecological zones.





# 8.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

### INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, ROADS, ENERGY AND HOUSING

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Infrastructure development to open up the rural economy.
- Increase the total amount of road network in the county.
- Increase the total amount of bitumen/tarmacked road in the county.
- Reduce road maintenance costs in the county
- Promote and invest in cheaper, reliable and sustainable energy sources for all in the county.
- Work with the national government to transform the Suneka airstrip to an airport to serve the increasing demand for air transport for both passenger and cargo within the Lake Region Economic Block.
- Rehabilitate existing bus parks and construct new and modern ones in under served areas to improve public transport in the County.
- Provide decent housing to rural and peri-urban dwellers through the proposed Simba Shelter Housing Program.



# 9.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

### URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

#### OUR COMMITMENT

- Promote feasible land use programs within the county by undertaking appropriate Spatial Planning for rural and urban development.
- Develop and implement the Kisii Municipality Revolutionary Plan
- End congestion through participatory and end user stakeholder mapping and zoning
- Revamp roads and passages
- Provide spaces for traders and vendors as well as retailers and other commercial operators to achieve harmony
- Operationalize and commission the Ogembo Municipality Implementation Plan.



# 10.

## THE LEGACY PROJECTS

Arising from the experience of devolution of the outgoing regime, there is a general consensus and experiential evidence that the next governor should focus on;

## GOVERNANCE, SECURITY AND PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL SECTORS

### OUR PROMISE

- Prudent management of public resources;
- Reforming the County Public Sector to offer efficient services; My administration will establish the office of the County Ombudsman to receive complaints about Service Delivery from Kisii County Citizens. The dispensation of the complaints lodged shall be resolved in line with the established customer delivery service charter.
- Ending run-away corruption, impunity and wastage of public resources.
- Strive to attain ISO certification in all management systems
- Collaborating with national government and other development partners to enhance economic growth and wealth creation; and
- Cementing the gains of devolution through equity and equal allocation of resources and opportunities down to the village level.





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