

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA



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County Government of Kakamega

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KAKAMEGA

Date: **26th January, 2024**

Open Government Partnership (OGP)-Local Team
1110 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 500
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

**RE: COMMITMENT TO TAKE PART IN THE OPEN GOVERNMENT
PARTNERSHIP (OGP) LOCAL PROGRAM**

The above subject matter refers.

We hereby express our willingness and commitment to take part in the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local Program. As a County we have made a deliberate commitment to the citizens of Kakamega to focus on health, food security, wealth creation, education, good governance and social development to transform the lives of the residents.

So far we have continued to develop an automated one stop payment system for all service delivery needs ranging from parking fees, land rates, business permits and market fee payment. This system has amplified accountability, transparency and budgeting process. The system enables almost real time monitoring, evaluation and reporting generation. This has sealed revenue leakages and has made it easy to perform audit function within a short period of time as well increased revenue collection thus guaranteeing revenue for development projects.

More steps have been taken to automate our work processes in line with modern technology by initiating process to identify the best vendor to provide the service. One of the key benefits of automation is its ability to improve productivity and efficiency. By automating repetitive and time-consuming tasks, businesses can free up their employees to focus on more strategic and value-added activities.

Automation can also help reduce costs, improve accuracy, and enhance overall operational performance.

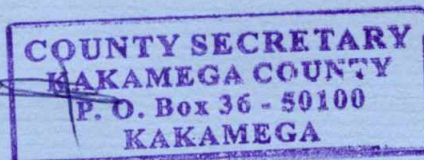
Despite the results, there is need to develop comprehensive feedback mechanism on service delivery to ensure there is feedback by the citizens. This therefore calls for creation of robust feedback mechanism that would see the people of Kakamega participate in the ongoing development agenda of the county. Indeed, transparency and public participation are two fundamental principles of the Kenya constitution.

In order to promote Open Government Partnership, the County Government of Kakamega is committed to work with the Kakamega County Assembly which is composed of the representatives of the residents who play oversight role to the County Executive. As a county we have made steps to improve citizen's engagement and participation by establishing a Directorate to manage activities of Public Participation and Civic Education. It is on this background that we see the OGP-Local program as an avenue for increasing public participation in the development of programs and feedback mechanism. While working with the County Assembly, and the Oslo Centre under the Open Government Partnership program, The County Government of Kakamega seeks to achieve four actions plans that will be submitted to OGP-Local after consultation with citizens of Kakamega and the County Assembly.

To come up with the actions plans, the County Government of Kakamega will form a Steering Committee and Technical Committee to ensure the priorities are achieved within two years (Year 2024 and 2025). These committees shall provide policy guideline, develop and monitor implementation of the said priorities in collaboration with the County Assembly and the Oslo Centre.

Finally joining OGP-Local would increase the role of citizens in local governance, improve and strengthen service delivery offered by the County Government of Kakamega. We extend our gratitude in considering us to be part of the Open Government Partnership Local Program and look forward to having fruitful working relationship for the benefit of our citizens.

Thank you.



Dr. Lawrence Omuhaka, CBS
County Secretary & Head of Public Service

Copy to: H.E the Governor
H.E the Deputy Governor