

»A green vibrant town with opportunities for all.«



URBAN SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW

KIMININI TRANS NZOIA COUNTY



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PHOTO CREDIT:

Youths from Kiminini

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CBD	Central Business District
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CEC	County Executive Committee
CGTN	County Government of Trans Nzoia
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CO	Chief Officer
COG	Council of Governors
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ISUDP	Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization
SALAR/SKL	Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

1. CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The County Government of Trans Nzoia applied for and was successfully selected as one of the seven pilot counties in Kenya for SymbioCity. Trans Nzoia County in turn selected its second largest town, Kiminini, to be the pilot town for the SymbioCity process.

SymbioCity is a Swedish government initiative hosted by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR). As part of Swedish international development cooperation, the SymbioCity approach is used to support cities in developing countries to plan and build sustainably e.g. by identifying inclusive and innovative solutions. It is a framework that gathers Swedish methodology and experiences with emphasis on local government practices, adapted to the local context.

The SymbioCity approach has been used to develop this Urban Sustainability Review (USR) and to work in close cooperation with the residents in Kiminini to ensure their values, challenges and needs are reflected in the description of the town and in the formulation of the priorities for further action. An Urban Sustainability Review is both a process and a product. It is a process for jointly exploring urban areas from a holistic perspective; an inclusive way of selecting and describing key issues which the town needs to address in development strategies, and key assets and opportunities, which should be leveraged in development projects and actions. It provides a platform for open and transparent discussions and consultations on matters of local attention, as well as relations to global policies such as Sustainable Development Goals. The USR product is a report presenting the findings and conclusions of the process. This report concludes on the key findings from the process and sets out Visions and Strategies for addressing urban challenges while making use of existing assets. The USR is the initial phase of the SymbioCity Approach.



2. CHAPTER TWO BACKGROUND

SymbioCity program

The SymbioCity Approach promotes an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to urban development, which is relevant in developing, transitional as well as developed countries. SymbioCity is a planning approach that aims at creating sustainable urban areas. The hallmark of this methodology is its possibility to spur dialogue on societal values and aspirations for future development. The thrust of the approach is the use of a holistic multi-sectoral conceptual model that considers the urban systems, the institutional dimensions, and sustainability elements in formulating solutions for urban development.

SymbioCity program in Kenya

The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) and the Kenyan Council of Governors (CoG) are jointly running a multi-year programme focused on sustainable urban development in Kenya through the SymbioCity Approach. The Kenya SymbioCity Programme builds the capacity of urban development stakeholders to guide Kenyan urban development in a more sustainable direction. The programme is implemented as a joint partnership between SALAR and CoG. SALAR delivers the programme through its subsidiary, SKL International. A Secretariat, established within CoG, is the core body of the programme and comprises project management and technical staff from CoG and SKL International as well as seconded staff from the Urban Development Directorate (UDD).

The CoG consists of governors of Kenya's 47 counties. In the context of this programme, CoG plays an active role of coordination with the national government and the local authorities, stimulating dialogue, co-operation and mutual learning between the counties. The overall objective of the programme is to ensure that the relevant actors have the capacity and ability to take a leading role in sustainable urban development in Kenya.

The collaboration consists of four components:

1. Institutional development of CoG, with a focus on urban issues, but also the organization's general role as a representative organ for issues at the county level.
2. Urban development projects in seven pilot counties, based on the SymbioCity Approach and with an investment fund for implementation of innovative solutions.
3. Networking with and learning from other urban initiatives in the country.
4. Dissemination of pilot experiences to other counties, networking with Swedish municipalities and opportunities for private actors to take advantage of lessons learned from the pilots.

In Kenya seven counties were selected for piloting, these are Kitui, Meru, Nakuru, Kakamega, Trans Nzoia, Kisumu and Homa Bay. The counties were selected based on their potential to bring about transformation in accordance with the SymbioCity approach.

SymbioCity Trans Nzoia County

The County Government of Trans Nzoia chose Kiminini town for the SymbioCity pilot programme. Kiminini is a small yet robust and busy town located along the Kitale–Webuye road, around 20 km from Kitale town which is the county headquarter. Kiminini is Trans Nzoia's second major town both in terms of population (around 15,000 inhabitants in the wider Kiminini

urban area) and revenue collection. Being a significant agricultural centre, it attracts traders from neighbouring towns and villages to do business. However, Kiminini is poorly planned and will not be able to accommodate the expected increasing population. It has great assets such as human capital, market opportunities and educational facilities, but also challenges such as deficient waste management and unemployment. SymbioCity aims to assist the town in planning and initiating development projects.



Kiminini is an agricultural hub with fruit and vegetable markets on both sides of the A1 highway.

3. CHAPTER TWO

OVERVIEW KIMININI

In Trans Nzoia County it is only Kitale town which is classified as a town according to the Urban Areas and Cities Act 2011, however, the next upcoming major urban centre in Trans Nzoia is Kiminini and the county is eager to have it officially classified as a town.

Initially, Kiminini was called Elgon Club and its occupants were mainly white settlers who practised agriculture in the area. Elgon Club was a club for whites only and was situated at the present cottage hospital grounds and it was named after Mt. Elgon. However, after independence when white settlers started going back to their countries, Kenyans started purchasing land through partnerships, cooperatives or on individual basis. The urban area was later renamed as Kiminini after the Kiminini River on your way to Kitale.

Among the first Kenyans who purchased land directly from the white settlers in Kiminini were: Chilson Nate, Burudi Nabwera, Reuben Sitoko, Timoteo Wanjala, Thomas Daudi, Hilario Nyongesa, Gichuku Mutonga, Masinde Muliro, Joseph Muliro and Dr. Noah Wekesa. These names are still known in Kiminini and many of their relatives still live in the area.



Kiminini is a significant agricultural centre. Accommodating its growing population is however a challenge.

The new Kenyan owners to the large farms later on started sub-dividing them into small fragments through selling and inheritance. Due to this fragmentation, agricultural activities dwindled and the food production has been weak over several decades, hence food scarcity has been witnessed in Kiminini despite it being a fertile agricultural area.

Administratively, Kiminini has been an administrative headquarter since 1973, and the first chief of Kiminini was Rtd. Chief Julius Nate. His area of coverage was big, running from Ki-

minini to Moi's bridge covering Kinyoro, Machewa, Weonia, Chalicha and Sikhendu areas. It was bordering Bungoma on the side of Ndal, Maliki and Chesamisi area.

However, later on the larger Kiminini location was subdivided giving rise to other locations such as Sikhendu, Weonia, Sirende, Machewa and Baraton.

Kiminini is politically active due to the education level of the residents. Most of the residents of Kiminini are educated and have great ambitions for the upcoming town and the only way they perceive they can change it is through elective positions.

This has also made the sub-tribes in Kiminini to encourage their own members to vie as they see it as the only way to change the lives of their people.

Despite the decline in agricultural production due to the fragmentation of land as mentioned above, Kiminini is a significant agricultural centre. Agriculture is the predominant economic activity in the region and is the leading sector in terms of employment, food security, income earnings and overall contribution to the socio-economic well-being of the residents of this area.

Majority of the people depend on the agriculture sector to cater for their livelihoods. The main agricultural farming includes maize, wheat and beans. Other economic activities include horticulture, commercial businesses and livestock keeping. More than half of the residents in Kiminini are in the informal sector.

Being the second largest urban area in Trans Nzoia County it has a lot of potential for commercial activities and establishment of agro based industries. This potential has further been enhanced by its proximity to Kitale town. Kiminini has undergone unprecedented growth in the recent past with the expansion of the Kitale-Webuye road and the implementation of devolution. Kiminini is an important administrative centre since it is also the head quarter for the sub-county that carries the same name.

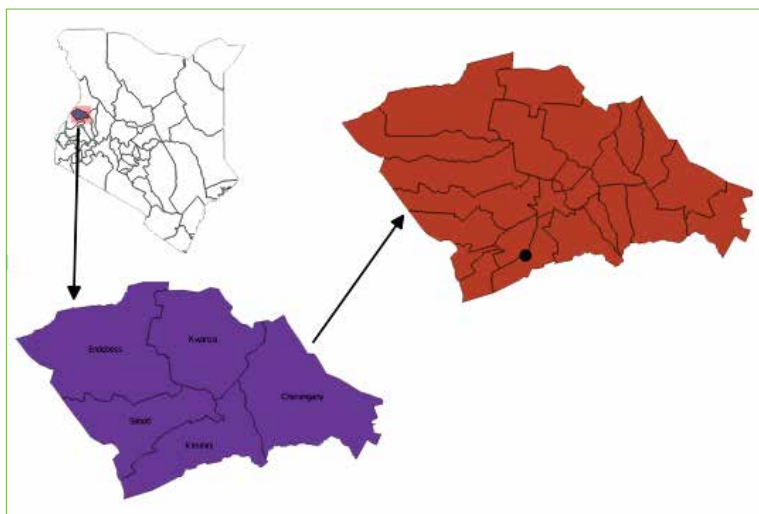
The development of Kiminini urban centre has led to an increase in the urban population which the available basic facilities and infrastructure cannot accommodate.

Sports wise, Kiminini is a vibrant hub. Just like across the globe, football is the most popular game in Kiminini. There is no a major league in Kiminini but throughout the year, well-wishers, the county government, CBOs and politicians organize for tournaments where they award the winners with playing kits, balls and money. This ensures most part of the year has some sort of ongoing sporting activities and sport is an important part of the Kiminini identity.

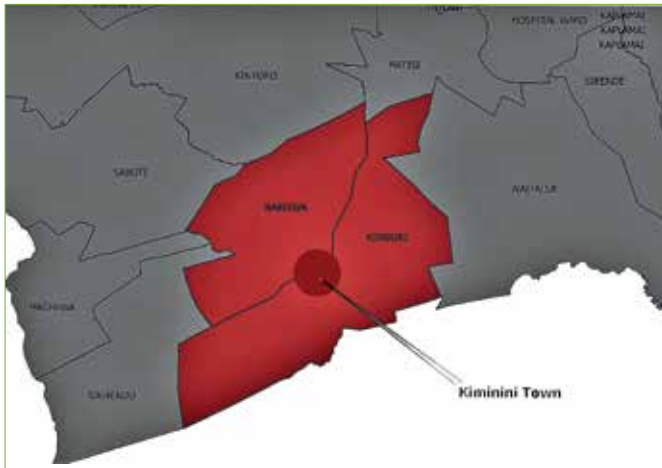
Spatial Dimensions

Administration, boundaries, resources

Kiminini Urban area is located in Trans-Nzoia County, Kiminini Constituency, Kiminini Sub-county, and in Kiminini and Nabiswa wards. Kiminini town also lies very close to a few large commercial farms: Masaba A & B, Kananachi and Muthangari.



Map of Trans Nzoia County, sub-counties and wards



Kiminini urban area is split in the middle by the A104 highway between Kitale and Webuye and also belongs to two different wards: Nabiswa and Kiminini.

Due to lack of an approved Local Physical Development Plan, there is no designated boundaries for the township. For the purpose of the SymbioCity process, boundaries were created to delimit the area, as can be seen in illustration 3 below. The boundaries ensures the major part of the town population are within the borders and the lines have been drawn considering the major future development of the urban area. The radius is around 800 metres, starting at the crossroads (Ndalu road – Kitale Webuye Highway) in the centre of Kiminini urban area.



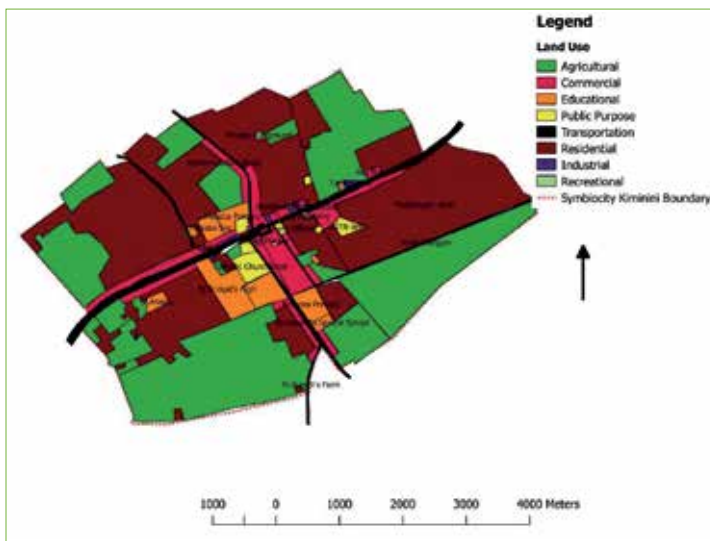
SymbioCity Kiminini boundary

For the purpose of formal planning for the area, which will be done as an Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Plan, ISUDP, a wider area has been chosen, with a radius of around 2 km.

Being the second largest town in Trans-Nzoia County, Kiminini has quite a number of resources. These include a high population, two rivers (River Kabuyefwe and River Kiminini), good road network (Kitale–Webuye A104 highway), Sub-county and constituency administration offices, one health centre and a mission hospital, schools and tertiary institutions such as St. Brigid’s Girls’ National school and Kiminini Vocational Training centre, bus stage, municipal market, slaughter house, larger hotels (Khwesa and Glory Inn), petrol stations, undeveloped land, churches and a mosque.

Land use

Commercial and residential facilities are especially abundant at the center of the town, while you find residential units in Masaba A and B (see further on different areas in Kiminini under Section 4.3) as well as in the outskirts of the town. There are also areas for commercial use, public purpose use (sub-county and constituency offices, hospitals, mosque, churches), transportation (the bus stage, Kitale–Webuye road, Kiminini–Saboti, Kiminini–Ndalal and many other access roads), industrial use (Total, Savannah, Radhan petrol stations and other filling station, Jua kali, car wash), public utility (slaughter house), and educational use (St. Brigid’s, Masaba primary and secondary). Generally, the town has a mixed land use pattern as can be seen from map 4 below.



Major land use in Kiminini town

Sprawl and density

With the rapid increase in population and lack of an approved development plan that would act as framework to control development, unplanned and uncoordinated development of structures has been expanding to the outskirts of Kiminini urban area. This has led to an uneven pattern of growth, uncoordinated mixture of land uses and generally poses a challenge in distribution of resources such as electricity and collection of solid waste.

Zoning/designated areas

With reference to the draft Kiminini Local Physical Development Plan (1983), public land in Kiminini was designated to the following uses: open air market, municipal market, dump site and business stalls. However, enforcing development control to ensure that the use of land designated for the above purposes is not changed has been a challenge since the plan was never approved.

Land administration, ownership of land

Kiminini just like other urban centres has two types of land ownership; public and private. The government owns the land where government facilities are erected, and also river and road reserves. The privately-owned land was previously owned by the government but it has now been allocated or sold to individuals and institutions.

Land ownership is as follows:

- Freehold land – most of the residents in Kiminini own freehold land
- Leasehold – the leases are for a period of 99 years, this is comprised of the parcels of land where government offices are located plus the land which was leased by the defunct Nzoia County Council to the residents at the centre of the town

The instances of landlessness in Kiminini town and its environs have risen in the last decade. This can partly be attributed to internal displacement of persons. The 2007 post elections violence caused displacement of people from Kiboroa in Trans Nzoia West Sub-County; Salama, Balale and parts of Chepchoina in Kwanza Sub County. Landlessness has also resulted from evictions in Sabot, Sosio and Kapolet Forest Reserves. Many of these displaced persons settled in Kiminini town due to the affordable housing and relatively cheaper food as opposed to Kitale.

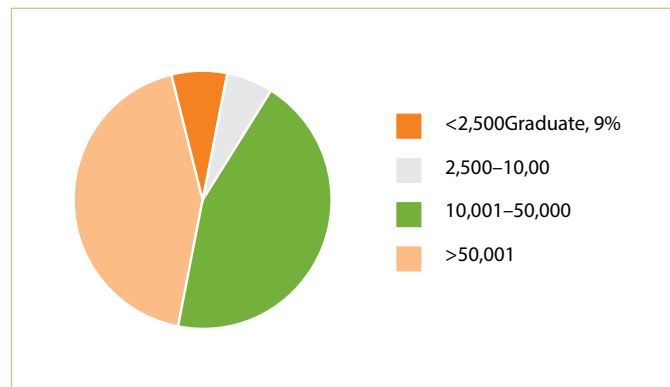


Land ownership in Kiminini town

Population

Before Kenya attained independence, Kiminini (and Trans-Nzoia County at large) was home to white settlers who owned huge tracts of land. Due to its topography and favourable weather conditions, Kiminini was identified for the establishment of a golf club (Elgon Golf Club). This development attracted a good number of white settlers as well as locals to the areas neighbouring Kiminini. After independence, the farms acquired by the government were subdivided and allocated to the landless Kenyans. Because of the growth in population and increase in production of farm produce, the people of Kiminini and the local government decided to set aside land for establishing a trading centre where such essential facilities as a market for farm produce, administration offices and police station would be put up.

This new setting has attracted people from both neighbouring villages and from further away, including an influx of people who prefer to live in Kiminini while working in Kitale. The mix of people from different socio-economic classes is obvious in Kiminini, however as in most towns different settlements house different classes of people. E.g. Kananachi and Masaba A areas still have big parcels of land, this shows that the poverty levels are relatively low. Muthangare area on the other hand has a high poverty index followed by Sokomoko area, and both of these areas also have a high population density. However, the majority of the Kiminini residents are middle and low income earners; this is depicted by their type of housing, purchasing power, and the social aspect of life.

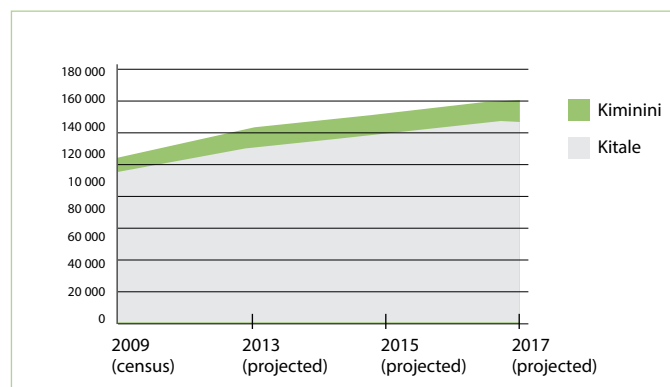


Monthly household income in the urban Kiminini (KES)

Source: Household Survey 2017 by Geodev Kenya.

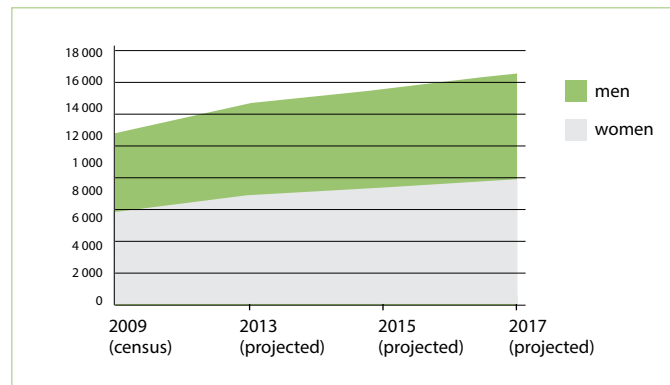
Most of the residents in Kiminini earn at a household level around 10,000 KES per month. There are very few with a monthly income below 2,500 KES and equally there are very few with an income above 50,000 KES.

Trans Nzoia County has two major urban centres: Kitale municipality which was relegated to a town status after the advent of devolution and Kiminini urban area which is not (yet) categorized in line with the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (amended 2014). Total population for these centres is projected to increase to around 160,000 in 2017, from 120,000 in the 2009 census. This rapid increase in the population for Kitale and Kiminini is mainly a result of the youth seeking more non-farm employment opportunities.



Projected growth for Kitale and Kiminini urban areas, according to the Trans Nzoia County Planning Office, 2013

In Kiminini urban centre (which is approximately the same area as the ISUDP boundaries, the population is projected to be around 15,000 inhabitants in 2017, but for the purpose of SymbioCity Kiminini we are focusing on a smaller area (see map 5 above for the boundaries) with approximately 9,000 inhabitants. This number has been extrapolated from information from the Chiefs in both Nabiswa and Kiminini wards, and is probably more exact in the Kiminini side, where the “nyumba kumi” system has been used and we know that there are 900 households, meaning around $900 \times 5 = 4,500$ people.



Projected growth for Kiminini urban area, specifying women’s and men’s share of the population, according to the Trans Nzoia County Planning Office, 2013

It can be noted that Kiminini has more women than men with around 54% women and 46% men, whereas in Kitale it is more evenly distributed but with slightly more men than women. Men away working

Kiminini is situated along the Kitale–Webuye road and is a significant agricultural centre serving farmers from all around it within a proximity of around 15 kilometres. This contributes a lot to the floating population since it connects residents working in Kitale and farmers who sell their agricultural produce to Kitale. It is however also the case that most of the people working in Kiminini as casual labourers and in SME’s commute from their rural homes in the morning and go back in the evening. Kiminini is thus attracting both higher educated people who work in Kitale but live in Kiminini due to its lower living cost, and lower educated people who work in Kiminini but live outside.



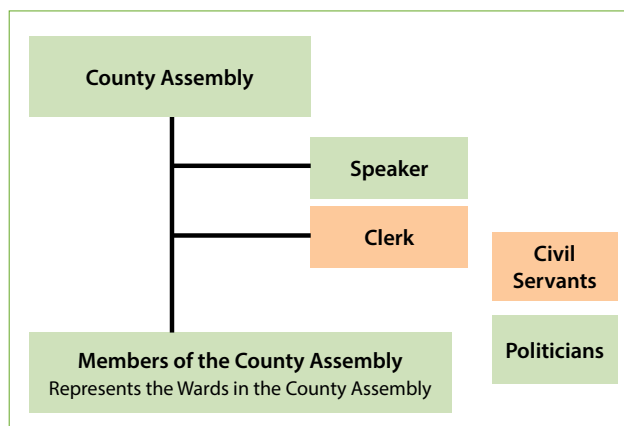
Business opportunities attract many people to Kiminini.

Other small trading centres like Ndalú on the boundary of Trans-Nzoia and Bungoma County, Lukhome and Saboti, also contribute to the floating population. For instance there is approximately 1,200 boda-bodas¹ operating on the busy routes between Kiminini–Ndalú and Kiminini–Lukhome roads which feed the Kitale–Webuye road at Kiminini town. This explains the size of the population coming in and out of Kiminini every day.

Institutional Factors

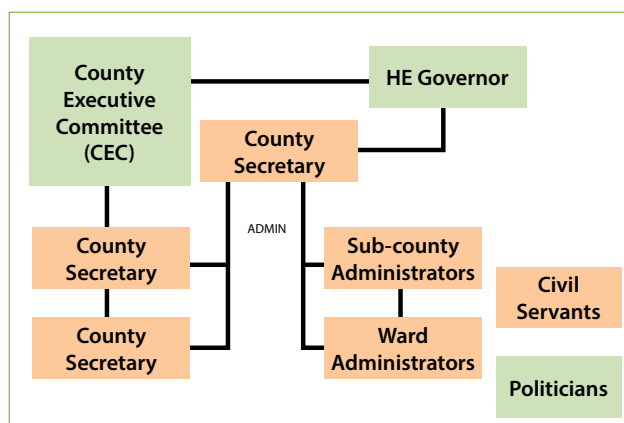
Trans Nzoia County has five sub-counties namely Kwanza, Endebess, Saboti, Kiminini and Cherangany. These constituencies are further sub-divided into 25 electoral wards. Kiminini sub-county, though the second smallest in terms of geographical area, is the most densely populated.

Half of Kiminini town is in Kiminini ward and half of it is in Nabiswa ward, both in Kiminini sub-county. Leadership from bottom starts with ward level where we have Ward Administrators whose responsibility is to coordinate, manage and supervise the general administrative functions in the ward unit. This includes development of policies and plans and service delivery. We then have Sub-County Administrators with responsibility for the coordination, management and supervision of the general administrative function in the sub-county. Finally, at county level we have the Governor of Trans Nzoia County.



Under legislature we have County Assembly (see illustration) and its responsibilities are to enact laws at the County level and to act as an oversight instrument of the County Executive. In the County Assembly we have the speaker, deputy speaker, clerk of county assembly and then Members of the County Assembly who represent the people in the County Assembly.

The Executive at Trans Nzoia County, separating between the politically elected representatives and the civil servants

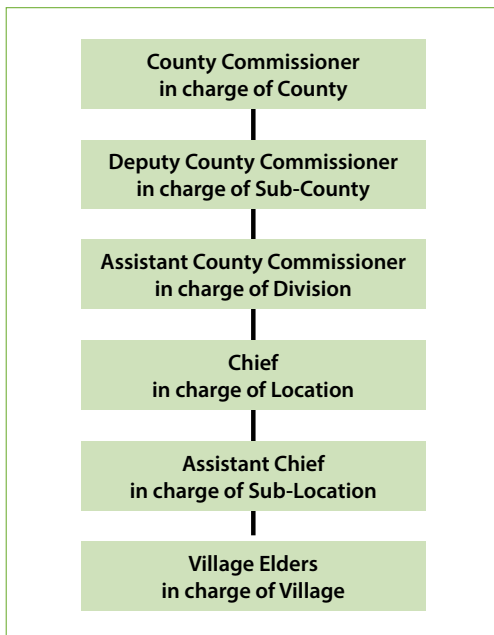


Under national level (see illustration next page) we have village elders from the bottom, chiefs and assistant chiefs who are representatives of the Location and Sub-location respectively in the National Government, deputy county commissioner, and county commissioner are in charge of counties and chair security committees. We then have the President who is the head of state and head of government of the Republic of Kenya.

The legislature, i.e. the County Assembly, at Trans Nzoia County

Policies and legislation in Trans Nzoia County are formulated through a process of collaboration among stakeholders and relevant authorities. Regulations and other types of legislation are adopted by

¹ The number of boda-boda operators between Kiminini and the two towns was obtained from the office of Revenue collectors in Kiminini



The national level structures at Trans Nzoia County

both or either national and/or county governments through their respective assembly levels.

The county government for instance strive towards having objectives that include enhancing efficiency and effectiveness, enhancing competitiveness, facilitating trade, improving the well fare of residents and protecting the environment. In Kiminini both the county and the national government offices work in collaboration with each other and other institutions in developing people-cantered policies and legislation.

Both the County and the National Assemblies make laws necessary for the effective performance and exercise of powers; receive and approve plans and policies, budget and expenditure and borrowing especially by the county government.

WARD ADMINISTRATORS OFFICE

The office of the Ward Administrator has been constitutionally established at the level of each Ward unit and among its duties are:

- Coordinating administration services in the Ward
- Representing H.E the Governor in the Ward
- Overseeing community empowerment in the Ward
- In charge of all departmental officers in the Ward
- Maintaining government infrastructure and facilities of public services in the Ward
- Facilitating and coordinates citizen participation in all developmental plans and programs and delivery of services in the Ward
- Carrying out any other duties delegated to the office by the SC Admin or directly from the CPSB (County Public Service Board)

KIMININI WARD ADMINISTRATOR

The Ward Administrator in charge of Kiminini Ward is also the Pilot Coordinator for SymbioCity Trans Nzoia and through the SymbioCity process the Ward administrator has focused on the following tasks, which are within the mandate of the office:

- Acting as the liaison between the residents in Kiminini and the County
- Ensuring residents are informed about decisions and discussions at County level that concerns them, including in SymbioCity, which is a county project
- Engaging residents in participatory processes in SymbioCity and the ongoing ISUDP



Kiminini Ward Administration Office, where also SymbioCity Trans Nzoia is hosted.

4. CHAPTER FOUR

URBAN SYSTEMS IN KIMININI

Urban systems are the core pillars that ensure sustainability of any town. Kiminini being an upcoming and also the fastest growing town in Trans-Nzoia County, requires vibrant urban systems to enhance its sustainability in all sectors. In Kiminini, we have chosen to work with eight urban systems, trying to cover the major areas to ensure future self-sustainability of the town. The urban systems are:

1. Social Functions
2. Commercial Functions
3. Housing
4. Green spaces
5. Solid waste
6. Water and Sanitation
7. Mobility and Transport
8. Energy

Social Functions

The social life in Kiminini is what creates a sense of togetherness and community cohesion.

Kiminini as a town has got several social functions which may be categorized into two main categories, public social services and private social services.

Being the Sub-County headquarters, Kiminini urban centre is the seat of the offices of the Deputy County Commissioner (representing the National Government), Sub-County Administrator (representing the County Government), the area MP (Constituency office) and a host of other offices from both governments.

There are several educational institutions comprising of two secondary schools, two public primary schools, several private primary schools and a polytechnic. The Kiminini Sub-County hospital, which serves most of the residents in the sub-county, is situated a few kilometres from the town on the highway. Kiminini dispensary is used for treatment of common ailments like flu and fever.

Religions are represented through a mosque and a substantial number of Christian churches.

The presence of a Kenya Postal Corporation branch saves the town residents money and time by allowing them to send their letters and parcels in Kiminini.

Private social services around Kiminini include private schools, private hospitals, churches, mosque, private security firms, NGO'S.

There are several cultural assets in Kiminini town, these include a cultural shrine by the Bukusu council of elders, and circumcision which is performed both traditionally and in hospitals and theatre halls (Glory Inn and Catholic Community Hall).

Many of the socio-cultural practices in Kiminini have positive outcomes to the town and the community in general. Peaceful coexistence is one of the positive outcomes which is derived from social cultural practices. Churches and mosques bring people from different backgrounds and cultures together to exercise their religious rights thus enhancing religious beliefs. The cultural shrine at Kiminini and the circumcision practices by the communities living in the area help in continuation and conservation of history.

There are several youth football clubs in Kiminini both registered (with the Ministry of Gen-

Public social services in Kiminini

- Public hospitals (e.g. Kiminini health centre)
- Public schools (e.g. Kiminini and Masaba primary schools, St. Brigid's Secondary school)
- Kiminini vocational training center
- DCC's office
- ACC's office
- Chief's office and Assistant chief's office
- Kiminini Sub-county Administrator's office
- Kiminini and Nabiswa Ward Administrator's office
- Police station
- Agricultural offices
- Administration police post
- Livestock offices
- Post office
- Churches and mosque
- Social services office

der, Sports and Culture) and unregistered, including Kiminini Young Heroes FC, Family Glory FC (registered), Sokomoko FC, Kananachi FC, Mitoto FC and Kiminini Youth FC.

Since devolution came into being, there is an annual tournament that comprises of various games e.g. football, volleyball and tag of war, organised by the ward under the ward development fund. We also have an annual constituency football tournament funded by the CDF. This comprises of teams from all over Kiminini constituency but Kiminini urban area is vital since most games and especially the semi-finals and finals are played in Kiminini, which encourages the spirit of sportsmanship in the area thus engaging the youths in sports hence reducing idleness which may lead to drugs and insecurity in the area.

Kiminini town has several social challenges that create inequalities within the society where people in the community rank and evaluate themselves on the basis of power and wealth. This normally results in a huge gap between the people in terms of their income and a range of measures associated with position, education, health and general well-being.

There are three levels within the society: the upper class, middle class and lower class. None of these are very well versed with the existing laws to govern the social functions. Poor people have a feeling that laws and opportunity favour the rich while the rich are quick to believe that they are always above the law. Normally this creates emotional stress and depression for the poor because of lack of access to wealth, power, prestige and other opportunities.

Challenges such as prostitution, alcohol and drug abuse is rife in the community due to lack of education, peer pressure, lack of employment and desperate lives. Other challenges like child labour occur as a result of the distinctly disparity chaos in the society. These challenges are stumbling blocks that hinder progress and development of the town.

Students on their way to Kiminini primary school, an example of a public social service offered in the town.

Ongoing private and public development projects in Kiminini have both positive and negative health and social impacts. Market stalls have helped in decongestion of the town, and in creating employment and improved security. Kiminini health centre has offered an easy access to medical services thus enhancing health standards of the community. However some projects

have also impacted negatively on the community around, as e.g. new building construction combined with poor planning makes it hard for risk management in case of a fire outbreak, it will be hard to put it out and the fire risks spreading as the buildings are too congested. Despite the health facility and the market stalls, there is poor road access to the facilities which makes it a bit slow to get to the health centre and tedious to transport agricultural and other business commodities to the market.



Students on their way to Kiminini primary school, an example of a public social service offered in the town.

Green spaces (see also further down under Section 4.4) have impacts with regards to health and social issues as different people meet for business and social functions and others make friendship that improves the social relationships among the residents of Kiminini. Trees in the green spaces provide fresh air, which reduces air pollution and also acts as windbreakers thus controlling windstorm. However, stray domestic animals may be a hindrance to creation of green spaces in the town, as there is need for strict law enforcement to keep the stray animals from accessing the town centre. There is also a lack of public space where such public meeting places can be created.

There are a number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the town undertaking various projects mainly on environment, food security and health. They include, among others, VI agroforestry and Handicap International.

During the last few years, there has been an unprecedented growth in the number of self-help groups, formed mainly as a result of the establishment of youth and women enterprise development funds and the County Youth and Women Fund. The Economic Stimulus programme also resulted in groups being formed to access state funds set aside for the purpose. According to the Trans Nzoia CIDP, Kiminini Sub-County has a total of 2,229 community based organisations and numbers are still rising. Many of these are based in Kiminini town.

Despite all these active civil society organisations there is a general lack of public participation and most people seem to ignore public functions planned by authorities.

Commercial Functions

Building on the agricultural activities to create businesses and improved livelihoods.

Kiminini is the second largest town in Trans Nzoia and the commercial hub of the sub-county owing to its strategic location; close to Kitale town and surrounding rural areas and located on the Kitale–Webuye road. The latest population increase was largely due to an influx of internally displaced people and an increase in economic activities brought about by the improvement of the major road. Being an agricultural town, it has several commercial activities going on throughout the year such as sale of farm produce, mini supermarkets, whole sale and retail business and services. The supermarkets sell many of their products to retailers from the nearby trading centres, making it unnecessary for these to travel all the way to Kitale for stocking up. Kiminini also has a bus park and a market that caters for small traders.

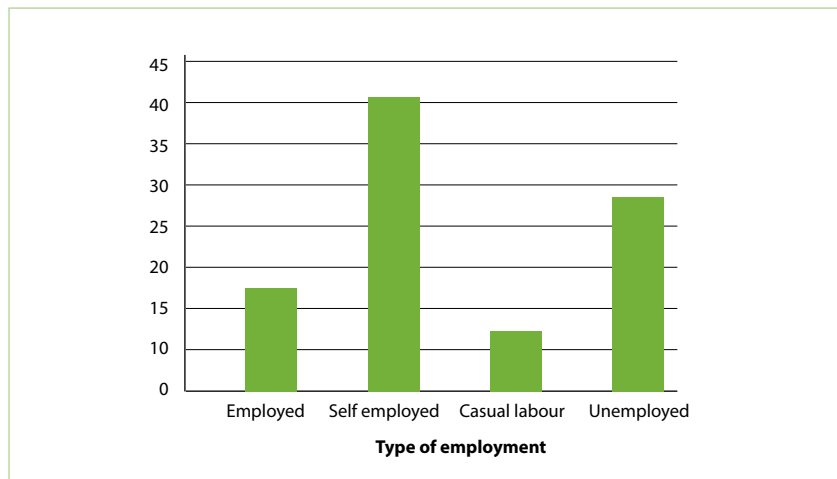
The foundation of Kiminini's economy is agriculture, due to the presence of large parcels of privately owned land that are basically under agricultural use e.g. for livestock farming, commercial forest farming and food and commercial crop growing. Many of the commercial functions in the town are related to agriculture, such as small scale farming, retail trading, transport of agricultural produce, maize selling, tractor leasing and saw mills. The construction of a warehouse for maize drying and storage at Kiminini town, scheduled to be officially opened early 2017, is set to boost business and assist farmers to make better returns as it will allow them store their produce till prices go up.

Examples of informal sector activities in Kiminini

- kinyozi
- dress makers
- cobblers
- jua kali artisans
- carwash
- mechanics
- carpenters
- masons
- hairdressers
- water vendors
- housekeepers
- tailors
- hawkers

However there are various other commercial trends in Kiminini including rental houses, fuel stations, market stalls, water points, microfinance institutions, public toilets, hotels, private schools, social halls, slaughterhouse, private hospitals, chemists and agrovets shops, milk bars, bars, local brews (chang'aa and busaa), hardware shops, bodabodas, jua kali artisans, salons (hairdressing), mortuary, milk bars, garages, private schools, hotels, bars hawking on street business, prostitution and upcoming brothels.

The employment status in Kiminini town cuts across all categories i.e. formal employment (public and private sector), informal employment and self-employment. Most of Kiminini's residents are either self-employed or in the informal sector. The majority of the informal sector workers are unemployed or under-employed and most of these are youths.



Type of employment in Kiminini

Source: Household Survey 2017 by Geodev Kenya

The formal sector includes employment at government institutions, private institutions and companies, NGOs and mainstream businesses (supermarkets, fuel stations e.g.). Registered companies that offer employment to the residents are mostly agriculturally based, such as Seedco Company ltd, Western Seed Company ltd, Bubayi Farm ltd and West Kenya Sugar. However there are also an increasing number of microfinance institutions that have offered employment to the residents, including Trans-National Times SACCO, Trans-Nzoia Women SACCO, Venus SACCO, Kiminini Bodaboda SACCO and agents for a number of banks (Cooperative Bank, Equity Bank, KCB, Family Bank and Sidian Bank).

In the last few years the town has experienced an explosion in financial inclusion, mostly driven by the mobile money transfer. The bank-mobile money interface has greatly reduced the costs of transactions especially for small to medium money transactions. Traders can borrow bank money through mobile money without going to a banking hall thereby saving them the cost of going to Kitale town to carry out such transactions.

There are several environmental consequences associated with commercial activities in Kiminini town. Chemicals from the agricultural companies due to irrigation end up in the river thus polluting the water making it unfit for consumption and interfering with marine life. Careless disposal of solid and liquid waste by bars and hotels causes environmental hazards, e.g. stagnant water provides perfect breeding spaces for mosquitoes. The solid and liquid waste risks causing environmentally prone diseases like typhoid and cholera. The transport sector through vehicles, motorbikes and other machinery causes air and noise pollution, and public service vehicles cause congestion at the stage. Sawmills encourage deforestation which leads to soil erosion, and careless disposal of sawdust causes blockage of the drainage systems. Maize drying along the roads causes airborne diseases, air pollution and also obstruct pedestrian from using the road. Poor waste disposal by the slaughterhouse attracts stray dogs around the area and also causes air pollution due to the foul smell.

Commercial activities in Kiminini also have social consequences on the society, for instance bars normally are associated with prostitution, drug peddling and domestic violence, and the transport sector is associated with congestion in designated areas in the town and increased boda-boda accidents which can lead to loss of lives or permanent injuries on the victims. Videos and gambling halls encourage school dropouts among children and also encourage insecurity since suspects may use the halls as their planning points. The uncontrolled development of rental and residential units is gradually decreasing the arable land in Kiminini.

The flow of people and vehicles is high around the market stalls and Kiminini stage along the highway and very low along the streets lined with bars during the day. There are also several clusters in Kiminini which include fuel stations along the highway, jua kali artisans along Ndalu



Kiminini's formal business sector includes fuel stations.

road, residential and rental units in Masaba, Muthangari and Kananachi, bars and hotels along 540 street, sawmills along the highway and retail chain businesses at the CBD.

Labour migration is high in Kiminini, experts are mainly brought in the town by private institutions and registered companies. However, labour migration towards Kiminini town is lower than the labour migration out of Kiminini since many residents living in Kiminini work in Kitale. The size of the attracted population from other localities to the urban trade network of Kiminini is however also relatively high since the majority of the traders are from nearby areas who supply agricultural commodities to the town and also are the consumers of the processed goods.

Kiminini has some key potential attraction poles that may bring investors to the town. These include high masts which ensures a 24-hour economy, availability of land and favourable weather conditions which enhances agricultural productivity thus adequate supply of agricultural commodities, mostly maize. The community around is friendly which enhances the cohesiveness in the region. There is presence of political goodwill in terms of the potential development of Kiminini. The market for fresh produce makes it a favourable business hub and availability of affordable housing attracts more people to live in Kiminini thus providing a cheap labour to the investors around, including those in Kitale.

Public authorities intervene in Kiminini town in various activities. This include enforcement of laws (in particular in public health), control of the transport system, controlling the chain of distribution, community participation in revenue bill, controlling developments, controlling of businesses through licensing and initiating infrastructure investments e.g. roads, water and high masts.

There's high competitiveness in Kiminini and capability of the town to develop by itself, this is seen through much competition in building of modernized residential and commercial houses, availability of financial institutions which offer loans to traders to expand and develop their businesses and cheap labour that commutes to the town from the surrounding regions which enhances development.

Kiminini town is also a global village as people can communicate outside the town using mobile phone and internet services due to the availability of good tele mobile services, good and supportive government policies on licensing and good internet which puts it at a high level in terms of technology and geopolitical changes. Business people can order goods through phone calls, SMS, WhatsApp messages and can pay using the mobile money services therefore reducing the cost of travel. Business people can enquire prices, quality and availability of goods via phone calls and internet services.

Housing

A diversity of houses creates a mixed community with opportunities for all – we need different sizes, quality and opportunities to rent or own.

Kiminini, just like most of the towns in Kenya, has housing facilities of all typologies – permanent, semi-permanent and temporary. There are both rental and self-owned housing facilities in the town and around half of the residents own their houses while the other half live in individual rental units. However, rental houses in Kiminini are not sufficient with comparison to the existing population.

The existence of these different types of housing facilities with varied rent values means that almost all social classes can afford to rent a house. The range of monthly house rents is relatively cheap compared to Kitale. The house rents vary with the accessibility, size and quality of the house. A good number of residents have private houses; so, they do not have to pay rent.

TYPE OF HOUSE	KIMININI RENT [KES]	KITALE RENT [KES]
Single rooms	500–2 500	2 000–3 500
Double rooms	2 000–3 500	4 000–5 500
One bedroom self-contained	3 500–6 000	6 000–9 000
Two bedrooms self-contained	5 000 – 8 000	7 000 – 15 000

Approximate costs for rental houses in Kiminini and Kitale as comparison



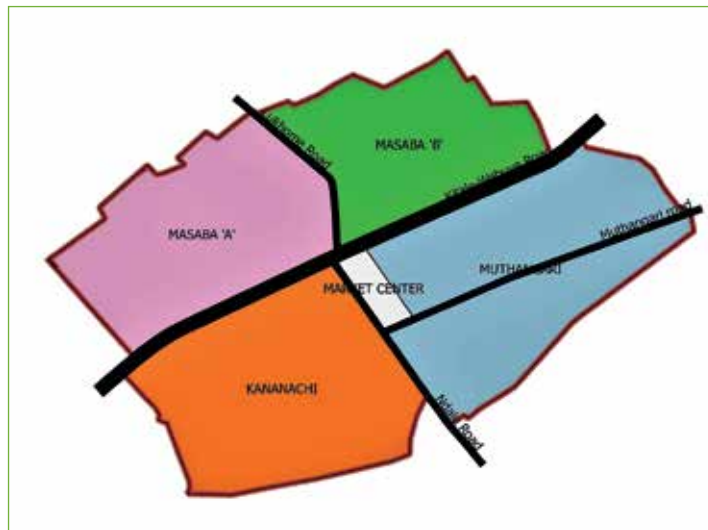
Many residents feel that the approval process for setting up houses is too expensive and lengthy.

Apart from the building materials that are purchased from hardware shops, other materials such as water, sand and bricks are currently cheap in Kiminini since they are readily available, and the labour can also be found at a low price, which means that it is relatively affordable to construct a house in Kiminini.

Most of the rental houses in Kiminini are permanent, with walls made of bricks, cemented floors and iron sheets for the roofs. Most of the self-owned houses are made of blocks for walls, corrugated iron sheets for the roofs and cement for the floors. A good number of the residents are aware of the mandatory process of seeking permission/approval to put up buildings. However, most of the residents are not making use of this service because it is expensive and too lengthy.

No specific design of developing rental or even self-owned houses is adopted in Kiminini. A few people have so far made use of the Makiga Interlocking Block building style, which is a fairly cheap method of constructing buildings.

Most of the residential houses in Kiminini town lack basic infrastructure i.e. access roads, piped water, electricity, sewer systems, playgrounds and security lights. The different residential areas all have their characteristics and an overview of this is presented in map 15 below.



Residential areas in Kiminini

Muthangari is a low-income residential area with a serious lack of most of the basic infrastructure. Many of the access roads only exist on the maps and not on the ground, the housing units are congested and there is no sewer system (however this is the case for the whole Kiminini). There is limited access to clean water and residents rely on water from boreholes which is contaminated by the pit latrines that are put up in close proximity. There is electricity supply though most of the houses are not connected to power, and insecurity is high due to the dense population and lack of street lights.

At the **Market Center**, the conditions are slightly better but still lacking some basic services. There are several access roads, lanes and paths, there are high masts, 90% of the houses are supplied with electric power, there is no sewer line, no play grounds, no piped water and the residents rely on water from boreholes and water kiosks.

In **Kananachi** neighbourhood, the houses are sparsely distributed, most of the houses are supplied with electricity and residents have access to clean water through treated borehole water, but the roads are bad.

In **Masaba**, the houses are not so congested, electricity is available and almost all plots especially in **Masaba A** have boreholes as the source of water. There are some open spaces/undeveloped plots that are used by the residents and the area is relatively safe at night. In **Masaba B**, houses are relatively congested, especially in **Sokomoko** area residents have limited access to basic infrastructure like piped water, security lights and electricity, and the roads are too narrow and impassable during the rainy season.

Green Space

Green and public space can contribute to creating a lively, green and smart town.

Kiminini is a highly-populated town and this, coupled with poor or lack of planning, has left nothing for expansion and social amenities like relaxation parks. The open-air market is congested and not sufficient for all the traders forcing some of them to do their business on the fringes of the roads. It is evident that open places and green spaces are vital in any urban setting, and that this is lacking in Kiminini as there is not one single green space in existence. The residents of Kiminini would indeed wish to have those recreational places for relaxation and other activities after work but they cannot be accessed.

As regards to playground there are only a few of them around, mostly owned by learning institutions like schools including Masaba Primary, St Brigid's and Kiminini Primary. They are not accessible at all times due to learning activities that goes on nearly on daily basis. The playgrounds for those institutions can only be accessed publicly during various government functions and ceremonies and in some cases when the pupils and students are on holidays.

It is also important to note that people of Kiminini understand the need for green spaces, playgrounds, open fields and the associated benefits with these, and would really wish to have

them established to promote the natural beauty and add aesthetics to the town centre. In addition, green spaces can be avenues to promote economic activities, create new networks and attract tourism activities.

Historically the development of Kiminini town centre came into existence largely as an agricultural base, but it also has its roots as a recreational area, as well as a current lively interest in sports, mainly football. The creation of green spaces, open fields and playgrounds are still key to the residents.

Recently the county acquired a 1.9 acres plot of land in close proximity to Kiminini centre. How the plot will be used has not been decided, but it will be for an initiative in line with the residents' will, providing a public goods to the inhabitants.



There is a conspicuous lack of green spaces in Kiminini.

Solid Waste

A core problem of Kiminini is waste management and there are huge opportunities for changing the whole face by improvement in this area.

Trans Nzoia County generates 120 tonnes of waste every day². Out of this, it is estimated that Kiminini town is producing around 30 tonnes of waste daily, and very little of this is collected, with even less being recycled or deposited of in an appropriate way. Solid waste disposal is a major challenge and an eye sore in Kiminini and piles of solid waste can be seen all around the town. Without a frequent use of a disposal truck, and without a disposal site, the residents of the town have nowhere to dispose their refuse. The County Government has one tractor that serves the whole county and it intermittently carts away solid refuse approximately twice a month, but with no landfill it has to be deposited in an open dump site in Kitale.

In general, in Kenya, around 60–70% of the waste generated is organic matters and can thus be used for manure or to produce biogas. Another approximately 15–20% is recyclable material such as paper, plastic and metal. This seems to collate with the findings in Kiminini, where the major waste that has been identified is food and vegetable cut-offs, followed by other waste such as plastic materials, papers, pieces of clothes and glass.



Waste being burnt at the open air market in Kiminini centre.

² Trans Nzoia County Government: Feasibility Study Report. Kitale/Kiminini Solid Waste Management Programme. March 2015

The waste collection system is being managed by Trans Nzoia county which has the mandate to collect waste from three official collection points/transfer stations in Kiminini town (see map 16). The waste from the main market is supposed to be stored in an open collection point in the middle of the open-air market, where it is either collected by the county truck or burnt if the truck doesn't arrive.



There are several heaps of garbage along the roads of Kiminini, where residents dump their waste and where it in best case is collected by the truck, and otherwise burnt. People also burn garbage in their back yards and on the roads.

There is no private waste management alternative in Kiminini at present, since a waste collection initiative by a youth group a couple of years ago failed for several reasons, amongst them inadequate law enforcement by the County which has led to careless waste disposal in the town. As regards to dumping and litter piling up at collection points, it can take up to several months before the County tractor appears. Community participation has also been a challenge since the initiative was new to Kiminini and thus it was hard for it to be embraced fully.

The recycling activities are informal and consists of people collecting useful material such as plastic and metal from the dump heaps. These items are then sold to middlemen who in turn sell to relevant industries for recycling.

Most of the farmers on the outskirts of Kiminini reuse the organic household waste on their own farms, but the organic waste from the market and from the inner-town households is burnt or transported to the dump site in Kitale.

Most waste comes from multifamily and single-family housing units, business premises and schools.

The health of Kiminini residents is always at the risk of contracting diseases while hotel and food kiosk owners usually have run-ins with Public Health officials as their businesses are threatened with closure due to the sanitary situation.



Donkeys in the middle of the town taking advantage of the organic waste from the vegetable markets.

Water and Sanitation

Safe drinking water and appropriate sanitation are inseparable and critical to urban health. The sources of water for Kiminini are water kiosks, bore holes, wells, rivers and rainwater. There are water kiosks constructed in Kiminini center where people buy piped water at a fee. The main modes of human waste disposal by households are pit latrines and septic tanks. Other human waste disposal modes include bucket, especially at night, and bushes. For a long time, the town lacked public toilets but in mid-2015 the County Government engaged a contractor to construct some for the market, however this is not adequate for the demand.

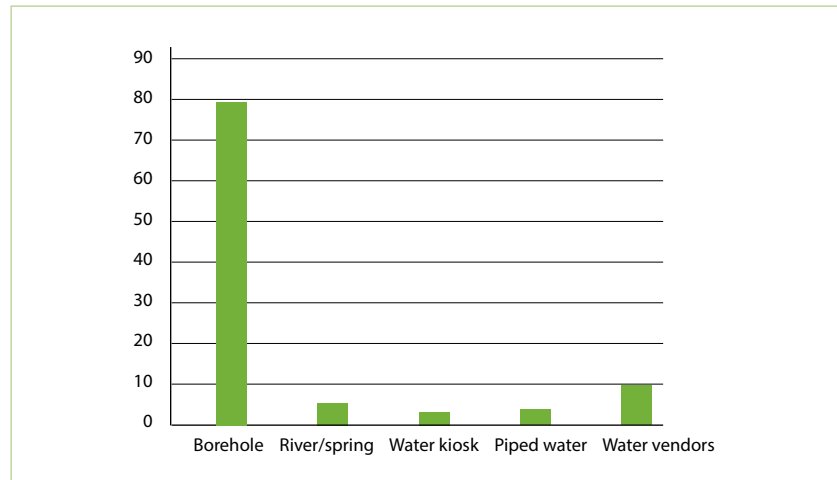
Water

Kiminini residents mainly depend on *boreholes* as their main source of water for domestic use, i.e. drinking, cooking, washing clothes, bathing etc. This water can be accessed via several water kiosks situated in various points e.g. in Sokomoko, Kiminini centre and Masaba. Other sources are *shallow wells* that are mainly found as you move away from the town centre, and naturally occurring *springs* (two in numbers: Pepella spring and Nabachenja). Other sources of water include *rainwater*, where a few households harvest water and store in big water tanks for future use. *River* water is also used, mainly for washing, cleaning, bathing and for livestock.

Kiminini Community Water Project is on the ground and is working towards providing *piped water* from a borehole to the residents and around 200 people have been connected so far. The residents however are advocating for piped water for all the Kiminini residents.

Clean water for drinking is accessible to most of the residents as there are a number of *water kiosks*. Those who cannot access the water kiosks use wells, springs and rivers. *Water vendors*

also distribute water to residents at their doorsteps. This means that the residents do not have to travel long distances in search for water.



Water sources for households in Kiminini

Source: Household Survey 2017 by Geodev Kenya

In terms of affordability, the people of Kiminini are in agreement that clean water for drinking and other domestic uses is cheap and every resident can afford it as a 20-litter jerry can only goes for 5 KES at the source (kiosks) while water vendors can deliver the water at your doorstep at 10 KES. Those fetching from the springs and rivers do it free of charge.

In terms of quality, the water from kiosks and springs are safer for drinking than other options as there is treatment at the source via the chlorine dispensers installed at the various water points. Water from the shallow wells is not safe for drinking because of possible pollution from the pit latrines around. This is as a result of irregular water table in Kiminini town.

At household level, various forms of water treatment are being used, including boiling, chlorination, filtering, sieving and solar disinfection. This is aimed at increasing the safety and quality of the water.

The majority of the residents in Kiminini utilize water for domestic purposes, within the family set up. Such include drinking for both people and livestock, cooking, washing clothes and general cleaning and bathing. Other uses are in the kitchen gardens, where mostly waste water is reused.

On average a household in Kiminini uses between 60 and 100 litres per day which is sourced mainly from the public water kiosks, springs, rivers and private water vendors and wells.

Residents in Kiminini use various means to store water. They include the traditional pots locally called “songo”, jerry cans, tanks and basins. Each method has its own advantages and disadvantages. Songos are considered the safest way to store water as it has a natural way of keeping water clean through siltation and also keeps it cool. Water tanks are considered to be unsafe as it is not easy to maintain cleanliness, however they are useful because of the quantity of water they can accommodate. Jerry cans are also hard to clean hence not the best option, but are easily available and affordable.

Waste water

The households and commercial joints like hotels, shops and institutions are the major producers of waste water. At household level, waste water is often disposed of through open drains, open pits and pit latrines. Others reuse waste water in their backyard gardens or give livestock to drink. Hotels and institutions have covered pits while others use open drains.



Poor drainage has major health implications for Kiminini residents.

There is no form of waste water treatment, neither at the household level nor for hotels and institutions.

At Kiminini centre and its environs the drainage system is very poor as manifested in water stagnating around the Cottage hospital and within the residential areas. Along the Kiminini – Webuye highway, and around Khwesa and Glory Inn, the drainage system is a bit better.

Poor drainage is worsened by solid waste that is dumped haphazardly, thereby blocking available systems. It is also negatively affected by poor planning, erection of structures along drainage lines among others.

The resulting effects of poor drainage can be seen in water logging which turns into breeding sites for mosquitoes and other parasites, pollution of wells on low grounds, stench smell causing air pollution, pot holes on roads as a result of water stagnation and the general reduction of the town aesthetics.

Irrigation

There are various farms and institutions that use large amounts of water. They include Western Seed Company which practices irrigation along Kabuyefwe River, St Anne’s academy, St. Brigid’s, Kiminini Cottage, Mbai Farm, Njoroge Farm and Kananachi Farm.

Sanitation

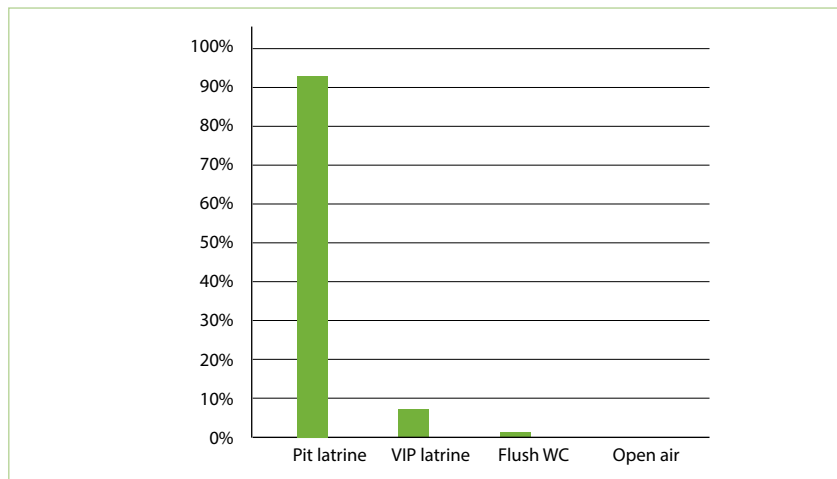
The sanitation system in Kiminini is not at an advanced level. There is no sewerage system in Kiminini town. The residents mainly use pit latrines which are not equipped with water to enhance sanitation. This means that there is a high risk of people contracting ailments because of their unhygienic state.

Other households and most of the institutions and commercial hubs are connected to septic tanks. There are only a handful of people using flush toilets.

In Kiminini centre, there is only one public toilet serving all the traders around the market. This toilet is not emptied regularly and is not partitioned to make it gender sensitive. The frequency at which people are using this latrine is almost every minute, forcing the users to make long queues in order to attend to their needs. This makes it very inhumane, inconvenient and uncomfortable to the users. The accessibility of this latrine is also poor as people around the main stage cannot easily reach it. A new public toilet (also pit latrine) is being constructed nearby and is almost completed, however even with this addition the lack of public toilets in Kiminini center is obvious.

Other methods of disposing excreta include bushes, incomplete structures, dump sites, burying, open urination etc.

There's is a feeling among residents that some people misuse the available toilets by dumping solid wastes and glass bottles, thereby making it hard for the exhausting services.



Different sanitation methods in Kiminini

Source: Household Survey 2017 by Geodev Kenya

Mobility and Transport

Infrastructure and management for all types of transport, including non-motorised, should be improved to ensure simple and cheap access for all residents

Kiminini is one of the fastest growing towns in Trans Nzoia and it is evident from looking at the transport sector. In the past people used to walk for long distances in order to reach the tarmac road from their villages to get the public transport to Kitale town. Due to the increasing population and developments in Kiminini the transport sector has started thriving through the introduction of other modes of transport that enable residents easy access to wherever they are going.

The motorbike sector is doing well as most of the people use them in the morning to reach the tarmac road so as to use the public matatu to town where most of them work and/or to buy their products in Kitale town. The bicycles are used to offer services within the town and backstreets. We also have none motorised transport systems in Kiminini, in addition to walking and cycling for example the donkeys and hand carts which are mostly used to transport goods because it is cheap and affordable.

The town has a road network comprising of the bitumen Webuye–Kitale highway, the gravelled Kiminini–Ndal and Kiminini–Lukhome roads and a number of rural access roads.



Roads within SymbioCity
Kiminini boundaries

Most of the roads are in poor condition and are usually impassable during the rainy season. The poor condition of the roads is a major bottleneck to development for the residents of the town, both in terms of convenience and for business purposes. It makes it difficult for farmers to access the market, which is especially cumbersome for perishable produce.

Since it is situated on the highway, the centre enjoys an 18-hour public transport system through the matatus. Public vehicles plying Webuye–Kitale highway and Kiminini–Kitale road operate from around 4am in the morning to 11pm at night. Kiminini also has a bus park, though it is presently not used by public transport owners due to lack of enforcement.

Movement within the town is however a challenge due to impassable access roads which have further been encroached on and very narrow streets that cannot allow even a small vehicle to pass through. There are also private vehicles, a few commercial pick-ups and buses for schools. The town therefore entirely depends on road transport for mobility.

There are no walking lanes in Kiminini and this increases the risks of pedestrians being knocked down by either motorcycles or vehicles. This also increases the risk of school children who use the roads on a daily basis mornings and evenings being involved in accidents as that is the rush hour when most of the residents are going to work and back home. It is also significant that so little effort is being made to cater for the walkers, despite this mode of transport being the most common in Kiminini.

The feeder roads and smaller roads in Kiminini are of low standard, especially during the rainy seasons, and lack speed bumps in places where businesses are and children like playing. There are no street lights so the bodaboda operators, bicycle riders and pedestrians risk getting mugged by robbers in dark places. The boda-boda riders lack training which puts the lives of the residents of Kiminini at danger as most of them don't understand the road rules and regulations. In addition, the lack of street lights and poor conditions of the feeder roads has been a major cause of insecurity to the boda-boda operators at night.

The challenges the residents encounter when using the public transport system are delays, overloading and insecurity as there are no regulations in terms of capacity and charges. Most are overcharged depending on the activities and seasons of the year.

The roads that were named to be particularly dangerous in the transport sector, especially for the bodaboda operators, include Kitale–Webuye road, Kiminini town–Kananachi road and Kiminini town–Muthangari road as a number of motorbikes are stolen during the night while using those routes.

Most of the bodaboda operators, public matatus and bicycle riders are in registered SACCOs which enhances security accountability.

Most roads in Kiminini do not have official names. Many roads are named as per the activity and business being carried on, other streets that have business like supermarkets and boutiques are e.g. named in honour of a person who has done business in Kiminini for a long time. We

have the “540 street” which is dominated by pubs and supermarkets, “AP lane” because of the administration police that is situated within that street and “Church road” which have a large number of churches for different denominations. Officially naming roads and streets according to the residents’ proposals would be an important step towards creating the feeling of “our town” and making the residents feel proud and in charge of their urban hub.



Most boda-boda operators are in registered SACCOs.

Energy

Green energy sources are the key to a sustainable urban future.

The global energy crisis coupled with the threats of climate change has brought into sharp focus both opportunities and challenges for our county. Trans Nzoia County government has to address the increasing energy demands of its growing economy and population, as well as address energy poverty issues highlighted by extreme disparities in income of its residents.

These factors are making efficiency, conservation, reuse, recycling and renewable sources primary considerations in looking for sustainable energy solutions.

In Kiminini the main sources of energy are fuelwood, kerosene, charcoal, electricity and solar power. The dominant activities that consume energy are domestic uses like cooking and lighting. Transport, communication, farming and lumbering are also activities that consume significant amounts of energy.

Energy consumption and utilization of the above-mentioned sources are associated with problems and difficulties which range from environmental to socio-economic. The environmental problems are mainly air pollution, especially smoke resulting from firewood, emissions from motor vehicles and other environmental problems resulting from extraction of fuel wood.

The socio-economic reasons for not using renewable energy sources include high initial costs of solar panels to harness solar energy, lack of awareness and ignorance of new technological advancements like the use of energy saving jikos.

Other challenges facing energy utilisation are fluctuating prices of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and high costs of petrol. Kiminini experiences frequent electricity blackouts and poor customer service by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) when handling complaints.



Erecting high-mast floodlights has positively contributed to the local economy.

Despite the availability of the energy sources, the energy needs of the locals are not adequately met due to some of the constraints such as power rationing, fluctuating costs of cooking gas (LPG) and high costs of charcoal which is sourced from West Pokot making it expensive due to the cost of travel incurred by the merchants. Frequent blackouts also hinder the residents from adequately utilizing electric energy. At least half of the households and businesses within the planning area have access to the main grid.

Most of the common energy sources within Kiminini such as fossil fuel (gas), charcoal and firewood are readily available and affordable despite price fluctuations associated with cooking gas and charcoal. At least residents can access them. Firewood is the most affordable energy source as residents are able to easily access it. There is a huge opportunity in exploiting solar energy as it is readily available and affordable in the long run, but most of the population are unable to meet the cost of the initial investment in solar panels.

The County Government recently put up a high mast flood light at the busy market section to improve on security and enable traders sell their wares up to late hours. In total, there are two high masts and five low mast floodlights in Kiminini town most of which are situated around the main market and the trading centre. The lights which automatically light up at dusk have positively contributed to the local economy. First of all, the lights have improved security within the town's busiest parts, by improving visibility at night. The lights have also helped to extend the hours worked by many traders which translate into improved income and a ripple effect on the local economy. For the moment, four of the low masts are not working.

The Trans Nzoia county government has recently constructed street lights along the A1 highway, the Ndal, Lukhome and Sokomoko roads of Kiminini. This is a part of the county programme to ensure all secondary towns in Trans Nzoia are equipped with street lights.

5. CHAPTER FIVE

ASSETS AND CHALLENGES

The assets and challenges have been identified through stakeholder’s views gathered during meetings, participatory exercises, the photo exhibition held in the Ward Administrator’s office during October and November 2016 and eight targeted workshops for each of the urban systems, all held in December 2016. Conclusions have also been drawn from the information gathered about the urban systems (see Section 4).

After the presentation of the main assets and challenges perceived for each urban system, we conclude with recommendations from the residents for improvement. The recommendations can be seen as a long-list of what could be done in Kiminini to secure a green and clean town with basic services for all.

Social Functions

Social groups and places are important aspects in the human life and affects a person’s life in one way or another. Social functions in a community helps in fulfilment of basic needs, personality development, transmission of culture and social control, possibility of achievement of collective aims such as festivals or grief occasions, construction of houses, churches, mosques etc.

The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of social functions:

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
A cohesive community and peaceful co-existence	Mortuary should not be located in middle of town close to markets with fresh vegetables, unhygienic
Historic continuation and conservation of history	Few people are engaged in public participation for County development
Many schools (including some special schools) and colleges	Insecurity at night in some places
Polytechnic Kiminini	No places for youth and children to be
Medical facilities	Prostitution, alcohol and drug abuse
Police station	Unemployment and idling youths
Government offices	Noise pollution
A number of civil society organisations	Polarised values (e.g. western contra traditional views of family norms and values)
Kiminini primary playground	School dropout
Political goodwill to changing Kiminini	

RECOMMENDATIONS

The social factors need to be considered to improve well-being and the quality of lives for the residents. They feel that establishment of recreational facilities would improve the socio-eco-

conomic status of the area, and establishment of sports grounds would help many youths around Kiminini engage themselves in sports, which will reduce drug abuse and insecurity which is normally caused by jobless idle youths. A social cultural centre would help conserve the history of the communities around and also contribute to the economy of the town through charges charged at the centre. A disability centre would see the disabled people to also have a position in the society, the centre will help them improve their social lives too. Well-equipped institutions that offer social services, e.g. community library and resource centre, would also improve the well-being of the society by contributing to the towns economy, as residents won't be travelling to other towns to seek for the same services since they will be available.

For social sustainability to be achieved in Kiminini, there must be frequent civic education and public participation on matters arising involving the town, e.g. on community development, but also on human rights and labour rights. All stakeholders should be involved in planning and implementation through all stages. By involving the community fully and letting the community own the projects they will be responsible and take care of the projects thus the sustainability of the same. It is also important to engage the community in county activities, including budget discussions.

Social amenities, e.g. hospitals and schools, should be located in a specific area to ease access and improve the socio-economic status of the town thus positively benefiting the residents.

Commercial Functions

The business activities carried on in Kiminini are the backbone of the economy in Kiminini and its surrounding rural areas. Also from a revenue point of view, Kiminini depends on these functions.

The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of commercial functions:



COMMERCIAL FUNCTIONS	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
Vibrant market town with a lot of business activities	Unemployment, especially youth unemployment
Agribusiness market hub	New market stalls have delayed, should be set up quickly (hinders business to develop)
Variety of business activities, innovative ways of using mobile services	Illegal stalls
New market is being constructed and old market still there	Inadequate space for marketing
Busy markets by the side of the roads	Dangerous for traders to be on the side of the road
Good business for bars and clubs (and nice to have a good time at those places)	Unhygienic environment (markets)
Slaughter house	Many commercial functions on the side of the road (maize drying, tractor renting, saw mills), dangerous and unseemly
Large warehouse under construction	Insecurity due to night clubs and local breweries
Ready market for goods	The wines and spirits are many, leading to students using drugs and dropping out of school and prostitution
Cheap labour	Enforcement of wine and spirit shops lacking
Availability of financial institutions who offer loans to traders	Noise pollution by pubs, gambling joints, timber yards and other business ventures
Reasonably good Internet connection and mobile services	Water pollution with chemical leakages from Western Seed
	Liquid and solid waste dumped by bars and hotels
	Saw mills bringing about a lot of environmental issues: deforestation, soil erosion, drainage blockage, air pollution, noise pollution

RECOMMENDATIONS

Kiminini town has the capacity of developing the commercial network to result in a larger selling area in relation to the demands of goods. This can be effected through the following strengths: good roads and readily available means of transportation, readily available and cheap labour, good ICT platform and also reasonably good infrastructure in terms of electricity and water.

Urban operations should aim at sustainable development through subsidized levies and tax by local administration to promote green infrastructure development and attract investors to the town.

Financial empowerment of informal traders and ensuring quality products to adverse hazards could help attain a sustainable development in Kiminini. Putting up green spaces and lighting the streets will increase the socio-economic status of the town and ensure a 24hr economy.

Regulating the number of pubs and checking gambling activities is another point that residents would wish the county could take more seriously.

Commercial trends in Kiminini can be seen in agricultural economy, retail trading, real estate, transport and commercial forest farming, and these areas need both policy support and access to finance.

Housing

Houses and their surrounding neighbourhoods are basic human needs in any society. There are various laws that govern the housing in a given area which are normally enforced by the National Construction Authority. Types of housing in an area will influence the growth of any town and Kiminini residents are keen to see a modernising town with more multi-storey buildings. The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of housing:

HOUSING	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
<p>Many houses and many rental opportunities</p> <p>Affordable housing</p> <p>New multi-storey buildings coming up</p> <p>Many houses are using solar power and it's becoming increasingly popular</p>	<p>Structures need to be modernised (now shacks)</p> <p>Illegal structures and temporary houses (especially in Muthangare)</p> <p>Congestion of structures</p> <p>Deforestation due to increased population and demand for land</p> <p>Land degradation due to poor farming practices and poorly planned housing development</p> <p>Frequent conflicts regarding land use</p> <p>Poor planning of buildings and roads; hard to fight fires; boreholes and toilets near one another; no access roads to buildings; crammed with no open space</p> <p>Mushrooming of informal settlements</p> <p>Some houses are very far away from the town</p> <p>Substandard houses without water, electricity and toilets</p> <p>Inadequate houses for renting</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to boost the housing sector in Kiminini town, the following recommendations from the residents could be considered:

- Formation and implementation of by-laws to ensure there are different housing typologies but of good standard
- Regulate construction
- The fees on development approvals/permissions should be revised or reduced – County Government, a Rent Control Board should be established to check on the standards and rents
- Streets and roads should be opened up especially in Kananachi, Market centre, Masaba and Muthangari
- Road surfaces should be improved – tarmacked in some cases
- Sewerage system to be constructed
- Piped water to be supplied to the whole of Kiminini
- Street lights to be raised especially in Muthangari and Kiminini centre
- The existing Kiminini Landlords Association ought to be active in order to give guidance

- on regulation of rents, building designs, safety of houses before tenants occupying them
- Zone off commercial activities
- Control upcoming informal settlements
- Enforce proper housing structures and formulate laws to govern the development e.g. ban land fragmentation

Green Space

Vibrant relaxation areas are needed to create a lively, green and smart town, however Kiminini doesn't have much public space, and thus more needs to be done to improve the present situation.

The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of green space:

PUBLIC AND GREEN SPACE	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
There are some trees here and there in Kiminini	People have nowhere to meet in public, apart from on the streets
There is one playground (at Kiminini primary)	There is very little trees and green places
Public land (County bought a 1,9 acre plot near the centre)	Children don't have anywhere to play, only on the streets
	Youths meet at bars and cybers as there is no other place for them
	Stray domestic animals

RECOMMENDATIONS

The residents of Kiminini would want to see more trees in the town centre, which is now dusty and unattractive.

Since there is very little public land that can be used, other possibilities need to be explored and one of them is to use the road reserves for small parks or at least to plant more trees there. There is a lack of playgrounds and sports grounds, so county should consider buying land for these purposes.

Many of the plots outside the CBD are today used for both farming and living, and in order to keep this green belt also in the future it is important to regulate where more dense construction should be allowed and where green areas should be kept. There is also need for sensitization on the importance of mixed farming and agroforestry.

Solid Waste

Due to a fast-growing population in Kiminini, there is a massive increase of solid waste production and poor solid waste management has been an eyesore in Kiminini town for a long time now.

The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of solid waste:

SOLID WASTE	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
<p>A lot of the organic waste is reused in people's shambas</p> <p>A few waste bins in the market centre</p> <p>New waste bins placed by County (however they are misused)</p>	<p>Garbage blocking the drainage</p> <p>Garbage burning at market and elsewhere as collection not working</p> <p>Dump sites everywhere, deposited randomly on road sides</p> <p>Lack of designated disposal sites</p> <p>No land fill (dump site in Kitale)</p> <p>Not enough waste bins</p> <p>Not enough containers for market waste and household waste</p> <p>Slaughter house unsanitary waste disposal and attraction of stray dogs</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS

Many of the residents have expressed a wish to have a landfill or a waste management plant in Kiminini, instead of as now sending all waste to Kitale dumpsite. Land needs to be allocated for solid waste management.

The county needs to take more responsibility when it comes to collecting the waste from the market and from the shops and individual households. The existing sweepers employed by the county should be better trained and there are need for more of them since Kiminini is growing. As important as the physical side is the awareness raising of the residents, to create an attitude change and changed behaviour. The residents should be sensitised on the Reduce, Recycle and Re-use strategies of managing solid waste and also on the proper utilization of available resources.



Water and Sanitation

Although there is no blatant water scarcity in Kiminini, many people walk long distances every day to collect the water they need. On the sanitation side, the situation is relatively undeveloped as most houses only have pit latrines, in many cases of poor quality, and there are very few public toilets in the town.

The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of water and sanitation:

WATER AND SANITATION	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
New drainage being constructed on side of main road	Drainage not working well (breeding ground for mosquitoes, other diseases)
There is access to clean water	Poor maintenance of drainage
Public toilet exists (but not enough of them)	Saw dust and garbage blocks water drainage – stagnant water
	Flooding during rainy season destroys the roads
	Public water points should be located at town centre
	Water points should be fenced and not near public toilets
	Not enough public toilets and unsanitary conditions, water borne diseases risk
	Lack of sewerage system
	Access roads being destroyed by storm water
	Erosion and landslides along river and drainage banks

RECOMMENDATIONS

On water and sanitation, the key demands from the public on how to improve the situation in Kiminini include:

- The county government to provide piped water to all residents
- Provision of adequate toilets and latrines to the residents
- Connect Kiminini to sewerage system
- Connect the latrines/toilets to clean water for washing hands
- Improve the drainage system
- Toilets to be sited in different strategic locations to make it easily accessible
- Partitioning or complete separation of male and female latrines to enhance privacy
- Opening up drainage systems
- Constructing a sewer system
- Encourage rainwater harvesting
- Irrigation instead of depending on rain-fed agriculture
- Afforestation
- Rehabilitation of river and drainage banks (e.g. gabions and other erosion controlling methods)



Pupils of St. Brigid Primary Kiminini demonstrating hand-washing as a component of personal hygiene.

Mobility and Transport

Local mobility has a strong impact on local economy, cultural heritage, territorial cohesion, social inclusion and environmental protection. While good mobility choices can improve quality of life and economic competitiveness, a lack of sustainable mobility schemes will be a barrier to any development strategy implemented in rural areas. Kiminini being an agricultural town needs proper road networks that can make it easy for farmers to transport their agricultural produce and also encourage green transport that will be safe for pedestrians.

The following is an excerpt of views from people in Kiminini on what assets and challenges exist in the area of mobility and transport:



How can mobility in Kiminini be improved? The USR provides some recommendations.

MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
<p>Easy access to the town through the A1 highway</p> <p>Easy to go to Kitale by A1 (20 minutes by matatu)</p> <p>Major roads have been rehabilitated</p> <p>Some good murram roads in town centre</p> <p>Good business for bodaboda and matatus</p> <p>Easy to go places by bodaboda and matatu</p> <p>Bus stage (but not well used)</p> <p>Convenient with the combination of boda-boda and matatus</p> <p>Affordable transport (often negotiable)</p>	<p>Poor roads in town centre (flooded in rainy seasons, potholes, corrugation, narrow roads, encroachment on roads)</p> <p>Some roads not passable due to commercial activities on them</p> <p>No pedestrian lanes</p> <p>No safe place for children to cross roads (and many of them are close to major roads)</p> <p>Air pollution, noise pollution, congestion</p> <p>Existing matatu stage is not used, so the road sides are used instead, causing congestion and traffic danger</p> <p>The matatu stage is not well planned and its use not enforced</p> <p>Boda-boda should have their own stage, now on the road sides</p> <p>Poor access roads</p> <p>Matatus are hindering other traffic when they use the side of the road as a stage</p> <p>Poor traffic flow in centre (high flow of vehicles and people around the market stalls and</p> <p>Kiminini stage</p> <p>Boda-boda drivers not regulated and are often over speeding, and have no reflectors or helmets</p> <p>Insecurity and risk of mugging on some of the smaller roads</p> <p>Reduced road accessibility due to road encroachment</p> <p>Noise pollution and traffic insecurity by haphazard picking and dropping of passengers by public service vehicles and bodaboda riders</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS

Some of the concluding recommendations as regards to mobility and transport from the public are:

- For the transport sector to thrive, the feeder roads should be well maintained by the county government so that during the rainy season the drainage system should not be blocked
- The roads need to be well tarmacked with proper drainage systems to avoid rain water from wearing the roads
- The roads should be well demarcated and signs be well labelled
- The SACCOs should ensure their vehicles, motorbikes and bicycles are serviced and labelled
- Each sector of the different modes of transport should have rules and regulations of operation

tions for easy accountability (this will also reduce the insecurity as the vehicles and drivers will be identified by the customers)

- Waiting bays to be put up for the bodabodas
- Enforcement of traffic and transport rules and regulations
- Plan and improve the transport system so that all people are catered for e.g. the disabled to have their own lanes, children and the elderly to have theirs too, to avoid accidents
- Speed bumps and safe crossings
- Confining public service vehicles that drop or pick passengers to the designated bus park
- Identifying appropriate sites for bodaboda riders to park
- Residents should be given the responsibility to name the streets
- Train bodaboda riders and make sure they have the necessary safety equipment: reflective jackets and helmets for themselves and the passengers
- Bodaboda riders to register in SACCOs so that the bikes are numbered and can be tracked and they can help out collectively when a client is complaining
- Bodaboda riders to insure their bikes
- Restrict time of operations for bodabodas

Energy

Energy is one of the basic pillars in driving the economy of Kiminini, however there are some benefits and challenges that accompany this pillar as identified by the residents and business people of Kiminini:

ENERGY	
ASSETS	CHALLENGES
Availability of electricity	Unreliable electricity
Many people using solar	Main sources of energy in household are charcoal and kerosene
High masts	High masts not functioning properly and are not enough to serve all people
Low masts	
Street lights on some streets	Insecurity from lack of street lights

RECOMMENDATIONS

Access to energy sources, despite being a basic necessity, also poses significant challenges to the population and the County Government. In order to address these challenges, the County Government should play a more significant role in improving access to energy sources. The County Government should try and invest in renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power by partnering with investors within the sector, arrange for and conduct workshops aimed at creating awareness and sensitizing the residents on how to harness unconventional energy sources such as biogas, bricks made from sawdust and charcoal leftovers and encourage the use of energy saving jikos.

The County Government should also try and approach KPLC on behalf of Kiminini residents to have a substation located near Kiminini to help curb frequent blackouts.

6. CHAPTER SIX VISION

The vision of Kiminini, developed with the residents of the town and the SymbioCity Working Group, is summarised in the following statement:

»A green vibrant town with opportunities for all.«

Under the main vision, which also functions as a “slogan” for Kiminini, we have developed a number of goals, which are more specific and each represents an important part of what people in Kiminini would want their town to develop into. Each of the goals are described in the sections below.

The vision was developed with a time frame of around 20 years, so a future Kiminini has been imagined and synthesised into a vision and four goals. In the SymbioCity process, we will prioritise amongst the goals as the project is too short and resources not enough to work with all goals. We hope that the vision and goals can serve as goalposts for Kiminini not only within SymbioCity but in its daily management, through the ISUDP process, while developing other projects, and for the residents in their daily struggle to make Kiminini a better place to live in.



KIMININI IMAGINED IN 2037

In twenty years' time, Kiminini will be a **green town**, both from physical appearance and in terms of using environmentally friendly technologies, renewable energy, focus on non-motorised transport etc. There will be trees lining the roads, planted when the SymbioCity project was active in 2017 and encouraged tree nurseries on the road reserves as a way of re-establishing a green belt through the town. There will be public green lawns where residents can relax on the benches or have a picnic directly on the grass. There will be no stagnant water and no rubbish on the street. Residents will have learned to care for their town and are careful not to litter, but are on the contrary helping out in keeping Kiminini green and clean, e.g. through the quarterly clean up days that are organised by the town administration.

In 2037 Kiminini will be a town administratively, not only an urban area, as it will have been gazetted and certified as a town. A town administration will have been established and will be consolidated and able, with technical capacity, political will, financial resources and enough devolved power to plan and execute the development of their town. Kiminini in twenty years' time will thus be more **independent from Kitale** and self-sustained. People will both work and live in Kiminini and only a minority will still commute daily to Kitale. People's social life can also be satisfied in Kiminini as there are enough activities for young people, children, middle aged and old.

In two decades, Kiminini will have developed further on the commercial side, having harnessed all opportunities, e.g. the **emerging agribusiness market**. In addition to the large maize storage business, the seed production, the saw mill expansion and other companies that will have thrived in the agribusiness sector in Kiminini, the open-air market is now famous all over the county and people travel from far to see what the market in Kiminini has to offer. The unemployment rate has decreased, thanks to new job opportunities in Kiminini brought about both by larger industries being attracted to the green town with a practical proximity to Kitale; and by SMEs that have been growing in number and size. Other jobs have been created by leveraging the existing vocational training in construction for unskilled youth, which resulted in the construction companies being able to use local labour when building new roads, houses and supermarkets for Kiminini.

The town administration has been able to collect revenue from new SMEs and informal traders, as well as from the larger industries that have been established in Kiminini, and the town is also profiting from the large waste management plant that serves five other towns in Trans Nzoia. This increased revenue has been used wisely in ensuring that **all residents in Kiminini have access to at least the most basic infrastructure services** such as roads, drainage, water and sanitation, street lighting and electricity. It has also been used towards providing affordable health care and education, and towards rehabilitating the sports ground and creating parks, so that the residents can enjoy outdoor activities which is beneficial both for physical and mental health.

In 2037, the residents are happy to live in Kiminini and proud over the progress of their town. They are positive about the future and are committed to continue to contribute to the development of Kiminini.

Goal 1: An environmentally friendly town

From all interactions with the residents and stakeholders in Kiminini one very simple conclusion on priorities is that all are deeply concerned about the *environment*. Kiminini is dirty – litter everywhere; polluted water in drainages too shallow because of waste; dust caused by lack of tree cover – and for the inhabitants this is both an eye sore and a source of potential danger because of the spread of diseases and risks for children to get injured. *Solid waste management, liquid waste management and greening of the town are priorities* for the residents.

Goal 2: A self-sustained and decentralised town

Throughout all the engagements with the residents of Kiminini, the issue of self-sustainability was also a desire of the people. Residents of Kiminini want a certified town that will be administratively self-sustaining (through its own town administration) and also has a higher degree of socio-economic independency (e.g. with major banks represented; access to health and education; availability of major consumer goods etc.)

Goal 3: A market hub

Kiminini being an agricultural town, residents want it to be a core town in agri-business in the county, since most of its agricultural produce is supplied to Kitale and it is also a gateway town to Kitale from the neighbouring Bungoma county through the A1 (Kitale-Webuye) road. This gives it a perfect opportunity to become a market hub since all the agricultural produce from other immediate centres and other counties like, Bungoma, Kakamega and Kisumu pass through Kiminini before being transported to Kitale via the A1 road.

Goal 4: A town with basic services for all

Kiminini residents are looking forward to a town where they can access all basic services (infrastructure and social services) without favouritism or discrimination. Every resident should have equal opportunities in accessing the services irrespective of their ethnicity, age, gender and religion.



VISION: »A green vibrant town with opportunities for all«			
Goal 1 An environmental-ly friendly town	Goal 2 A self-sustained and decentralised town	Goal 3 An agricultural market hub	Goal 4 A town with basic services for all
SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved waste collection by county • More trees growing in town • Less litter on streets • Community aware about waste disposal and green energy • Creation of recreational facilities (green places, benches, other meeting places, play grounds etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISUDP finalised and approved for Kiminini • Town certification process started • Resource centre established within the Ward Administration Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More use of organic manure • New market stalls will be opened leading to more active market and better sanitation • Encourage green entrepreneurship (e.g. compost/fertiliser production, waste sorting and 3Rs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More informed residents – people will know where to get information about the services and will trust the services that exist (e.g. using hospitals in Kiminini instead of in Kitale) • Improved waste collection, leading to less clogged drains and roads in better conditions • Street lights on major streets leading to improved security • Improved communication between residents and county, leading to improved services

Goal 1 An environmental-ly friendly town	Goal 2 A self-sustained and decentralised town	Goal 3 An agricultural market hub	Goal 4 A town with basic services for all
MEDIUM-TERM OBJECTIVES:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees and green public spaces in town • More people venture into green businesses (e.g. tree nursery) • No standing water • No litter on streets • Restriction of animals in town • More paths for walking built • Zebra crossings and bumps constructed • Water harvesting in CBD • Play grounds constructed on the small areas available • More people use agroforestry on their shambas • Controlled smoking zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiminini certified as a town • Better enforcement (planning, environment) • Sub-county services complemented with all required offices and appropriate offices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on and access to finance for urban agriculture • Reduce fees on environmentally friendly businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More public toilets constructed and kept in order • Community policing started
LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functioning waste management system including recycling and reusing • Proper drainage system • Industrial zones with environmental regulations that are followed • More people are using renewable energy sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A functioning town administration • Establishment of town administration board • Controlled development • Distinct zones in town (industrial, commercial, residential etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of agricultural jobs (production, value addition, retail) • Increased scale of agricultural production • Zoning and planning for agro-industrial activities • Creation of a community agricultural school (possibly as a TVET centre) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic functioning infrastructure in place (roads, drainage, W&S) • Good quality health and education services accessible and affordable • Improved livelihoods for all people in Kiminini

7. CHAPTER SEVEN

WORK PROCESS

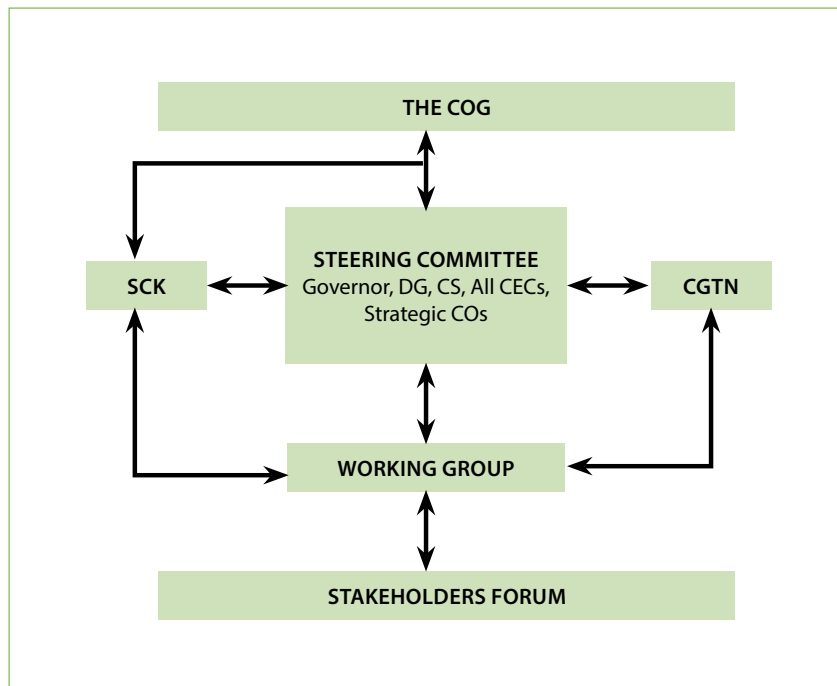
Organisation

The SymbioCity Trans Nzoia is headed by a *Steering Committee*, chaired by the Governor or the CS and comprising all CECs in the county, as well as a few strategic COs and representatives from civil society. The Steering Committee makes decision on all strategic issues, such as approval of quick wins, the change project and the USR.

The *Working Group* consists of roughly 15–20 members, representing different ministries in the county as well as residents of Kiminini. The Pilot Coordinator, PC, is the Ward Administrator for Kiminini and the assistant PC is an urban planner from the department of physical planning. The Working Group is organically changing and expanding according to the different stages in the SymbioCity process, so that the constitution reflects what areas are in focus. So e.g. during the USR phase, the Working Group was dominated by planners whereas the implementation phases will see a gradual change towards more engineers and environmental experts in the Working Group.

For communication and interaction with the residents in Kiminini, a *stakeholder forum* has been set up. The Working Group did a stakeholder analysis in the beginning of the process, which guided the invitations for stakeholders to ensure different groups of the society were represented.

The *residents of Kiminini* are not a formal part of the SymbioCity Trans Nzoia organisation, but are key in moving the process forward and have been involved from the start in various ways.



Stakeholder engagement

Engaging the stakeholders from the onset of this program was considered strategically important by the Working Group and a lot of focus was therefore put on how to get the residents of Kiminini and other stakeholders to become a part of the SymbioCity process.

It was decided to use the Ward Administrator's office in Kiminini as a "hub" for information and contacts with stakeholders, so all workshops and a number of Working Group meetings have been held there, which has been important in getting the SymbioCity project closer to the Kiminini residents. In addition, a number of exhibitions have been organised in the office, with photographs and posters on the walls where residents have been encouraged to give their views.

In addition to engaging the residents, this was an important means of information gathering for this USR. It was realised quite early on that no secondary data existed over Kiminini, so all data and information had to be collected first-hand by the Working Group. This was done through the different exhibitions, as well as through the workshops that were held. The workshops were of two major types: firstly, the large stakeholder forum workshop, where a wider stakeholder group was informed and gave their views, and secondly the targeted workshops that were organised according to the eight major urban systems identified in Kiminini (see section 4).

For the stakeholder forum, all people that were impacted by the process, that had influence on it or had a stake in its successful completion were identified and approached with information. After identifying the stakeholders, we prioritized them based on their influence and interest in the program while specifying their overall goals and objectives.

For the eight workshops conducted for each urban system, we identified specific stakeholder groups for each system and ensured all interest groups were represented. To conduct semi-structured interviews with regard to the eight urban systems helped us understand the stakeholders' perspectives as well as the situation on the ground. Their contributions during the engagement workshops in the Ward Administrator's office were instrumental in gathering much important and first-hand information that has contributed in analysing the actual situation at hand in Kiminini.



Communication

In the beginning of the SymbioCity process in Trans Nzoia, a communication plan was developed to ensure both internal and external communication would be adequate and efficient. The most important means of communication are listed here:

- The Working Group communicates monthly to the Steering Committee by submitting a one-pager progress update and a so-called Logbook, which specifies the most important activities and events during the past month
- The communication champion in the Working Group sends out WhatsApp invitations, as well as e-mails, to members in the group as regards to working group meetings and other events.
- The Working Group has produced one SymbioCity brochure which has been distributed mainly to residents of Kiminini, but also to interested county staff. A newsletter produced by the SymbioCity secretariat has also been distributed widely to inform the wider stakeholder group of what is going on.
- The CEC and CO of Lands are briefed regularly by the Pilot Coordinator and/or the facilitator, to ensure they are aware of all developments.
- Stakeholders are invited for workshops and to contribute to exhibitions in the Ward Administrator's office through bulk SMS, phone calls and by talking directly to them at their locations.
- Exhibitions/fliers are used in the Ward Administrator's office to present the progress to the residents and also gather their say through their comments on the fliers. One member of the working group is always there just in case the residents visiting the office need any clarification.





COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS



Embassy of Sweden
Nairobi



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AFFILIATED TO THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND REGIONS



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