



**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA
OFFICE OF THE CLERK**

THIRD ASSEMBLY-FIFTH SESSION

COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE BUNGOMA
COUNTY AGRICULTURE SECTOR POLICY, 2023**

Clerks Chambers
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BUNGOMA, KENYA

JUNE 2026



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Committee on Implementation is mandated to scrutinize resolutions of the House (including adopted committee reports), petitions and undertaking by the County executive and examine whether such decisions have been implemented within 60 days as provided for in the standing orders and whether such implementation has taken place within the minimum time necessary.

The House adopted the Bungoma County Agriculture Sector Policy, 2023, which aims to improve food and nutrition in the County by improving productivity and sustainable farming practices.

The Committee, in carrying out its mandate, requested the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Irrigation, Fisheries and Cooperative Development to provide status reports on the implementation of House resolutions related to the policy. The Committee reviewed and assessed the implementation progress against the policy interventions and subsequently developed its observations and recommendations.

1.0 PREFACE

This report presents the implementation status of the Bungoma County Agriculture Sector Policy, 2023, in the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Irrigation, Fisheries, and Cooperative Development, as well as the committee's observations and recommendations.

1.1 MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee on Implementation is established pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 212 of the County Assembly Standing Orders. The Committee scrutinizes the resolutions of the House (including adopted Committee reports), petitions and the undertakings given by the County Executive and examine whether or not such decisions and undertakings have been implemented and where implemented, the extent to which they have been implemented; and whether such implementation has taken place within the minimum time necessary; and whether or not legislation passed by the House has been operationalized and where operationalized, the extent to which such operationalization has taken place within the minimum time necessary.

Standing Order 205 further provides that, within sixty days of a resolution of the House or adoption of a report of a committee, the relevant County Executive Committee Member under whose portfolio the implementation of the resolution falls shall provide a report to the relevant Committee of the House in accordance with Article 183(3) of the Constitution.

1.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee membership comprises of:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Timothy Chikati | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Alfred Mukhanya | Member |
| 4. Hon. Franklin Simotwo | Member |
| 5. Hon. Aggrey Mulongo | Member |
| 6. Hon. Ali Machani | Member |
| 7. Hon. Grace Sundukwa | Member |
| 8. Hon. Eric Wekesa | Member |
| 9. Hon. Idd Owongo | Member |
| 10. Hon. Catherine Kituyi | Member |
| 11. Hon. Abraham Obama | Member |

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Committee extends its sincere appreciation to the Office of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for their unwavering support and facilitation, which enabled the Committee to effectively undertake and discharge its mandate.

Special recognition and appreciation are extended to the department of Agriculture, Livestock, Irrigation, Fisheries and Cooperative Development, for availing the Committee with the requisite information and documentation necessary for the consideration of this report.

It is therefore my honour and privilege, on behalf of the Committee on Implementation, and pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Orders of the County Assembly of Bungoma, to present this report to the House for adoption.

Signed..........Date.....23/06/2026.....

HON.TIMOTHY CHIKATI, MCA NDALU TABANI

CHAIRPERSON COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION

2.0 CHAPTER TWO

Hon. Speaker,

THE BUNGOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURE SECTOR POLICY 2023

The Agricultural sector policy aims to enhance food and nutrition security, increase incomes, and promote sustainable agricultural development through efficient resource utilization. Key priorities include sustainable land management, diversification of agricultural production, reduction of post-harvest losses, improved access to quality inputs and markets, and expansion of irrigation and mechanization. The sector also seeks to strengthen agricultural extension services, institutions, governance, and policy frameworks while increasing investment and financing. Additional focus areas include climate resilience, food and feed safety, agribusiness development, information sharing among value chain actors, and the integration of gender equality and social inclusion across agricultural programs.

1. Food and Nutrition Insecurity

Food insecurity remains a major challenge in Bungoma County. Available literature indicates that the county is food insecure, with a poverty rate of 52.9% compared to the national rate of 46%, while food poverty stands at 43% (KNBS, 2019). The county's maize requirement is estimated at 1,600,000 bags (KNBS, 2019) for a population of 1,670,535 people. Given that an average adult consumes approximately 90 kg of maize per year, the maize produced in the county is insufficient to sustain the population until the next harvest.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote diversification in production and utilization of food commodities
- b) Promote development and implementation of appropriate nutrition education and food utilization programs
- c) Promote use of appropriate technologies for food and nutrition security
- d) Develop programs addressing food and nutrition security

Submissions by the department

The department submitted that diversification has been promoted through partners such as FIPS-Africa have made significant contributions to improving livestock productivity, soil

health, and farm diversification in Bungoma County through targeted, data-driven, and farmer-centred interventions. In the livestock sector, farmers received training on effective tick control, improved cattle health management, and breed improvement practices. Artificial insemination services were provided to enhance genetic quality, while calf tracking systems were introduced to strengthen breeding records and support informed herd management decisions.

To promote farm diversification and increase household incomes, the organization supported the development of the avocado value chain by distributing high-quality Hass avocado seedlings through a credit-based model. This approach enabled farmers to access improved planting materials while encouraging investment in a high-value crop with strong market potential.

The SUSTFARM+ Project (2022–2026) is a Welthungerhilfe (WHH)-led initiative being implemented in Bungoma County to strengthen food and nutrition security through a holistic food systems approach. The project directly supports 6,053 rural households, 2,400 pupils, 300 agro-dealers, and engages 60 government and policy actors, reaching a total of 6,330 direct beneficiaries across the implementation areas.

The project focuses on promoting agroecology and climate-smart agricultural practices to enhance sustainable food production and resilience to climate change. It also seeks to improve nutrition outcomes through the establishment and support of school gardens, while strengthening agro-dealer networks to ensure farmers have access to quality agricultural inputs and services. In addition, the project works to enhance food system governance by fostering collaboration among stakeholders across the entire food value chain, from production and distribution to consumption, thereby contributing to more sustainable and inclusive food systems in Bungoma County.

Committee Observation

1. That the department promotes diversification in production and utilization of food commodities
2. That the department promotes development and implementation of appropriate nutrition education and food utilization programs
3. That the department promote use of appropriate technologies for food and nutrition security

4. That the department has developed programs addressing food and nutrition security
5. The department has developed the Bungoma County Agriculture Inputs and Services Support Bill, 2026 which is at pre-publication scrutiny stage.

Committee recommendation

1. The County Assembly should fast track the processing of the Bungoma County Agriculture Inputs and Services Support Bill, 2026 to provide a legal framework for provision of farm input.
2. That the department has partially implemented the interventions.

2.Degraded Agricultural Soils

Most agricultural soils in Bungoma County are affected by several key challenges, including declining soil fertility, soil erosion, deforestation, climate change, and inappropriate land-use practices, all of which hinder the county's agricultural productivity. A soil survey conducted by KARI (now KALRO) between 2010 and 2011 under the National Accelerated Agricultural Input Program (NAAIP) revealed that the county's soils are predominantly acidic, with a pH of less than 5.5. In addition, the increasing rate of deforestation has reduced forest cover, while poor land-use practices, such as cultivation along riverbanks and on steep slopes, have contributed to soil erosion.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote programs on integrated soil fertility management systems
- b) Promote soil protection and biodiversity conservation
- c) Promote and enhance climate change mitigation and adaptation measures
- d) Enhance the capacity of key actors on sustainable land management
- e) Develop programs to rehabilitate degraded ecosystems including soils, wetlands and forests

Submission by the department

The department submitted the **Bungoma County Agro Ecology Strategy 2025-2034** which addresses declining soil fertility, inadequate knowledge and skills, climate change effects on sustainable farming practices.

On Climate change resilience the department in collaboration with Department of Environment is implementing the county climate change action plan 2023-2027 that has specific agriculture areas (conservation agriculture, climate smart agriculture, sustainable land management dissemination of Climate information.

Committee Observation

1. That the department through partners has promoted programs on integrated soil fertility management systems.
2. That the department promotes soil protection and biodiversity conservation.
3. That the department promotes climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

Committee recommendation

The department has partially implemented the intervention and therefore should work on the following:

1. Enhance the capacity of key actors in sustainable land management.
2. Develop programs to rehabilitate degraded ecosystems, including soils, wetlands, and forests
3. The department should be preparing the implementation status reports on quarterly basis and submit to the County Assembly.

3.Low Production and Productivity

Agriculture is the key driver of economic growth in the county, contributing 43% of the total Gross County Product (KNBS GCP Report, 2023). The major food crops grown in the county include maize, beans, bananas, cassava, sweet potatoes, millet, and sorghum. Cash crops include coffee, tea, sugarcane, and cotton, while livestock and other non-crop enterprises include cattle, poultry, sheep, goats, apiculture, and aquaculture.

Despite its critical role in the county's economy, agricultural production remains low due to inadequate extension services, the high cost of farm inputs, and the low adoption and utilization of agricultural inputs.

Policy interventions

- a) Enhance knowledge and skills on good agriculture and aquaculture practices

- b) Promote and enhance use of innovative and appropriate technologies to increase production and productivity.
- c) Promote Public-Private Partnership in agriculture sector research
- d) Develop early warning systems in case of emerging pests and disease outbreaks and natural calamities.
- e) Develop regulations on use of idle and under-utilized land.

Submission by the department

The department submitted that diversification has been promoted through partners such as FIPS-Africa have made significant contributions to improving livestock productivity, soil health, and farm diversification in Bungoma County through targeted, data-driven, and farmer-centred interventions. In the livestock sector, farmers received training on effective tick control, improved cattle health management, and breed improvement practices. Artificial insemination services were provided to enhance genetic quality, while calf tracking systems were introduced to strengthen breeding records and support informed herd management decisions.

Observations

1. That the department has not developed regulations on use of idle and under-utilized land
2. That the department has not developed early warning systems in case of emerging pests and disease outbreaks and natural calamities

Recommendations

1. The department should develop Regulations on use of idle and under-utilized land
2. The department should develop early warning systems in case of emerging pests and disease outbreaks and natural calamities.

4.High post-harvest losses

Post-harvest losses refer to the loss of both the quantity and quality of agricultural products from the time of harvesting to the point of consumption. These losses can occur due to various factors, including the stage of harvesting, climatic conditions, handling practices, storage, processing, packaging, transportation, and marketing. Post-harvest handling plays a critical role in determining the level of contamination and the rate of spoilage of crop, livestock, and fishery products, thereby impacting human health.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote development and utilization of post -harvest infrastructure
- b) Support capacity development of value chain actors in post-harvest management
- c) Promote the adoption of appropriate technologies that reduce post-harvest management
- d) Promote the adoption of appropriate technologies that reduce post-harvest losses at community and household levels.
- e) Promote Public- Private- Partnerships for postharvest management.

Departmental Submission

The department reported that three maize dryers were procured, each with a capacity of 1,000 bags, which have been installed at Mabanga ATC, Tongaren, and Mt. Elgon. In addition, maize solar dryers have been established at Bumula and Mt. Elgon through the support of Solidaridad, a development partner. The department has also undertaken capacity-building initiatives for farmers, focusing on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and post-harvest management to enhance productivity.

Committee Observations

The dryers were procured before the enactment of the policy. It was noted that the dryers are currently non-functional despite having been acquired at a high cost, raising concerns about value for money and their effectiveness in supporting post-harvest management. Furthermore, the department has not developed a sustainability plan to guide the operation,

maintenance, and long-term utilization of the dryers, which may affect their continued functionality and impact.

Committee Recommendations

1. The department should develop a sustainability plan for the dryers for proper management after the partners duration ends
2. The department should factor in the budget funds for repair of the dryers

5.Low Access and Distribution of Agricultural Inputs

Agricultural inputs are diverse and include seeds, semen, embryos, fingerlings for fisheries, seedlings, breeding or brood stock, agrochemicals, veterinary medicines and vaccines, organic and inorganic fertilizers, soil amendments, appropriate agricultural machinery, plants and equipment, and animal feeds. The fertilizer input support program has primarily targeted vulnerable farmers, while other inputs and services have been provided on a subsidized basis.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote efficient distribution and access to quality and affordable inputs along the agriculture sector value chains through private public partnership.
- b) Promote supplier development programs such as contract farming
- c) Advocate for inputs and equipment surveillance mechanisms to ensure compliance with set standards
- d) Promote subsidy programs to sourced inputs whose costs are prohibitive and may not be available in the County
- e) Develop frameworks for agricultural input subsidy including implementation follow ups
- f) Integrate extension and capacity building to all agricultural input subsidy or incentive programs

Committee observation

1. The department has developed the Bungoma County Agriculture Inputs and Services Support Bill, 2026

Committee recommendation

1. The County Assembly should fast track the processing of the Bungoma County Agriculture Inputs and Services Support Bill, 2026 to provide a legal framework for provision of farm input.
2. The department should through the Bungoma County Public Participation and Civic Education Act 2024 implement /Promote efficient distribution and access to quality and affordable inputs along the agriculture sector value chains through private public partnership, Promote supplier development programs such as contract farming, Advocate for inputs and equipment surveillance mechanisms to ensure compliance with set standards and Promote subsidy programs to sourced inputs whose costs are prohibitive and may not be available in the County.

6.Inadequate Agricultural Extension, Research and Training Development

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns due to natural and human activities like deforestation, improper waste management, unplanned urbanization, encroachment to forest land and emission of greenhouse gases

Policy interventions

- a) Promote public private partnership in agricultural research, extension and training
- b) Strengthen research extension linkages
- c) Strengthen coordination among extension service providers
- d) Enhance and support public extension officers
- e) Institutionalize alternative extension methodologies
- f) Support development and implementation of training programmes for improving the capacity of ATVET/VTC institutions

Committee observation

1. The department only submitted a list of extension officers without a report on how they have been working.
2. The department has not Institutionalized alternative extension methodologies

3. The department has developed the Bungoma County Agricultural Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) promotion policy

Committee Recommendations

1. The department should provide Monitoring and Evaluation reports from extension officers across the County for the FY 2025/2026 and subsequent quarterly periods within 30 days of adoption of this report
2. The department should develop Institutionalized alternative extension methodologies
3. The department should submit the implementation status of the Bungoma County Agricultural Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) promotion policy within 14 days.

7. Underutilized Irrigation Potential

Water resources are critical to agricultural productivity in Bungoma County; however, the sector is highly dependent on seasonal and variable rainfall, making crop, livestock, and fish production vulnerable to dry spells. Water-use efficiency remains low in both irrigated and rain-fed agriculture due to limited adoption of appropriate technologies. In addition, increased encroachment on the Mt Elgon water tower, wetlands, and riparian areas poses a threat to water availability in the county.

Policy interventions

- a) Enhance Public-Private Partnership in agricultural water and irrigation infrastructure development
- b) Strengthen institutions involved in the management of water in the agricultural sector
- c) Promote adoption of efficient water use technologies in agriculture
- d) Promote the protection of the Mt Elgon water tower, catchments, wetlands and riparian areas.
- e) Develop effective county irrigation information management systems

Departmental Submission

The Department, in collaboration with development partners, has undertaken the rehabilitation and improvement of several water resources infrastructure projects Kabkara dam and Kabkara catchment in Lwandanyi NAVCDP, Magemo dam in Ndivisi ward National Irrigation Board, Sitabicha dam in Bumula FLLOCA and Wabukhonyi dam in Bumula Siboti ward NAVCDP

Committee Observations

1. That the department has enhanced Public Private Participation in agricultural water and irrigation infrastructure development.
2. That the department has strengthen institutions involved in the management of water in the agricultural sector.

Committee Recommendations

1. The department should develop efficient water use technologies in agriculture and develop measures to promote the protection of the Mt Elgon water tower, catchments, wetlands and riparian areas.
2. The department should initiate capacity building of the Community on Irrigation technology and equipment.
3. The department should support establishment of solar powered Irrigation kits.
4. The County's department of Monitoring and Evaluation should follow up on the implementation status of the projects and submit a report to the County Assembly

8.Inadequate Agricultural Mechanization

Agricultural mechanization is essential for reducing labour requirements, improving efficiency, and increasing farmers' incomes. Although there is high demand for small-scale mechanization in Bungoma County, adoption remains low due to the high cost of machinery, poor distribution and availability of equipment, a shortage of skilled operators, and weak research-extension linkages that limit technology transfer.

The County Government, through the Agricultural Mechanization Services, supports farmers by providing affordable and timely mechanization services. However, these services face operational challenges. Private sector investment in agricultural mechanization is also

limited, with few investors having insufficient resources and capacity to effectively meet farmers' mechanization needs.

Policy interventions

- a) Enhance adoption of sustainable agricultural mechanization technology
- b) Promote investment in agricultural mechanization
- c) Enhance agricultural mechanization research, technology development and innovation along value chains
- d) Promote compliance to quality agricultural mechanization standards

Departmental Submission

The department submitted The Bungoma County Agriculture Institutions Development Corporation Bill 2025(attached) which Establishes the Bungoma County Agriculture Institutions Development Corporation which shall be responsible for Agriculture mechanization by allocating seed money to operationalize the institutions and strengthen governance.

Committee Observations

1. The department has enhanced adoption of sustainable agricultural mechanization technology
2. The department has promoted investment in agricultural mechanization

Committee Recommendations

1. The department has implemented the intervention submitting to County Assembly the Bungoma County Agriculture Institutions Development Bill 2025 (Approved). The Department should expedite the development of the regulations that will operationalise the Act
2. That the department to improve on agricultural mechanization research, technology development and innovation along value chains.
3. The department should promote compliance to quality agricultural mechanization standards

9. Inadequate Sector Coordination and Agricultural Institutional Reforms

Key agricultural institutions in Bungoma County include the Agricultural Mechanization Center, Agriculture Training Center, Chwele Fish Farm, County Soil Laboratory, and various county departments and agencies. These institutions face challenges such as poor governance, inadequate funding, deteriorating infrastructure, external interference, and the absence of legal frameworks to guide their operations, which limits their effectiveness.

The County Agricultural Sector Steering Committee (CASSCOM) serves as the main coordinating body for stakeholders in the agriculture sector. However, its performance is constrained by insufficient funding and the lack of a county legal framework to support and regulate its operations.

Policy interventions

- a) Enhance funding of the institutions for technology dissemination
- b) Promote good governance for effective and efficient management of institutions
- c) Establish mechanisms for institutional linkages, partnerships and networks
- d) Strengthen mechanisms for coordination for stake holders in the agriculture sector
- e) Develop legal framework for operationalization of the institutions

Submission by the executive

The department submitted the Bungoma County Agriculture Institutions Development Corporation Bill, 2025 which establishes the Bungoma County Agriculture Institutions Corporation, the corporation shall be responsible borrowing money or making investments, promoting good governance for effective and efficient management of the institutions, establish partnerships, collaborate with stake holders and operationalize institutions.

Committee Observations

1. That the Bill provides for funding of the institutions for technology dissemination, good governance for effective and efficient management of institutions

Committee Recommendations

1. Upon approval of the Bill by the County Assembly The department should allocate seed money in the First Supplementary Budget for the FY 2026/2027 and the County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development should formulate regulations to operationalize the Act.

10.Low Resilience to Climate Change Impacts in Agriculture

Agricultural production in Bungoma County has declined due to the effects of climate change, threatening food security and increasing environmental challenges such as biodiversity loss, soil degradation, and water scarcity. Climate change impacts are evident through erratic rainfall patterns, delayed onset of rains, rising temperatures, and prolonged dry spells.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote climate smart agriculture and associated technologies
- b) Promote climate financing and broaden mechanisms to attract climate change investments.
- c) Support climate early warning system to enhance preparedness in managing climate variability and weather extremes
- d) Promote carbon credit programmes and other agriculture sector climate change resilient enterprises
- e) Mainstream climate change actions through implementation of the Bungoma County Climate Change Action Plan.
- f) Enhance effective stakeholder and community participation in climate change adaptation and resilience initiatives

Submission by the department

The department submitted that they have developed the Bungoma County Agro-ecology strategy 2025- 2034. The Strategy sets out a framework to transition the county's food systems towards sustainability, resilience, and inclusiveness. It aligns with global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national Strategies like the National Agroecology Strategy for Food Systems Transformation (2024–2033), highlighting agro-ecological principles for food security, climate adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and social equity. It promotes sustainable practices, climate smart agriculture, biodiversity

conservation, and social inclusion. Initiatives such as the Bungoma County Climate Change Action Plan (2023–2027) and Food Safety Policy (2023) further bolster resilience and food security

Committee observations

1. The department has partially implemented the intervention.
2. That the department has initiated programmes to implement the intervention including the development of the Bungoma County Agro-ecology strategy 2025-2034 which addresses the issue of low Resilience to Climate Change Impacts in Agriculture.

Committee Recommendations

1. The department should fast-track the submission of the Bungoma County Agro-ecology strategy 2025-2034 for consideration and adoption by the County Assembly.
2. That upon adoption of the strategy, the department should allocate funds in the upcoming budget cycle to operationalize the framework and ensure its climate resilience interventions reach smallholder farmers.
3. That the department should submit a biannual progress report to the Committee on the roll-out of the Bungoma County Agro-ecology Strategy (2025–2034), specifically highlighting milestones achieved in mitigating climate change impacts in agriculture.

11. Inadequate Agricultural Financing and Investment

Agriculture is the county's main economic driver, contributing more than 43% of the Gross County Product (GCP). Despite its importance, the sector receives only about 7% of the county budget annually—below the 10% target set by the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme Maputo and Malabo declarations. Much of the funding is tied to conditional grants, leaving insufficient resources for extension services and sector development. Private sector investment is also limited due to poor access to finance, high investment risks, and inadequate infrastructure.

Policy interventions

- a) Develop capacity of agricultural policy actors for increased budgetary allocation
- b) Promote Financial Inclusion through alternative financing models, including blended finance, risk sharing mechanisms and micro finance tailored to agriculture
- c) Promote and expand Public-Private Partnerships to scale up agricultural financing and investment.
- d) Develop Targeted Agricultural Funds including establishment of commodity stabilization and revolving funds.
- e) Promote affordable agricultural insurance and risk mitigation strategies to enhance financial security for sector players.
- f) Develop and support capacity building programs on financial literacy and governance among Agricultural Value Chain Actors.

Submission by the department

The department indicated that initiatives targeting the Agricultural Financing and Investment are underfunded by the County Revenue Fund.

Committee Observation

The Committee noted that the submission by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development, which indicates that initiatives and programs targeting Agricultural Financing and Investment remain pending due to underfunding.

Committee Recommendation

That the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development should be allocated specific development funds in the upcoming Supplementary Budget to operationalize the pending Agricultural Financing and Investment frameworks

12. Underdeveloped Food and Feed Safety Systems

Food safety management in Bungoma County is implemented through a multi-sectoral system involving various county departments and regulatory agencies operating under different laws and regulations. However, weak coordination and overlapping responsibilities

among these institutions lead to ineffective enforcement of food safety standards and regulations.

Policy interventions

- a) Enhance coordination and enforcement of existing food laws and regulations
- b) Promote capacity building in feed and food safety
- c) Strengthen traceability systems in the food chains
- d) Strengthen monitoring & Surveillance systems
- e) Enhance food safety financing
- f) Enhance mitigation measures on Emerging and Re-Emerging Food Safety issues.

Submission by the executive

The department submitted The Bungoma County Food Safety Coordination Act, 2025, which establishes the Food Safety Coordinating Committee and defines the responsibilities of food operators.

The Act seeks to address inadequate coordination and enforcement of existing food laws and regulations, as well as weaknesses in monitoring and surveillance systems.

Committee Observations

1. That there is enhanced coordination and enforcement of existing food laws and regulations and that the department promotes capacity building in feed and food safety
2. That the ACT provides for strengthened traceability systems in the food chains, strengthened monitoring & Surveillance systems, enhances food safety financing and mitigation measures on Emerging and Re-Emerging Food Safety issues.

Committee recommendations

1. That department should gazette and operationalise the Bungoma County Food Safety Coordination Act, 2025.
2. The County Executive Committee Member should develop Regulation to operation the Act.

3. The department should budget and implement programs towards Food and Feed Safety Systems in the subsequent financial year.

13. Inadequate Agribusiness, Value addition and Marketing in Agriculture Sector

Agricultural markets in Bungoma County are dominated by individual farmers and traders, making producers vulnerable to exploitation by middlemen. This results in low product prices, high marketing costs, and reduced incomes for farmers. Access to market information is limited due to inadequate information-sharing platforms and low awareness of existing services. Additionally, the shortage of reliable off-takers for agricultural products constrains value chain development and limits the growth of agricultural enterprises.

Policy interventions

- a) Enhance access to internal and external resources for investment in agribusiness
- b) Develop market structures, improve access to markets and strengthen linkages through Public-Private Partnership models.
- c) Support agribusiness programs aimed at equipping value chain actors with knowledge and skills.
- d) Enhance value addition and agro-processing services among value chain actors
- e) Establish and strengthen producer organizations including formation of cooperative societies.

Submission by the department

The department submitted a report for training held on 15th July 2025 at Fairview Hotel Kisumu on Entrepreneurship and Business development approaches. The report indicates the Department partnering with GIZ aimed to create sustainable income generating opportunities for youth in the agri-food sector across several counties in Kenya Bungoma included.

Committee observation

1. The department is supporting agribusiness programs aimed at equipping value chain actors with knowledge and skills.

2. The department has not established and strengthen producer organizations including formation of cooperative societies.
3. There is no evidence of Enhancing access to internal and external resources for investment in agribusiness

Committee Recommendation

The Department of Agriculture should budget and implement programmes on Agribusiness, Value addition and Marketing in Agriculture Sector and further cascade the training to all players in addition to the youths.

14.Low Utilization of Information and Data Management

Accurate data, timely communication and information sharing in the sector is important in the development, exploitation and management of resources. A wide array of data and information is required for decision-making. The Agricultural Sector's potential for reducing poverty and contributing to economic growth has remained largely untapped due to lack of accurate data necessary for planning, financing and implementing programs.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote use of ICT for knowledge management in agricultural sector.
- b) Establish agriculture sector value chain profile and databases
- c) Promote access to timely and reliable agricultural data and information in the sector.
- d) Support and develop county agricultural management Information systems
- e) Strengthen the capacity of actors on data collection and dissemination
- f) Promote development of communication strategies for the agricultural sector.

Submission from the department.

The department indicated that initiatives targeting the low utilization of information and data management are still pending.

Committee observation

1. The department has not implemented this intervention.
2. The department has not initiated any program targeting the low utilization of information and data management.

Committee recommendation

The Department of Agriculture should immediately design and implement a comprehensive data and information management strategy to address low system utilization and improve agricultural data tracking.

15. Weak Enabling Environment

Effective transformation of the agriculture sector requires transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance systems. Key elements include strong policies and legal frameworks, effective institutions, active stakeholder participation, and the provision of incentives that create an enabling environment for agricultural growth and development.

Policy interventions

- a) Develop, review and enforce legal and regulatory framework in the agricultural sector
- b) Strengthen county agriculture sector institutional and coordination framework
- c) Support inclusive farmer participation in policy development, review and implementation process.
- d) Promote linkages among the County Government, national government and other stakeholders in the agriculture sector.

Submission by the department

The Department submitted the Bungoma County Agriculture Sector Co-ordination Bill, 2025, which provides for the establishment of the County Agriculture Sector Steering Committee (CASSCOM), establishes an institutional and legal framework for engagement and coordination with development partners, provides information to relevant stakeholders, and creates a link with the national government.

Committee Observations

1. The intervention has been partially implemented.
2. That the bill develops, reviews and enforces legal and regulatory framework in the agricultural sector.
3. That the bill strengthens county agriculture sector institutional and coordination framework
4. That the bill supports inclusive farmer participation in policy development, review and implementation process.
5. That the bill promotes linkages among the County Government, national government and other stakeholders in the agriculture sector.

Committee Recommendations

The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development should fast-track the consideration of the Bungoma County Agriculture Sector Co-ordination Bill, 2025. This will streamline partner operations and co-ordination to enhance service delivery to the residents of Bungoma County.

16.Low Consideration to Cross-Cutting Issues

Cross-cutting issues are factors that influence crop, livestock, and fisheries value chains, either directly or indirectly, but are not specific to any one subsector. These include gender, youth, vulnerable groups, and governance, all of which affect agricultural development and outcomes

a)Gender and social inclusion in agriculture

Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, and relationships associated with women, men, girls, and boys, which vary across societies and over time. In the local context, men predominantly make decisions while women and children implement them, leading to unequal resource allocation and reduced productivity of agricultural enterprises.

Policy Interventions

- a) Promote development and dissemination of transformative technologies and practices in the agricultural sector that are gender sensitive.
- b) Promote gender mainstreaming in the agriculture sector
- c) Provide mechanisms for identification of vulnerable groups at lower devolved units and institute affirmative action programs.
- d) Promote gender affirmative policies and regulations.

Submission by the department

The Department submitted the Bungoma County Youth Agribusiness Strategy 2022–2027, which addresses the issue of gender mainstreaming. In particular, it seeks to empower young women to contribute to decision-making and remove barriers to their access to factors of production such as land.

The Department conducted capacity-building programmes for women and youth on value-addition activities along key nutrition-sensitive value chains, including African leafy vegetables, groundnuts, orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, poultry, and oil crops.

Committee observations

1. The committee notes that this intervention has been partially implemented since they have not submitted the Bungoma Agro- Ecology Strategy 2025-2034.
2. The executive lacks intentional budgeting and implementation of programs related to the vulnerable.

Committee Recommendation

Institutionalize Gender and Youth Responsive Budgeting and Programmes by creating a specific, ring-fenced budget for women and youth programs and set strict rules for its implementation.

b) Governance

Agricultural governance involves promoting growth and development in the agricultural sector through effective institutions, adoption of technology and innovation, implementation of policies, compliance with laws and regulations, and active participation of all stakeholders.

Policy Interventions

1. Strengthen governance structures in the agricultural sector
2. Promote comprehensive stake holder engagement
3. Strengthen grievance redress mechanisms for the sector
4. Promote capacity of all actors on good governance and resource mobilization

The department in partnership with SAF Africa held capacity building of women and Youth on advocacy. The training empowered women to participate more meaningful in policy advocacy and budgeting process so they can have their issues prioritized in both formulation and budgeting by the County Government.

Committee observation

The department has no budget to conduct civic education to enable vulnerable groups to actively participate in governance and decision-making.

Committee Recommendation

The department under the Public-Private Partnerships framework should prioritize budgeting for civic education at least once every financial year to enable vulnerable groups to actively participate in governance and decision-making.

COMMITTEE GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

THAT the department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development has partially implemented the interventions in the approved policy. The implementation of House resolutions requires adequate financial resources during the budget making process by the Executive and also the County Assembly for effective oversight by the Committee on Implementation.

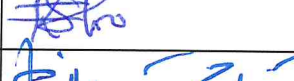
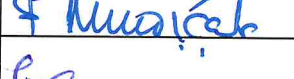
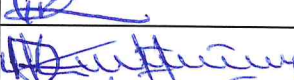
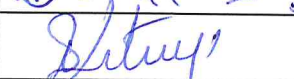
COMMITTEE GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the county Government departments should be factoring in their budget proposals funds meant for implementation of House Resolutions for consideration by the County Treasury while preparing annual estimates for approval by the County Assembly, whereas the County Assembly through the Liaison Committee should consider increasing the allocation of monies to Implementation Committee to enable effective execution of its mandate which covers follow-up on all house resolutions across the County's departments.

treasury should ensure appropriations of funds for the implementation of House resolutions following the adoption of a house resolution for the public to derive intended benefits.

ADOPTION SCHEDULE

We, the undersigned members of Implementation Committee affix our signatures adopting this report with the contents.

S/NO	NAME	TITLE	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Timothy Chikati	Chairperson	
2.	Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba	Vice chairperson	
3.	Hon. Aggrey Mulongo	Member	
4.	Hon. Franklin Simotwo	Member	
5.	Hon. Ali Machani	Member	
6.	Hon. Grace Sundukwa	Member	
7.	Hon. Idd Owongo	Member	
8.	Hon. Catherine Kituyi	Member	
9.	Hon. Alfred Mukhanya	Member	
10.	Hon. Eric Wekesa	Member	
11.	Hon. Abraham Obama	Member	