

CONSULTATIVE FORUM ON COUNTY AGGREGATION AND INDUSTRIAL PARKS (CAIPS) HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2025, AT KAREN OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, NAIROBI

Cabinet and Principal Secretaries Present,
Chairperson, Council of Governors and Governors Present,
Heads of State Corporations and Agencies,
Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this leadership consultative meeting. Today's meeting is a complex task of pursuing simplicity.

- The simplicity of designing a workplan to fastrack conclusion of the CAIPs works in our respective Counties, whose financing, accounting and reporting is facing various challenges of execution;
- The simplicity of identifying the products, markets, and route to market for each CAIP, and ensuring that the farmers cooperatives/associations and local MSMEs and chambers of commerce are organized and ready, certified and capable of capitalizing on the identified markets;
- The simplicity of ensuring that all enabler services, including electricity, roads, water, and ICT are simultaneously being developed for each CAIP to secure seamless operationalization.
- The simplicity of designing a sustainable management framework post completion, including identifying the financing, governance and operations structure of the CAIPs once commissioned.

 The simplicity of ensuring all previous industrialization efforts, such as the Constituency Industrial Development Centers, KIE and MSEA facilities, and KIRDI research centers are speaking to and aligned to one another and to each CAIP.

Our past manufacturing and industrialization experiences have had mixed results. We have deserted and under-utilized ESP markets in some towns across the country. We have some unutilized Constituency Industrial Development Centers (CIDCS), and some operating without requisite enabler services such as roads, electricity and water. We have seen classrooms and healthcare facilities built under the CDF, without provisioning for staff and medication.

It's imperative that we collectively reflect on our progress candidly to steer the CAIPs projects for better results. We need to be deliberate on the targeted products for each CAIP, its volumes, and markets to optimize the product value chains. We must ensure that each CAIP design fits the identified products, with requisite tweaks being undertaken during this build phase now rather than later. We must ensure that auxiliary services are simultaneously prioritised and pursuied. But more importantly, we must ensure that our completion timelines are as agreed, and that any bottlenecks are addressed swiftly and efficiently.

It's against this reality that we have invited enabler Ministries, Departments, and Agencies to these consultations, to secure alignment with the CAIPS priorities. Focus has been given to the completion of the construction works of CAIPs while simultaneously identifying elements for operationalization of the projects after completion.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I call upon our frank and open discussion on the governance and management aspects that are hindering expedited conclusion. I invite our joint consideration of efforts to pursue the target outcomes. I especially invite us to consider establishing an all-inclusive implementation structure and framework to converge all initiatives that support CAIPs.

Let us candidly focus on the expected CAIPs outcomes and the desired impact and through a reverse engineering process critically analyze our implementation strategies and take deliberated decisions to re-orient the projects to achieve the results. We must succeed in Phase I to guarantee Phase II.

I look forward to our revitalized efforts in this regard.

KITHURE KINDIKI DEPUTY PRESIDENT