



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK

**STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK
DENMARK
-KENYA
PARTNERSHIP
2021-2025**

ANNEX 1. MAP OF KENYA



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1. DENMARK IN KENYA: VISION AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Kenya and Denmark have maintained close bilateral relations since Kenya's independence in 1963 and Kenya remains an important partner for Denmark in Africa. Kenya is the entry point to and economic centre of East Africa, a driver of regional integration, and an important hub for international organisations and businesses. Kenya is also a major host and transit nation for refugees from troubled neighbours at the intersection of the Great Lakes region and the greater Horn of Africa, and a key player in peace and stability in Eastern Africa. Kenya's geostrategic position in the Western Indian Ocean is also of direct importance to "Blue Denmark".

Denmark and Kenya share a range of strategic interests in terms of addressing irregular migration and managing refugee flows, countering violent extremism and terrorism, cultivating commercial opportunities and free and fair trade, promoting shared values, and a global commitment to sustainable development. While still struggling at home to meet the needs and expectations of its people, Kenya has become a key partner in sustainable development agendas and promoting democratic values at home and globally centred on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate change, access to sustainable energy as well a circular economy, gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and youth. Moreover, Danish commercial interests in Kenya are growing, especially when it comes to trade in services as well as investments. The expanding consumer base and increasing urbanisation will create more commercial opportunities for Danish products, services and sustainable solutions.

With Kenya being a leading political and economic force on the African continent, strong Danish-Kenyan relations will remain a key part of Denmark's Africa policy. Denmark's engagement in Kenya is based on a commitment to international solidarity enshrined in the SDGs, to leaving no one behind and to tackling rising national and global inequalities. It is also based on an interest in a stable, democratic and prosperous Kenya capable of protecting human rights, fighting corruption, providing services and decent jobs for its people, handling the effects of climate change and containing national and regional humanitarian and security challenges before they translate into major refugee and irregular migration flows. The engagement under the Strategic Framework will become even more important and needed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, as Kenya will have to tackle the adverse health, economic and social impact of the crisis in the years to come. This will furthermore be of paramount importance for Kenya's continued role as a stabilizing factor for the Horn of Africa, both in terms of security, migration and financial growth. It will also contribute to the restarting of Danish trade given the strategic focus on market opportunities for Danish companies and investors. The tools at hand are Danish foreign, security, trade and development policy as well as commercial cooperation, which ultimately have Denmark's security, welfare and core values at heart.

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It will also contribute to the restarting of Danish trade given the strategic focus on market opportunities for Danish companies and investors.

Denmark has a strong platform in Kenya based on a long-term and committed partnership with strengthened cooperation in trade and development, a deepening and broadening strategic sector cooperation and a long-term involvement in promoting peace, stability and security. Major reforms such as the progressive 2010 Constitution and the willingness to decentralize the powers of government as well as Kenya's readiness to take regional responsibilities in terms of peace and stability, not least serving as host for hundreds of thousands of refugees, has kept the cooperation between Denmark and Kenya alive and vibrant.

Global green leadership, enhanced preventive efforts in the regions of origins and transit of forced and irregular migration, preventing and countering violent extremism, as well as a strong commitment to gender equality and women's and girls' rights are among the core pillars of Denmark's foreign, trade, security and development policy priorities. The strategic framework for Denmark's partnership with Kenya directly contributes to these priorities.

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The Danish engagement in Kenya aims to promote: *A stable and democratic Kenya capable of providing social services and decent jobs for its people, ensuring the rights and benefits enshrined in the constitution, accelerating inclusive, sustainable growth and green transformation, and containing national and regional humanitarian and security challenges before they translate into major refugee and irregular migration flows.* In support of this vision, focus will be on the following three strategic objectives for the period 2021 to 2025:

- 1. Green, sustainable and inclusive growth:** Promote green, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and decent jobs with an emphasis on youth as well as market opportunities for Danish companies and investors with relevant solutions.
- 2. Democratic governance, human rights and equitable access to services.** Strengthen democratic participation and citizen engagement, protection of human rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), access to justice as well as delivery of equitable public services through the implementation of the Constitution and devolution.
- 3. Resilience, peace and stability:** Promote resilience, peace and stability in Kenya by curbing violent extremism, preventing man-made and natural crises, and strengthening Kenya's pro-active role in regional peace and security and as a host-community for refugees.

The three strategic objectives will be a platform for further strengthening the already strong bilateral relationship between Denmark and Kenya.

This includes building alliances with Kenya on global agendas in international fora, in particular on human rights including SRHR, climate change and environment, irregular migration and refugee response policies, free and fair trade and multilateralism. Across the strategic objectives, Danish key priorities will also be promoted such as gender equality and women's rights, youth, and inclusion of marginalised groups.

The vision and strategic objectives are aligned with Kenya's overarching development plan, Vision 2030, which rests on three pillars – economic, social and political development – and seeks to create “a globally competitive and prosperous country with a high quality of life by 2030”. The implementation of Kenya's progressive 2010 Constitution will continue to guide the Danish development engagement in its focus on government accountability, inclusion and equality, realised through a strengthened devolved system, sustainable growth and protection of human rights. Danish engagement in support of the strategic objectives will also help Kenya achieve a number of SDGs, which naturally constitute the international normative framework for the Denmark-Kenya partnership.

*...a globally
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2. SITUATION IN KENYA: ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND RISKS

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS – POLITICAL CONSOLIDATION AND ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Kenya has come a long way in recent decades. Politically, Kenya evolved from a post-colonial single-party regime into a multi-party democracy with a modern and liberal constitution. The country has enjoyed relatively high economic growth and improvements across a range of social and economic indicators. Kenya's economy has performed quite well with average real GDP growth at 5.5 pct. over the last 8 years. More importantly, poverty figures dropped from 44 pct. of Kenyans being extremely poor, living for less than USD 1.9 per day, in 2008 to 37 pct. in 2015. However, due to population growth, the absolute number of poor has not decreased.

Rising GDP growth over the past two decades in tandem with rising per capita incomes moved Kenya into lower middle-income status in 2014 and Kenya continues to be the largest and most diversified economy in Eastern Africa. Kenya also has one of the highest public revenues in Africa, making the state the biggest player in the economy in terms of financing. However, high and increasing public debt is reducing fiscal space as well as Kenya's capacity to finance investments critical to the country's development and sustainable debt management will be of paramount importance to Kenya's economic development in the coming years. The COVID-19 crisis will also hit the Kenyan economy hard in terms of a reduced GDP, primarily due to reduced household and business spending as well as a tourism sector in free fall. Despite continuous economic growth, the inequality in wealth and welfare has not decreased substantially. While the proportion of people living in extreme poverty has decreased, the actual number of people living in poverty has not. Certain groups are consistently being left behind due to income poverty, gender, age or due to a range of different disadvantages. Accordingly, international development assistance will remain relevant and needed in the medium-term to catalyse economic growth, consolidate development results achieved, and to finance pro-poor development investments benefitting those left behind. If Kenya is to continue to grow and to prosper in a more equitable way as well as be a stable driving force in regional development, Kenya will need partnerships with countries like Denmark, which can play a catalytical role in terms of attracting investments and knowledge for development which at their core has the principle of leaving no one behind.

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When it comes to human development, notable results have been achieved with increase in life expectancy, a decrease in fertility rates and a sharp increase in mobile phone coverage for instance. The combination of a relatively well-educated and tech-savvy population and high-speed internet gives Kenya a vast range of opportunities, when it comes to digitisation, innovation and ultimately economic transformation. Moreover, trade organisations, business organisations, trade unions and civil society organisations play a positive role in driving economic and social change, opening also opportunities for Danish companies.

The adoption of the Constitution in 2010 was the culmination of a decade long political settlement process that sought to address power concentration and historical grievances, which ultimately resulted in the 2007 election violence. In principle, it protects rights and equal opportunities for all. The Constitution prompted a process of devolution of government, which offers the greatest, although not yet fulfilled, potential for inclusive development in Kenya. While the benefits of devolution are only slowly becoming tangible, continued implementation of it has the potential to bring decision-making and service delivery closer to the people – ultimately increasing accountability.

CONTINUED POWER CONCENTRATION AND CHALLENGES TO DEVOLUTION

Challenges to Kenya's development remain abundant and while the proportion of Kenyans being extremely poor has dropped to 37 pct., a majority of Kenyans will continue to be kept in poverty if not properly addressed. Also, the economic impact of COVID-19 such as disrupted supply chains and exports and the temporary collapse of the tourism sector is a reminder of how easily poverty reduction efforts are undermined. Root causes of Kenya's development challenges relate to a national political economy characterised by elite capture, tribalism and a political culture that perpetuates exclusion, patronage and corruption. Supporting incremental reforms and actions that can improve governance and resilience at all levels and enhance equitably service delivery is critical. This will build confidence and help pave the way for higher investment rates, economic growth, equitable service delivery, and development outcomes. Ultimately, these factors will shape the future stability and prosperity of Kenya and create opportunities for Kenyans to escape poverty.

The devolution process prompted by the Constitution aims to address Kenya's inequality and centralization of government power and services. Making devolution work is particularly important when it comes to services such as health care, where citizens clearly expect improvements to come. However, there are challenges to making devolution work for the people. These are rooted in the complexity of the structural changes that devolution involves, and partly a result of a political tug-of-war between national actors and counties in terms of resource sharing. Short of sufficient political support and leadership, devolution risks becoming an additional layer serving mainly the political elite and increasing corruption and inefficiencies of the public sector.

A VIBRANT BUT CHALLENGED CIVIL SOCIETY

Kenya's civil society is diverse, active and relatively vibrant, but faces restrictions. It consists not only of conventional NGOs, but also of thousands of community- or faith-based organisations, forums, think tanks, citizen coalitions and many others. However, enhanced government efforts to protect freedom of expression and

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association are required to enable an open and thriving civic and democratic space. This particularly is the case following the contested 2017 general elections and the need to safeguard the many gains in the Constitution. Legislation to remove certain restrictions on the freedoms of civil society organisations has yet to be implemented and there are indications of a diminishing role of CSOs in shaping and influencing the political agenda. It underlines the importance of bolstering civil society capacity to play a watchdog and advocacy role in defence of human rights and in promoting citizen agency in demanding accountability from duty bearers.

DEEP-ROOTED CORRUPTION

Despite recurring anti-corruption initiatives, Kenya has not achieved meaningful progress in the last ten years. Corruption has been a persistent problem since pre-independence and penetrates Kenyan society at all levels – politics, judiciary, police, public services and the economic sphere. Corruption takes place at all levels, from petty bribes of traffic police up to large scale, procurement embezzlement scandals linked to high level government officials. The difficulties of fighting corruption in Kenya from the top is linked to the political economy of the nexus between corruption and politics, where members of the power elite historically have exploited state institutions for personal enrichment and political purposes. Following the enactment of Kenya’s Constitution, issues relating to fiscal decentralization and public financial management at county level has created a new space for potential corruption. However, it also has opportunities for strengthening public oversight through tighter checks and balances.

RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Implementation of the Constitution has spurred vast structural, legal and institutional reforms in the judiciary, which aims to re-establish the credibility of the legal system and improve access to justice for the ordinary Kenyan. Widespread impunity and lack of due process, however, remain a critical challenge. So does political interference in the judiciary. Looking ahead, the independence and neutrality of the judiciary will remain critical. Not least considering its potential role in relation to political transition and in the interpretation of the Constitution. Kenya has made important steps to improve human rights, including through strengthening the legislative framework. However, violations continue to occur, including extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, detentions linked to security forces’ tackling of al-Shabaab; as well as insufficient protection of the rights of people living with disabilities and other socially excluded groups such as LGBT+ persons. Now as before, it is key to promote those rights.

WIDESPREAD POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Despite the relatively high and sustained economic growth, more than 18 million Kenyans continue to live below the global poverty line of USD 1.90 per day. Inequality is staggering and 56 pct. of the urban population live in slums. Even

in relatively wealthy areas like Nairobi, deep and multi-dimensional poverty persists. The local disparities of poverty challenges national cohesion and risk leaving the most marginalised and vulnerable groups behind. In the arid and semi-arid lands covering most of the northern part of Kenya, poverty figures reach up to 80 pct. for counties such as Turkana. While devolution has prompted some regional re-distribution to level differences, economic redistribution across income groups as well as counties remain inadequate to address the immense inequality. Cyclical and more frequent droughts – intensified by climate change and environmental degradation – will further challenge poverty reduction and increase vulnerability of communities in certain counties. When it comes to women’s economic empowerment, despite over 80 pct. of Kenyan women working in small-holder farming, only 1 pct. actually own the land.

The population is 47.5 million according to the 2019 census and grew on average 2.2 pct. annually from 2009 to 2019 compared to 2.9 pct.

HIGH POPULATION GROWTH AND NEED FOR DECENT INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

Population growth in Kenya is high but decreasing. The population is 47.5 million according to the 2019 census and grew on average 2.2 pct. annually from 2009 to 2019 compared to 2.9 pct. the previous decade. Every year, a new generation equivalent to the population of greater Copenhagen attempts to enter the Kenyan labour market – only around 15 pct. are employed in formal jobs. Urbanisation growth rates are high at more than 4 pct. per year. This represents opportunities when it comes to wealth creation and service delivery, but also challenges related to increase of urban poor, slums and organised crime.

The growing number of youth, currently 5 million, outside education and employment constitute a critical economic and social challenge. It deprives youth the skills required to give them – and ultimately Kenya – an edge in an increasingly competitive world. Political inclusion, better access to health services, quality education, and not least vocational training, lifting the individual to a higher level of professional competencies leading to decent jobs as skilled labour will contribute to transforming the youth bulge of Kenya from a liability to a dividend.

When it comes to labour market conditions, the majority of the Kenyan work-force operates in the informal economy often implying non-compliance with labour regulations (including wages). Also in the formal sector, labour regulations and policies are not fully implemented at government and company levels. Generally, labour legislation has flaws in terms of the international standards on the right to organise, the right to collective bargaining, and the right to strike but several reforms have been introduced, if not all adopted, in recent years such as wage regulations, youth employment, breastfeeding rights at work, and strike deregulations. There also seems to be an increasing general awareness in some sectors of the need to resume constructive social dialogue to improve industrial relations amongst workers and employers.

More than 5,000 women and girls die every year as a result of pregnancy-related complications; and child mortality remains high by global standards as 5 out of 100 children die before they are 5 years old.

The export's share of GDP decreased from 21 to 13 pct. between 2010 and 2017.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Despite improvements in maternal and child health during the last decades, immense challenges remain, including in relation to equitable access to quality health services, in particular concerning sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender-based violence. These challenges undermine human development. More than 5,000 women and girls die every year as a result of pregnancy-related complications; and child mortality remains high by global standards as 5 out of 100 children die before they are 5 years old. With limited access to contraception, teen pregnancy remains high at 18 pct. with no discernible improvement since 2008. When it comes to women's rights, gender-based violence is still endemic in Kenya as is early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, even if the practice has been illegal since 2011. Only half of the pupils transition from primary to secondary school, with high dropout rates, particularly for girls. Moreover, even if Kenya continues to be more liberal than neighbouring countries, sexual minorities remain subject to discrimination and harassment and their rights inadequately protected.

IMPROVING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT BUT DECREASING EXPORTS

Kenya has a market-based economy and is generally considered the economic, commercial, financial and logistics hub of East Africa. With the strongest commercial base in East Africa, Kenya has been somewhat successful in attracting international investors, including from Denmark, even if overall FDI remain low at less than 1 per cent of GDP. However, more Danish companies are investing in Kenya and setting up local and regional operations due to Kenya's strategic location, diversified economy, a relatively well-educated and entrepreneurial workforce, and status as a regional financial centre. There are plenty of market opportunities for Danish companies, not least in services and logistics, food and beverages, water, energy, health and medical supplies, as well as more broadly in the field of advisory services.

At the same time, businesses operating in Kenya face a number of challenges associated with corruption, security, trading across borders, property rights, an arbitrary tax system and excessive bureaucracy around registration and permits. The government has initiated a broad range of business reforms including in the areas of starting a business, obtaining access to electricity, registering property, protecting minority investors and streamlining insolvency rules. Overall, infrastructure remains – despite significant investments – in a poor state which in combination with prohibitive regulation and market failure limit regional and global connectivity and hence prospects for trade driven development. The export's share of GDP decreased from 21 to 13 pct. between 2010 and 2017.

CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY

Kenya's current electricity production is primarily based on renewable energy. In 2018, only 13 pct. of Kenya's electricity generation capacity was based on fossil fuels while geothermal and hydropower accounted for almost 80 pct. Wind is an increasing source of electricity with the opening of Africa's largest Wind Power project in Lake Turkana, supported by Denmark. When it comes to energy consumption more broadly, biomass (wood and charcoal) is by far the largest source.

Climate vulnerability is a serious challenge in Kenya with an economy that is highly dependent on natural resources and already suffering significant losses from recurring droughts and floods. Vulnerability to climate extremes is driven by changing land management and poor agricultural practices exacerbated by population growth. Droughts in the country are a key driver of poverty and humanitarian crises, causing spikes in food insecurity, undermining livelihoods and household resilience. Environmental degradation and its consequences for fragile ecosystems also exacerbate conflict and insecurity and further undermines coping strategies and livelihoods. Insufficient urban water supply as well as structural water shortages and fluctuation in arid and semi-arid lands mean that over 13 million Kenyans lack access to clean drinking water and 19 million to sanitation. Water-borne diseases and associated conditions are leading causes of morbidity and mortality in children under-five and contribute to child malnutrition. Insufficient sanitation and hygiene also provide fertile ground for global pandemics such as COVID-19.

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PEACE, SECURITY, MIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL DYNAMICS

Based on conventional standards, Kenya is considered a stable country. Yet Kenya has dimensions and pockets of fragility in terms of a legacy of poor governance, repeated election violence, tribalism and ethnic tensions, significant human rights violations, as well as pervasive corruption. Insecurity in the border lands, organised crime, and recent home-grown extremism constitute additional dimensions of fragility. Marginalisation fuels instability, and violent extremism can no longer be explained exclusively by instability in Somalia.

Kenya's geographical position as an entrance to the East African market provides the country with opportunities. However, regional dynamics also prove challenging. Long term instability in the Horn of Africa has challenged Kenya with instability along the borders, frequent terror attacks and refugee flows as a result of man-made humanitarian disasters. Due to the protracted instability as well as cyclical droughts, Kenya has for decades been host to hundreds of thousands of refugees from Somalia, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia. As such, Kenya is a regional key actor as a host and transit nation for refugees and irregular migrants, even if Kenyans themselves are not a major source of migration to Europe.

Kenya has sought to address the challenging regional context through security arrangements, military engagement, humanitarian cooperation and active diplomacy to find regional solutions. Kenya is a significant contributor to regional and international peacebuilding and peacekeeping missions, including in Somalia, and a contributor to UN Peace-keeping missions around the world. However, domestic political developments in the region – not least in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia and Tanzania – contribute to a more, rather than less, unpredictable regional outlook. This is also true for Kenya’s bilateral relationship with its neighbours, which has experienced some fluctuation in recent years.

Finally, it is important to take note of the changing international dynamics and increasing interest in Kenya. Europe and the USA continue to be the main partners when it comes to trade and investments and across a range of shared values related to democracy and human rights. In 2018, USA elevated its relationship with Kenya to a “Strategic Partnership” – a status that only a few other African nations enjoy. Global players such as China and India and new dynamics related to the Gulf countries are increasingly having an impact on Kenya. This also means that traditional development partners find themselves in a more crowded space and need to maximise the combined impact of instruments as well as identify areas of mutual interest with the Kenyan stakeholders to deliver results on joint priorities.

BOX 1: RISKS AND SCENARIOS FOR KENYA

The achievement of the strategic objectives for the Danish partnership with Kenya depends on political, economic and social developments as well as a range of associated risk factors. In the ideal scenario, Kenya will experience genuine political reconciliation among political elites that will lead to consolidated political stability, maturing institutions and sustained economic progress. As a result, the political space will expand, allowing the opposition and civil society to operate without restrictions. A more accountable and effective political system will deliver on key institutional and economic reforms that will accelerate economic growth and make it more inclusive, thus reducing youth unemployment, and curb corruption. This will lead to higher revenue and expand the fiscal space for development investments. In an ideal scenario, devolution takes root and delivers relevant services and solutions to the population, which in turn improves government legitimacy.

In a worst case scenario, major risks converge, ignited by intensified political competition accompanied by electoral and political violence, and shrinking civic and political space. The political system will be pacified and unable to deliver key reforms resulting in stagnating growth, not least amplified by the COVID-19 crisis, leading to increased unemployment and unsustainable public debt levels influencing development financing negatively. This is self-reinforcing since private sector activity will stagnate and foreign direct investment will further dwindle. Corruption will be even more pronounced leading up to the 2022 elections and beyond given its role as patronage to generate support among strategic groups. Intimidation of the opposition will increase due to gradually more authoritarian rule, which in combination with a pacified civil society and tactical political populism will compromise the broader rights space, including sexual and reproductive health

and rights. An increasingly fragmented and divisive political system combined with less opportunities for young people will increase the risk of “home grown” violent extremism and eventually terrorism, which will further divide communities and deter investments.

Kenya’s actual trajectory will most likely lie somewhere in the middle of these two scenarios, even in the shadow of the COVID-19 crisis. While the forecast is closer to the ideal scenario, it is clear that Kenya will experience a range of critical junctures in the coming years. Wrong choices may bring Kenya closer to a vicious trajectory. Denmark will continue to pursue a multifaceted approach in Kenya that is responsive to risks and which aims to contribute to deepening democratic governance. This is in itself a mitigating strategy at macro level. If a negative scenario begins to transpire, Denmark will intensify political dialogue, including through the EU, and adapt its efforts based on an approach that is flexible, such as shifting resources from state to non-state actors and increase focus on investments that can counter the negative developments. This adaptation strategy also applies in case of major corruption scandals in areas of Danish engagement. Conversely, Danish engagement will also flexibly respond to new and emerging opportunities arising within the key strategic objectives of the engagement, in order to assist Kenya to move towards the positive scenario.

3. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR DENMARK'S PARTNERSHIP WITH KENYA

Denmark's engagement in Kenya builds on the longstanding and strong bilateral relationship with the government and people of Kenya and draws on all relevant instruments including diplomacy and political dialogue, security, development cooperation as well as trade and commercial relations. This will also be a strong platform for developing alliances and joint leadership with Kenya on global agendas in international fora, which underpin the strategic objectives for Denmark's partnership with Kenya.

This section unfolds the strategic objectives and describes how Denmark – through coherent efforts across policy areas and instruments – will pursue the strategic objectives in collaboration with Kenyan and international partners.

3.1 GREEN, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

- **Strategic objective 1:** Promote green, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and decent jobs with an emphasis on youth as well as market opportunities for Danish companies and investors with relevant solutions.
- **Relevance for UN SDGs:** SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (on Climate Action); SDG 15 ("life on land" – environmental degradation);

A growth process that generates new opportunities for more people is part and parcel of "green, sustainable and inclusive" in the Kenyan context. Tackling Kenya's principal development challenge of limited decent jobs and income opportunities in an environmentally sustainable manner, with emphasis on Kenya's youth, will be critical to poverty reduction, reducing inequalities and to social development and stability. This is only reinforced in light of the impact of COVID-19. Adaptation and resilience to the evident impact of climate change will become increasingly important in coming years. Utilising mitigation initiatives, such as renewable energy and energy efficiency, will be essential for long-term sustainable economic development. Addressing the impact of climate change is a key Danish priority. Through strong Danish "green expertise" and building on the long-term engagement in Kenya in private sector development, Denmark is well-placed to assist Kenya in this field.

GREEN TRANSFORMATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Kenya has shown commitment to promoting a green economy, climate change adaptation, and a low carbon development path based on renewable energy sources and sustainable solutions, as outlined in Kenya's Vision 2030 Mid-Term Plan III and the Green Economy Strategy Implementation Plan. Denmark will



support climate resilient, low-carbon, sustainable economic activities and sectors, through relevant partnerships. Kenya can furthermore benefit from Danish private sector strengths when it comes to green solutions and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Denmark will focus mainly on three areas: (1) Supporting climate change adaptation, climate innovation and promotion of a low-carbon economy, including renewable sustainable energy in line with SDG 7 on clean energy and SDG 13 on climate action; (2) Conservation and protection of ecosystems against environmental degradation, including community-based income-generating activities in line with SDG 15 (“life on land”), and in support of SDG 6, improve access to basic water and sanitation services and sustainable water resource management; (3) Promoting green jobs and circular economy in line with SDG 8 on decent work and SDG 12 on responsible consumption and production. Continuing the building of alliances with Kenya in the implementation of the global climate change and environment agendas, not least in relation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, will be part and parcel of Danish efforts in this field.

INCOME OPPORTUNITIES AND DECENT JOBS

In support of SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth and SDG10 on reducing inequalities, Denmark will promote the creation of much needed income opportunities and decent jobs, in particular for the poor and the youth, through green and responsible private sector driven development. Denmark will apply the full spectrum of relevant instruments and partnerships.

Youth unemployment and underemployment is a major development challenge around the world and particularly in Kenya where many young people struggle to find meaningful employment. The untapped demographic dividend of young Kenyans moving into their productive working years presents public and private sector stakeholders with both a challenge and an opportunity. Denmark will support efforts that ensure technical and vocational training is geared towards the labor market and enhances the employability of Kenya’s youth. Lifting the competencies of youth to new professional levels will be paramount to ensure their entry into the job market as skilled labour through decent and sustainable jobs. In addition, stimulation of entrepreneurial initiatives for innovation and creation of decent jobs and income opportunities by Micro, Small, and Medium Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) will be a priority. Given the structure of Kenya’s economy, a particular focus will be on small-holder farmers and micro agribusinesses based on green value chains and with the aim of improving productivity and sustainable practices. For most smallholder farmers the way towards adaptation and resilience to climate change is associated with higher incomes. This will also improve food security and resilience in line with SDG 2 on zero hunger.

The rising consumer base and urbanisation will create new opportunities for the Danish private sector, especially within Danish solutions related to green and blue economy, water, food, energy, pharmaceuticals and logistics.

Promotion of improved labour conditions and occupational safety and health will be an integral part of Denmark's approach to private sector development. Collaboration with ILO on social dialogue and decent work will be pursued with potential for synergy with interventions by Danish labour market partners. Furthermore, Kenya's private sector needs support to implement Kenya's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights and Denmark is a front runner in this field, with several well established human rights and democracy partnerships.

BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS, TRADE, INVESTMENTS AND TRANSFER OF KNOW-HOW

Danish companies and institutions have know-how and solutions relevant to Kenya's development challenges, which can help promote the transition towards a green economy. Danish commercial interests are significant and increasing, especially when it comes to trade in services and a growing number of Danish businesses are based in Kenya. The rising consumer base and urbanisation will create new opportunities for the Danish private sector, especially within Danish solutions related to green and blue economy, water, food, energy, pharmaceuticals and logistics. Danida Market Development Partnerships, Strategic Sector Cooperation and Danish concessional instruments like Danida Sustainable Infrastructure Finance can help pave the way for further commercial cooperation.

Denmark will continue to support Kenya in improving business competitiveness, creating an enabling business environment and lowering the costs for Kenya's integration in regional and global markets, not least through the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA). A well regulated and transparent business environment is key to helping Kenya's businesses and economy grow as well as to Danish commercial interests and market opportunities in Kenya. This will be supported through both bilateral development cooperation and multilateral initiatives. Support to Kenya's ambitious blue economy agenda will form part of these efforts, including through Strategic Sector Cooperation. Moreover, Kenya is a free-trade oriented nation that cherishes multilateral trade arrangements and as such is a relevant global partner for Denmark in promoting a rules-based and fair multilateral trade system.

3.2 DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO SERVICES

- **Strategic objective 2:** Strengthen democratic participation and citizen engagement, protection of human rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), access to justice as well as delivery of equitable public services through the implementation of the Constitution and devolution.
- **Relevance for UN SDGs:** SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), and SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions).

Kenya has come a long way since the introduction of multiparty democracy. However, the mainly positive political trends towards deepening democracy have been uneven with significant setbacks related to electoral conflict. While promising strides have been made in the implementation of the Constitution, significant gaps remain. Through the long experience in the Kenyan governance sector with support to civil society, democratisation, rule of law, and capacity building, Denmark is well placed to support this vital transition process at central and county level. Synergy will be ensured between Danish engagements in support of civic participation, rule of law and human rights under this strategic objective with efforts aiming at the prevention, mitigation and management of violent, political and electoral conflicts under the strategic objective on resilience, peace and stability.

INCREASED ENGAGEMENT BY CITIZENS IN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE PROCESSES AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Denmark will contribute to empower civil society and citizens at large to participate in political processes, protect civic space and hold public institutions accountable and constitutionally compliant, in line with SDG 16. Particular focus will be on women, young people and groups at risk of being left behind. Support to enhanced social accountability by empowering citizens' groups will also contribute to bottom-up based anti-corruption efforts, while multilateral actors like the World Bank are building public financial management systems that will improve accountability and curb corruption top-down. At county level successful initiatives are likely to involve support to processes that make better use of technology to manage finances and information, strengthen human resource management and civil service integrity, as well as building capacity of local government and non-governmental groups to proactively identify and confront corruption.



Also Denmark will aim at promoting equality and fair redistribution, not least through a progressive tax system, in its dialogue with Government, World Bank and IMF in terms of the design of their programmes in Kenya, as well as through the EU.

IMPROVED RULE OF LAW, ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION

The judiciary has been on a reform path to become more independent, clearly illustrated by its annulment of the 2017 Presidential election, but has, partly as a consequence of this, faced increased political pressure. The continued engagement with the judiciary will be pivotal given its role in the protection and improvement of rule of law, access to justice and human rights and in adjudicating corruption cases in line with SDG 16. Supporting civil society capacity to claim the rights of citizens is equally important, where access to justice for women will be a particular Danish priority. Moreover, only few international partners invest in the rule of law in Kenya, making a continued Danish engagement all the more crucial.

STRENGTHENED AND MORE ACCOUNTABLE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICE DELIVERY THROUGH IMPROVED DEVOLUTION

Devolution as enshrined in the Constitution represents a real promise to establish participatory and accountable democratic governance that deliver equitable services to the population. Denmark will work to increase counties' engagement and capacities in carrying out devolved service delivery through accountable and democratic processes. Devolution must deliver tangible change through equitable opportunities, access to resources and improved service delivery.

To promote the devolution agenda in Kenya, Denmark will support strengthened and more accountable institutions, improved service delivery and citizens' engagement that ultimately make devolution respond to citizens' needs. This will be done through the bilateral development programme and by maintaining close cooperation and coordination with key devolution partners such as the EU and World Bank. Devolution also represents an entry point for promoting a fair redistribution of wealth across Kenya, which Denmark will seize. Also Denmark will aim at promoting equality and fair redistribution, not least through a progressive tax system, in its dialogue with Government, World Bank and IMF in terms of the design of their programmes in Kenya, as well as through the EU.

When it comes to specific areas of devolved service delivery, Denmark will in line with SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing invest in primary health care as this is a key devolved function, which is the basis for pro-poor improved reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health, but which has serious financing and capacity gaps. Also relevant is provision of water and sanitation in line with SDG 6, which will be considered in the context of the bilateral development programme and Danida Sustainable Infrastructure Finance, as well as local initiatives that can help Kenya adapt to climate change in line with SDG 13.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH, WOMEN'S AND GIRL'S SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

To make devolution work and to make it tangible for the population, access to basic public health services is vital. Improved primary health care and reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health services for the poorest and most vulnerable parts of the population is a central element in this respect. Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women and girls, including advocacy around and access to services for particularly marginalised and vulnerable groups such as LGBT+ persons, as well as actions to address gender-based violence will thus be at the centre of Denmark's work in Kenya. The right to decide over one's own body and sexuality, including women's right to decide when to have children, how many and with whom, is a fundamental human right. It is also key to unlocking the potential of women and girls, which in turn benefits societies as a whole. Kenya has become a global champion of women's and girls' rights, which Denmark can capitalise from in the engagement in Kenya as well as in the international context, not least in light of new reactionary forces in this space globally.

Denmark's long-term engagement in the health sector in Kenya, provides a strong comparative advantage. Denmark will contribute to sexual and reproductive health and rights through bilateral development engagements, technical advisory assistance, support through strategic civil society partnerships, and through dialogue and investments in multilateral institutions, global funds and initiatives such as by the World Bank and UNFPA, to which Denmark is a major contributor of core support as well as earmarked support for Africa and Kenya. The broad range of applicable Danish instruments opens up for complementarity. Support to improved health and well-being through county level facilities serves a human capital purpose in itself, but also drives devolution, enhances government legitimacy, and reduces inequality. Moreover, the global COVID-19 crisis in 2020 not only disrupted Kenya's health systems and deepened funding needs in the medium term. It has also strongly emphasized the importance of a solid health system to respond to local and global health challenges. An improved and expanded health sector also opens up for market opportunities for Danish companies given their strengths in the health and medico sector.

Moreover, the global COVID-19 crisis in 2020 not only disrupted Kenya's health systems and deepened funding needs in the medium term.



3.3 RESILIENCE, PEACE AND STABILITY

- **Strategic objective 3:** Promote resilience, peace and stability in Kenya by curbing violent extremism, preventing man-made and natural crises, and strengthening Kenya’s pro-active role in regional peace and security and as a host-community for refugees.
- **Relevance for UN SDGs:** SDG 1 (No Poverty); SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). SDG 17 on strengthened partnership.

Kenya faces recurrent domestic humanitarian crises due to climate change related droughts and at the same time serves both as a host and transit nation for almost half a million refugees due to long standing conflicts and instability in the Eastern Africa region. Climate change amplifies existing fault lines as a result of intensified struggle for resources.

RESILIENCE – HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT-PEACE NEXUS

Denmark has a clear interest in promoting more long-term resilience and inclusive economic development in the large parts of Kenya that are currently marginalised. This is not least important given Kenya’s role as a major host of refugees in a region prone to conflict and displacement. Denmark will support the strengthening of communities’ resilience in Kenya’s arid- and semi-arid lands, which are highly affected by climate change, by investing in livelihood opportunities, natural resource management, and peace and conflict efforts, in particular in refugee hosting communities.

Access to water poses a particular challenge in arid- and semiarid lands. To enhance the resilience of communities at the nexus between humanitarian and development interventions and to target the most vulnerable communities in line with SDG 10 on reducing inequalities, Denmark will also promote improved access to basic water and sanitation services and sustainable water resource management, while strengthening devolved delivery structures. This will also contribute to improved health through the prevention of water borne and infectious diseases, such as COVID-19. When pockets of humanitarian needs occur, Danish civil society organisations will be able to respond in Kenya through the Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF). UN Agencies, which Denmark supports through core funding, will also respond to humanitarian crises.

In order to strengthen the relation between humanitarian initiatives, development cooperation and peace-building, the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, Denmark will support building resilience of vulnerable communities affected by climate change and conflict as well support displaced persons, refugees

and their host communities – not least through the strategic partnerships with Danish civil society organisations and with multilateral organisations such as UNHCR and World Bank. Support will be mutually reinforcing and build bridges between humanitarian interventions and development to foster resilience. It will also be a priority to support the global, regional and local implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), to which Kenya has subscribed, which targets long-term solutions for refugees in the region based on a close coupling of development and humanitarian efforts.

REDUCING CONFLICT AND INCREASING STABILITY

Historically, violent conflict has been a constant factor in Kenya. Denmark will engage in prevention and countering of three dimensions of conflict: Political, resource-based and violent extremism. Political violence – often linked to electoral processes and tribalism – fluctuates with the state of relations among key political actors and intensifies in relation to elections. Building on previous Danish support, risks of political and electoral conflict will be addressed through support to civil society groups and dialogue initiatives under the bilateral development programme as well as through the close cooperation that Danish strategic civil society partners have with these groups. In terms of resource-based conflict, Kenya already experiences widespread violence with scores of fatalities every year. Climate change amplifies existing tensions as a result of intensified struggle for resources. Initiatives under the bilateral development cooperation, strategic civil society partners, as well as mainstreaming of conflict-sensitive resource sharing mechanisms in regular development engagements, for instance related to water, will contribute to reducing resource-based conflict.

The growing threat of domestic violent extremism presents a serious risk not only for Kenya as a country but for the region. In line with SDG 16, Denmark will support efforts to increase the resilience of communities against violent extremism through community engagement and opportunities for vulnerable youth. Denmark will also continue to work with Kenyan authorities on countering violent extremism and on disengagement. These efforts will benefit from complementarity and links between more bottom-up based local and community-oriented interventions under the bilateral development programme and the top-down, security and government-oriented interventions under the regional Peace and Stabilisation Programme for the Horn of Africa.

KENYA'S ROLE IN REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, INCLUDING MARITIME SECURITY

Kenya is located in a volatile region. Denmark has a direct interest in the continued stability of Kenya and the wider Eastern Africa region. Kenya has been and continues to be a stabilising factor and partner in the region when it comes to peace and security, such as in Somalia. Denmark will support and encourage a

Climate change amplifies existing tensions as a result of intensified struggle for resources.

strengthened constructive regional engagement of Kenya through dialogue and regional economic integration to foster deeper and more interdependent relations between Kenya and its neighbours.

Denmark will support Kenya's role in regional peace and security through the regional Peace and Stabilisation Programme for the Horn of Africa and cooperation on defence. This includes Kenya's engagement in the Eastern Africa Standby Forces and AMISOM in Somalia; Kenya's role in maritime domain awareness in the Western Indian Ocean, which is of direct importance to "Blue Denmark"; as well as addressing increasing threats from transnational organised crime, human trafficking, smuggling, maritime crime and piracy. The Danish bilateral engagement with Kenya Navy in enhancing maritime domain awareness and security plays an important role for developing Kenya's Blue Economy.

3.4 STRATEGIC MONITORING OF DENMARK'S BROAD ENGAGEMENT IN KENYA

The Embassy of Denmark in Nairobi will together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Copenhagen maintain an overview of the broad range of engagements implemented by a multitude of partners in Kenya supported by Denmark through a variety of instruments.

Overall, the strategic monitoring of Denmark's entire engagement in Kenya will guide several important processes. It will inform the internal management dialogue on general developments in the country, it will guide the continuous assessment of the scenarios and risks and feed into the conversation with key Kenyan partners in government, businesses and civil society. Strategic indicators to support and guide such dialogue have been defined for each strategic objectives cf. box 2 below. The strategic indicators will be monitored on an annual basis. Focus will be on results, which Denmark will seek to influence directly or indirectly over the next five years.

Performance consultations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will take place on an annual basis to take stock on progress, harvest results or adapt to a changed context.

The strategic framework is flexible and will be adapted in light of ongoing developments. If the development moves toward the pessimistic scenarios, the Danish engagement will be reconsidered based on any need for adjustments, and the continued relevance of the engagements will be closely assessed. The same is relevant for a more positive scenario development in which new opportunities may arise for Denmark to support. Performance consultations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will take place on an annual basis to take stock on progress, harvest results or adapt to a changed context.

3.5 COHERENCE AND PARTNERSHIPS IN SUPPORT OF THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The partnership between Denmark and Kenya is longstanding and deep. A wide range of instruments will be applied to achieve the strategic objectives. In many ways, it's a whole-of-society to whole-of-society partnership given the broad multi-actor scope. Accordingly, the strategic framework aims to enhance the coherence across Danish engagements and instruments, be they foreign, security or development policy or commercially related, applied in Kenya to maximise their contribution to the overall vision and strategic objectives.

Denmark will leverage on partnerships to ensure the greatest possible impact. Achieving results will depend on mutually binding and innovative partnerships in the form of cooperation with Kenya's authorities, civil society organizations, the private sector, other international development partners and multilateral organisations. Of the numerous multilateral organisations present in Kenya, a limited number are particularly relevant for Denmark's three strategic objectives in Kenya, including the World Bank, UNDP, Green Climate Fund (GCF), UNICEF, UNFPA, Global Fund, and the humanitarian actors WFP, UNHCR and Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). Moreover, Kenya also constitutes a global partner for Denmark in promoting a multilateral, rules-based international system.

The EU is a particularly important partner given its substantial role and leverage in Kenya as well as Denmark's direct influence on EU's policies and activities. Accordingly, the EU is a key avenue for pursuing Denmark's interest in Kenya through proactive Danish participation in joint EU actions and coordination. Denmark will also take into account the EU Joint Assistance Strategy as the umbrella strategy for the engagement of the EU and Member States in development. Furthermore, initiatives under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa will be important to shape, both in Nairobi and in Brussels.

BOX 2: MONITORING THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

IMPACT LEVEL

OVERALL VISION

A stable and democratic Kenya capable of providing social services and decent jobs for its people, ensuring the rights and benefits enshrined in the constitution, accelerating inclusive, sustainable growth and green transformation, and containing national and regional humanitarian and security challenges before they translate into major refugee and irregular migration flows.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Promote green, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and decent jobs with an emphasis on youth, as well as market opportunities for Danish companies and investors with relevant solutions

2. Strengthen democratic participation and citizen engagement, protection of human rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), access to justice as well as delivery of equitable public services through the implementation of the Constitution and devolution.

3. Promote resilience, peace and stability in Kenya by curbing violent extremism, preventing man-made and natural crises, and strengthening Kenya's pro-active role in regional peace and security and as a host-community for refugees.

INDICATORS AND MEANS OF VERIFICATION (MOV)

1. Equality and growth inclusiveness

(National income share by lowest 40 pct., Kenya)

MoV: World Inequality Database. SDG 10.1.1

2. Productivity and growth inclusiveness

(Increased agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women)

MoV: SDG 2.3 SDG reporting, Ministry of Planning

3. Productive jobs created for young men and women

MoV: World Banks Databank Jobs (ILO) SDG 8.5.1/8-7-1

4. Trading across borders

(Time to export/import: Border compliance (hours)).

MoV: World Bank Doing Business Index; SDG 17.11.1

5. Green growth

(Leadership and Climate Change; Efficiency Sectors; Markets & Investment; Environment)

MoV: Global Green Economy Index / Dual Citizen LLC; SDG 6.2.1, 7.1, 15.3

6. Adaptation and resilience to climate change

(pct. households in need of food aid; pct. of land area under forest cover)

MoV: National Treasury Economic Report; SDG 2.1.2, 13.1.3.

7. Access to energy

MoV: SDG 7.1, 7.1.1

1. Overall democratic progress

MoV: V-Dem indicator; URAIA Annual Civic Competence Index (e.g. Citizens knowledge on the Constitution enhanced); SDG 16.7

2. CSO Participatory environment

MoV: V-Dem indicators

3. Local accountability mechanisms at county level

MoV: V-Dem indicator local democracy; URAIA: social audits; World Bank: participatory planning/budgeting; SDG 16.6; 16.7.1.

4. Human rights, un-likelihood of human rights abuses by government

MoV: Ibrahim Index on African Governance, UPR Cycle. SDG 16.10.1

5. Access to Justice (gender disaggregated)

MoV: V-Dem indicator SDG 16.3.

6. Births attended by skilled health staff

MoV: World Bank Development Indicators, National systems; SDG 3.1.2

7. Unmet need for family planning

(Couple-years of protection)

MoV: MoH, National systems data; 3.7.1

1. Political fragility

MoV: OECD annual fragility reviews

2. Reduced impact of violent extremist attacks in Kenya

MoV: Global Terrorism Index by the Institute for Economics and Peace; SDG 16.1.2

3. Environmental fragility

MoV: OECD annual fragility reviews. SDG 13.1.3

4. Socio-economic vulnerability

MoV: OECD annual fragility reviews based on INFORM, 2019, "Socio-Economic Vulnerability" Global Risk Index

5. Enhanced refugee self-reliance

MoV: Global Compact on Refugees: Indicator Framework, UNHCR, 2019.

6. Refugees are able to actively participate in the social and economic life of host countries

MoV: Global Compact on Refugees: Indicator Framework, UNHCR, 2019.

7. Access to basic water and sanitation services

MoV: (pct of rural households with access to water and equitable access to sanitation) SDG 6.1.1, 6.2; WASREB Impact Report: Performance of Kenya's Water Sector

A broad range of Danish civil society organisations and human rights partners – more than 50 – implement initiatives in Kenya. This includes i.a. MS Action Aid, DIGNITY, DIPD, FIC (Labour rights), Danish Family Planning Association, Care Denmark, WWF, SOS Børnebyerne, DanChurch Aid, Danish Refugee Council, Danish Red Cross, and “Sustainable Energy”. They provide valuable contributions that develop and consolidate a sustainable, active and broadly anchored civil society, and supports interventions and partnerships within environment and climate adaptation, resilience and durable solutions. Danish strategic civil society partners will continue to be particularly close partners, not only in efforts which underpin the strategic objectives, but also in developing and sharing broader analysis and dialogue.

Gradually, over the medium term, trade and investments are expected to evolve as the leading area of economic cooperation between Kenya and Denmark. The transformation from aid to trade will accelerate in the event that the more positive scenario unfolds. This implies increasing opportunities to leverage development outcomes through market-based partnerships. Denmark will explore synergies and promote private sector engagement with a view to identification of new opportunities and gaps. Denmark will continue to use economic diplomacy, support market entry and opportunities for Danish companies through support by the Danish Trade Council in Kenya. Close partnerships between public authorities in areas where Denmark has clear comparative advantages, such as in climate, energy, environment, food and agriculture, as well as the blue economy, will also contribute to increasing economic cooperation between Denmark and Kenya. The Strategic Sector Cooperation is a cornerstone in this respect that promotes Danish positions of strength when it comes to knowledge, solutions and technology.

The Strategic Sector Cooperation is a cornerstone in this respect that promotes Danish positions of strength when it comes to knowledge, solutions and technology.

BOX 3: OVERVIEW OF DENMARK’S MOST IMPORTANT INSTRUMENTS IN KENYA

- Active political dialogue, including through the EU
- Bilateral development cooperation
- Peace and Stabilisation Programme for the Horn of Africa, incl. defence cooperation
- Commercial relations promoted by the Danish Trade Council
- Strategic Partnerships (CSOs), umbrella organisations managing pooled funds, Human Rights and Democracy Partnerships (MRD partners)
- Fair market-based Partnerships for Sustainable Development, incl. Partnership for Green Growth and Global Goals (P4G) and IDH (The Sustainable Trade Initiative)
- Strategic Sector Cooperation
- The Investment Fund for Developing Countries (IFU), incl. the SDG Investment Fund
- EU, multilateral organisations, funds and programmes active in Kenya
- Humanitarian assistance

4. THE BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WITH KENYA, 2021-2025

The previous chapter focused on a variety of Danish instruments and how they coherently relate to the strategic objectives of this framework. This chapter specifically outlines the strategic focus areas of the next bilateral development programme for Kenya, 2021-2025, and the DKK 850 million allocated to development interventions in Kenya in the Finance Act 2020. In addition, DKK 60 million under the Climate Envelope of the Finance Act for 2020 will be programmed in conjunction with the next bilateral development programme and treated as integral part of the bilateral programme. Generally, the bilateral development programme will increasingly be seen and managed in coherence with all Danish instruments in play in Kenya.

PRIORITIES FOR THE BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The bilateral development programme and its development engagements will include support to all three strategic objectives of the Denmark-Kenya Strategic Framework 2021-2025. The programme will prioritize particular dimensions of the strategic objectives, taking into account that other Danish instruments will address different dimensions. Coordination and synergies with other instruments will continuously be developed throughout implementation and will be subject to an annual review process. Each development engagement targets one principal strategic objective, but will typically contribute to several strategic objectives and will as such aim to establish synergies and coherence both between the development engagements within the bilateral development programme as well as across the broad range of Danish instruments.

The engagements under the bilateral development programme in Kenya will be developed around the intended outcomes outlined in this chapter. Further justification, a robust theory of change at engagement level, risk management structures and result frameworks will be developed in the development engagement documents. Annex 3 outlines a number of general principles that will guide the formulation of the bilateral development engagements.

The engagements prioritized under the bilateral development programme will strongly contribute to address the challenges amplified by the COVID-19 crisis which constitutes the alternative reality where this programme will take its outset. This is not least the case in terms of supporting the capacity of the Kenyan health system and providing access to clean water, but also by focusing on the most vulnerable communities and by rebuilding economic opportunities, especially for women.

With a rapidly increasing population, it will be imperative for Kenya to stimulate continued growth through trade and investments while meeting Vision 2030's ambition of a clean and healthy environment. Kenya is becoming increasingly vulnerable to effects of climate change and to the unsustainable use of natural resources, the effect of which is seen in the frequent droughts and floods that seriously affect agricultural production and food security. This is particularly evident in the arid and semi-arid lands where droughts are a key driver of poverty, causing spikes in food insecurity and undermining livelihoods and household resilience. Investment in green technologies by the private sector is to a large extent still seen as an unnecessary additional financial burden. Limited know-how and access to green financing continues to be a challenge to the establishment of green business models.

DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF GREEN, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

In support of the first strategic objective, the bilateral development programme will therefore focus on climate innovation and the creation of green decent jobs, increasing food security, access to water, improving ecosystems and community resilience, and on supporting an enabling environment for private investment and trade. Broadening economic opportunities for women, youth, and marginalised communities will be at the centre. Preserving biodiversity and using natural resources sustainably, including water, to increase their contribution to economic growth and livelihoods of future generations constitute another central principle.

CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES

Decent jobs and employment is the critical connection between economic growth and poverty reduction. In this respect, there are opportunities for generating sustainable employment in the green growth arena. Assessment of Danish engagements have proven that commercialization of clean energy solutions remains relevant by supporting clean tech and renewable energy innovations tailored to market conditions and needs of small-scale Kenyan producers and households. Denmark will support increased commercialisation, innovation and scale-up of local climate technologies with the aim of generating jobs and addressing climate change challenges. Support to targeted innovative enterprises, both start-ups and existing enterprises, will aim to increase the uptake of green technologies and innovative business models in agribusiness, water management, energy efficiency, commercial forestry and waste management including support to businesses working in the circular economy. Efforts towards upskilling youth and women will continue through mentorship in business management and innovation, provision of technical expertise and training to equip the youth with appropriate competencies to meet the skills requirements of the job market in Kenya and enable them to enter the job market as skilled labour through decent and sustainable jobs. Where relevant

Denmark will support increased commercialisation, innovation and scale-up of local climate technologies with the aim of generating jobs and addressing climate change challenges.

Where relevant apprenticeship with various partners will also be encouraged.

apprenticeship with various partners will also be encouraged. Support to accelerate the development, deployment, transfer of and access to locally relevant climate and clean adaptive and mitigation solutions is necessary to make these businesses sustainable and profitable. They can in turn create jobs and establish a foundation for Kenya's private sector to expand the country's agriculture, energy, waste and water infrastructure to serve a growing population in a climate smart manner.

GREEN JOBS IN AGRICULTURE

While the development of green technologies is inevitably an increasing vehicle for job creation, in the immediate future the majority of Kenyans will continue to derive all or part of their livelihoods from agriculture. Also at national level, Kenya's economy is highly dependent on agriculture even if productivity has been volatile and even declined in the last 20 years. Growth and increased productivity in the agricultural sector and in small businesses is therefore crucial for decent employment and inclusive poverty reduction. Previous Danish support has proven the effectiveness of integrated business solutions and environmentally sustainable practices for micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) to accelerate decent employment and improved competitiveness of targeted value chains in agriculture. This support will ultimately contribute to transforming the economy towards greener and more inclusive growth. It will also contribute to the third strategic objective of increasing resilience by improving household food security and reducing the vulnerability of rural communities as it creates a foundation for the poor to engage in broader economic activities.

DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SUSTAINABLE TRADE

Denmark will support Kenya's efforts towards closer integration with regional and global markets. Trade facilitation will not only benefit Kenya but also improve market access for Danish companies, benefit Danish service providers within shipping and logistics as well as Danish consumers of Kenyan products. Kenya's pursuit of a sustainable, trade-driven development agenda with reduced barriers to trade, and increasing access to markets will improve business competitiveness in Kenya. Lessons learnt from previous Danish support have underlined that investments in this field not only promote inclusive growth, but also has the potential to ensure that environmental concerns are more strongly taken into consideration. Denmark will prioritize support to making trade greener, among others by working on green solutions for the harbour areas and making transport solutions more sustainable. Another focus area will be facilitation of market access for women traders, e.g. by support to cross border value chains where women traders are involved, and to engage with women owned SME's to grow their businesses and exports.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

Kenya's Vision 2030 must be achieved in a sustainable and green manner, which underpins a sustainable economic growth. Green growth promotion needs a reinforced focus on implementation of specific policy instruments and their mixes. For instance, revising policies that directly or indirectly lead to higher pollution and the improper management of natural resources, or that sustain inequality, can help create fairer, stronger markets that encourage green growth and innovation. Experience from previous engagement suggests that Kenya is at a tipping point where specific implementation tools, subsidiary mechanisms and building capacity in the private sector and local grass root organizations at county level is still necessary if the policy gains developed on green growth are to be realized. To this end, Denmark will work with relevant government agencies, central and de-centralised, to promote public sector initiatives that enable green growth and boosts Kenya's resilience to climate change, by for example working to improve institutional frameworks that catalyse a green economy. Furthermore, Denmark will support the organisation of local communities to enable their advocacy for and participation in public democratic processes that promotes the sustainable use of natural resources.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE BILATERAL SUPPORT TO GREEN, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH:

- Increased commercialisation, innovation, scale-up and uptake of climate solutions, which generate decent jobs and contribute to local climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Accelerated decent employment creation in MSMEs and improved competitiveness of targeted value chains in agriculture which contribute to transforming the economy towards greener and more inclusive growth.
- Increased integration of Kenya into the regional and global economy through improved business competitiveness, reduced barriers to trade and increased access to markets.
- A regulatory environment conducive to a greener development trajectory for Kenya.

Out of the total budget of DKK 850 million, DKK 380 million is allocated to engagements in support of sustainable, inclusive and green growth. In addition, DKK 70 million is provided for support to increased access to basic water and sanitation services, also part of sustainable, inclusive and green growth but is described in the section on resilience, peace and stability to underline the strong link between this and climate change.

**DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENTS
IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC
GOVERNANCE, HUMAN
RIGHTS INCLUDING SRHR,
AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO
SERVICES**

The Kenyan Constitution has established a strong basis for democratisation. The elements of an effective democracy, including inclusion, transparency and accountability, need to take further root for Kenya to deliver on its constitutional promises. Entrenching constitutionalism and inclusive political processes, with a special focus on devolution and delivery of tangible services to the population, will be particularly important for Kenya in the coming years to defuse political tensions. The gap between aspirations of the Constitution and reality on the ground with regards to the protection of human rights and access to justice will also continue to demand attention.

In support of the second strategic objective on democratic governance, human rights including SRHR, justice and access to services, the bilateral development programme will focus on engagements, which promote constitutionalism and devolution, civic participation and civil society, human rights and access to justice, equitable access to primary health care services and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

**DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION, SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND
POLITICAL AND CIVIC RIGHTS**

Danish engagement in the civil society and human rights space is relevant and needed to maintain an open and thriving civic and democratic space and to reverse the apparently diminishing role of CSOs in shaping the political agenda. Moreover, Denmark is a trusted partner given its long history of engagement with civil society and human rights actors in Kenya. Denmark will support civic education and capacity development of civil society to increase civic participation and engagement in key governance processes in line with Kenya's constitutional imperative of public participation. This includes supporting citizen's ability to perform oversight of government in delivering basic social services at national and county levels, to strengthen citizen-government accountability and spur enhanced government integrity. Lessons and experiences from long-term rights-based engagement with civil society in Kenya gives Denmark a good foundation for applying a strong Human Rights Based Approach and a specific focus on non-discrimination and meaningful participation of women and youth.

Also, enhanced social accountability will contribute to fighting corruption by strengthening citizens' oversight of authorities. Devolution has made it crucial to work with county-based organisations that can engage with county governments to ensure accountability and service delivery, especially on devolved functions. Denmark will furthermore step up support to key change agents, who are promoting fundamental civic and political human rights, political responsibility and accountability, women's and young people's political participation and rights, including towards ensuring security and support around women running for office.

Denmark will support civic education and capacity development of civil society to increase civic participation and engagement in key governance processes in line with Kenya's constitutional imperative of public participation.

RULE OF LAW, ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The continued reform path and independence of the Judiciary in Kenya is not something to be taken for granted. The Judiciary has been subject to political pressure and it suffers from insufficient and unpredictable government resourcing. Moreover, few international partners are engaged in the rule of law space in Kenya and support to the justice system is also crucial when it comes to tackling corruption across sectors. Denmark will support the strengthening of rule of law and the justice system to deliver accessible, expeditious and transparent justice. This will improve access to justice, reduce impunity and protect constitutionally ingrained human rights. Access to justice plays an important role in empowering poor and vulnerable groups that continue to be marginalized by the legislative and socio-economic environment. This also includes systemic gender based discrimination and pervasive discrimination against vulnerable groups in accessing justice and enjoying fundamental rights and freedoms as enshrined under the Constitution. Danish support will especially seek to increase the number of women who seek justice through formal and informal justice systems. Experience from previous engagement shows that Danish support has been valued by Kenyan partners and has improved access to justice among targeted groups.

Access to justice plays an important role in empowering poor and vulnerable groups that continue to be marginalized by the legislative and socio-economic environment.

DEVOLUTION, PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND LOCAL SERVICE DELIVERY

Denmark will support devolution through capacity development of supply-side institutions such as counties, Council of Governors, and relevant national government actors with the purpose of contributing to strengthened and more accountable institutions, improved service delivery and citizen engagement, which ultimately make devolution respond to citizens' needs. Kenya is faced with the enormous challenge of effectively devolving functions and public services in key sectors, while at the same building basic institutional capacity at local government level. In order to ensure that devolution progresses and continues to enjoy broad support among the Kenyan population it will be necessary to improve revenue generation at county level to meet development financing needs. Previous support has shown results in key areas of service delivery and participatory budgeting at county level. Denmark will continue its support to building capacity to strengthen planning, budgeting and the execution of budgets, establishing and adhering to existing sound public financial management, monitoring and evaluation as well as addressing key bottlenecks for improving the delivery of devolved services. This will also contribute to accountable and transparent governance. Counties' ability to address climatic shocks and engage adaptation efforts at local level will also be prioritized such as climate resilience mapping and other measure. As national and county levels of governments are inter-dependent, Danish support will also go towards strengthening mechanisms for inter-governmental relations.

Danish support will in particular focus on the vulnerable and marginalised populations and on improving pro-poor access to primary health services, especially addressing unmet needs for family planning, reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health services.

DEVOLVED HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING WITHIN SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

In the nexus between rights, equity and devolved governance, equitable access to basic primary health care services, including family planning, sexual and reproductive health services, is imperative. Denmark is in a privileged position to support in this area given its historical engagement in the health sector and the associated trust Denmark enjoys among Kenyan partners, high technical and advisory expertise and the consistent political support for sexual and reproductive health and rights across consecutive Danish governments. Evidence suggests that previous Danish support has filled a crucial gap, including community oversight.

There is a continued need to ensure government health facilities have sufficient resources to provide a comprehensive package of services. Denmark will provide targeted financing through government systems for essential operations and maintenance activities at all primary health care facilities across the country, and for creating the necessary relationship between communities and health facilities. By using government systems and by applying adequate safeguards, Denmark will help strengthen transparent, accountable and corruption-resilient financial management mechanisms and practices at county and at facility level. Moreover, support to the public health system in Kenya will be greatly needed in the wake of the global COVID-19 pandemic and contribute to strengthening capacity of the health system in Kenya, including its ability to address local and global health challenges in the future.

Danish support will in particular focus on the vulnerable and marginalised populations and on improving pro-poor access to primary health services, especially addressing unmet needs for family planning, reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health services. The work will ensure strengthening of sexual and reproductive health and rights, including access to services for particularly marginalised and vulnerable groups such as LGBT+ persons, and with a targeted focus on preventing and responding to gender-based violence as well as a cross-cutting prioritization of adolescent girls and young women through targeted girl-centred interventions in multiple areas, also addressing drivers of early pregnancy and marriage, as well as activities directed at keeping girls in schools.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE BILATERAL SUPPORT TO GOVERNANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING SRHR, AND ACCESS TO SERVICES:

- Increased civic participation in key governance processes and in holding government accountable;
- Improved access to justice, reduced impunity, and increased protection of constitutionally entrenched human rights;
- Strengthened and more accountable public institutions, improved local service delivery especially in health, and citizen engagement;
- Increased pro-poor access to primary health care with focus on maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health services at county-level, and strengthened respect for and improved access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including family planning, and decrease in gender-based violence.

Out of the total budget of DKK 850 million, DKK 160 million is allocated to engagements in support of governance, rights and devolution, and that DKK. 200 million is allocated for health, including sexual and reproductive health and rights.

For the third strategic objective's ambition to increase resilience, peace and stability, Kenya will need continued support to overcome peace and security challenges, which constitute serious obstacles to human and economic development and growth in areas of the country that are already disproportionately affected by climate change, poverty and marginalisation. Through the bilateral development programme, Denmark will support the development of the capacity and effectiveness of civil society and improved government capability to prevent and counter violent extremism, to prevent conflicts over natural resources and to solve political conflicts. When it comes to resilience, Denmark will support access to water and local sustainable employment opportunities and conflict management for marginalised and vulnerable communities in Northern Kenya.

PREVENTING CONFLICT AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Support to countering violent extremism will in particular focus on creating alternative measures to supplement hard approaches by security forces focused on countering attacks, as the hard approaches involve a risk of further fostering radicalisation and violent extremism. Lessons have shown the importance of placing more emphasis on women's security issues, providing opportunities for youth at particular risk, and on the collaboration between duty bearers and

DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF RESILIENCE, PEACE AND STABILITY

Lessons have shown the importance of placing more emphasis on women's security issues, providing opportunities for youth at particular risk, and on the collaboration between duty bearers and rights holders.

rights holders. Linking marginalised youth at risk of being recruited by violent extremist groups or gangs to skills development, mentors, and education and employment opportunities will form part of the approach. The support will leverage on Denmark's knowledge and experience on the use of a whole-of-government approach to disengagement as well as Denmark's long-term engagement with non-state actors, such as civil society and faith based organisations, to address radicalisation. Engagements working on prevention of conflicts over natural resources will establish close synergies with those relating to water resources and availability of pasture for grazing, which are main sources of conflict in the ASALs. On political conflicts, a particular focus will be on countering underlying drivers of ethnically motivated conflict, which are particularly fuelled around elections. Women and girls are especially affected by violence and Denmark will directly support women's leadership in peace and security processes.

INCREASED RESILIENCE IN MARGINALISED AREAS

In the nexus between development assistance and humanitarian action, increased and sustained efforts are needed in areas that are particularly poor and marginalised, vulnerable to climate change and prone to suffering from environmental degradation and conflict over diminishing natural resources including pastureland and water. Investments in the marginalised areas and borderlands are important to increase resilience but they also play a role in terms of creating the required accept of hosting refugees and displaced persons among the communities that live in those areas. Denmark will support government and non-state-actors to enhance access to and management of the limited water resources as well as to better sanitation in ASAL counties, primarily in the Northern, North-eastern and Coastal parts of Kenya. These areas are particularly water stressed, have the highest poverty figures and functions as host communities for large numbers of refugees. With devolution, the demand for water has increased in the ASALs due to growing informal settlements increasing the competition for water for both domestic and productive needs. This has often led to conflicts in these areas. Equally, poor sanitation adds to the problem of low quality water and water related health issues. Provision of clean water has a range of health benefits and prevents the spread of contagious diseases such as COVID-19. Denmark will furthermore prioritize support to strengthening community efforts to generate local employment, foster peace and cooperation between communities, while at the same time promoting resilience to climate change and enhancing the sustainable and peaceful use of natural resources. Engagements in this area will contribute to all three strategic objectives by supporting sustainable growth, provide increased access to devolved water services and increase the resilience and livelihood of communities.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE BILATERAL SUPPORT TO RESILIENCE, PEACE AND STABILITY:

- Decrease in violent extremism and political and natural resource based conflicts.
- Increased community resilience and adaptation to climate change through sustainable and peaceful use of natural resources in the ASALs.
- Increased and sustainable access to basic water and sanitation services in the ASALs.

Out of the total budget of DKK 850 million, DKK 110 million is allocated to engagements in support of peace, stability and resilience including increased access to water and sanitation services (DKK 70 million to water and sanitation is also considered part of green, sustainable and inclusive growth). In addition DKK 60 million from the Climate Envelope will be programmed in conjunction with the bilateral development programme. This Climate Envelope funding is earmarked for initiatives in support of increased resilience to climate change for marginalised and vulnerable communities in Northern Kenya.

BUDGET FOR BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

(Breakdown as per Finance Act 2020)*

	BUDGET (DKK)
Green growth and employment: Sustainable, inclusive and green growth	450 million
Governance and peace: Devolution, civil society, human rights, justice, peace	200 million
Health: Devolved health services, maternal and child health, and SHRH, SGBV	200 million
Climate envelope: Resilience of communities affected by climate change	60 million
Total	910 million

* Budget breakdown according to the Finance Act 2020 is slightly different from the breakdown used elsewhere in the document because it has been prioritized to show the bilateral development programme's direct support of the objectives of the strategic framework. The individual budget lines will also include allocations for M&E, technical assistance, reviews and research.

RESULTS, MONITORING AND COMMUNICATIONS

The ongoing monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning of Denmark's bilateral development programme with Kenya will be anchored at the Danish Embassy in Nairobi, which will report on the progress, significant risks and preliminary results in Denmark's engagement in Kenya. To follow progress on the intended outcomes outlined above, indicators to measure the outcomes will be developed as part of the formulation of engagements. To support the dialogue between the Embassy and development engagement partners, a results based monitoring and evaluation system will be put in place to track progress and performance, with a focus on learning and harvesting results. The objective of this is to ensure results are achieved as planned, well documented and that Danish funding achieves Value for Money.

A light internal review process will be undertaken annually for the bilateral development programme in the form of a structured dialogue with partners which will take stock of overall progress. This will be led by the Embassy in Nairobi, potentially drawing on resources from the departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This will also consider how engagements under the bilateral development programme is achieving coherences with other instruments and funding channels. A mid-term review that will build on the technical reviews of the bilateral development programme engagements will be carried out half way into programme implementation. The review will also assess how bilateral development programme engagements relate to other instruments and vice versa to establish how the ambition to increase the coherence across Danish instruments progresses.

Finally, to underpin the strategic objectives and strengthen Denmark's visibility and reputation in Kenya, communication efforts will be sought across the entire spectrum of Danish interventions in Kenya. Communication of development results to a domestic Danish audience constitutes a separate objective.

ANNEX 2. KEY FIGURES FOR KENYA

INDICATOR	VALUE	YEAR	SOURCE
Key economic data			
Surface area (square km, thousands)	580.4 km ²	2019	WB WDI
Population	47.5 million	2019	Census
Gross Domestic Product, GDP (current USD)	87.9 billion	2018	WB WDI
GDP growth (annual pct.)	6.31	2018	WB WDI
GDP per capita (current USD)	1711	2018	WB WDI
"Ease of doing business"-index	56	2019	WB DBI
General government final consumption expenditure (pct. of GDP)	12.9	2018	WB WDI
Tax revenue (pct. of GDP)	15.7	2017	WB WDI
Net ODA received per capita (current USD)	49.3	2017	WB WDI
Net ODA received pct. of GNI	3.2	2017	WB WDI
Current account balance, pct. of GDP	-6.4	2017	WB WDI
Total debt service (pct. of GNI)	3.2	2018	WB WDI
Inflation, consumer prices (annual change in pct.)	4.7	2018	WB WDI
Key social data			
Population growth (annual pct.)	2.3	2018	WB WDI
Life expectancy at birth, total (years)	67.2	2017	WB WDI
Population ages 15-64 (pct. of total population)	57.9	2018	WB WDI
Urban population (pct. of total population)	27.0	2018	WB WDI
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	41.1	2018	WB WDI
Maternal mortality ratio, modelled estimate, per 100,000 live births	342	2017	WB WDI
People using safely managed drinking water (pct. of population)	58.4	2015	WB WDI
Physicians (per 1,000 people)	0.2	2014	WB WDI
Prevalence of HIV, total (pct. of population ages 15-49)	4.7	2018	WB WDI
School enrolment, primary (pct. gross)	105.3	2017	WB WDI
Poverty headcount at USD 1.90 a day (2011 PPP) (pct. population)	36.8	2015	WB WDI
Income share held by lowest 20 pct.	6.2	2015	WB WDI
Key environment data			
Forest area (pct. of land area)	7.80	2016	WB WDI
People using at least basic sanitation services (pct. of population)	29.80	2015	WB WDI
CO ₂ emissions (metric tonnes per capita)	0.31	2014	WB WDI
Renewable electricity output (pct. of total electricity output)	87.5	2015	WB WDI
Key human Rights data			
Political rights, 0-40 point	4	2018	Freedom house
Civil rights, 0-60 point	4	2018	Freedom house
Number of Human Rights Instruments ratified (out of 13)	8	2019	OHCHR

ANNEX 3. PRINCIPLES FOR FURTHER FORMULATION OF THE BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENTS

The selection and formulation of the individual development engagements as well as the choice of partners will be based on a number of principles.

Focus on the multitude of Danish instruments to achieve strategic objectives. The main foundation for the new bilateral development programme will be its portfolio of development engagements that span across the three strategic objectives of the Denmark-Kenya Strategic Framework 2021-2025. Each development engagement targets one principal strategic objective, but will typically contribute to several strategic objectives and will as such aim to establish synergies and coherence both between the development engagements within the bilateral development programme as well as across the broader range of Danish instruments.

Focused and lean portfolio. “Fewer and deeper engagements” will be the ambition for a portfolio of development engagements which are considerably fewer than today to enable in-depth and adaptive involvement. Fewer engagements in the bilateral programme will free up Embassy resources to be channeled into deeper engagements with a broader spectrum of partners and ensure flexibility to respond proactively to opportunities, needs, and lessons learned. A more focused portfolio is necessary for an adaptive and iterative approach.

Building on past achievements. The engagements will build on lessons learned from both past achievements and failures, balancing new approaches with the principle of continuity. The portfolio will be determined with a view to capitalize on partnerships which have proven effective to achieving key development results. Existing partnerships which are seen to contribute to the strategic objectives and have a proven track-record of delivering results will be continued. Furthermore, the portfolio will attempt to balance stable and scalable interventions with smaller, more innovative, but also higher risk interventions. This is to ensure a portfolio of engagements which can deliver large scale results, innovative approaches to development challenges for future replication while maintaining a manageable programme within the resources available.

Adaptive design. The bilateral development cooperation engagements will be designed to use a relatively adaptive and iterative approach for the implementation, both through ensuring as much flexibility as possible to change approaches along the way and by regular reviews of the portfolio. Adaptation will involve portfolio-level adjustments, such as adding/removing engagements, adjusting engagements objectives/outcomes, adjusting budget allocations, and/or adding resources such as technical assistance, reviews, studies, or other as well as overall dialogue with partners. An annual light, overall portfolio review will be undertaken by the Kenya Task Force, led by the Embassy in Nairobi.

Sustainability and transition. Cooperation will be designed to contribute to strengthened capacity and a more solid financial base to ensure long-term sustainable results. This holds true for both government and non-government partners. Denmark’s support to capacity development will be demand-driven, based on local ownership and should facilitate accountability. A particular aspect will be to strengthen the conditions for domestic resource mobilization.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK DENMARK-KENYA PARTNERSHIP 2021-2025

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