NaMSIP building a sustainable future for Nairobi Metropolis

In line with Metro 2030 strategy that is anchored in Vision 2030, Kenya's development blueprint, the Government is undertaking several projects to transform Nairobi Metropolitan Region (NMR) into a sustainable “world-class African metropolis” that is safe, secure and prosperous. The five counties within the metropolis are: Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado, Machakos and Muranga. The development of the Nairobi Metropolitan Region is a pilot plan for the growth of the other five metropolitan areas in the country, namely: Mombasa, Kisumu-Kakamega, Nakuru-ElOdoet, Wajir-Garissa-Mandera, Kitui-Mwingi-Meru. The Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development is implementing the New Urban Agenda and the National Urban Development Policy by investing in high impact housing and urban development projects. The projects seek to address transport, public health and sanitation, urban welfare and environmental concerns. These initiatives are projected to make Nairobi an attractive city of choice for investors through improved transportation, travel and business growth. One of the initiatives in the Nairobi Metropolitan Services Improvement Project (NaMSIP). This is a flagship project to promote orderly urbanisation by focusing on land-use planning, infrastructure development, solid and liquid waste management, strategic roads, green spaces, markets and other urban facilities.

NaMSIP aims to transform the Nairobi Metropolis once all the planned projects are completed. We believe the Governments transformation agenda is on course.

Major works under NaMSIP

- **Spatial Planning**
  NaMSIP has financed the preparation of land-use plans for the areas surrounding railway stations. The plans include public infrastructure required to provide access to the stations by cars, buses, motorcyles, bicycles, and pedestrians, as well as residential and business growth in the surrounding areas.

  The planning has integrated formal and informal activities, such as the construction of bus and matatu parks, modern markets, pedestrian walkways, street and high mast lights for safety and security, and construction and rehabilitation 33 commuter railway stations.

  NaMSIP’s planning has also taken into account the future requirements in housing and transport, environmental conservation and health and safety for the Nairobi Metropolitan residents.

- **Markets**
  NaMSIP plans to construct 15 modern markets within four counties in the metropolis as follows: Four in Nairobi County; seven in Kiambu County; three in Kajiado County; and one in Machakos County.

  Eight out of the 15 markets are already in the preparation stage, with the construction of Kikua in Kiambu County and Mvarioro and Karanadini markets in Nairobi County set to take off this month.

- **Solid Waste Management**
  Waste management is one of the biggest problems the country is facing. Some of the wastes produced within the metropolis find their way into uncontrolled dumpsites, while the rest go uncollected, blocking drainage systems and contributing to periodic flooding.

  To address the concern, the State Department of Housing and Urban Development, in consultation with the County Government of Muranga, proposed the construction of a modern sanitary landfill at Mitubiri in Muranga County at a cost of about Ksh1.1 billion. A sanitary landfill is different from an open dumpsite. This facility for solid waste disposal is trading hours, which will improve the livelihood of the metropolis residents.

- **Streets and Security Lighting**
  Under the Local Basic Infrastructure and Services component, NaMSIP has erected 495 streetlights and 178 high mast security floodlights within the five counties. This investment has contributed to improved security and safety, in addition to increasing access to the stations by cars, buses, motorcycles, and parking spaces. Each market will accommodate 150-200 trading hours, which will improve the livelihood of the metropolis residents.

To date, 18 projects have been completed with many others at 70 percent completion. It is evident that the projects have already registered a number of social and economic impacts.

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**STATEMENT BY THE CABINET SECRETARY**

Dr. James W. Macharia, EGH

In May 2012, the National Government and the World Bank entered into a $330 million to finance NaMSIP, with the National Government. The project was started in December 2012. The initial completion date was initially June 2017, but was extended to May 2019.

The objective of the project is to strengthen urban services and infrastructure in the Nairobi metropolitan Region. NaMSIP is implemented under the State Department of Housing and Urban Development in consultation with the five counties within the metropolis and other key players, including the Athi Water Services Board and Kenya Railways Corporation.

The project brings together international and national experts who work closely for its smooth execution. NaMSIP’s core business is to improve the quality of life for the Nairobi Metropolitan residents and ensure that services to Nairobi residents and those in the metropolitan region.

NaMSIP has over 120 sub-projects within the five metropolitan counties. They include spatial planning, construction of roads, rehabilitation and construction of commuter railway stations, sewerage systems and storm water drains, solid waste management, street and security lighting, disaster and emergency preparedness, and construction of modern markets.

NaMSIP is clustered into four components:
- Institutional Reform and Planning
- Local Basic Infrastructure and Services
- Large Infrastructure
- Monitoring and Evaluation.

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**STATEMENT BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Arch. Aidah N. Munano, CBS

STATEMENT BY THE NaMSIP PROJECT COORDINATOR

Eng. Benjamin K. Njenga

NaMSIP delivers both short and long-term social-economic benefits to Nairobi residents and those in the metropolitan region. NaMSIP has over 120 sub-projects within the five metropolitan counties. They include spatial planning, construction of roads, rehabilitation and construction of commuter railway stations, sewerage systems and storm water drains, solid waste management, street and security lighting, disaster and emergency preparedness, and construction of modern markets.

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NEW SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVES LIFE IN RUIRU

For years, travellers along the Nairobi-Thika superhighway which cuts across Ruiru town were welcomed into the town by a foul smell emanating from various sections within the town. The smell, according to the residents was a result of raw waste flowing in open drainages across the town.

In fact, in 2013, there was a protracted court case between Ruiru-Juja Water Sewerage Company (RUJWASCO) and public health officials. RUJWASCO was accused of environmental pollution due to the overflow of raw sewage which posed a health hazard to the general public.

However, the once filthy drainages are a thing of the past following the construction of 57 kilometre trunk sewer and treatment plant by NaMSIP at a cost of Ksh.2.4 billion. The phase two of this project is the Kshs 3.3 billion Juja sewerage system which is due for completion in June 2018. The project is designed to improve sanitation and hygiene in Ruiru and Juja areas. It is expected to benefit over 10,000 people living in and within Ruiru town and its environs.

Some of the fire engines at a Nairobi fire sub-station.

Plainview Nursing home in Ruiru, a beneficiary of the new sewer system.

In addition, 180 firemen have been trained and are already supporting in fire emergencies.

Immproved businesses due the construction Of Konza - Machakos - Tala - Kagundo Roads.

Ruira sewer system.

A section of Konza-Katumani-Machakos road.

Framed works under NaMSIP

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engineered, designed, constructed and operated in a manner that minimises impacts on public health and the environment.

A feasibility study was conducted on the 50-acre parcel of land at Mitubiri and suitability for sanitary landfill development was confirmed.

Construction of the Mitubiri sanitary landfill is set to begin after stakeholders’ consultations and completion of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). The sanitary landfill is designed and will be managed in accordance with NEMA standards.

• Metropolitan Roads Infrastructure

The transport component involves construction and rehabilitation of roads and planning for infrastructure to improve connectivity between the metropolitan’s urban centres. To date, 22km of access roads to railway stations in Ruiru, Thika, Kikuyu, Limuru and Imara Daima have been completed. Other ongoing projects comprise of 120km of road network, including Juja Circuit Road and the Ksh4.3 billion Konza-Machakos-Tala-Kagundo road.

Investment in transport has improved connectivity between the five counties of Machakos, Nairobi, Kajiado, Kiambu and Murang’a. It has facilitated trade through greater mobility of people and goods and has also increased accessibility to public services and created employment.

• Sewerage

The Nairobi Metropolitan Region is faced with inadequate sewer and storm water drainage infrastructure and utilities. To resolve this issue, the Ruiru Severege project comprising a 56km trunk sewer line and sewer treatment plants were constructed. The phase II of the project is the Kshs3.3 billion Juja sewerage system which is due for completion in June 2018.

The project is designed to improve sanitation and hygiene in Ruiru and Juja areas. It is expected to benefit over 10,000 people living in and within Ruiru town and its environs.

• Disaster & Emergency Preparedness

Improvement of services in the metropolis cannot be complete without support towards fire disaster and emergency preparedness. NaMSIP has assisted the five counties with seven 5,000-litre and six 10,000-litre fire-fighting engines, three 10,000-litre water bowsers, two rapid intervention vehicles and 15 all-terrain vehicles.

In addition, 180 firemen have been trained and are already supporting in fire emergencies.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

NAIROBI METROPOLITAN SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (NaMSIP)

Major works under NaMSIP

The project is designed to improve sanitation and hygiene and reduce water borne diseases within the Nairobi Metropolis.

Some of the areas covered by the Ruiru sewerage system are Ruiru CBD, Membley, Kihunguro, Gitambaya, parts of Mureria and Mugutha. Since its completion of the sewer system one year ago, RUJWASCO has made about 300 connections with 10,000 connections targeted in the next five years.

The system’s aerobic waste water treatment plant has the capacity to process over 10,500 cubic meters daily. Previously, parts of the town were connected to decentralized septic tanks placed in various parts of the town with only a limited number of households connected.

According to Mr. Willie Kimani of RUJWASCO, residents who were not connected to the decentralized septic tanks were expected to make their own arrangements for waste water disposal. “Most people would use exhauster trucks to empty their septic tanks which is a very costly and unhygienic affair.” He says.

Among the beneficiaries of the sewerage project is the Plainsview Nursing Home, a hospital with a 70 bed inpatient capacity that also attends to about 200 outpatients daily.

“As a hospital we use a lot of water in our operations. Disposing liquid waste water and sewage was a major challenge for us.” Says Dr. Jane Ikonya, a director at the hospital.

The sewerage system has saved us money and helped us to operate more efficiently without worrying about sewage disposal.” She adds.

Dr. Ikonya foresees a decline in cases of waterborne diseases in Ruiru. “With proper sanitation and hygiene, you can only expect a healthy population. We appreciate the National Government and the World Bank for making this global vision a reality for us.” She says.

Currently RUJWASCO is in the process of constructing tertiary sewer lines connected to the main system to enable as many households as possible get connected to the sewerage system.

The government recently announced that it is undertaking the construction of several sewerage systems around the country to improve sanitation, a concern that has been blamed for the frequent cholera outbreaks.