



Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry  
State Department for Industry

# CAIPS FOCUS

## County Industrial Parks Drive Value Addition, Jobs



MARCH, 2026



# From the Principal Secretary's Desk

*Dr. Juma Mukhwana,  
Principal Secretary, State Department for Industry*

**K**enya's development blueprint, the Kenya Vision 2030, aims to transform the country into a newly industrializing, middle-income

nation providing a high quality of life to all its citizens in a clean and secure environment. In pursuit of this vision, the Government has prioritized industrialization, value addition, and strengthening of linkages between agriculture and manufacturing as key drivers of economic transformation.

The Government's commitment under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) recognizes the significant role played by the agriculture and manufacturing sectors in income generation, job creation, poverty reduction, and foreign exchange earnings.

The agenda also aims to promote the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by creating an enabling environment that supports value addition and enterprise development.

In line with these priorities, the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry seeks to increase the contribution of the manufacturing sector to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 7.6 percent in 2023 to 15 percent by 2027 and further to 20 percent by 2030.

Achieving this target requires strengthening industrial infrastructure and promoting investments that support processing and value addition of locally produced raw materials.

To support this agenda, the Government introduced the County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPs) Programme, a flagship initiative aimed at establishing industrial parks in counties to facilitate aggregation, processing, storage, and value addition of agricultural and other locally available resources.

The programme seeks to reduce post-harvest losses, strengthen value chains, promote agro-processing industries, and enhance incomes for farmers and small enterprises.

The implementation of the CAIPs Programme is a collaborative initiative between the National Government and County Governments.



*Kiambu County Aggregation and Industrial Park at Githunguri stands at 75% completion. The CAIP will focus on coffee, dairy and pineapple for value addition.*

# Central CAIPs: a New Agro-Industrial Powerhouse



*Kirinyaga County Aggregation and Industrial Park nears completion./Anne Sabuni*

**C**entral Kenya is rapidly emerging as Kenya's new agro-industrial growth corridor as

County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPs) move from construction to operationalization.

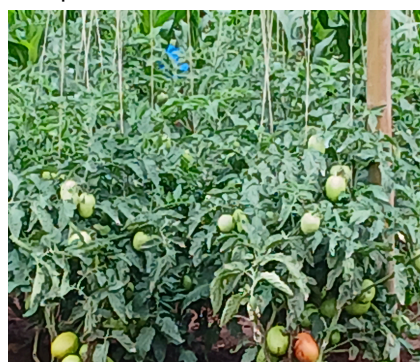
Efforts have shifted from exporting raw produce to building structured aggregation, processing and value-addition hubs designed to increase farmer incomes and stimulate rural industry, as envisaged by the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Leading the pack is Meru County, whose CAIP stands at 98.99 per cent complete and is scheduled for launch in mid-March. Constructed at a cost of KSh 492 million, jointly financed by the National and County governments, the project's eight warehouses will serve as cold storage, processing hubs, and storage facilities for macadamia, banana, avocado, and miraa, among other crops grown in the region.

County Executive Committee Member for Trade Rev. Caroline Kaberia, who received the monitoring and evaluation team, noted that the Meru County Investment and Development Corporation had been established to manage the facility,

"We have called on investors to express interest, though we already have some like NutriNuts and Fruits Company, whose onboarding is at an advanced stage. The company has been mobilizing macadamia from cooperatives and farmer groups and will start processing as soon as it finishes the installation of machines that are already in the country," noted Kaberia.

Closely following Meru is Kirinyaga County, where the CAIP in Kariti Ward, Sagana, is 86 per cent complete.



As a Phase One county, Kirinyaga received full counterpart funding, including KSh 250 million from the National Government, enabling accelerated implementation and strong intergovernmental coordination.

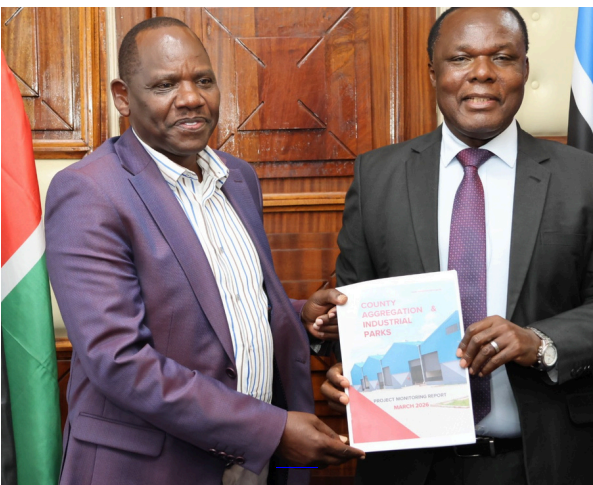
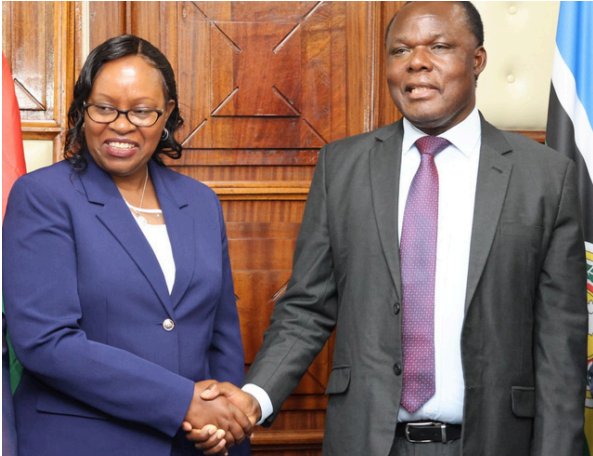
Investor confidence has been remarkable, with 59 investors expressing interest in the park's eight warehouses. The high demand has prompted expansion, with two additional industrial sheds under construction, a clear indication that the private sector sees commercial value in county-based agro-processing.

"This is a one stop shop for both local and foreign investors seeking aggregation and processing of tomatoes, avocado, coffee and macadamia" added Calbert Njeru, the CECM for Trade in the county, noting that the Sagana Industrial Hub that also hosted the Special Economic Zone, was a game changer for the county

Kiambu County remains an early benchmark for rollout efficiency. Benefiting from timely funding and proximity to Nairobi markets, Kiambu's CAIP supports strong dairy, avocado and horticulture value chains. Once operational, the industries are expected to absorb up ward of 50, 000 in jobs in addition to other livelihoods supported across the value chains.

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# MITI, CoG, EACC PARTNER FOR COMPLIANCE MONITORING OF CAIPS



Industry PS Dr. Juma Mukhwana With EACC Vice chair Dr. Monica Muiru and Uasin Gishu Governor Johnathan Bii during the official launch of compliance monitoring

The Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, in partnership with the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the Council of Governors and County Governments, has launched a compliance monitoring exercise on the development and implementation of the County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPs) Programme.

The compliance monitoring exercise will be undertaken by a multidisciplinary EACC team tasked with assessing procurement processes, financial management, governance structures, and overall project implementation. The review will also identify potential weaknesses that may expose the programme to corruption risks and provide recommendations to strengthen institutional systems and controls.

The initiative aims to strengthen transparency, accountability and proper utilization of public resources committed to the programme, which is a key intervention in advancing Kenya's industrialization agenda.

The County Aggregation and Industrial Parks Programme is designed to accelerate agro-processing by facilitating aggregation, storage, processing and value addition of agricultural produce at the county level. The programme supports Kenya's development blueprint, Vision 2030, and aligns with the Government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which prioritises agriculture and manufacturing as drivers of economic growth, job creation and increased export earnings.

# Central CAIPs: a New Agro-Industrial Powerhouse



information on available quantities,” Murang’a Deputy Governor David Munania remarked.

The parks are intended to serve as hubs for agricultural aggregation, storage, sorting, processing and light manufacturing. By strengthening linkages between farmers, agro-processors, markets and exporters, CAIPs reduce reliance on middlemen and create structured market systems that offer farmers more predictable pricing and demand.



Cold storage, grading centres and modern warehouses are expected to significantly cut post-harvest losses, which have historically eroded farmer earnings. Through value addition — whether processing tomatoes into paste, macadamia into packaged nuts, milk into dairy products or potatoes into branded products — counties can enhance competitiveness in domestic and export markets.

..continued from page 3

Embu county, too, has its CAIP at Machanga at its final stages. Already an investor has moved in to take up spaces for wood products, with a number expressing interest in mangoes, green grams and avocado. “We are committed to see the project move to the operationalization stage as this is the ultimate point where our farmers will benefit more. We have an investors conference planned later this year to bring together interested parties to see how they can synergize towards full operation,”

Meanwhile, Nyeri County (coffee, tea, dairy, potatoes), Nyandarua County (potatoes, cabbage, peas), Murang’a County (avocado, coffee) and Laikipia County (beef, maize, horticulture) are at varying stages of development, reflecting both agricultural strength and value addition potentials.

At their core, CAIPs are designed to raise manufacturing’s contribution to GDP , a key national target under Kenya’s Vision 2030, by anchoring agro-processing within counties. Instead of exporting raw coffee, macadamia, potatoes or milk, counties will increasingly process, package and brand products locally, capturing greater value within their economies. This will also enhance traceability of products, allowing consumers to appreciate the diverse endowment that Kenyan products have.

“We are looking forward to a situation where these CAIPs are networked with data on volumes available for processing and sale, available to investors seeking Kenyan products. This will create an ecosystem where off-takers will easily access



# Strengthening Agro-Industrialization Through Value Chain

By Gloria Gicheru



The Western region counties are also working together with regions in the Lake Region Economic Bloc(LREB) umbrella to enhance sustainable production of the raw materials, enhance trade and market expansion, harmonization of trade policies and strengthen social stewardship.

The Bottom- Up Economic Agenda (BETA) prioritizes agriculture and manufacturing as drivers of economic growth, job creation and increased export earnings as envisioned in Kenya's development blue print, Vision 2030.

This ambitious vision is what birthed the County Aggregation & Industrial Parks, (CAIPS) programme. Envisioned to accelerate agro-processing, the programme targets facilitating aggregation, storage and value addition of agricultural produce at the county level using the unique raw materials that are specifically grown in the specific county. The joint effort between the county and national government, is geared towards transforming agriculture to an economic giant.

To achieve maximum profits and sustainability, the value chain approach has been identified as the most ideal. Lets focus on the Western Block, that covers Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Vihiga, Trans Nzoia counties and parts of Nyanza region.

The value chain-driven approach has emerged as a promising strategy owing to the region's strong agricultural base.

Key produce targetted to value addition includ: rice, cotton, sunflower, coffee, avocado, poultry, fish, and indigenou vegetables.

The CAIPS therefore, will reinforce grading, sorting, storage, and bulking of produce. This will ensure that raw materials supplied to industrial parks meet the quality standards required for processing and export. This approach is designed to reduce the distance from the farm to the park thus reducing post-harvest losses and reducing transportation costs.

Most of the industrial parks are located within the counties or border other counties thus making it easier to coordinate all activities including planting, harvesting, sorting and grading before the raw materials are taken to the parks for value addition.



To keep enhancing production, the farmers are working closely with the County agricultural extension officers to ensure the right quality seeds are given and also guide the farmers on pesticides to ensure all the products met international standards.



# Kwale eyes TZ in cross Boarder Trade



*A standard warehouse measuring ...ft by ...ft. The plug and play facilities are available across 34 counties, all standardized with cold rooms, value addition warehouses and ample parking.*

By Theuri Mwangi

**C**ross-border trade between Kenya and Tanzania is set to increase with the completion of the Kwale CAIPS, located in Mwananyamala, a few kilometers from the Tanzanian border. For years, locals have been selling their produce to the neighboring country due to lack of investors to buy their products and poor prices in Kenya. This has led to the loss of taxes and slowed growth in the area's economy. This challenge will be solved by the completion of the CAIPS project which is currently 60 percent complete.



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Kwale County located in the Coastal side of Kenya, majorly produces cassava, tomatoes, chillies, cashew-nuts and green - grams. With the completion of the CAIPS project, these products will get value addition and production of commodisites such as tomatoes and chillie sauces and packed cashew-nits will now be possible through investors setting mup their manufacturing plants in the CAIPS. This will in turn improve the livelihoods of the farmers and locals who will be employed in the CAIPS which is currently 60 percent complete.

With a population of 870, 000 people, many of whom are small-scale farmers, their lives will be positively impacted by the completion of the CAIPS, through the growth of local manufacturing spurred by their value chains.

Amongst the leading counties in the construction of the CAIPS is Garissa. The county which hosts a population of 842, 000 people according to the most recent census, is focusing on value chains which include: camel milk and meat, livestock products processing, rice, tomatoes, sunflower, hides and skins. The vale chains were given the highest priority since livestock production is the most practiced economic activity in the county. For the agricultural produce, despite the arid nature of the land, crops such as tomatoes, rice and sunflower are favored by the presence of Tana River which acts as a source af water throughout the year, Small-scale investors who include farmers and livestock keepers have already started showing interest in setting up business in the CAIPS due to the economies of scale that it provides such as cold storage and the value addition warehouses that are already set up awaiting operationalization.



# Moyale Strategic for Ethiopia's Raw Materials

By Anne Sabuni

Huge tracks meet us on our way to Marsabit County's Aggregation and Industrial Park in Moyale town. Their cargo, livestock. Goats, cattle and camel taking a junk of the consignments seeking markets in Nairobi.

The locals, who are mainly pastoralists, rely on livestock keeping to eke a living. Popularly for the rich market for beef and other meat products, their large herds traverse the largest county in the country, in search for pasture and water, given the semiarid conditions.

"Our focus is on value addition to red meat that is our gold here in Marsabit. Fish too, stands as a strategic value chain for us, as 70 percent of Lake Turkana is in our county and therefore residents here, also, practise fishing," said County Commissioner James Kamau.

The LAPSET corridor has offered the county a strategic position to reap from cereals that are heavily drawn from Ethiopia. These too are a target for value addition at the CAIP in Moyale town, 12KM from Moyale One-stop Border Post

The CAIP, he said will benefit the farmers in Sololo area, who practised large scale farming of maize, beans and wheat, in addition to cattle raring.

Chief Officer for Trade, Mohamed Dida, added that the CAIP that was located next to the Marsabit Moyale highway, will be completed by end of the year, to pave the way for operationalization.

"Ethiopia has an established leather industry, that we anticipate to reap big from spill over of investors seeking more spaces for tannaries," said Dida.



# CAIPS for Employment Creation and Inclusive Growth



By Cecilia Mwanja

**R**ift Valley region continues to distinguish itself as a critical pillar in Kenya's industrialization journey, particularly under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). Historically recognized as the country's agricultural heartland, the region is now undergoing a deliberate and strategic transition towards agro-industrialization, anchored on rural manufacturing, value addition, and inclusive economic development.

Spanning a vast geographical landscape from the lowlands of Turkana County, Baringo County, Narok County, and Kajiado County to the highlands of Uasin Gishu County, Nandi County, Kericho County, Bomet County, and Elgeyo Marakwet County the Rift Valley holds immense agricultural and economic potential. The region supports a wide range of agricultural activities including cereals production, dairy farming, tea and coffee cultivation, horticulture, and livestock rearing. It is within this context that the Government has prioritized the establishment of rural-based industrial infrastructure through the County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPs), as a means of unlocking value and enhancing productivity.

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Rural manufacturing is emerging as a significant source of employment across the Rift Valley, contributing directly to the realization of inclusive growth objectives under the BETA agenda. The establishment of aggregation centres, agro-processing facilities, and industrial parks has created a wide spectrum of employment opportunities at the county and sub-county levels.

Direct employment is being generated within processing plants, warehouses, and industrial facilities, while indirect employment opportunities



are expanding across transport, logistics, equipment maintenance, packaging, and retail services. Notably, these opportunities are increasingly accessible to youth and women, thereby addressing longstanding challenges of unemployment and underemployment at the grassroots.

In key urban nodes such as Eldoret and Nakuru, industrial expansion is creating a ripple effect across surrounding rural areas, with employment opportunities extending beyond urban boundaries. This localized job creation is reducing the need for rural-urban migration, particularly to Nairobi, and is contributing to balanced regional development.

The transformation of the Rift Valley is fundamentally anchored on the strengthening of agricultural value chains. The region's diverse agricultural output including maize, wheat, potatoes, tea, coffee, dairy products, fruits, and vegetable provides a strong foundation for agro-processing and industrial growth.

Through targeted interventions, the Government is promoting value addition at source, ensuring that raw agricultural produce is processed into higher-value goods within the region. This approach is yielding multiple benefits, including increased farmer incomes, reduced post-harvest losses, enhanced product quality, and improved access to both domestic and international markets.

Counties such as Trans Nzoia County and Uasin Gishu County are increasingly transitioning from primary producers of maize and wheat to key centres for grain processing and animal feed production. Similarly, Kericho County and Bomet County continue to strengthen tea and dairy value chains, while Nakuru County is expanding its footprint in horticulture and dairy processing.

This shift towards value addition is positioning the Rift Valley as a competitive agro-industrial hub, capable of meeting both regional and global market demands.

# Sagana Agro-Industrial Park in Kirinyaga nears completion

By KNA

Construction of the County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP) in Kirinyaga is nearing completion, marking a significant mile stone in the county's efforts to become a regional hub for agro-processing and industrial development.

The facility, located in the Sagana Agro-Industrial suburb—a designated Special Economic Zone (SEZ)—will play a key role in supporting value addition, strengthening agricultural value chains, and creating employment opportunities. Currently, eight warehouses are under construction, with 86 percent of the work completed. These include two cold storage warehouses, two aggregation warehouses, and four value-addition warehouses, reflecting steady progress toward the facility's full operationalization. Speaking in Kariti Ward, Ndia Constituency, where the project is domiciled, Kirinyaga County Governor Anne Waiguru, said the project is projected to create massive job opportunities, especially for youth and women, once investors begin operations.

She noted that the Industrial Park will provide farmers with a structured system for aggregating produce, preserving it through modern cold storage facilities and channelling it into value addition industries within the Park.



“Those who grow avocados will have a place to supply their produce, as we will have an avocado oil factory. Those cultivating tomatoes will have their tomatoes processed into tomato paste. Those will be more than 100,000 indirect jobs, while more than 10,000 direct jobs will go to our youth and women in Kirinyaga,” she stressed. Waiguru said the project is one of the county's flagship economic transformation initiatives and will play a central role in strengthening Kirinyaga's agricultural economy.



*Kirinyaga County Executive Committee  
Member for Trade Calbert Njeru*





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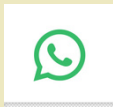
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