# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI



# THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

# SECOND ASSEMBLY – (SECOND SESSION)

# COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND MINERAL INVESTMENTS DEVELOPMENT

REPORT ON THE BENCHMARKING EXERCISE ON SAND HARVESTING AND CLIMATE CHANGE MAINSTREAMING IN MAKUENI AND KAJIADO COUNTIES

Clerks Chambers, County Assembly Buildings, Kitui, Kenya. December, 2018

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### ABBREVIATIONS

- **CECM -** County Executive Committee Member
- WRUA Water Resource User Association
- EMCA Environmental Management and Coordination Act
- EIA Environment Impact Assessment
- **CCCF** County Climate Change Fund
- WCCPC Ward Climate Change Planning Committee

#### 1. PREFACE

**Mr. Speaker,** pursuant to Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, and Section 8 of the County Government's Act, the County Assembly of Kitui has the mandate to conduct; Legislative, Oversight, and Approval functions on behalf of the County Government of Kitui.

**Mr. Speaker,** Article 185(4) (a) of the Constitution further elaborates that a County Assembly may receive and approve plans and policies for the management and exploitation of County Resources.

**Mr. Speaker,** the Climate Change Act, 2016 section 19 (1) requires county Governments in Kenya to mainstream issues of climate change adaptation and mitigation in their plans and policies. The County Government of Kitui working with the Civil Society organizations (CSOS) and development partners is already implementing a couple of community change projects in the County.

**Mr. Speaker,** the County Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources is spearheading the process to mitigate climate change and also rebuild resilience among the communities of Kitui County. Some of the projects towards compacting

climate change the county ministry is doing include tree growing programme and awareness creation on environmental conservation working towards adaptation. The ministry through the stakeholders have developed the Kitui County Climate Change Fund (KCCCF) Regulations to provide guidance on activities and funds appropriated for climate change.

Mr. Speaker, aware that there are pertinent issues and disputes surrounding the Management and Exploitation of Natural resources in our County, the Committee on Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments Development constituted by this honorable house was concerned with the nature of these issues and disputes. The committee under Standing Order 190 (5) as well as the Second Schedule is given mandate to investigate and inquire into all matters related to Environment and Natural resources, so as to:

- 1. Develop Policies on Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation,
- 2. Create awareness on issues relating to Natural Resources exploitation

**Mr. Speaker**, further Aware that there are crosscutting features between the mandates of this Committee, and the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation, and in the spirit of the above concerns, this committee saw purpose to visit Makueni and Kajiado Counties who have successfully implemented the sand harvesting Acts and other Regulations to learn and develop some general awareness on sand conservation and utilization , as well as to share experiences and challenges associated with sand harvesting activities.

#### i) <u>Committee Membership</u>

**Mr. Speaker**, the committee on Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments Development is comprised of the following members;

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1. Hon. Jacob Mbaya Kavolonza Musyoka	-Chairperson
2. Hon. James Mbuvi Wangunze Kula	-Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. James Mutunga Munuve	-Member
4. Hon. Alex Mutambu Nganga	-Member
5. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili	-Member
6. Hon. Alex Wambua Mwangangi	-Member
7. Hon. Johnson Kanandu	-Member
8. Hon. Beatrice Velesi Musyoka	-Member
9. Hon. Grace Mwikali Sammy	-Member
10. Hon. Baridi Felix Mbevo	-Member
11. Hon. Waziri Bakari Baraka	-Member

#### ii) <u>Committee's Mandate</u>

**Mr. Speaker**, Standing Order 190(1) establishes for every County Assembly, Sectoral Committees with specific mandates. Under Standing Order 190 (5), the Sectoral Committees are charged with the distinct responsibilities which include;

### To;

- investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- study the program and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- iii) study and review all county legislations referred to it;
- iv) study, assess and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;

- v) investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- vi) to vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order185 (Committee on Appointments) ; and
- vii) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the committee visited five areas during this exercise:

- Round table meeting with the CECM, Environment (Makueni County)
- The Masue Water Rock Catchment (Climate Change Management)
- Courtesy call to the CECM, Environment (Kajiado County)

Mr. Speaker, This is a report of the committee's deliberations and findings on the same.

#### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**Mr. Speaker,** the Committee extends its appreciation to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support accorded to it in the execution of its mandate and the opportunity accorded to its Members to undertake the benchmarking.

**Mr. Speaker,** the Committee also wishes to extend its gratitude to, H.E The Makueni County Governor Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, the Deputy Governor Ms. Adelina Mwau and Makueni County Executive Member for Environment Mr. Robbert Kasyula and other Ministry Officials, The Makueni County Assembly Committee on Environment Chairperson Hon. Eng. Tom Nguli and the Makueni County Assembly Committee on Environment Members, The Kajiado County Executive Committee Member for Environment Ms. Florence Waiganjo and the Kajiado County Ministry of Environment officials in ensuring that the objectives of this benchmarking were met.

## 3. AUTHENTIFICATION

**Mr. Speaker**, on behalf of members of the Environment, Energy, and Mineral Investments Development Committee, I wish to present to the House the report on the benchmarking exercise on sand harvesting and climate change mainstreaming in Makueni and Kajiado counties, for further consideration and subsequent adoption by the House.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_ Hon. Jacob Mbaya Kavolonza Musyoka Chairperson, Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments Development

### 4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Mr. Speaker,** This report documents activities relating to benchmarking exercise by the Committee On Environment, Energy and Mineral investments Development in Makueni and Kajiado Counties from 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.

**Mr. Speaker,** The introduction of this report gives a legal background and the objectives that steered the committee to undertake these activities. The acknowledgement thanks the County Assembly of Kitui for their support and extends gratitude to respondents at the ground.

**Mr. Speaker,** The first part of the report documents activities undertaken by the committee. Being led by the able chairperson Hon. Jacob Mbaya Kavolonza Musyoka (Member for Mui ward), the committee held a series of meetings with several respondents at the ground, including the Makueni County office of the Governor, the Office of the County Executive Committee member for Environment, the Kajiado County Ministry of Environment offices and several sites on the ground.

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**Mr. Speaker,** The second part of this report contains Committee general observations, conclusion and recommendations on matters concerning sand harvesting and climate change mainstreaming.

# 5. COMMITTEE FINDINGS IN MAKUENI AND KAJIADO

# 5.1 <u>ROUNDTABLE MEETING WITH THE CECM, ENVIRONMENT (MAKUENI</u> <u>COUNTY)</u>

**Mr. Speaker Sir,** the Committee conducted a briefing and latter a discussion with the CEC, Environment for Makueni County with other Ministry Officials at Hotel Le Panda, in Wote Town. During this meeting the Committee the Makueni County Ministry Official shared their success story on sand conservation and utilization and climate change adaptation.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,** according to Robert Kasyula the CECM, Environment, Agriculture and Irrigation, the ministry has achieved the implementation of the Sand Harvesting and Utilization Act, 2015 and some project on climate change mainstreaming.



Roundtable meeting with the CECM, Environment – Makueni County



Round table meeting with the Governor and the Deputy Governor, Makueni County

# 5.2 <u>REPORT ON THE MAKUENI COUNTY SAND HARVESTING AND</u> <u>UTILIZATION ACT, 2015</u>

**Mr. Speaker,** The objective and purpose of this Act is to provide a legal framework for sand utilization, i.e. the removal, extraction, harvesting or scooping of sand from sites. It establishes the Makueni County Sand Conservation and Utilization

Authority and defines its functions and powers. It also establishes a County Sand Conservation Fund and requires the Authority to establish Sub-County Sand Management Committees in every Sub County. Committees, among other things, ensure that sand utilization sites are rehabilitated appropriately by the Sand Resource Utilization Association and ensure that the requirements of an environmental impact assessment and environmental audit pursuant to the Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act of 1999 have been fulfilled before sand utilization is allowed. The Authority promotes the sustainable use of sand by, among other things, measuring the value of unexploited sand and other related resources in terms of watershed protection. Sand utilization from any riverbed is undertaken in a manner that allows adequate reserve of the sand is retained to ensure water retention.

#### The County Sand Conservation and utilization Authority

**Mr. Speaker,** The County Sand Conservation and Utilization Authority is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal. The object and purpose for which the Authority is established is to exercise general supervision and coordination over all matters relating to sand conservation and utilization and to be the principal instrument of the County Government in the implementation of all policies relating to sand as a natural resource. In its corporate name, is capable of;

(a) Suing and being sued;

(b) Taking, purchasing, charging and disposing of movable and immovable property;

### (c) Borrowing money

## (d) Entering into contracts; and

(e) Doing or performing all such other things or acts for the proper administration of the Act, which may be lawfully be performed by a body corporate.

## The main functions of the Authority are to;

(a) coordinate the various sand management activities undertaken by agencies and promote the integration of sand related environmental consideration into development policies, plans, programmes and projects with a view to ensuring the conservation and rational utilization of the resource on a sustainable yield basis for the improvement of the quality of human life in the

County

(b) Establish and review in consultation with the relevant agencies, sand conservation and utilization guidelines;

(c) Undertake and co-ordinate research, investigation and surveys in the field of Sand Conservation and utilization, and collect, collate and disseminate information about the findings of such research, investigation or survey;

(d) Monitor and assess activities, including activities being carried out by relevant agencies, in order to ensure that the environment is not degraded by such activities, Sand conservation objectives are adhered to and adequate early warning on impending sand related environmental emergencies is given.

(e) Mobilize and monitor the use of financial and human resources for sand conservation and utilization management

(f) Oversee and supervise the Sub-County Committee and WRUAs to ensure that the activities they undertake and or allow to be undertaken in sand utilization conforms to the conservation objectives of the Authority and this Act; (g) Provide technical assistance to the Sub-County Committees and WRUAs as and when is necessary to ensure effective management of Sand utilization and conservation of sites;

(h) Ensure that before sand utilization activities are commenced, Environmental Impact Assessment is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of EMCA, 1999;
(i) Recommend to the Executive Committee Member sites that need conservation, formulate regulations for gazettement by the Executive Committee Member on sand utilization and conservation taking into consideration the policies and legislations of both the County Government and National Government;

(k) Ensure rehabilitation of the sand harvested sites and other environmental damage associated with harvesting and transportation of sand within the County.

### Composition of the Authority.

**Mr. Speaker,** the Authority consists of a board responsible for governance and a secretariat headed by a Managing Director responsible for the day today execution of the affairs of the authority.

The board consists of-

(a) A Chairperson appointed by the Governor

(b) The Chief Officer of the department for the time being responsible for matters relating to the Environment or an officer of that department designated in writing by the Chief Officer.

(c) Four members, not being public officers competitively appointed

(d) One member of the County Environment Committee

(e) One representatives of WRUAs.

(f) One representative from the department of trade appointed by the Executive Committee Member in charge of trade.

(g) One representative from the department of youth, gender and social services appointed by the Executive Committee Member in charge of youth, gender and social services;

(h) The County Commissioner or his representative

(i) The Managing Director appointed competitively

**Mr. Speaker,** The Board of the Authority has powers to co-opt such members as it may deem fit from time to time.

The Managing Director heading the secretariat is appointed competitively by the Board of the Authority from among three persons shortlisted by the County Public Service Board.

The County Executive Committee Member responsible for matters of environment prescribes the terms of reference and rules of procedure for the Board of the Authority.

**Mr. Speaker,** The Board of the Authority serves for a term of three years renewable once provided that by the end of the first term one third of the members retire and new ones appointed in order to ensure continuity at the end of the second term.

The Authority elects a Vice-Chairman from among the members

The Authority meets at least four times in every financial year.

**Mr. Speaker,** The Chairman presides at every meeting of the Authority at which he is present, but in his absence the Vice-Chairman presides over, and in his absence, the members present elects one of them who, in respect to that meeting and the business transacted thereat has all the powers of the Chairman.

The members of the Authority are paid such salaries and allowances as may, from time to time, be determined by the Executive Committee Member on the recommendation of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission.

# The Sand Conservation Fund.

There is established a fund known as the County Sand Conservation Fund that consist of;

(a) Proportion of fees or deposit bonds determined by the Authority from time to time;

(b) Sums donated or levied from industries and other projects proponents as a contribution towards the Conservation Fund.

(c) The object of the Conservation Fund as supplementary insurance for the mitigation of environmental degradation where the perpetrator is not identifiable or where exceptional circumstances require the Authority to intervene towards the control or mitigation of environmental degradation.

### Sub-County Sand Management Committees

**Mr. Speaker,** The Authority establishes Sub-County Sand Management Committees in every Sub County

The membership of the Sub-County Sand Management Committees is constituted in accordance to regulations to be formulated by the Executive Committee Member The County Department in-charge of Environmental matters provides a secretariat to the Sub County Committees

**Mr. Speaker,** The Sub-County Committee serves for a term of three years renewable. It is responsible for the proper and sustainable conservation and utilization of all sand related activities within the Sub County in respect of which it is constituted.

The Sub County Sand Management Committee constitutes such number of local Sand Resource Users Associations as is necessary which are registered by the County Social Services office.

Each Sand Resource User Association so established and registered is responsible for sustainable management of sand conservation and utilization activities in its area of operation.

In establishing the Sand Resource User Associations the Committee has due regard to;

(a) Viability and sustainability of the Association

(b) Inclusion of interested groups

(c) Drainage network of the river, lakeshore or other designated sites along which sand conservation and utilization activities are carried out.

Each Sand Resource User Association is composed of;

- (a) Three riparian land owners
- (b) Two women representatives who are not riparian land owners
- (c) Two youth representatives who are not riparian land owners
- (d) One elders who are not riparian land owners
- (e) One religious leader

# Functions of the Sand Resource User Association.

The Sand Resource User Associations is charged with the following responsibilities among others

(a) Ensuring sustainable management of sand utilization along riverbeds and other designated sites.

- (b) Educating the public and or sand users on conservation and utilization of sand
- (c) Utilization of allocated revenue for community projects.

(d) Co-ordinating the rehabilitation of the sand utilization sites and other environmental damage associated with utilization and transportation within its area of operation.

(e) Perform any other functions as may be given by the Sub County Committees

## Licencing

**Mr. Speaker,** In Makueni County, no person is allowed to use, cause or permit to remove sand from any river, farm or other land whether public or private for the purposes of sale unless a valid license issued under the Sand Conservation and management Act for such trade or business.

A person intending to harvest, transport, sell and or distribute sand for commercial purposes makes an application in the prescribed fon-n to the Authority and pays the prescribed fee by the Act.

The Authority considers each application made and determine whether to issue a licence to the applicant or not within thirty days.

Where the Authority grants a licence, it publishes the grant in the County Gazette. Every licence application is accompanied by a non-refundable fee to be determined by the Authority in their guidelines.

It is important to note that, the Authority grants a licence to any person who;

(a) Proves through relevant authentic documents that he or she is of good conduct and;

(b) Is a law abiding citizen with no criminal record resulting from a conviction under this Act.

(c) Gives an undertaking that he will take full responsibility for contravention of the provisions of this Act by himself, his assignees and or his employees and;

(d) Conforms to any other condition stipulated in the licence application form or set out by the Authority in their guidelines.

### Sand utilization

Mr. Speaker, The Authority coordinates with the Sub County Committees and Sand Resource User Associations designate and gazette in the County Gazette sand utilization and conservation sites from time to time. No person is allowed to harvest sand from any area not designated as a sand utilization site by the Committee.

Each designated sand-utilization site has a management plan to guide in the rehabilitation of the sites.

On-farm sand utilization shall be carried out as follows

(a) Scooping or harvesting of sand should not exceed six (6) feet in depth.

(b) Designated sand collection sites are be at least 50 metres from the riverbanks or dykes for on farm sand harvesting.

(c) Scooping or harvesting is done concurrently with restoration of areas previously harvested. Such restoration is undertaken with guidance from the Committee.

(d) Sand harvesting on-farm is only undertaken by open-cast harvesting method and no underground tunneling or extraction of sand is be undertaken.

Loading of sand is done in the designated utilization sites through controlled access points. No sand harvesting takes place within one hundred metres of either side of any physical infrastructure including bridges, roads, railway lines, dykes, among others.

### Hours of harvest and transportation of sand

**Mr. Speaker,** Persons are allowed to harvest, extract, scoop or transport sand between the hours of 6am to 6pm.

Any person who undertakes the activity not within the specified time is liable of an offence, and is upon conviction, liable to imprisonment for a term of two years or a fine of 200,000 shillings or both.

### Registration

Mr. Speaker, The Authority registers all sand loaders, drivers and conductors working within the County as per Regulations. The Authority devises and provides identification tags which are given to each and every driver, conductor and loader which they are required to have with them throughout the time when they are undertaking such activities, performing or undertaking such tasks as licensed and or assigned to them.

The display tags and or license document is produced upon demand by the Committee or its staff or any state officer.

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**Mr. Speaker,** The Authority provides minimum pricing guidelines for sale of sand within the county, but such prices takes into consideration the requirements of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act and the market forces of the day.

Any person authorized to sell sand is required to issue a receipt to the purchaser and keep records of such receipt of payment for periodic inspection by the county revenue collector or relevant authorities.

### Mode of payment

**Mr. Speaker**, Payments from the sale of sand are made in the form of either banker's cheque or cash deposit to the Authority's bank account. Any person willing to purchase Sand makes payment upon which they are present such instrument as prove of such payment, to be allowed, approved and authorized to carry it.

### Sand transportation

**Mr. Speaker,** The Authority ensures that all Sand is transported through designated roads to gain access to the designated sites. The persons who wish to scoop/harvest and or, transport sand uses designated roads to gain access to the sand selling point or designated sites.

Any person who contravenes this provision of the Act is guilty of an offence and upon conviction, be liable to penalties as provided under the Act.

### Sharing of revenue from sale

**Mr. Speaker,** Revenue raised from the sale of sand is shared among the county, the Authority and the sand loaders in the following proportion-

(a) 50% of all revenue collected goes to the Conservation fund;

(b) 25% is given to the Authority for the day to day running of its activities;

(c) 20% goes to the County Government as revenue;

(d) 5% shall go to the local community.

## Monitoring and evaluation of the sand harvesting sites

**Mr. Speaker,** The Authority monitors the rehabilitation of all designated Sand harvesting sites and their adjacent Environment (access roads, riverbanks, catchment areas among others) to ensure environmental sustainability

# Regulations

Mr. Speaker, The County Executive Committee member responsible for environmental matters made regulations generally for the better carrying out the Provisions of the Act. These regulations provide for the —

(a) Guidelines for sand harvesting and other related activities;

(b) Criteria for determining the number of Ward Committees approve under the Act;

(c) Variation of the terms and conditions of license issued under the Act;

(d) Requirements for different types of Sand harvesting;

- (e) Forms required under the Act;
- (f) Rehabilitation of closed sites;
- (g) Registration of sand loaders and formation of unions; and

(h) Such other matters as the as may be necessary for full implementation of the Act.



Members being taken through the Makueni County Sand Harvesting and Utilization Act, 2015

# 6.0 <u>REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECT IN MAKUENI</u> <u>COUNTY</u>

**Mr. Speaker,** According to the Chief Officer, Mary Mbenge, Makueni is a semi-arid county characterized by high rainfall variability and prolonged droughts. The county is water scarce with only 36% of the population having access to improved sources of water. The average distance to the nearest water point is estimated at 8kilometres. This is partly attributed to recurrent droughts caused by climate change, shrinking water sources as a result of encroachment on water sheds, degradation of water catchment and uncontrolled sand harvesting. The 2009 national census, put the population of Makueni at 884,527 people with an annual national population growth rate estimated at over 2% putting more pressure on the available resources.

**Mr. Speaker,** The establishment of county governments helped in devolving development, resources and decision making to the local level. The County Climate Change Fund (CCCF) mechanism piloted by the Adaptation Consortium is anchored on this principle. Through the CCCF mechanisms, communities are actively involved in the selection of investments that build their resilience to climate change, designing of investments with the help of technical officers from county government, implementing and monitoring to ensure that the investments are of high quality. Communities are also trained on Climate Information Services which informed the viability of the CCCF investments as most of them are centered on water provision. Climate information also informed agro-investments, helping communities save on losses resulting from rain failures as it adequately informed their agricultural decision thus enhancing food security.

The committee was able to visit one project that has helped the people of Mbitini Ward in kibwezi west to build resilience to climate change.

### 6.1 The Masue Water Rock Catchment

**Mr. Speaker**, The project was done by the county government in conjunction with ADS, Eastern. According to Ms. Muithya, the ADS Eastern Director, there is a community committee by the name Ward Climate Change Planning Committee who are the key stakeholders in the project as far as administration and management of the project is concerned.

**Mr. Speaker,** The committee wrote a proposal to the county government and which is was scrutinized by the sand Authority and later funded.

The committee organised for public participation and planned according to the priorities of the public.

Before the intervention, the community relied on river Muoni which dried up a few weeks after the rains were over. The rocks accelerated run offs that resulted to rampant soil erosion hence formation of big gullies and also washing away of fertile agricultural land.

After the intervention, Construction of infrastructure such as water reservoirs (tanks, water kiosks, pipeline) was done, Emergence of micro irrigation and kitchen garden farming started, Community now gets water through a draw off system i.e. agravitated water pipe from the lower part of the sand dam to the lowest side, hence is safe from contamination.



The Masue water Rock Catchment, Climate Change Resilience project



Members at the Masue Water Rock

# 7.0 COURTESY CALL TO THE CECM, ENVIRONMENT (KAJIADO COUNTY)

**Mr. Speaker,** The committee visited Kajiado County to learn more on sand harvesting and utilization. Issues concerned with sand harvesting fall under the ministry of Irrigation, Water, Environment and Natural Resources. The Committee had a round table meeting the CECM, Environment, Ms. Kanini, Director of Environment, Mr. Johnathan Ashe and Ms. Muirungi from the National Environment Management Authority, Kajiado County who shared briefly on their success story on sand harvesting and climate change.

**Mr. Speaker,** The CECM informed the members that Kajiado County has not passed a sand management act, however Kajiado County government has set new policies for the multi-million sand harvesting business in the region. All Lorries that ferry sand from the region are required to register in Saccos while business men required to be members of societies. There are more than 500,000 loaders across the region must have medical cover to be allowed to operate.

**Mr. Speaker,** Sand picking designations have been earmarked. According to the CECM, Environment, the move came after hue and cry over massive irregularities and mismanagement of the lucrative business.

**Mr. Speaker,** Lack of proper regulations had led to a lot of mismanagement. Lorries used to pick sand from undesignated points causing a lot of degradation to the environment. Overloading of Lorries was a major issue seeing sand owners lose millions-of-shillings at the expense of unscrupulous business cartels and brokers.

**Mr. Speaker,** Lorries overloaded sand up to two times the required tonnes, taking it to various destinations where they regularize to avert arrest at weigh bridges. This menace adversely affected this business to the chagrin of loaders and sand

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owners. There was also incidences of loaders, who could not meet their medical bills after getting injured.

Mr. Speaker, after various heated consultation meetings by stakeholders a policy was put in place by the government. Medical cover became mandatory. County inspectorate officers were deployed to the sand harvesting rivers where they started to work hand in hand with the rivers management committees to ensure the set regulations are adhered to.



Members paying a courtesy visit to the CECM, Environment Kajiado



The Kajiado County Sand collection point

# 8.0 CONCLUSION

In conclusion **Mr Speaker Sir**, the benchmarking exercise was a success in respect to the committee planned outcome. It's important for Kitui County create awareness on environmental protection and conservation and to come up with a legal framework to protect the environment and natural resources such as sand.

**Mr Speaker Sir**, We sincerely hope that the County Government shall not relent in this noble task of protecting the environment and implementing development projects on climate change resilience, not only in this sector, but in all other sectors like agriculture.

## 9.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

**Mr. Speaker,** The County Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources should set a new policy framework for the sand harvesting business in the County. This will help regulate sand harvesting activities before an act is passed.

**Mr. Speaker,** the Committee recommends that the County Ministry of Environment and Natural resources to formulate a bill to provide a legal framework for sand utilization, i.e. the removal, extraction, harvesting or scooping of sand from sites.

**Mr. Speaker Sir**, having the Kitui County Climate Change Fund Regulations in place, the County Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources should work faster to implement climate change adaptation projects such as construction of water reservoirs and rock water catchments in order to help people build resilience on climate change.