

**THE LAUNCH OF THE PPP PROJECTS
DISCLOSURE PORTAL**

**REMARKS BY MR. HENRY ROTICH, CABINET SECRETARY FOR THE
NATIONAL
TREASURY & PLANNING**

19TH JUNE 2018 AT INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, AT 10:00 A.M

The Head of Public Service, Dr. Joseph Kinyua, EGH

**The World Bank Country Director, Diarietou Gaye and Senior Officials
from the World Bank Group**

The Principal Secretary, National Treasury Dr. Kamau Thugge, CBS

Senior Officials from the National and the County Governments,

The Media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It is my distinguished pleasure to join you all as we officially launch the PPP Projects Disclosure Portal. The portal is an online platform through which all our stakeholders can access all Kenyan PPP data.
2. Through this Portal, citizens, investors, media, civil society, Government agencies and development partners will access information on all stages of a project: from project concepts, to feasibility study reports, including which advisory group was retained to provide Government advice on a particular project. You will also find information on project due diligence, as well as tender documentation and information on which private party bids for what project, in addition to project performance data.
3. This is our commitment under the Access to Information Act, 2016, and a demonstration of our willingness to remain accountable to the people of Kenya for the efficient utilisation of their resources for their benefit.
4. Public Private Partnerships will play a big role in the Government's development agenda as the Government seeks to roll out critical infrastructure and increase access to Government services.
5. It is fitting that we are doing this at a time when our country stands on the cusp of transformation into a sustainable middle-income economy, a vision that is heavily driven by infrastructure. Expansion of economic activity without a commensurate advancement in our human development indicators will not lead to sustainable growth. The Government is committed to achieving sustainable social transformation as a means to upscale the quality of lives for the ordinary citizens. Unless we meet our health, food security,

water, and environmental needs and fix our social and economic infrastructure we will not achieve this goal.

6. In this regard Government policy has shifted towards a more citizen centric approach to development, with a keen focus on the well-being of each and every Kenyan. This is reflected in the Government's four key strategic areas, under the Big Four Plan, which focuses on Healthcare and Nutrition, Manufacturing, Affordable Housing and Food Security.

7. PPPs will be key in enabling the Government to achieve the Big Four Plan. We are reviewing the PPP ecosystem and relooking at the PPP Act of 2013 to speed up project turnaround times.

8. In order to realize this agenda, the Government is cognizant of the fact that it will need to deploy both physical infrastructure and technical expertise across all 47 counties. This will be a capital-intensive venture that we cannot hope to finance through the national budget alone. To achieve the development agenda, we will need to partner with the private sector as highlighted in the budget statement I read on Thursday last week.

9. We hope to leverage on both private sector funds and expertise in the delivery of essential services to the public. In this regard the Government is keen on utilising PPPs to ensure projects are delivered on time and on budget, without compromising on quality.

10. The Government has identified over 70 opportunities for impactful public private partnership arrangements that span the breadth and width of this country, as you will see in this Disclosure Portal. Public private partnerships are about public infrastructure development. We place a massive level of emphasis on infrastructure development for three reasons.

- **Firstly**, in the short term, infrastructure investments create employment and expand output.
- **Secondly**, in the medium term, infrastructure investments boost the economy's overall productivity by unlocking multiplier effects.
- **Thirdly**, in the longer term, infrastructure investments on aggregate generate sufficient returns on investment to allow such investments to pay themselves off – leaving the citizens of this country as the net beneficiaries.

11. Given the importance of the projects and services to be offered under PPPs it is essential that all processes are transparent and verifiable in order to safeguard public funds. The PPP Projects Disclosure Portal will enable Kenyans track public projects implemented under the PPP model by providing critical project data at a touch of a button.

12. **Ladies and Gentlemen**, the Government remains committed to curbing waste in public expenditure and therefore welcomes the innovative application of technological platforms such as the PPP Projects Disclosure Portal, which encourages transparency and traceability of public projects.

13. PPP Projects Disclosure Portal is especially important to both local and international investors interested in participating in various projects under the big four agenda. It will enable investors identify and participate in the identified projects while at the same time serving as a platform for the citizenry to track their progress.

14. The portal is also a way of offering assurance to Kenyans, the private sector, and the financiers of PPP projects that we play by the established rules of engagement, on every deal, at all times. Above all else, the portal is our way of holding ourselves to account both internally and externally.

15. The portal will ultimately enable us to document our experiences while at the same time creating an opportunity to learn and generate local experience which will in turn shape future decision making in regard to PPP projects.

16. **Ladies and Gentlemen**, it is now my distinct pleasure to give you the Kenya PPP Disclosure Portal. The National Treasury is grateful to the World Bank for its partnership and professionalism that has been exhibited in delivering the disclosure portal.

17. I also salute my teams at Treasury and the PPP Unit that have worked tirelessly to see this noble venture come to fruition.

18. Lastly, I wish to also express my gratitude to the various contracting authorities which were consulted in the preparation and finessing of this Portal – together, we have made this Portal reality.

Thank you all for your kind attention.