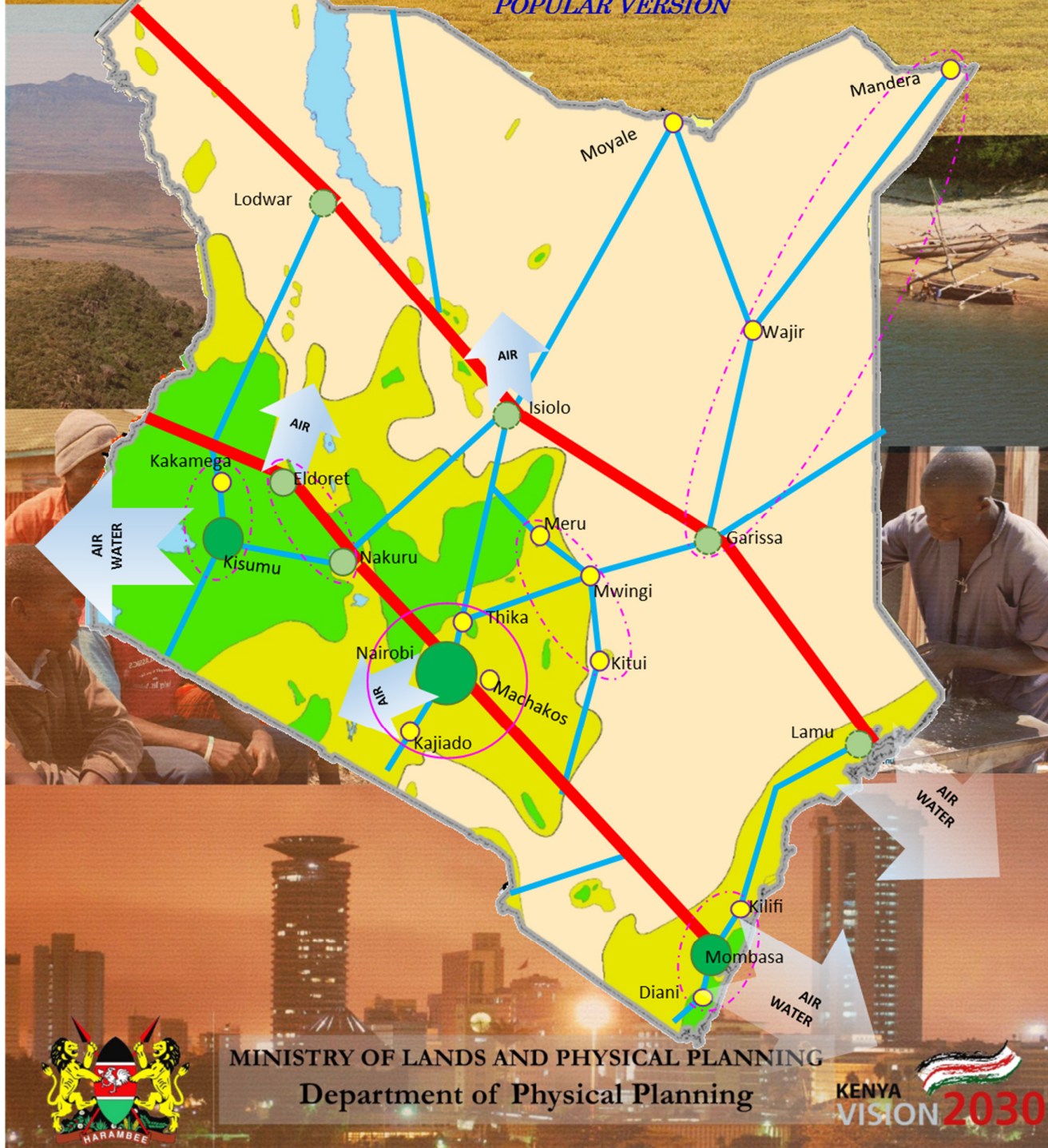


National Spatial Plan

2015-2045

*An Integrated Plan for Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability
in the use of our Land and Territorial Space*

POPULAR VERSION



"Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space"

1. CONTEXT OF THE NATIONAL SPATIAL PLAN

1.0 Overview

The National Spatial Plan (NSP) is Kenya's first spatial vision that defines the general trend and direction of spatial development for the country. It is a Kenya Vision 2030 flagship project aiming at distributing the population and activities on the national space to sustainable socio-economic development. The Plan envisages to transform the country into a globally competitive and prosperous nation, offering a high quality of life for all citizens in a clean and secure environment for the next thirty (30) years as envisioned by Vision 2030.

The Plan addresses the disconnect between economic and spatial planning that has led to uncoordinated and unguided development by establishing a broad physical planning framework that provides physical planning policies to support economic and sectoral planning.

The National Spatial Plan further provides a spatial structure that defines how the national space is going to be utilized for the realization of optimal and sustainable use of our land. The Plan provides a spatial framework upon which the various sectoral plans and policies will be anchored and is a basis for preparation of all other lower level plans.

The Plan covers the entire Kenyan territory and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). It is a long term Plan covering a period of 30 years with 10 year periodical reviews.

1.1 Purpose of the National Spatial Plan

The National Spatial Plan is designed to provide a national spatial planning framework for integration of social, economic and environmental policies. It aims at strengthening national economic planning by giving spatial dimension to various national economic sector policies and coordinating sectoral agencies in order to mitigate the duplication of functions and responsibilities and thereby reducing the wastage of Kenya's limited resources. The Plan formulates Physical/Spatial Planning Policies which support socio-economic and sectoral planning; it finally serves as a guide in the preparation of regional, county and local spatial plans.

1.2 Vision of the National Spatial Plan

The NSP envisions spatial development of the country in a manner that promotes the competitiveness, prosperity and a high quality of life for the citizens in line with the aspirations of Kenya Vision 2030.

1.3 Objectives of the National Spatial Plan

Specifically, the National Spatial Plan aims at creating a spatial planning context that enhances economic efficiency and strengthens Kenya's global competitiveness, promoting balanced regional development for national integration and cohesion, optimizing utilization of land and natural resources for sustainable development,

creating livable and functional human settlements in both urban and rural areas, securing the natural environment for a high quality of life and establishing an integrated national transportation network and infrastructure system.

1.4 How the Plan was developed

The National Spatial Planning Process was a deliberate, systematic and structured action to develop a broad policy that sets out Kenya's vision for spatial development as well as the specific policies, strategies and measures for achieving the spatial vision. The preparation of the NSP entailed an all-inclusive, multidisciplinary, multi-sectoral and participatory approach involving views and expert opinions collected and collated through a structured and consultative process that brought together stakeholders drawn from the public, private and civil society organizations.

The first stage was preparation of a concept paper that entailed developing a rationale for the Plan, understanding its purpose and objectives, determining a methodology for its delivery and anticipating the resources required for its preparation. In order to determine the strategic direction, a rapid scan of the environment was undertaken to appreciate the spatial issues that required to be addressed.

Benchmarking was also undertaken to identify best practices from other countries which informed and shaped the formulation of the Plan.

In order to capture the long term perspective of the plan, projections and scenario building was undertaken. This entailed projections on population and future scenarios on and its impacts in relation to urbanization, rural development, use of land and natural resources, environment and global trends, among others. Simulations were done in order to determine the trajectory of development in various sectors.

To synthesize the findings, a core team comprising of technical officers drawn from the Department of Physical Planning and the larger Ministry of Land and Physical Planning, other government ministries and agencies and Kenyan research institutions, under the leadership of the Director of Physical Planning came up with the core thematic areas of the plan and formulated strategies and policies which form the heart of this Plan. The National Spatial Plan is therefore, a product of a wide range of collaboration, consultations and consensus building.

1.5 Principles employed

Effective public participation/engagement, Urban containment/compact cities, livability, smart and green urban growth, sustainable development, Promotion of ecological integrity and promoting public transportation were the principles that formed the basis for the formulation of the NSP.

2. PLANNING CONTEXT

The formulation of the NSP was guided and informed by an analysis of the Constitution, existing laws and policies. Detailed analysis of different perspectives and trends of the country including geographical, population, economy, transport and infrastructure, human settlements and land use were undertaken to inform the development strategies and policies

2.1 Constitutional, Legal and Policy basis of the National Spatial Plan

The **Constitution** governs the process and context of the NSP. It is the supreme law that outlines national values and principles of governance that guides all activities including making and implementing public policy. The supreme law gives the State powers to regulate the use of any land and property in the interest of land use planning. The constitutional function of National Government is the formulation of general principles of land planning and coordination of planning by the counties, therefore, preparation of the NSP has a constitutional grounding

The analysis of the **legal environment** informed the process and content of the NSP. The Physical Planning Act, 1996 is the primary physical planning statute which provides for preparation of various types of physical plans. Others include County Governments Act, 2012, The Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011, Environmental management and Coordination Amendment Act (2015), Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Authority Act,

2013, Water Act, 2002, National Land Commission Act, 2012 and The Land Act, 2012.

Key **national and sectoral policies** were also considered during preparation of NSP with a view of correctly interpreting, translating and giving them a spatial dimension

The Kenya Vision 2030 is the country's development blueprint; it recognizes land reform as one of the foundations that anchor the three pillars of the Vision. The Vision identifies the first National Spatial Plan as one of its flagship project. This Plan forms the foundation for implementation of national projects by providing spatial illustration of projects and identifying a strategy for land development.

Other policies included, the National Land Policy, the Agriculture Sector Development Strategy, the National Housing Policy for Kenya, the ICT policy, the Industrial Master Plan, the National Tourism Strategy, the Integrated National Transport Policy and the National Climate Change Response Strategy.

2.2 Geographical and Socio Economic analysis

This analysis provided an appreciation of the opportunities to leverage on and challenges to be addressed by strategies and policies

The analysis identified the rich and natural resource endowment due to the unique topography, climate, geology and drainage

systems. This offers Kenya diversity in social and economic activities such as crop farming, pastoralism, mining, tourism, fishing, water transport, hydro and geothermal power generation. The analysis of the population defined the population projections, distribution, structure, densities demographic trends which indicated the current and future needs.

The analysis of the economy provided indications on patterns and trends of economic growth and development including factors that have impeded the desired 10% economic growth rate. The country's economic performance has been unstable as it has been overly relying on a few sectors. Diversification of the country's economic base and harnessing of the largely unexploited potential will lead to stability and improvement of the general economic performance of the country.

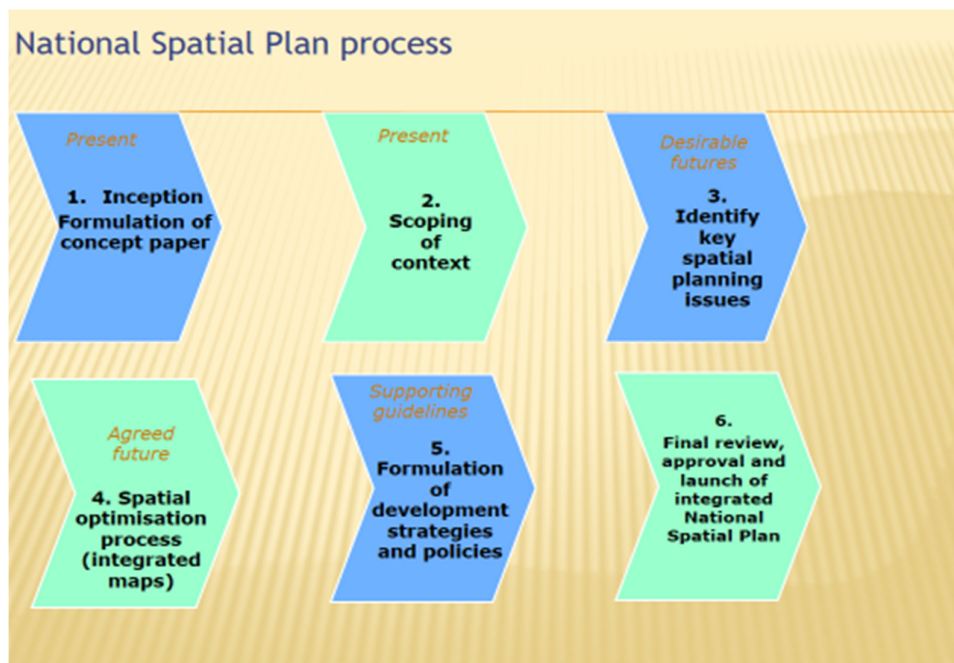
The NSP development policies are geared towards developing functional human settlements, efficient

and integrated transport and communication networks and appropriate infrastructure in order to spur economic growth and improvement of livelihoods

Analysis of transport and infrastructure systems indicates a skewed distribution, inadequacy in provision, poor accessibility, unreliability and inefficiency. NSP promotes investments in the expansion, improvement, diversification and adoption of new technologies in transport and infrastructure systems to support the performance of the economy.

Analysis of land use indicated that land is owned inequitably, has low productivity and is used inefficiently and unsustainably.

The NSP advocates for the optimal utilization of the country's land by reorganizing and adjusting the way land is used to achieve overall efficiency and sustainability.



3. NATIONAL SPATIAL PLAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

The NSP development strategies are designed to provide approaches/strategies for spatial growth and development of the country by addressing factors that have kept the country from achieving the intended national goals and objectives. The strategies are aimed at providing a spatial expression to Vision 2030 and other sector policies. The NSP provides development strategies for managing global impacts, optimizing the use of land and natural resources, promoting functional and livable human settlements, creating regional balance, transforming rural areas by modernizing agriculture, integrating national transportation, ensuring efficient and adequate infrastructure and conserving the environment.

3.1 Managing Impacts of Global Trends

Kenya's economy has delayed reaching the economic take-off stage compared to other global economies. Kenya Vision 2030 aims at making the country globally competitive and a choice destination for investment in the emerging sectors of Information Communication and Technology (ICT), niche tourism, knowledge industry and increase the share of manufacturing and industry in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The NSP seeks to harness the exploitation of renewable and green energy sources by identifying and mapping them and providing the necessary infrastructure for their tapping. This will increase the installed energy capacity and

reduce the cost of production and while improving on quality of goods. The NSP proposes location of export oriented industrial and manufacturing activities in Nairobi and Mombasa to leverage on their existing functional urban systems. Such activities can also be located in Kisumu, Eldoret, Nakuru and other emerging high potential urban centers. This will facilitate harnessing of free movement of labour and capital.

Further, the NSP seeks to address the housing, urban facilities, transportation, safety and infrastructure challenges to encourage knowledge workers and their families to live and work in Nairobi and Mombasa primarily and other complementary growth nodes at county level.

The country will optimize the existing national potential especially in marginalized regions; this will ensure a diversified, steady and stable economy and therefore attract foreign direct investments to the country.

Adoption of knowledge, technology and innovation driven economies will enable the country to upgrade and diversify its existing industry and business clusters, and shift to activities with higher innovation and technology content. Kenya must utilize her rich human resource base, including in locations such as Nairobi, Kisumu and Mombasa in order to embrace and transit to a knowledge, technology and innovation based economy

3.2 Optimizing Land and Natural Resources

The NSP allocates land to different activities rationally by putting into consideration the land capabilities and potential and by addressing the concern arising from the need to protect and conserve the environment.

The strategy identifies and apportions land to various land based needs including protecting prime agricultural land, prioritizing grain basket and export crop areas, tapping the capabilities and potentials of the ASALs, accommodating urban growth and provision of adequate land for current and future development of infrastructure, utilities and environmental conservation and protection areas.

3.3 Promoting Balanced Regional Development

Regional imbalance has been a major issue in Kenya since independence. Despite the whole country being endowed with massive resources, an analysis of the situation reveals massive disparities between regions. These disparities may be divided into the North-South divides with other pockets of divides which are characterized as urban rural, rural- rural and urban-urban divides.

The NSP proposes establishment of economic zones in the Northern region according to the potential, encourage equitable exploitation and sound management of mineral resources, promotes investment in sustainable tourism including eco-tourism, irrigation activities for

improved productivity in quantity and quality of yield within the potential regions, and promotes industrialization and value addition through the provision of support infrastructure in the less developed regions.

3.4 Promoting Rural Development

The majority of Kenya's population lives in the rural areas which are mainly characterized by subsistence agriculture and high levels of poverty. According to the World Bank 2015 report, Kenya's rural population was 33,362,846 in 2013 representing 75.19% of the total population.

Rural development strategy aims at improving the quality of life and economic wellbeing of people living in rural areas through the improvement of agriculture and allied activities; rural production units, socio-economic infrastructure, community services and facilities, tourism, and human resources in rural areas.

The NSP defines the rural areas by delineating urban growth limits and conservation areas. The NSP in this strategy promotes development of appropriate transport and infrastructural facilities and services to support the exploitation of the natural resources in the rural areas as well as the opportunities they present to spur economic development, it also promotes rural industrialization including rural tourism, mining and agro-based industries.

The Plan promotes large scale commercial livestock production practices in the transitional cluster of rural areas and encouraging eco-villages in the rural areas.

3.5 Urbanization strategy

Kenya is experiencing rapid urbanization. Statistics indicate that 34.3% of the population lives in urban areas, it is predicted that by the year 2030 more than half of the country's population will be staying in urban areas.

Urbanization in Kenya has experienced a number of challenges which this strategy seeks to address. These challenges include skewed spatial distribution of urban centres, urban sprawl and informality in peri-urban fringe, lack of functional/role specialization, informal settlements, inadequate and inefficient transport and infrastructure, inefficient governance structures and urban poverty. Through this strategy the NSP proposes promotion of development centers according to their potential

and population as; local, market, rural, urban and growth centers, creation of an enabling environment for commercial and industrial developers to undertake potential development within the urban areas, provision of alternative areas for development of urban centers by provision of services and infrastructure, strengthening urban-rural linkages through provision of integrated transportation and communication systems.

Further, the strategy advocates for compact mixed-use development, in-fill development and redevelopment as well as intensification of development in the existing urban areas and controlling direction of urbanization in order to divert urbanization to less agricultural potential areas.



4. NATIONAL SPATIAL PLAN POLICIES

4.0 Overview

The purpose of the policies is to provide a firm base or foundation upon which to spatially anchor the strategies enumerated in the Plan and to provide a spatial framework for the implementation of large scale national projects enunciated in Kenya Vision 2030.

The Policies are aimed at enhancing global competitiveness and economic efficiency, optimizing the use of land and natural resources, promoting balanced regional development and conserving the environment.

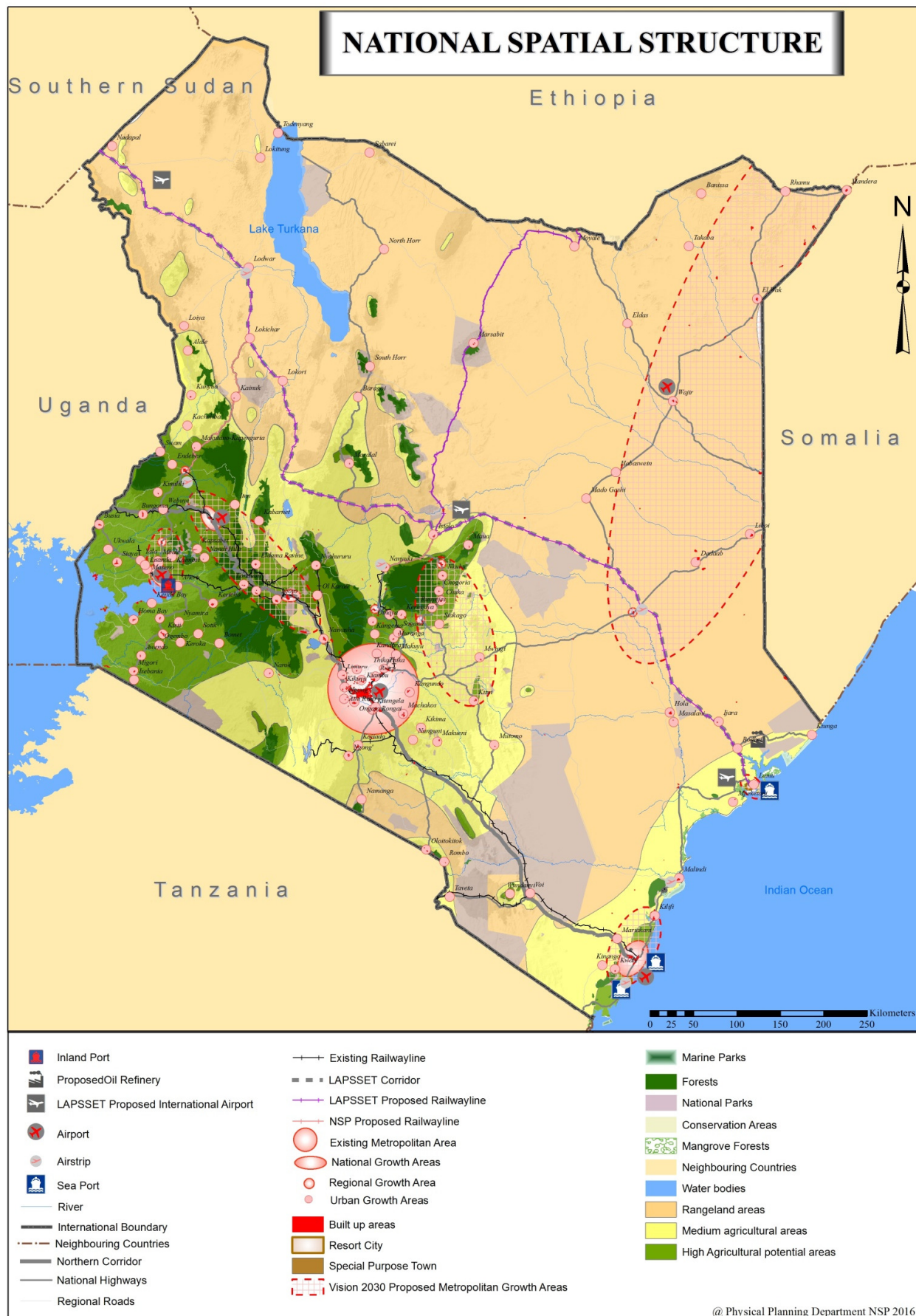
4.1 National Spatial Structure

The National Spatial Structure proposed by the NSP creates three broad areas in which the spatial planning for the country shall be undertaken.

These are informed by agro-climatic zonation and agricultural potential. These broad areas are the high agricultural potential, medium agricultural areas and the range lands.

Policy Statements

- I. The National Spatial Plan establishes the National Spatial Structure as a framework to achieve integrated and sustainable spatial development of the country.
- II. The National Spatial Plan shall be the basis for preparation of lower tier development plans to achieve integrated and sustainable land use planning and to promote harmony and mutual cooperation in planning in the country.

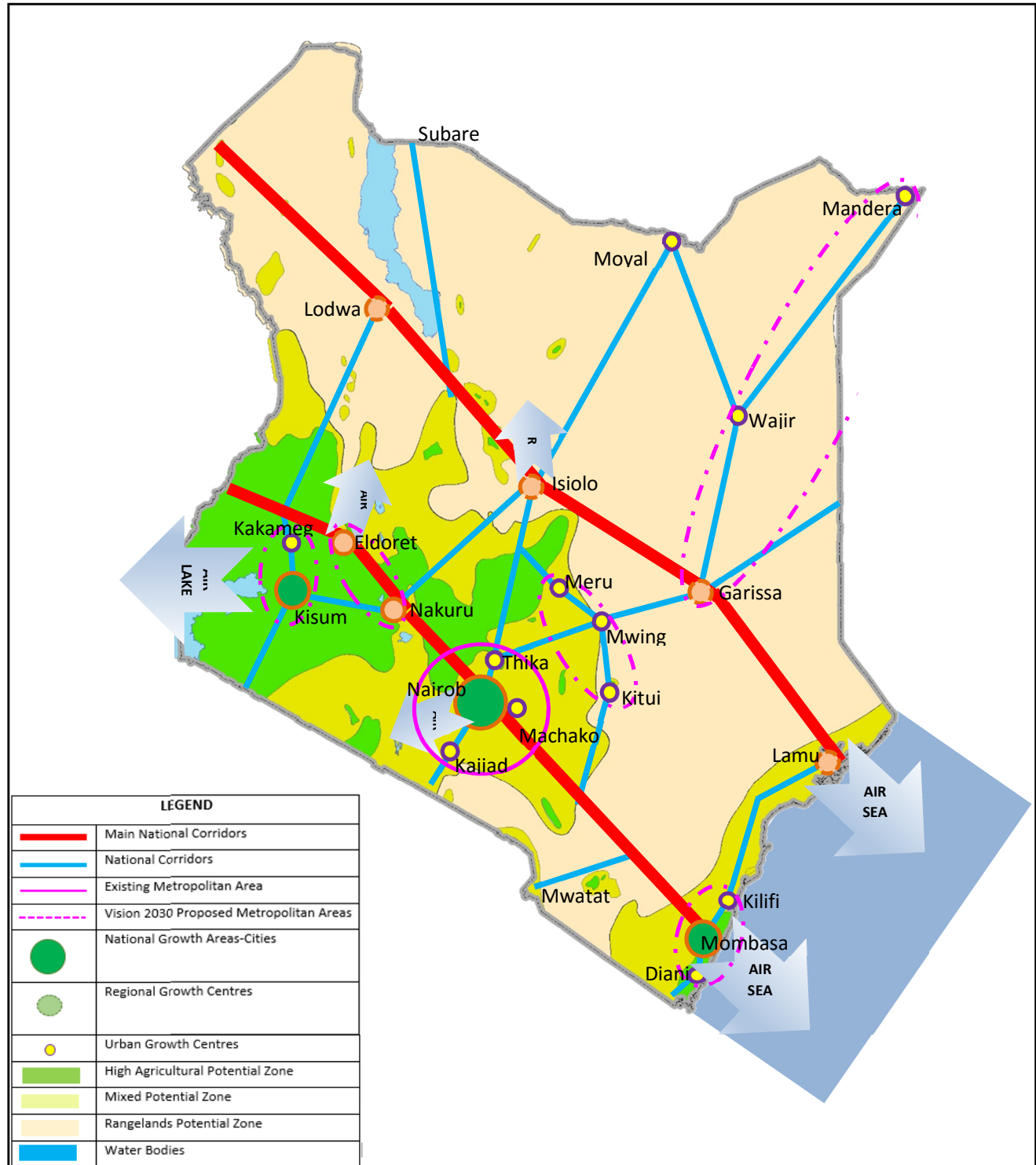


“Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space”

4.2 Enhancing National Competitiveness

To enhance the country's competitiveness Kenya needs to leverage on its strengths and opportunities which include the existing cities, geographical location, abundant natural resources, existing and proposed infrastructure projects and emergence of ICT.

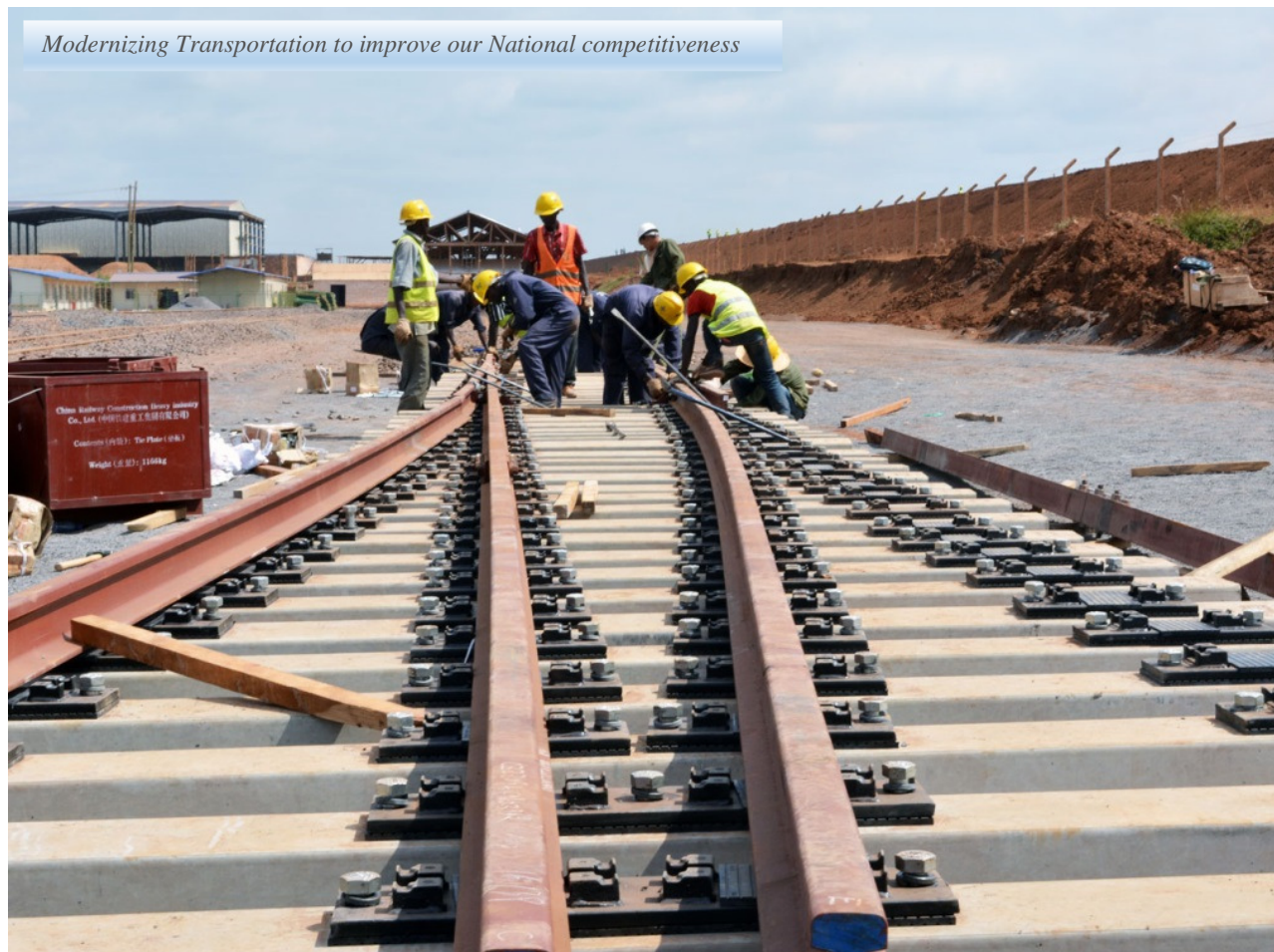
National Competitiveness Model



“Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space”

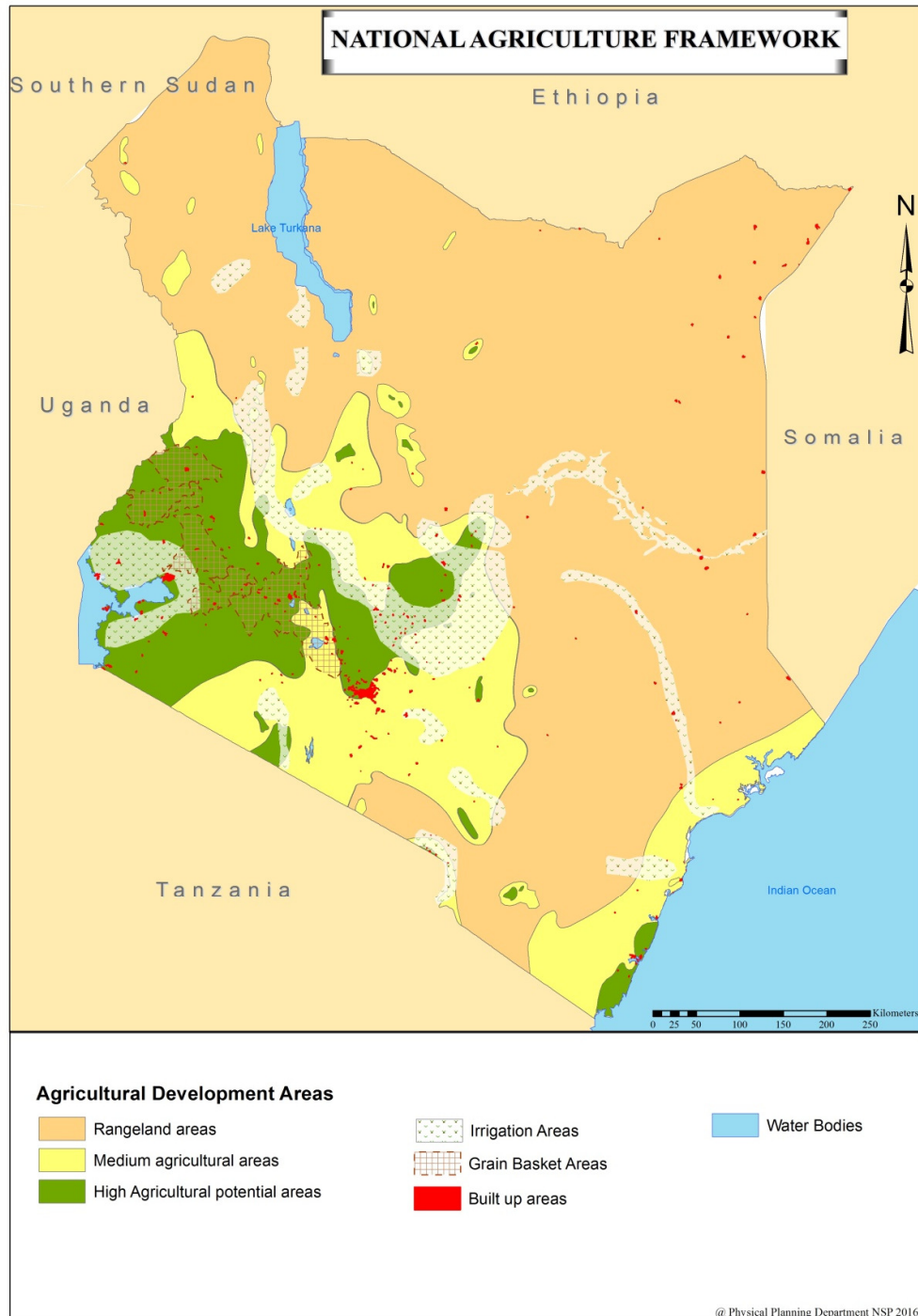
Policy statements

- I. Selective concentration concept shall be adopted for the planning and location of urban based economic activities in all counties throughout the country to leverage on national competitiveness.
- II. The major urban areas shall be planned and provided with appropriate infrastructure to enhance efficiency and quality of life.
- III. Land and natural resources of the less developed areas shall be utilized optimally and sustainably to enhance national competitiveness
- IV. The efficiency of the transportation network shall be enhanced to take advantage of the strategic location and position of the country.
- V. The National Spatial Plan encourages cooperation in spatial and economic planning with member states of East African Community (EAC) and Common Markets of East and Southern Africa (COMESA)



4.2 Modernizing Agriculture

The agriculture sector development strategy aims at transforming agriculture into a modern and commercially viable sector through identifying areas as per their potential for protection, intensification and diversification



Policy Statements

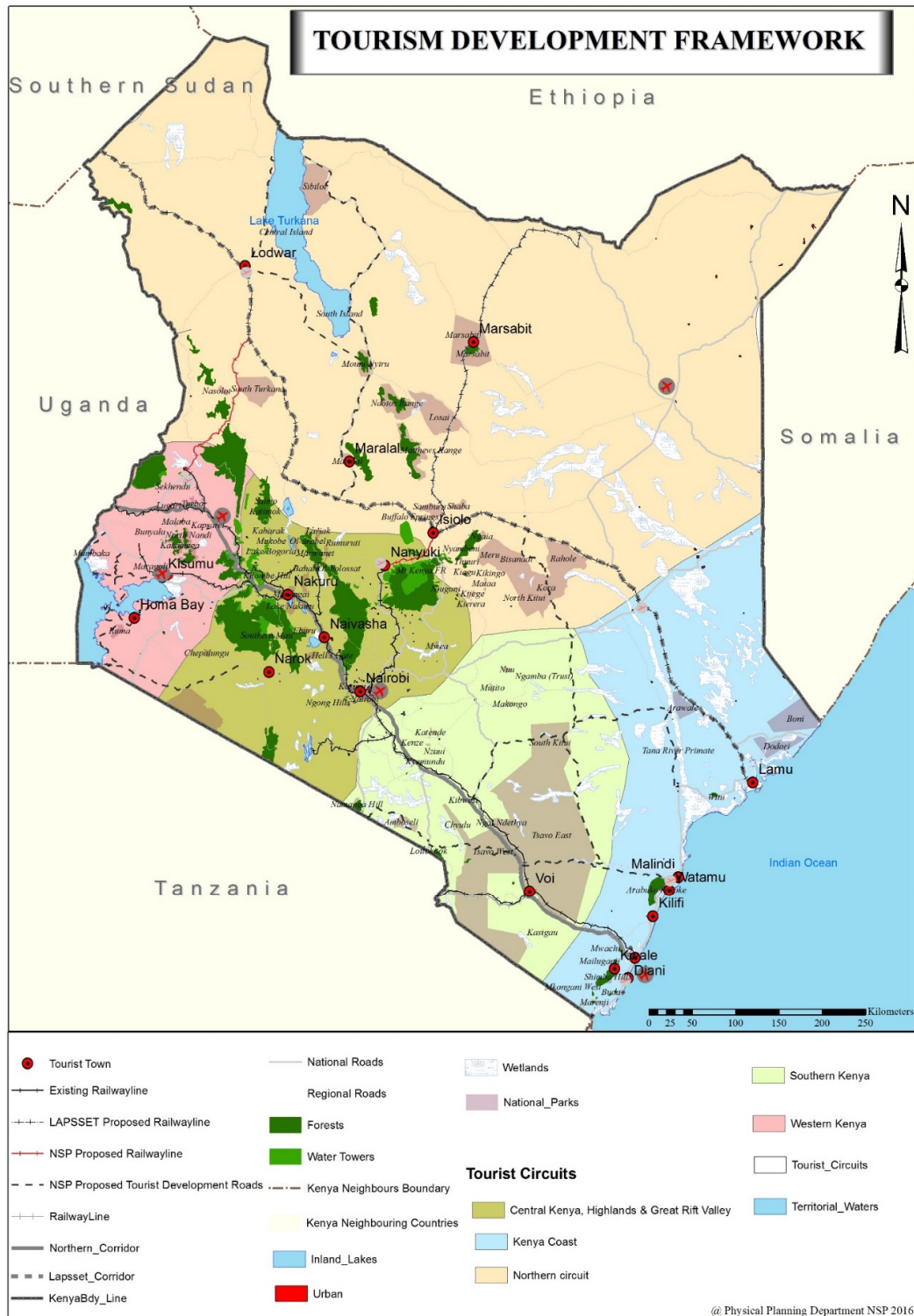
- I. Agro climatic zones I, II, III shall be safeguarded against the threat of urbanization and land subdivision
- II. Agro climatic zones IV, V and VI shall be developed and used optimally for large scale commercial production of livestock to support downstream processing of livestock products and promote balanced regional development
- III. Grain basket areas shall be prioritized and protected to ensure food security
- IV. The agricultural use of land in high potential areas shall be intensified to increase productivity
- V. The irrigation potential of the country shall be optimized by promoting investment in irrigation agriculture for high value crops
- VI. The fishing potential of the country shall be optimized to increase the food stock and export earnings

Modernizing our Agriculture



4.3 Diversifying Tourism

Kenya Vision 2030 identifies tourism as one of the six priority sectors with high potential of spurring the country's economic growth and development and achievement of the envisaged 10 percent GDP growth by 2017. These sectors will drive. To develop tourism, NSP identifies five tourism circuits within which to promote diversification by offering diverse tourism products in each circuit;



“Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space”

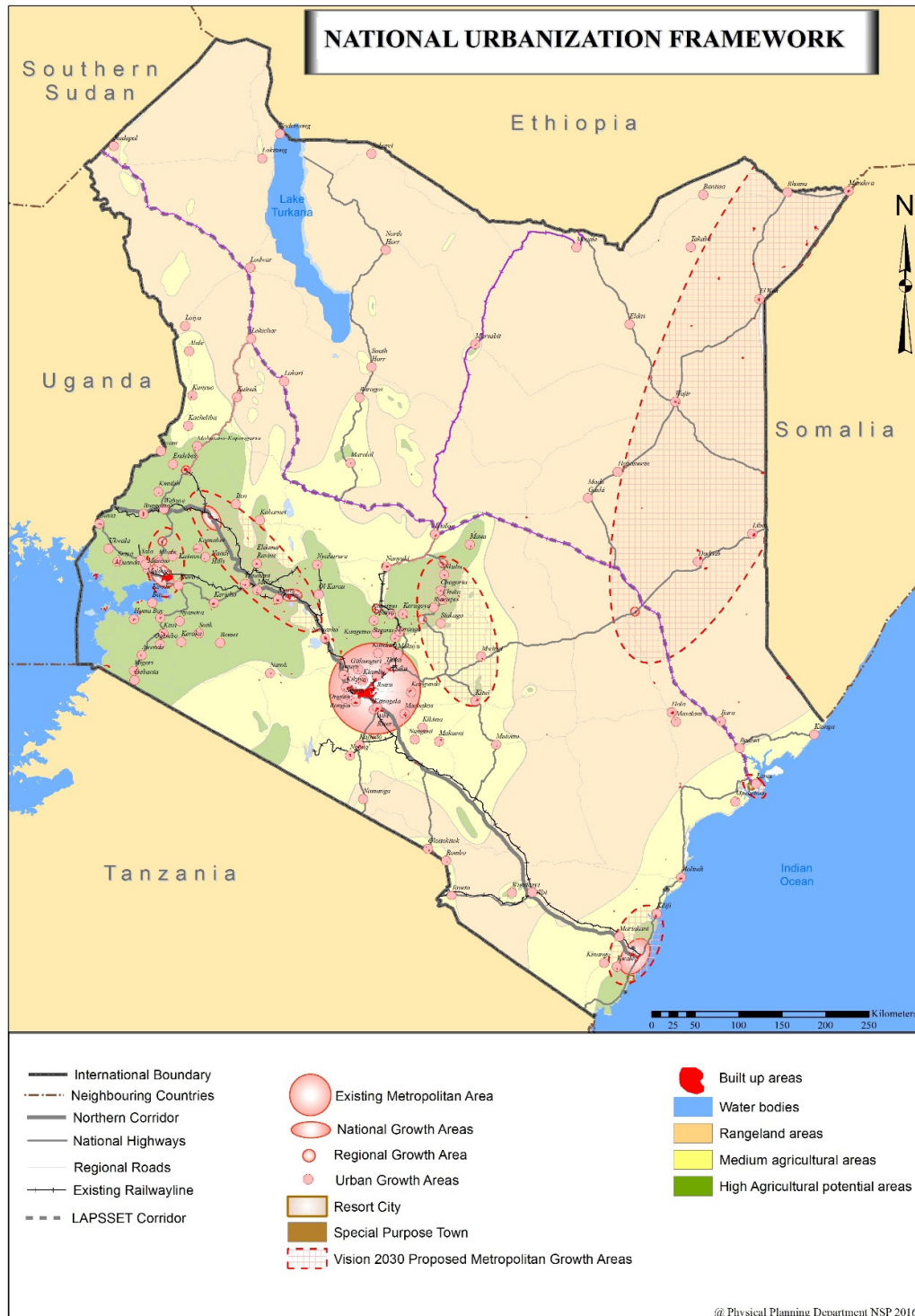
Policy statements

- I. The NSP shall promote diversification of tourism by offering diverse products in the different tourist circuits throughout the country.
- II. Appropriate infrastructure shall be provided and facilities upgraded
- III. Tourist attraction areas and sites shall be conserved and protected
- IV. Appropriate transport infrastructure shall be provided to link the different tourist circuits, attraction areas and sites
- V. The governance of the tourism sector shall be enhanced.
- VI. Spatial development plans shall be prepared to guide implementation of the flagship projects for the tourism sector



4.4 Managing Human Settlements

The Kenya Vision 2030 anticipates that more than half of our nation's population is going to be residing in urban areas following the current population trends. Thus, Kenya will need to plan for decent and high quality urban livelihoods for her population. The NSP creates a hierarchy of urban areas as national, regional and urban growth areas and anticipates the emerging metropolitan areas.



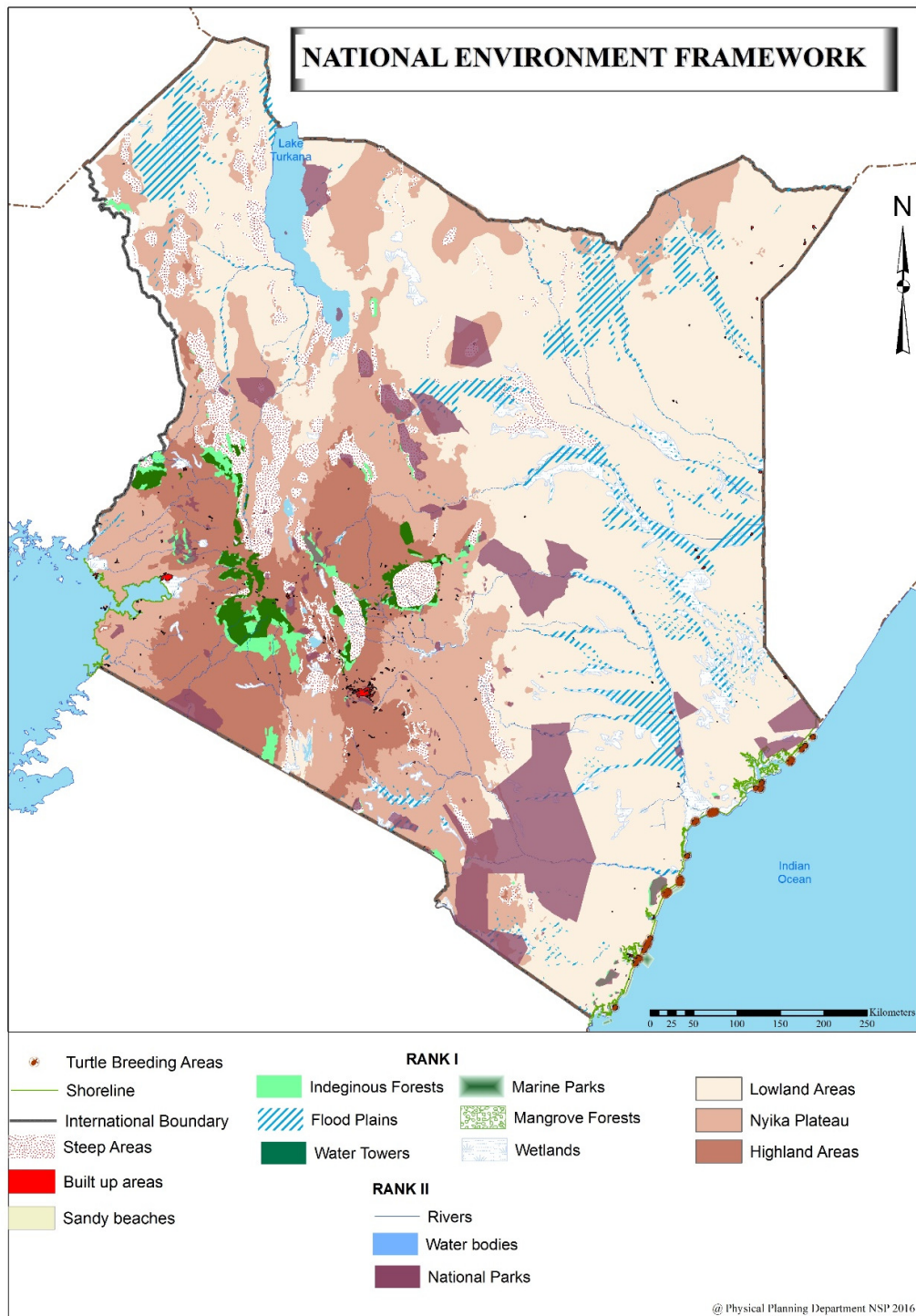
“Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space”

- I. The expected increase in population in urban areas shall be anticipated and accommodated particularly for the main growth areas.
- II. Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu, growth areas shall be supported to enhance global competitiveness.
- III. Alternative urban areas shall be developed and supported to promote balanced regional development and spur growth.
- IV. Rural growth centres shall be rationalized and supported to act as central places and settlements clustered to free the rich agricultural land
- V. Human settlements shall be developed in line with environmental and natural resources conservation to improve living conditions
- VI. The NSP shall advocate for the provision of an efficient, reliable and effective transport system for human settlement
- VII. The management and governance of human settlements particularly the urban areas shall be improved.



4.5 Conserving the Natural Environment

The Constitution of Kenya, Article 42 states that every person has the right to a clean and healthy environment, which includes the right to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through legislative and other measures. The NSP identifies the entire country as an environmentally fragile space and seeks to prioritize protection and conservation of the environmentally sensitive areas.



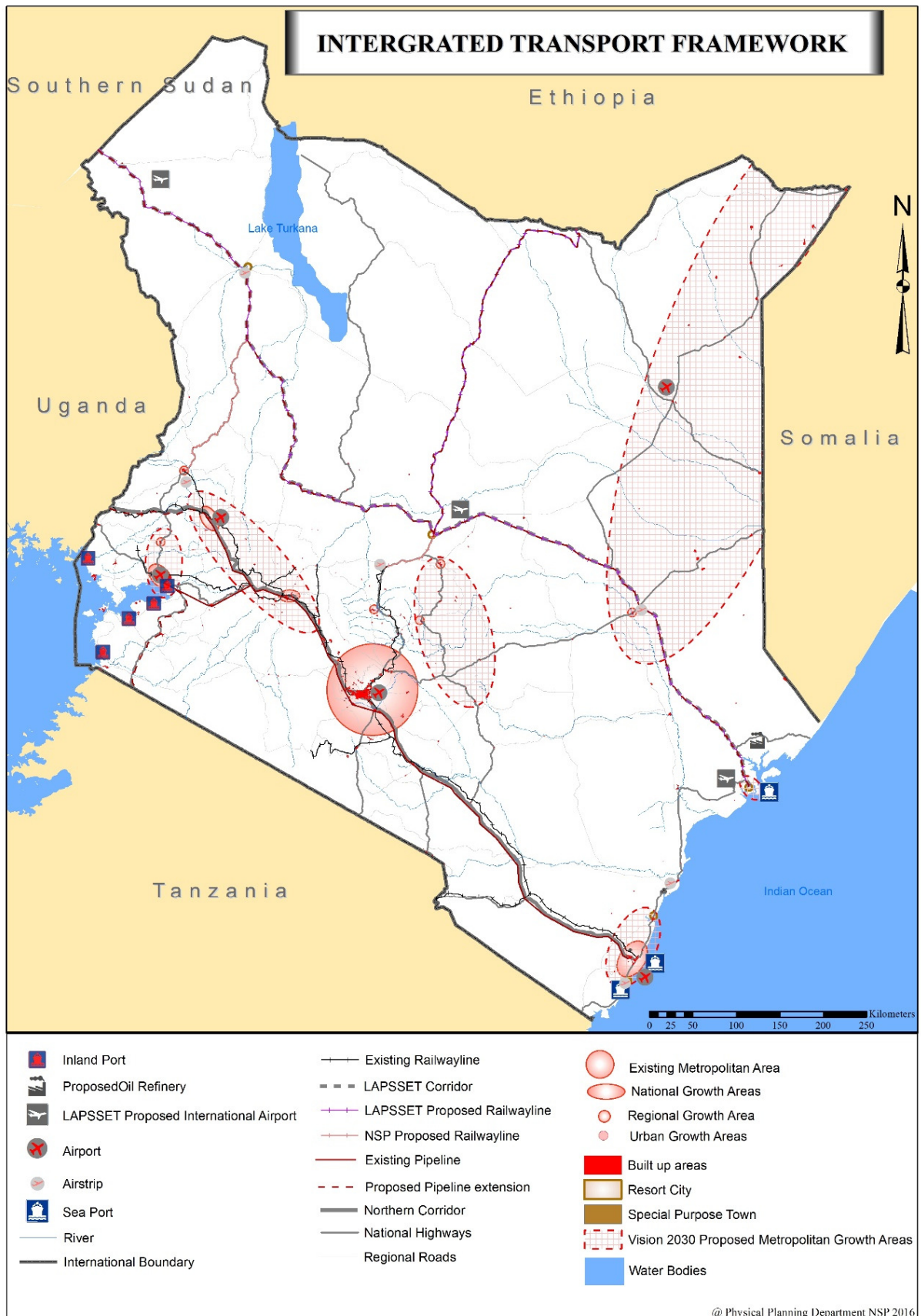
NSP Policy statements

- I. All environmentally sensitive areas shall be protected and utilized in a sustainable manner. These are Wetlands, Marine Ecosystems, Forest Ecosystems and Mountain Ecosystems
- II. All environmentally fragile areas shall be conserved and utilized in a sustainable manner and particularly the ASALs
- III. All government agencies shall integrate environmental concerns in policy formulation, resource planning and development processes.
- IV. The National Spatial Plan supports the mainstreaming of climate change into the national and county planning processes.

4.6 Integrating the National Transportation Network

Vision 2030 aspires for the country to be firmly interconnected through a network of roads, railways, water ports airports and water ways, and telecommunications. The NSP proposes an integrated national and urban transport system that seeks to maximize efficiency and sustainability of the transport sector. It identifies the major national infrastructure routes and proposes new ones to fill the missing links and enhance connectivity.





“Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space”

NSP Policy statements

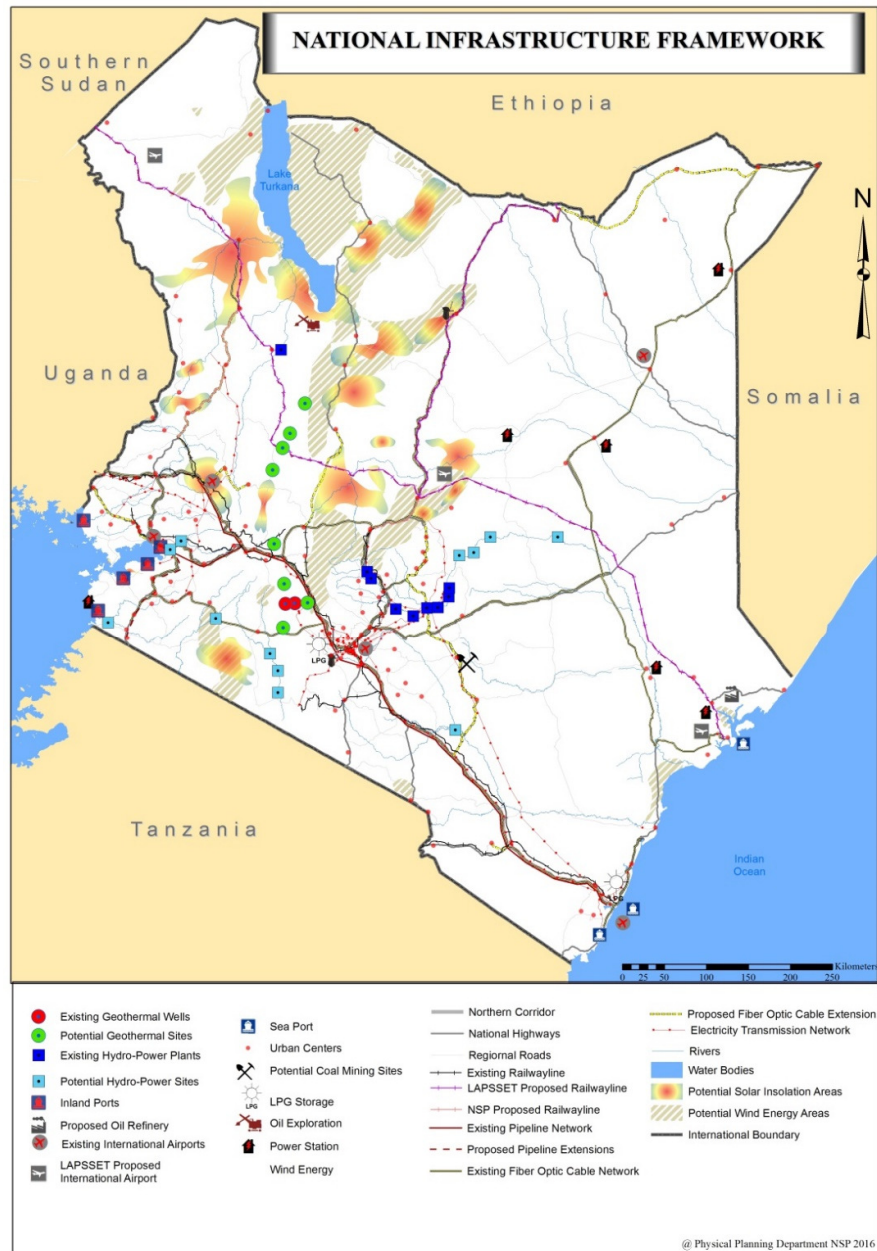
- I. An integration of national transport and land use planning shall be adopted.
- II. The NSP shall support the development of an integrated and functional transport system for the national and urban areas.
- III. The NSP shall support development of an efficient and affordable Mass Public Transport for all urban areas in the country
- IV. An urban transport policy that aims at developing an integrated, balanced and environmentally sound urban transport system in which all modes efficiently play their roles shall be developed
- V. Environmental conservation shall be upheld in the planning, development and management of the transportation network.



An interchange along Thika Super Highway

4.7 Provision of Appropriate Infrastructure

Vision 2030 envisions a country firmly serviced through a network of water, energy, ICT, health, education, sanitation facilities, and telecommunications. The NSP supports the development of a firmly interconnected, efficient, reliable, adequate, accessible, safe, sustainable and environmentally friendly systems of infrastructure of high quality through identifies areas with energy generation potential and establishing distribution routes.



Policy statements

- I. The NSP shall facilitate the provision of safe, adequate, reliable and affordable electricity for both urban and rural settlements.
- II. NSP shall encourage the expansion, and improvement of water reticulation systems to facilitate the access to clean, safe, adequate, reliable and affordable water in human settlements
- III. A globally competitive, accessible and affordable higher education training and research facilities shall be promoted
- IV. A network of functional, efficient, safe, accessible and sustainable national health referral infrastructure shall be established.
- V. The NSP shall promote access to appropriate, quality, efficient and cost effective ICT infrastructure in both rural and urban areas.
- VI. The expansion of sewerage systems and waste management facilities shall be promoted to improve sanitation in human settlements
- VII. Sporting infrastructure shall be planned, developed, maintained and the existing rehabilitated to promote sports development.



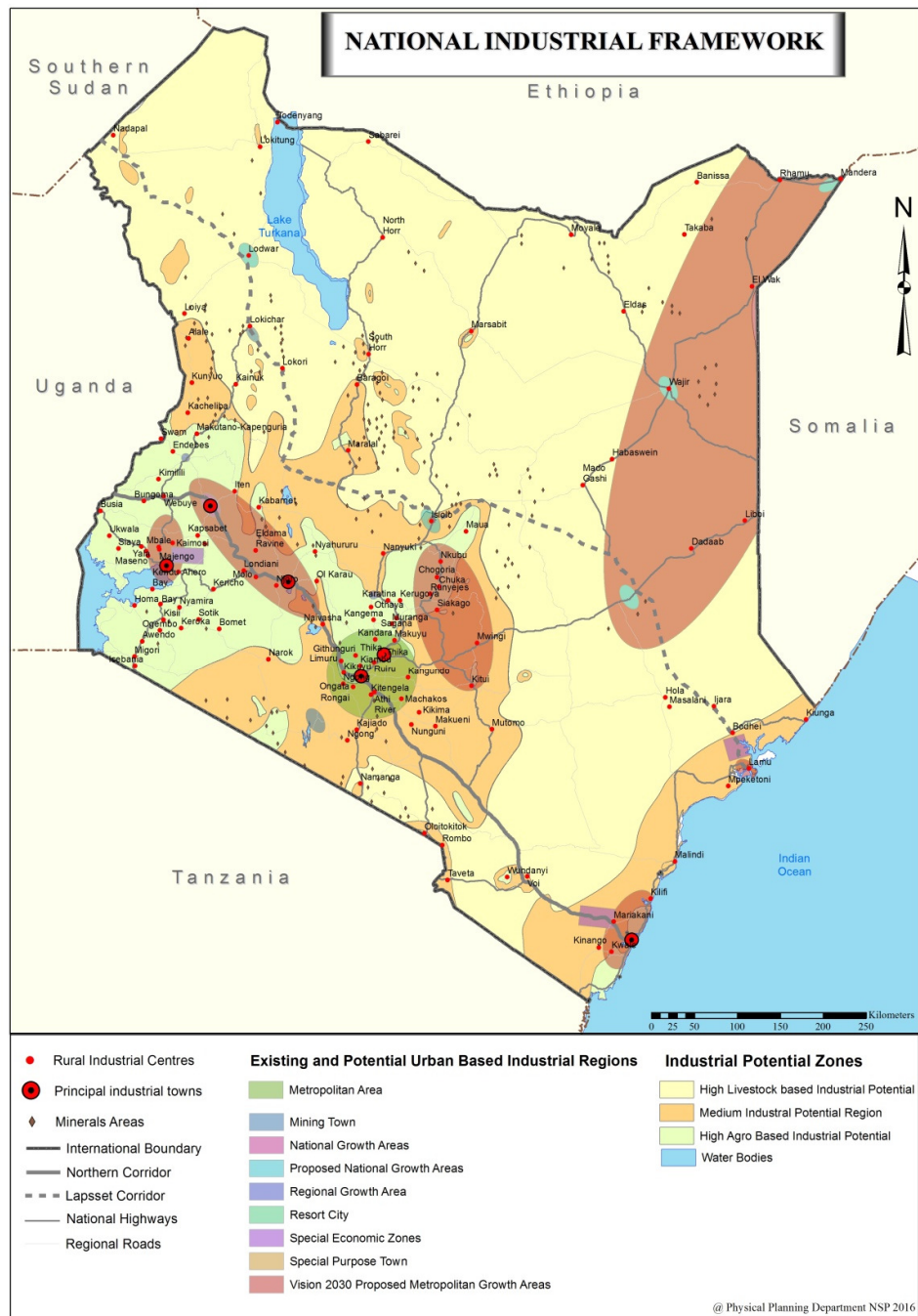
*Green Energy to Power our Nation –
Ol-Karia Geothermal plant*



Green Energy to Power our Nation – Ngong Wind Farm

4.8 Towards a Rapidly Industrializing Nation

Kenya Vision 2030 aims to transform Kenya into an industrializing, “middle-income country, providing a high quality of life to all its citizens by the year 2030” The NSP proposes a framework that aims to distribute industries according to the country’s different potentials to serve the far flung markets, to build potential and to steer the country’s economic growth.



“Optimal Productivity, Sustainability, Efficiency and Equitability in the use of our Land and Territorial Space”

Policy Statements

- I. The cluster development strategy shall be promoted to focus on proximity to raw materials and markets of region specific products
- II. Specific sites for industrial development shall be identified, planned and serviced with the appropriate infrastructure



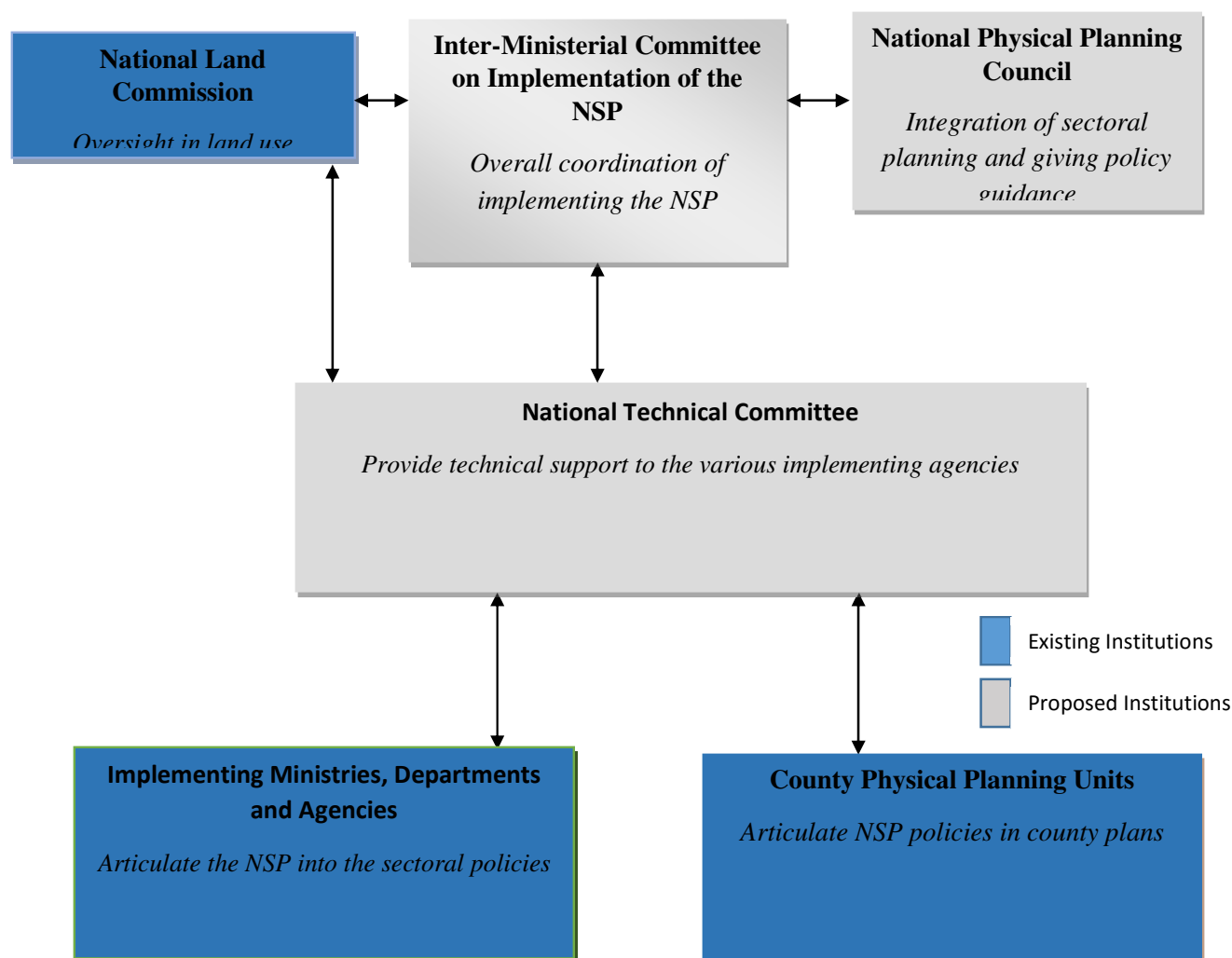
5. IMPLEMENTING THE NATIONAL SPATIAL PLAN

Successful implementation of the NSP will be a key step towards achievement of its objectives and contribution towards realization of Kenya Vision 2030

The implementation will require a coordinated approach in sectoral operations and partnership between the National and County Governments and the private sector. Further, it will require creation of new institutions, revision and formulation of new sectoral policies, lower level planning,

Coordination of implementation of the National Spatial plan will be the responsibility of the National Department of Physical planning in collaboration with actors in order to achieve its objectives.

5.1 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL SPATIAL PLAN



5.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation process

This will be done to measure outputs and outcomes of the Plan and ensure that the intended actions are implemented in a timely manner to facilitate attainment of the Plan objectives. Performance indicators will be developed by the National Department of Physical Planning to facilitate monitoring of the Plan. The Plan will be reviewed every ten years.