TAITA TAVETA COUNTY POVERTY ALLEVIATION, EMPOWERMENT AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND BILL, 2025

A Bill for

An Act of the County Assembly of Taita Taveta to Establish a Framework for Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment, Enterprise Development and for Connected Purposes.

ENACTED by the County Assembly of Taita Taveta as follows –

PART I – PRELIMINARY

1. Short Title and Commencement

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Development Fund Act, 2025.
- (2) This Act shall come into force upon publication in the Kenya Gazette.

2. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

- "Beneficiaries" refer to individuals who are identified as ultra-poor or vulnerable based on economic and social indicators and are selected to participate in the ultra-poor graduation program aimed at improving their livelihoods:
- "Board" means the Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Fund Management Board established under this Act;
- "Business Saving Group" refers to a community based financial group which meet regularly to build savings and support one another throughout the program;
- "Consumption Support" refers to the provision of direct assistance such as cash transfers to meet the immediate basic needs, including food, healthcare and education:
- "County Executive Committee Member" means the County Executive Committee Member responsible for Social Services;
- "County Government" means the County Government of Taita Taveta;

- "Enterprise development" refers to the process of initiating, nurturing and expanding micro, small and medium scale business to enhance livelihood and generate income;
- "Financial assistance" means support provided in the form of interest free repayable funds to individuals, groups or enterprises for the purpose of promoting economic activities;
- "Fund" means the Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Fund;
- "Graduation" means the process by which beneficiaries transition from extreme poverty to sustainable income-generating activities within a specified period;
- "Grants" means non-repayable financial support provided to individuals, groups, cooperatives or businesses to facilitate poverty alleviation projects;
- "Group" means a formally or informally collection of individuals working together under a shared economic or socio economic goal;
- "Loans" means funds advanced to individuals, groups, cooperatives or enterprises, subject to repayment with an interest rate determined under this Act;
- "Marginalized Groups" means communities or individuals disadvantaged due to economic, social or geographic factors, including indigenous communities, persons with disabilities and those living in extreme poverty;
- "Mentoring" means continuous guidance and monitoring of beneficiaries to ensure sustainable economic participation;
- "Proxy Means Testing" refers to a method of identifying poor households or individuals for social programs by estimating their income or consumption based on observable characteristics, rather than directly measuring income.
- "Public Works Programs for Employment Generation" means County Government-funded projects that provide temporary or permanent job opportunities while improving public infrastructure and services;
- "Results Based Financing (RBF)" refers to a mode of funding whereby funding is disbursed upon the achievement of pre-agreed results or outcomes;
- "Seed Capital" means non-repayable initial funding provided to eligible individuals or groups to start sustainable enterprises;
- "Targeting" means the method of selecting ultra-poor households based on predetermined criteria;

- "Technical Assistance" refers to specialized training, market linkages and digital solutions to enhance enterprise growth;
- "**Training**" means capacity-building programs designed to equip beneficiaries with skills and knowledge;
- "Ultra-Poor Graduation (UPG) model" refers to a comprehensive approach to poverty alleviation that combines elements such as targeting, training, savings groups, seed funding and mentoring to enable individuals living in extreme poverty to achieve sustainable livelihoods;
- "Vulnerable Groups" include women, widows, widowers, youth, persons with disabilities, elderly persons, refugees, ultra-poor individuals and marginalized groups in Taita Taveta County;

3. Objectives

This Act aims to—

- (a) Establish a legal and institutional framework for poverty alleviation, empowerment and enterprise development in the County;
- (b) Promote social protection, skills development and access to economic opportunities for the residents of the County;
- (c) Ensure inclusivity and public participation in poverty alleviation initiatives;
- (d) Provide financial and technical support for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to enhance economic growth;
- (e) Strengthen partnerships between the County Government, National Government, private sector and development partners in poverty alleviation efforts;
- (f) Implement sustainable poverty alleviation programs including the Ultra-Poor Graduation Model.
- (g) Provide seed capital, financial assistance, grants, loans and empowerment support for the residents of the County.
- (h) Promote and enhance any initiative that advance these objectives

PART II – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNTY POVERTY ALLEVIATION, EMPOWERMENT AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND

4. Establishment of the Fund

- (1) There is established the Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Development Fund.
- (2) The Fund shall—
- (a) Provide financial assistance, grants, and loans to eligible individuals and groups to support economic empowerment;
- (b) Implement livelihood and financial assistance programs to uplift economically disadvantaged individuals;
- (c) Secure funding through models such as the Ultra-Poor Graduation Model and public-private partnerships.

5. Sources of the Fund

The Fund shall derive its resources from—

- (a) Annual budgetary allocations by the County Government of at least one percent (1%) County development budget annually;
- (b) Donations, grants and bequests from development partners and organizations;
- (c) Loan repayments from previously issued loans;
- (d) Revenue generated from investments made by the Fund;
- (e) Innovative financing mechanisms such as Results Based Financing (RBF);
- (f) Any other lawful sources of revenue.

6. Administration of the Fund

(1) There shall be a fund administrator. The administrator of the Fund shall-

- (a) Open and operate a bank account at a bank to be approved by the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for finance and economic planning;
- (b) Supervise and control the administration of the Fund;
- (c) Consult with the Board on matters relating to the administration of the Fund;
- (d) Keep proper books of accounts and other books and records in relation to the Fund and of all activities and undertakings financed from the Fund;
- (e) Prepare, sign and transmit to the Auditor- General, in respect of each financial year and within three months after the end thereof, a statement of accounts relating to the Fund and submit a copy to the County Treasury and the statements shall be prepared in such a manner as the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board shall prescribe;
- (f) Furnish additional information as he or she may consider to be proper and sufficient for the purpose of examination and audit by the Auditor-General in accordance with the provisions of the Public Audit Act; and
- (g) Prepare a quarterly report on the receipts into and issues out of the Fund and submit it to the County Executive Committee Member by the 21st of every fourth month;
- (2) The administration costs of the Fund shall not exceed three percent (3%) of the approved annual budget of the Fund;
- (3) Every statement of account prepared under subsection 2 (e) shall include—
- (a) Details of the balance of assets and liabilities of the Fund; and
- (b) The financial status of the Fund as at the end of the financial year concerned.

PART III – COUNTY POVERTY ALLEVIATION STRATEGY

7. Establishment of the County Poverty Alleviation Program

(1) There is established the Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation Program (TTC-PAP).

(2) The Program shall be administered by The Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Fund Management Board under the Department responsible for Social Services.

8. The objectives of the program

The objectives of the program shall include—

- (a) Improve economic opportunities and alleviate extreme poverty in the County;
- (b) Establish and promote sustainable micro-enterprises through training, grants and mentorship;
- (c) Provide financial literacy and business development training to vulnerable populations;
- (d) Facilitate the formation and strengthening of Business Saving Groups and Groups;
- (e) Enhance market access and create sustainable value chains for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;
- (f) Foster gender equity and social inclusion in entrepreneurship;
- (g) Monitor and evaluate program impact based on economic and social indicators;
- (h) Integrate environmental sustainability and climate resilience in enterprise development;
- (i) Provide digital and financial inclusion solutions to improve access to banking and credit;
- (j) Offer post-graduation business development support to ensure long-term sustainability.

9. Public Participation and Community Engagement

- (1) The County Government shall involve local communities in the planning, designing, implementation and review of poverty Alleviation programs.
- (2) Public forums and consultations shall be held to ensure transparency.

10. Integration of innovative poverty alleviation models into the County's Program

(1) The Board shall explore the integration of other innovative poverty alleviation models into **the County Poverty Alleviation Program** to enhance impact and sustainability.

- (2) The Ultra-Poor Graduation model under this Act shall be recognized as one of the key models within the County Poverty Alleviation Program.
- (3) The Board shall ensure that the Ultra-Poor Graduation model aligns with other County poverty alleviation initiatives to maximize impact and resource efficiency.
- (4) The Board shall work in collaboration with other Government agencies, development partners and non-governmental organizations to achieve the County's poverty alleviation goals.
- (5) The Board shall facilitate research and pilot projects to test the effectiveness of additional models that can be incorporated into the program to address different socio-economic challenges.

PART IV –IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNTY ULTRA-POOR GRADUATION MODEL

11. Targeting of Beneficiaries

- (1) The Board shall employ data-driven targeting methodologies to identify ultra-poor households and vulnerable individuals based on economic and social indicators.
- (2) Priority shall be given to vulnerable groups in a manner that shall ensure equal representation across all the twenty wards of the County;
- (3) The targeting framework shall integrate technology-driven solutions for efficient beneficiary identification and monitoring.
- (4) The identified beneficiaries shall be subject to community validation through a participatory process to enhance transparency, accountability and local ownership.

12. Identification of beneficiaries

- (1) The beneficiaries shall be identified using:
- (a) National poverty data and socioeconomic surveys;
- (b) Community-based participatory targeting;
- (c) Proxy means testing; and
- (d) Verification by local administration units.

13. Business Savings Groups Formation and Access to Credit

- (1) Beneficiaries shall be organized into Business Savings Groups to facilitate:
- (a) Access to collective savings and loans;
- (b) Business expansion and financial security;
- (c) Peer mentorship and mutual support.
- (2) The Board shall provide technical support to Business Savings Groups to enhance their financial literacy and management capabilities.
- (3) Business Savings Groups shall be integrated with digital financial solutions to increase accessibility and efficiency.

14. Business and Financial Literacy Training

- (1) The Board shall provide structured business development training covering but not limited to:-
- (a) Financial management and savings;
- (b) Business planning and marketing;
- (c) Profit and loss analysis;
- (d) Risk assessment and mitigation strategies;
- (e) Environmental sustainability in business;
- (f) Digital business solutions and e-commerce integration;
- (g) Conflict resolution mechanisms.
- (2) Beneficiaries must attend at least seventy percent of the training sessions to qualify for seed capital disbursement.

15. Seed Capital and Business Support

- (1) Beneficiaries shall receive an initial seed capital per business group to start their enterprises.
- (2) A follow-up seed capital may be provided upon satisfactory business progress.
- (3) The Board shall establish criteria for monitoring and evaluating the utilization of the seed capital.
- (4) The Board shall explore partnerships with financial institutions to provide low-interest loans for business scaling.
- (5) Beneficiaries shall receive periodic training on reinvestment and scaling strategies.

- (6) To prevent the diversion of seed capital for immediate consumption needs, the Board may:
- (a) Provide consumption support to the beneficiaries for a specified period to ensure that basic needs such as food, healthcare and education are met without affecting the seed capital.
- (b) Collaborate with social protection programs to offer complimentary support, including nutritional assistance, health services, agriculture and education support.

16. Consumption Support

- (1) To prevent distress sales of assets and ensure basic sustenance, beneficiaries may receive temporary consumption stipends.
- (2) The Board shall establish an oversight mechanism to ensure responsible utilization of the support.

17. Climate Smart Business

- (1) The Board shall promote climate smart businesses by supporting enterprises that adopt sustainable and environmentally friendly practices.
- (2) Beneficiaries shall receive training, mentoring and financial support to establish businesses that enhance climate resilience.

18. Market Access and Value Chains

- (1) The Board shall facilitate linkages between micro-enterprises and larger markets.
- (2) The Board shall partner with private sector entities, cooperatives and e-commerce platforms to enhance market penetration for the beneficiaries.

19. Mentorship, Enterprise Incubation and Ongoing Support

- (1) Each business group shall be assigned a mentor for guidance and support.
- (2) The board may establish an Enterprise Incubation Hub to provide:
- (a) Business advisory services;
- (b) Market linkage facilitation;
- (3) The board may extend post-graduation support for business growth and expansion.

- (4) Beneficiaries in (19) (3) may receive socio economic support, including but not limited to:
- (a) Livestock and poultry;
- (b) Agricultural inputs;
- (c) Business starter kits;
- (d) Grants;
- (e) Tools of trade.
- (5) The Board shall ensure that the asset transfer process includes proper orientation, training, and follow-up support.

20. Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment

- (1) The Board shall establish a framework for tracking key performance indicators, including but not limited to:
- (a) Income growth;
- (b) Business sustainability;
- (c) Increased savings;
- (d) Assets accumulation;
- (e) Social and economic well-being of participants;
- (f) Digital financial inclusion adoption rates;
- (g) Nutrition status and food security including the ability of beneficiaries to afford and access sufficient and nutritious meals.
- (h) Environmental and climate resilience impact measures.
- (2)A comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation system shall be established to assess program effectiveness.
- (3) Annual reports submitted to County Executive Committee and County Assembly shall include details of:
- (a) The number of households supported;
- (b) Graduation rates and impact assessments;
- (c) Challenges encountered and recommendations for improvement.

21. Graduation Criteria and Post-Graduation Support

- (1)A household shall be deemed to have graduated from extreme poverty upon meeting the following minimum conditions:
- (a) Stable and diverse income sources sufficient to meet daily needs;
- (b) Increased asset ownership, including savings and productive assets;
- (c) Food security, with the ability to afford nutritious meals daily;

- (d) Improved social and economic resilience, demonstrated through community integration and self-sufficiency;
- (e) Financial inclusion, with active participation in savings or credit programs.
- (2) Graduated households may continue to receive light-touch support to ensure sustainability, including:
- (a) Access to business development services;
- (b) Market linkage facilitation;
- (c) Participation in local savings and investment groups.
- (3) The Board shall track and document the progress of graduated households for at least three years to assess long-term impact.

PART V- GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND

22. Establishment of the Fund Management Board

- (1) There is established a board to be known as Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Development Fund Board.
- (2) The Board shall consist of —
- (a) A Chairperson appointed by the Governor with County Assembly approval;
- (b) The County Chief Officer for Social Services;
- (c) An Officer in the County Public Service;
- (d) Two representatives from Public Benefit Organizations working in the poverty alleviation sector;
- (e) One representative from the private sector;
- (f) Three members representing the youths, women and persons with disability;
- (g) The Fund Administrator, appointed by the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning who shall be the secretary and ex-officio member;
- (3) The members of the board referred in Section 22 (2) (c), (e), (f) and (g) shall be appointed by the County Executive Committee Member with the approval of the County Assembly.
- (4) Members appointed under section 22 (2) (a), (e), (f) and (g) shall hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further term.

23. Eligibility and Qualification for Board Membership;

- (1) Unless disqualified under this Act or any other Law, a person is eligible for appointment as a Board Member if the person
 - (a) Meets the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya;
 - (b) Has experience in the relevant field;
 - (c) Holds a Degree from a recognized University;
 - (d) Ordinarily resides in the County.

24. Removal from and Vacancy of Office;

- (1)A member of the Board may be removed for:
- (a) Violation of the Constitution or any other law;
- (b) Gross misconduct;
- (c) Incompetence or neglect of duty;
- (d) Conviction of a criminal offence with a sentence exceeding six months;
- (e) Absence from three consecutive meetings without reasonable cause;
- (f) Physical or mental incapacity to perform the functions of the office.
- (2) The office of a member of the board shall fall vacant if the member:
- (a) Resigns in writing;
- (b) Adjudged bankrupt by the court of law;
- (c) If the person dies.
- (3) A member of the Board may, pursuant to Section 24(1), be removed from office by the appointing authority.
- (4) Where the office of Chairperson or member becomes vacant under subsection (2), the Secretary shall within 7 days notify the appointing authority of vacancy for appointment of a replacement.

25. Functions of the Board

- (1)The Board shall —
- (a) Develop and oversee Poverty Alleviation policies and programs;
- (b) Ensure proper fund management and accountability;
- (c) Mobilize resources from development partners and private investors;
- (d) Ensure fair and transparent allocation of financial resources;
- (e) Conduct creditworthiness assessments;

- (f) Set criteria and conditions for granting loans, financial assistance and implementation of County poverty alleviation program including the Ultra Poor Graduation model;
- (g) Establish and maintain links with other persons, bodies or organizations within or outside Kenya, as the Board may consider appropriate for furtherance of purposes for which the fund is established;
- (h) Prepare regular, quarterly and annual reports on the operations and performance of the fund, submission to the County Executive Committee Member;
- (i) Perform and exercise all other functions and powers conferred on the Board by this Act or any other law.

26. Powers of the Board:

- (1) The Board shall have all the powers necessary for the proper performance of its functions under this Act.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Board shall have power to-
 - (a) Sue and be sued in its own name;
 - (b) Acquire, purchase and dispose movable and immovable properties;
 - (c) Establish Ad hoc Committees in such cases as it may deem necessary for the effective discharge of its functions. Each Ad hoc Committee shall comprise not more than five (5) members appointed by the Board, taking into consideration gender equity, local representation, and relevant expertise.
 - (d) Delegate some of its functions to the committees, Financial institutions and County Departments;
 - (e) Enter into contracts;
 - (f) Manage and control the Fund in a manner and for purposes that best promotes the object for which the Fund is established;
 - (g) Subject to the provisions of this Act, exercise discretion in the application of the Fund;
 - (h) Subject to the approval by the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and economic planning, invest any of the monies of the Fund not immediately required for the purposes of this Act, as it may deem fit;
 - (i) Exercise all other lawful powers as may be conferred by these Act or any other law.

27. Appointment of the Fund Administrator:

- (1) The County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning shall appoint the Administrator of the Fund who shall hold office on terms and conditions of service specified in the instrument of appointment.
- (2) The Administrator shall be the Chief Executive Officer responsible for the day to day functioning of the Fund and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, shall
 - (a) ensure that the established procedures and criterion of funding are followed;
 - (b) ensure that all loans, financial assistance, seed capital and grants awarded from the Fund are properly recorded;
 - (c) Be responsible for keeping proper books and records of account of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the fund;
 - (d) Prepare financial statements and any other report in relation to the administration of the fund;
 - (e) Consult with the County Executive Committee Member and the Board on matters relating to the administration of the fund for advancing the objects of the Fund;
 - (f) Advise the Board, from time to time, on policies to adopt to enable the Board to effectively lead the Fund;
 - (g) Prepare budgets, operational proposals, annual plans and corporate policies for discussion by the Board and implement decisions and resolutions adopted by the Board;
 - (h) Strive to achieve the financial and operating goals of the Fund;
 - (i) Perform such other functions assigned by the Board from time to time.
- (3) The fund Administrator shall serve for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further term of three years.

28. Staff of the Fund:

- (1) The Board shall have staff managed by the Chief Executive Officer
- (2) The County Secretary may deploy such staff already employed in the County Government as the Board may recommend to be necessary for proper discharge of its function under this Act.
- (3) The board may subject to budgetary approval and in accordance with applicable laws recruit its own technical or support staff for proper discharge of its functions.

29. Independence of the Fund Management Board

- (1) The Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Fund Management Board shall operate as an independent body, free from undue influence or control by any person or authority.
- (2) The Board shall have the power to make binding decisions regarding fund allocation, loan approvals, and enterprise support without external interference.
- (3) The Board shall develop and enforce its internal policies and operational procedures in accordance with this Act and national financial management laws.

PART VI: ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY LOAN, GRANT AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

30. Financial assistance and Loan Application

- (1) A person wishing to receive a loan or financial assistance from the Fund shall make an application in a prescribed form to the Board.
- (2) The criteria for consideration of an application and granting of a loan or financial assistance from the Fund shall be guided by the eligibility standards and policies set by the Board.
- (3) The Board may engage Government and Financial Institutions to disburse loans and financial assistance.
- (4) Loans and financial assistance shall be administered electronically and no cash transactions shall be permitted.

31. Grant Application

- (1) Grants shall be issued to groups engaging in activities that promote economic development, social welfare and community empowerment.
- (2) The provisions governing the granting of loans and financial assistance under section 30 shall, with necessary modifications apply to issuance of grants under this Act.
- (3) In applying section 30 to "grants":
- (a) Reference to "loans or financial assistance" shall be construed as reference to "grants".
- (b) Eligibility criteria, application procedures and disbursement mechanisms applicable to loans and financial assistance shall apply to grants.

(c) The Board may issue additional criteria to align the grant issuance process with objectives and requirements of this Act.

PART VII – LOAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECOVERY MECHANISM AND INTEREST RATE

32. Loan and Financial Assistance Recovery Mechanism and Interest Rate

- (1) The Board shall implement a structured loan and financial assistance recovery mechanism to ensure sustainability.
- (2) The interest rate on loans shall be set at a rate not exceeding 7% per annum.
- (3) Loan and financial assistance repayment shall be monitored through a dedicated loan tracking system, with reminders sent to beneficiaries.
- (4) Any loan or financial assistance defaulter shall be subject to the following penalties:
 - (a) A late payment penalty at the rate to be determined by the Board.
 - (b) Legal recovery proceedings where default exceeds 12 months;
 - (c) Disqualification from future financial assistance under the Fund.
- (5) The Board may engage Government and Financial Institutions, auctioneers, or debt collectors to recover the loans and financial assistance.

PART VIII- GENERAL PROVISIONS

33. Data Collection and Poverty Mapping

- (1) The Department for Social services shall conduct periodic poverty surveys to assess economic progress.
- (2) The County Department responsible for Social services shall publish an annual poverty alleviation report outlining policy achievements and recommendations.

34. Protection from Personal Liability

- (1) No act, matter or thing done or omitted to be done by—
 - (a) A member of the Board or its committee;
 - (b) A member of staff or other person in the service of the Board; or
 - (c) Any person acting under the direction of the Board;

Provided the act, matter or thing was done or omitted in good faith in the execution of a duty or direction, render that member or person liable to any civil liability.

35. Regulations

(1) The County Executive Committee Member shall make regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

36. Repeal and Savings

- (1) The Taita Taveta County Datu Sawazisha Fund Act, 2014 is repealed.
- (2) All funds, assets and obligations under the repealed Act shall be transferred to the Taita Taveta County Poverty Alleviation, Empowerment and Enterprise Fund.

37. Offenses and Penalties

- (1) Any person who diverts, misappropriates, or uses funds allocated under this Act for unauthorized purposes commits an offense and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Kenya Shillings 300,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three (3) years, or both.
- (2) Any member of the Board or public official who engages in fraud, bribery, falsification of documents, or collusion to unlawfully benefit from the Fund commits an offense and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Kenya Shillings 300,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three (3) years, or both.
- (3) Any person who knowingly prevents, obstructs, or interferes with an audit or official investigation into the management of the Fund commits an offense and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Kenya Shillings 200,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two (2) years, or both.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The principal objective of this Bill is to provide a legal and institutional framework for poverty alleviation, empowerment and enterprise development in Taita Taveta County. The Bill seeks to establish a structured Fund to support vulnerable groups, promote entrepreneurship and enhance self-reliance among residents. Given the high poverty levels and limited financial access in the County, this Bill introduces targeted funding, skills development and enterprise support as key strategies for sustainable economic growth.

The Bill establishes a County-managed Fund sourced from County allocations, grants and innovative financing mechanisms, overseen by the Board. It incorporates progressive poverty alleviation models, including the Ultra-Poor Graduation Model. Furthermore, the Bill emphasizes climate-smart businesses and market linkages to foster sustainable economic development.

To ensure effective management and accountability, the Bill mandates regular impact assessments, data-driven poverty mapping, clear loan recovery mechanisms and annual reporting. Its implementation will require budgetary allocations and strategic partnerships with development stakeholders. By enacting this Bill, the County Government aims to reduce poverty, create employment opportunities and promote inclusive economic empowerment in Taita Taveta County.