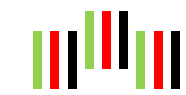# 2023 ESG REPORT

Konza Technopolis

Brand Message   Accelerating the Impact of Konza Technopolis.

**Mission, Vision &
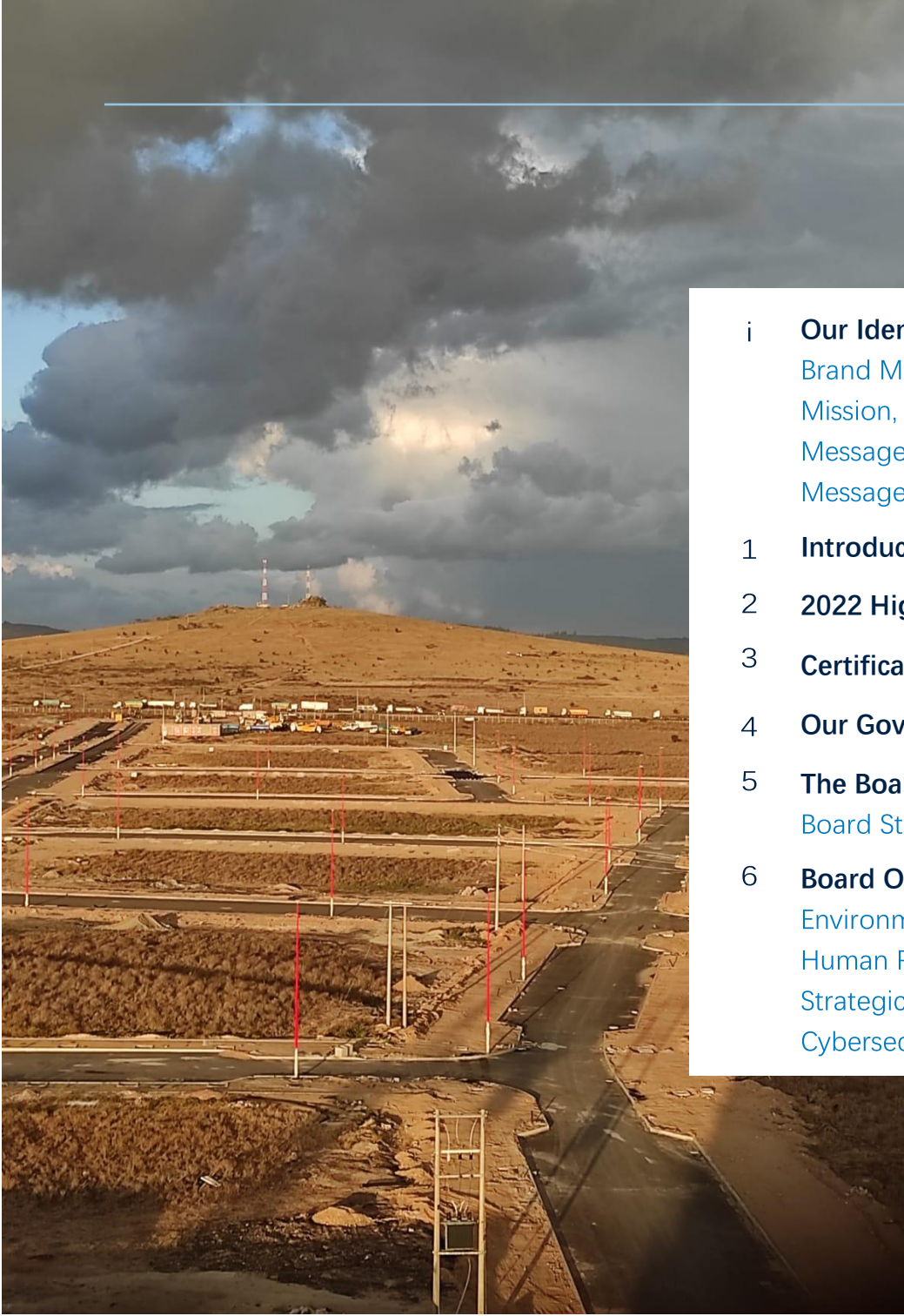Core Values**

MISSION
To develop a thriving sustainable smart city and a vibrant innovation ecosystem contributing to Kenya's knowledge Economy.

VISION
A leading global Technopolis and innovation hub.

CORE VALUES

● **Nurturing**
We celebrate and invest to grow a diverse set of talents and skills to achieve our vision. We see possibilities ahead of us and are committed to develop the Smart city to its true potential.

● **Innovation**
We choose to transform and continuously improve in everything we do, we are curious, creative, and constantly look for better ways to deliver our products and services to our customers.

● **Collaboration**
We optimize results by working smarter together. We multiply our contribution through strategic partnerships and deliver value to all parties.

● **Excellence**
We are passionate on delivering a better Konza to live, work and play through flexible and creative solutions inspired by outstanding services in time. • We conduct our business with integrity in a transparent, accountable, and ethical manner.

Prof. Raphael Munavu, Chairman, the Board of Directors

"Our team onboarded new investors and delivered increased value to all our stakeholders. We have onboarded some of the industry-leading investors across our clusters of Life Sciences, Technology, Academia and Engineering Services among others. Our employees and contractors have embraced our vision of a sustainable Konza Technopolis."

Chairmans Remarks

I reflect on past three years. The advent of Covid-19 in year 2020 to 2021 and the unprecedented eruption of the Russia – Ukraine War in year 2022 that greatly affected global economic stability and supply chains. Despite these, we remained steadfast in fulfilment of our commitment to the Authority's mandate, objectives and purpose. This makes me proud of all of us at Konza Technopolis.

We achieved greater heights towards building a favourable business environment though a sustained policy advocacy, resource mobilization campaigns and pursuit for enactment of KoTDA Bill. We were successful in having Konza Technopolis gazetted as Special Economic Zone (SEZ) which grants it a raft of incentives to encourage investment. We sustained good inflows of project finance from the government, private sector and the development partners towards establishment of infrastructure and investments. The Bill is currently at Cabinet awaiting approval.

Our team onboarded new investors and delivered increased value to all our stakeholders. We have onboarded some of the industry-leading investors across our clusters of Life Sciences, Technology, Academia and Engineering Services among others. Our employees and contractors have embraced our vision of a sustainable Konza Technopolis.

Going forward, we have reinforced our efforts for sustainability with the adoption of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices. We will continue the monitoring, analysis and reporting of our ESG impacts, trends and progress achieved.

John Paul Okwiri, A.g. Chief Executive Officer

> *"I believe the Technopolis will become integral to the lives, affairs and relationship of its residents, enterprises and all its stakeholders. It will have significant effects on fundamental societal processes and resource systems. The Technopolis will generate value for our society and enhance societal processes that enrich resource systems."*

CEO's Remarks

Infrastructure is crucial for economic development. Konza Technopolis is a fundamental public and social infrastructure that will transform our society. The transformation, as noted for other mega infrastructure projects and smart cities will be in the form of better quality of life, improved connectivity and mobility, new opportunities, better sustainable living spaces, economic growth and human development.

I believe the Technopolis will become integral to the lives, affairs and relationship of its residents, enterprises and all its stakeholders. It will have significant effects on fundamental societal processes and resource systems. The Technopolis will generate value for our society and enhance societal processes that enrich resource systems.

The Technopolis brings about reliable and redundant Utilities, improved Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), efficient Water and Sanitation Networks as well as providing Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) that enables societies to function and economies to thrive.

We have positioned ourselves at the very heart of our national efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We are currently implementing ten (10) SDGs and supporting seven (7) in the implementation of our mandate. This report focuses on our progress and achievements in the four pillars namely the SDGs, Economic Development, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG).

Introduction

The mandate of the Authority is to develop Konza Technopolis as a globally competitive smart city by creating an enabling environment through utilization of ICT for socio-economic development. The Technopolis purposes to contribute at least 2% of GDP, create 17,000 jobs and accommodate 30,000 residents upon completion and operationalization of Phase I. At full buildout, it will accommodate a population of approximately 240,000.

Konza Technopolis is a smart city that is a destination of world capital inflows. So far, we have attracted investments and capital from Africa, North America, Asia and Europe. Through our partnership with development partners, we have been able to develop a wide array of infrastructure and other enablers to ensure the Technopolis takes off.

We have diverse and talented employees to help us achieve our mandate and plans for the Technopolis. As we focus on completion of the ongoing Phase 1 Infrastructure; we are also focused on operationalization of this Phase to meet our conceptualization goals of creating at least 17,000 jobs, accommodating 30.000-plus residents, and contributing at least 2% to our national income.

We have received immense support from the government and a lot of technical guidance from our Ministry and relevant agencies. We are well aligned to the government priority areas, development objectives and the Kenya Kwanza Government Manifesto (The Plan/ The Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) 2022-2027).

It is our endeavour to support the government as it works towards accelerated growth of our economy. All our projects and investments are geared towards growing the economy from its very nascent points upwards.

We are also aligned to the five-year government planning regimes of Medium-Term Plans. Currently, we are in the Medium-Term Plan IV 2023 – 27 whose priorities are Completion and Operationalization Phase 1 Infrastructure and Investments, Expansion of the Technopolis to Phases 2/ 3 and Enhancing and Accelerating the Impact of Konza Technopolis beyond its borders to generate value nationally, regionally, and globally.

Bearing in mind the progressive continuity of the Medium-Term Plans, we do appraise of our longstanding progress across the previous Medium-Term Plans as follows:

- Medium-Term Plan I: Conceptualization of Konza Technopolis – Outcomes include Conceptual documents, Vision 2030 Blueprint and Acquisition of 5,000 acres for Technopolis.
- Medium-Term Plan II: Planning and Approvals for Konza Technopolis – Outcomes include Masterplan, Feasibility Report, SEA Report, Financing Models, Guidelines and Codes.
- Medium Term Plan III: Implementation of Konza Technopolis – Major Outcomes were Phase 1 Infrastructure, Onboarding Investors, 90% Parcel Uptake, Expansion to Phases 2/ 3 among others.

Vision:
A leading global Technopolis and Innovation Hub

Mission:
To develop thriving sustainable smart city and a vibrant innovation ecosystem contributing to Kenya's Knowledge Economy

Core Values:
Nurturing
Innovation
Collaboration
Excellence

2022 Highlights

Phase 1 Horizontal Infrastructure

The Horizontal Infrastructure for Konza Technopolis which entails provision of streetscapes, wet and dry subsurface utilities, parks, public buildings and social amenities implemented to 85% completion.

Konza National Data Centre

The Data Centre which supports nationally all IT dependent solutions and services is complete and operational. The Data Centre has capabilities for Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Networking and Collocation Services. It also provides backbone digital infrastructure on which smart city services for the Technopolis operates.

Smart City Facilities

The smart city facilities project establishes the Integrated Operation Centre (IOC), Intelligent Transport System (ITS), Citywide Network, digital signages, smart metres and sensors for the Technopolis. It is 40% complete,

Konza Complex – Conference & Hotel

Construction of Conference Facility is ongoing at 40% completion. The conference auditorium has a seating capacity of 500. Feasibility Study for the Hotel Block was undertaken, and final report approved for implementation. The Hotel Block supports the Technopolis through Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) and tourism.

Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

The University Curriculum was developed and approved, awaiting implementation. The construction of the University's Campus Core Buildings, Administration Buildings, Laboratories and Accommodation were constructed to 40% completion.

Konza Investors Outreach Programme

The Authority engaged investors through investor-centric programmes, conferences and meetings. New investors were onboarded to the Technopolis and over 90% of Phase 1 being sold out. The investors are expected to commence development works soon.

Konza Innovation Ecosystem

The Authority equipped its Headquarters, the KenInvest Headquarters and the Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy with state-of-the-art Video Conferencing solutions. It hosted and supported innovation hackathons and launched the *"Jitume Program"* which enhances digital work.

H.E. Dr. William S. Ruto on 6th December 2022 at the Kabete National Polytechnic launched the Virtual Desktop Infrastructure project which equips Higher Learning Institutions and TVETS with Virtual Desktops and Video Conferencing capabilities to promote digital learning, innovation and digital employment.

Konza Resource and Partnerships

We continued our resource mobilization campaign and drive for partnerships. We received much support from our government and the governments of China, Italy, UAE and South Korea. We also received much support from the UNDP, UN HABITAT, UNESCO, EDCF among other development partners and donors. It is our resolve to further our development cooperation with all development partners and donors towards implementation and operationalization of Konza Technopolis.

Special Economic Zone status

Konza Technopolis was gazetted as a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) granting it a raft of incentives and economic considerations from the government. The benefits of this special status will be enjoyed by all our enterprises, investors, development partners and residents. Out of this we joined the World Free Zones Association.

Knowledge Economy Initiative

We made good progress in implementation of our anchor project for this initiative namely the Digital Media City (DMC). The Feasibility Study Report for the project was approved, giving way for implementation. The project is funded by the South Korean Government through its KEXIM Bank.

Ten Million Smart Tree Nursery

We are implementing the 10 million tree nursery which will be run and monitored through our smart systems. This is in our effort to reclaim Konza Technopolis which is in a savannah with semi-arid ecological conditions. The project also enables us to meet the Presidential Directive on planting 15 billion Trees in Kenya to improve tree cover.

Certifications

Konza Technopolis is a member of the IASP

Konza Technopolis is ISO 9001: 2015 Certified

Konza National Data Centre is Tier III Certified

Konza Technopolis is pursuing LEED Certification

Our Governance

Medium-Term Plan III (MTP II) Resource Map
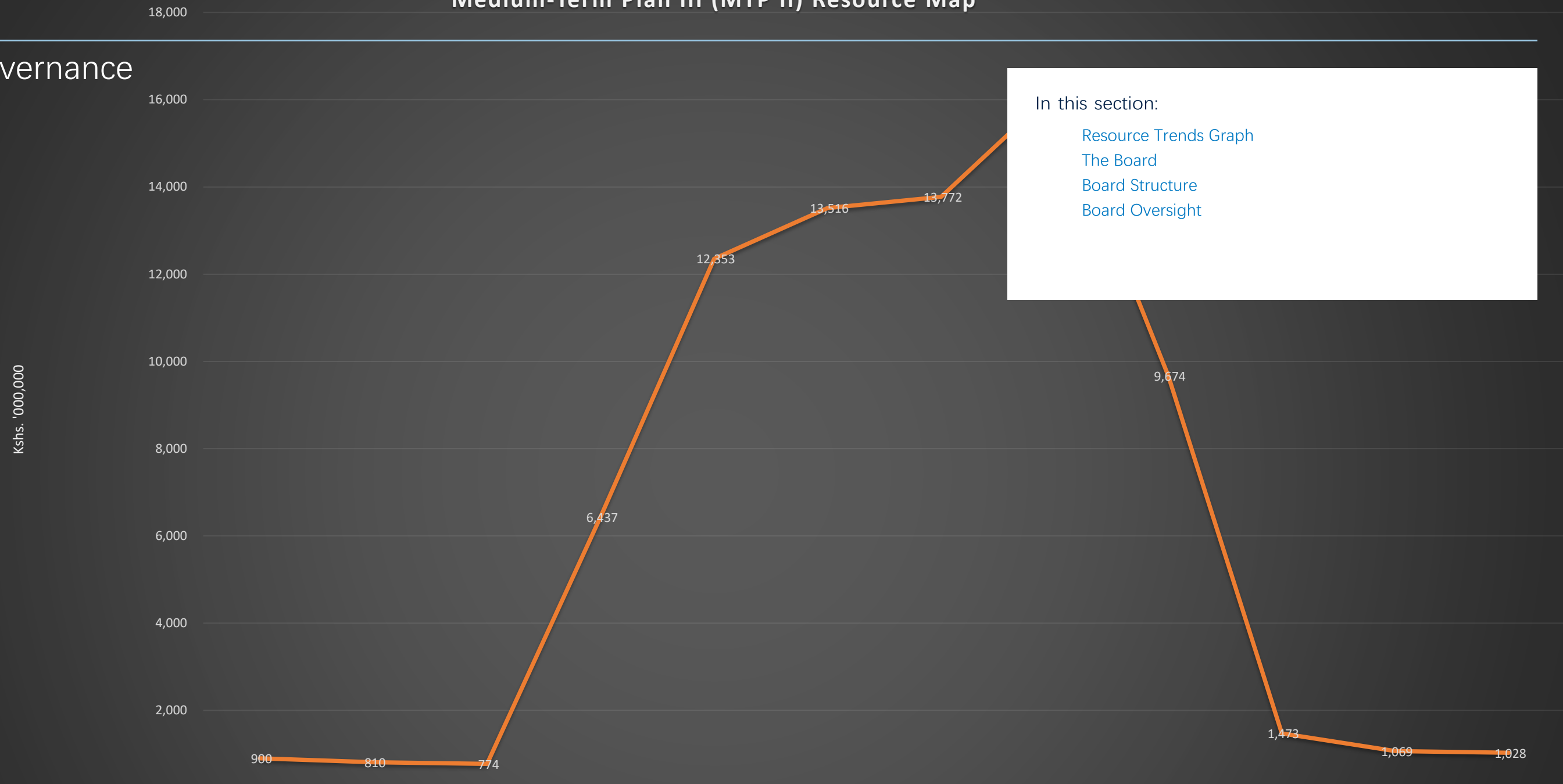
In this section:
- Resource Trends Graph
- The Board
- Board Structure
- Board Oversight

Financial Years (estimates)	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21	2021/ 22	2022/ 23	2023/ 24	2024/ 25	2025/ 26
Development Allocation	900	810	774	6,437	12,353	13,516	13,772	16,198	9,674	1,473	1,069	1,028

The Board

The Board of Directors of Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) continued its commitment to corporate governance to the expectation of our employees, contractors, stakeholders, investors, development partners and community.

The Board's oversight and fiduciary extends to the Authority's corporate strategy, environmental sustainability, human resource and corporate culture. The Board has in place various Board Committees to coordinate specific functions and departments of the Authority. These Board Committees are the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee, the Corporate Services Committee, the Business Development, Innovation, Research and Strategy Committee, as well as the Technical and Infrastructure Development Committee.

The Business Development, Innovation, Research and Strategy Committee also oversees the Authority's Corporate Social Responsibility implemented through the Business Development Department. It ensures the Authority's social responsibility efforts and resources are properly invested for financial and social returns in the form of strategic philanthropies, employee engagements and other corporate community-level interventions.

Board Structure
Our Corporate Governance Principles and Practices entrenches intelligent and independent leadership as a critical driver of effective corporate governance. To this end, our Board is made up on fourteen members of which eight are independent.

In compliance with the *Mwongozo Code of Conduct*, the Board observes the highest levels of corporate governance and business ethics. The Board's current composition is diverse with multiple skills. It undertakes Annual Performance Evaluations and Annual Corporate Governance Audits in line with the *Mwongozo Code of Conduct*.

In the last five years, our Board has experienced significant inflow and outflow of members keeping it refreshed, competitive and progressive. This progressive nature of our Board gives us confidence that the Board has qualified members who adhere to Corporate Governance, meets our Business Ethics and are aligned to our National Priorities and Strategies including the 2nd Strategic Plan themed "*Accelerating the Impact of Konza Technopolis*".

> *"Our corporate social responsibility efforts and resources are properly invested for financial and social returns in the form of strategic philanthropies, employee engagements and other corporate community-level interventions."*

Board Oversight

Environmental Sustainability

Environmental sustainability is a core function for Konza Technopolis. For this reason, it is anchored in the Construction, Operations and Maintenance (COM) department as a division. The technical functions of COM department are overseen by the Technical and Infrastructure Development Committee of the Board.

COM department coordinates all the infrastructural development works which include Horizontal Infrastructure, Green Infrastructure, Vertical Infrastructure and overall Sustainability of the Technopolis. It also coordinates solid and liquid waste management, recycling and relevant offsite infrastructure development.

Our sustainability strategy takes a multi-thronged approach with the Authority at the centre. It involves joint efforts by our Investors, Contractors, Consultants, Staff, Government Agencies, Development Partners and other Stakeholders.

The Environmental Sustainability Division updates the Technical and Infrastructure Development Committee of the Board on a quarterly basis on implementation of climate objectives and strategy. This gives the Board insight on implementation and compliance to our climate change strategy and environmental obligations. The Board receives periodic briefings and updates on progress and trends that impact the Technopolis and environs.

Human Resource Management

The Human Resource division is anchored in the Corporate Services Department. Its functions encompass succession planning, inclusivity, diversity and talent management. All these are important for our corporate success and mandate.

The Corporate Services Committee of the Board oversees the division to ensure our human capital is well resourced and facilitated. It periodically receives updates on our Corporate Performance, Employee Performance, Inclusivity and Diversity with recommendations on areas for policy improvements.

The Corporate Services Committee of the Board updates the Board regularly on matters Human Capital Management, Key Performance Indicators and Policies. It also ensures our endowments in terms of employee talents, workforce composition, employee diversity, development programs and succession planning are well managed.

Strategic Risk Management

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee of the Board oversees the Authority's Internal Audit on Strategic Risk Management.

This Committee reviews our internal processes, procedures and internal control mechanisms put in place for frugality and prudence. It regularly updates the Board on strategic risks and opportunities facing the Authority and the project.

The Committee receives periodic reports from management on material and emerging risks. It reviews and assesses our risk profile and reports on material risks. We have in place a Risk Register that classifies our risks by type, severity, likelihood and impact. This Committee also reviews policies and guidelines set in place by management to reduce exposure and occurrence of the identified risks.

Cybersecurity

The Board oversees cybersecurity risk through the ICT and Smart Cities Division. The division manages our ICT Programmes, the National Data Centre functions and Smart City Facilities.

The division has in place a cybersecurity incident response plan which outlines controls and procedures for timely and accurate reporting of any material cybersecurity incidents. We note that we have not had any material data security breach in since inception.

Konza National Data Centre

The Konza National Data Centre and Smart City Facilities team ensures cybersecurity, data privacy and compliance to data laws and regulations to safeguard our corporate and customers data.

We have updated our data processes, procedures and the ICT policies to ensure we stay ahead of cyberthreats, security breaches and cyberattacks,

The Konza National Data Centre is UPTIME TIER III Certified; LEEDS Gold Certified and is currently working on ISO 27001 certification.

This means we are designed to protect and preserve confidentiality, integrity with a guaranteed availability of all information, data, software and services owned by, or under care of, the Konza National Data Centre on behalf of our clients.

The data centre has in place security standards and has adopted best practices for management of our technological resources. The staff, contractors and third parties at the data centre undergo regular trainings in line with the recommendations of our annual skills gap analysis and on a need-basis.

The Authority continues to evaluate its technologies, internal data processes, controls and cybersecurity intelligence as a strategy to prevent, detect and respond to any cyberthreats and cyberattacks.

The Konza National Data Centre is an important digital infrastructure for the Technopolis and the nation. It bridges technological gaps and ensures that Konza Technopolis is established to smart city standards as envisaged in the city's Masterplan, the Vision 2030 Blueprint and the Kenya's Digital Economy Blueprint – 2019,

The government is implementing Konza National Data Centre and Smart City Facilities project with the support of the Chinese government to support nationally, regionally and globally all ICT dependent applications, processes and technologies.

The Data Centre offers business opportunities for its regional and global clients through Collocation Services, Platform as a Service (PaaS), Software as a Service (SaaS), Cloud Infrastructure and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure.

The project has other two components namely the Disaster Recovery Data Centre for redundancy and the Smart City Facilities that establishes Integrated Operation Centre (IOC), Internet of Things Laboratory (IOT Lab), Smart Poles, Smart Parking, Public Safety and Emergency Services, Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), Video Surveillance, Citywide Network, Video Conferencing, and Public Wi-Fi.

Integrity and Compliance

The Authority promoted the culture of ethical and compliant conduct of all its officers including project staff and contracted staff. The compliance to ethics and integrity fostered compliance with our policies, programs, and applicable legal and statutory requirements.

The Authority will continue to encourage all staff to raise any ethics questions, complaints or concerns that they may have. It will ensure provision of a variety of reporting channels, including directly to management, human resources, Integrity Officers, the Ethics Website and the ethics hotlines.

Corporate Governance

Our Corporate Governance Principles and Practices entrenches intelligent and independent leadership as a critical driver of effective leadership and project implementation. We will continue to enhance the cordial relationship with the Board, The National Treasury, the Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy, the Private Sector, our development partners among other key stakeholders.

Figure 2: Furnished Apartments

Corporate Performance

Konza Technopolis is committed to high performance standards on all its spheres. The performance targets for the Authority are drawn from the Performance Contracts that it signs with the government annually, the five-year 2nd strategic plan (2021-26), the mandates as derived from Legal Notice No. 23 of 2012, the Vision 2030 Blueprint and other applicable national planning priorities, strategies and policies.

The implementation of our performance targets is monitored and evaluated on a quarterly basis. The end of each quarter is marked with the monitoring and evaluation to determine the progress made in implementation of our performance targets. The performance reports are shared with our oversight agencies in compliance to their respective requirements. The external agencies other than providing oversight they also provide technical guidance.

We report our performance trends to the Public Service Performance Management and Monitoring Unit (PSPMMU). The unit is charged with independent reviews of our performance self-evaluation score cards. This ensures objectivity in our scoring criteria and compliance to performance standards and guidelines set by the government.

In our continuous pursuit for excellence, we performed as follows in the year 2022:

- We were awarded Excellent Score in the Performance Evaluation of the FY 2021/ 22 Performance Contract.
- We attained ISO 9001: 2015 Certification.
- We achieved Uptime Tier III Certification for our Data Centre
- Our Konza National Data Centre became LEED Gold Certified
- We won the Bid to host the IASP World Conference 2024, beating other first world countries we competed against.

Corporate Risk Management

Figure 3: Installation of Streetlights

Core to the sustainability of Konza Technopolis is understanding the risks the Company takes and how they impact our stakeholders, including policyholders. In addition, the Company's culture of transparency and informed decision-making is foundational to our ability to plan for and mitigate potential risks.

Risk Management Framework

The Authority has in place Operational Policies and Procedures, Development Guidelines, Building Codes and Procedures alongside a Risk Management Framework to support its operations and development activities. It has a robust corporate culture that fosters openness and constructive engagement.

The staff roles and responsibilities are well defined to promote individual accountability. It has in place active Risk Management Committees at the levels of technical staff and management. This two-tier risk management system promotes transparent and collaborative risk review for informed decision-making at all levels.

Our key role is to establish Konza Technopolis to smart city standards and have all its infrastructure and systems operate seamlessly. This we believe will give our investors, partners and residents a good competitive advantage.

We occasionally turn to our risk management framework to guide us on quantification of our risks and to understand how such identified risks behave.

We continuously scan our corporate environment and the Konza Technopolis environment to timely identify, manage and mitigate operational and infrastructural risks. Our findings we report to management and the Board on a regular for decision making.

Environmental, Social and Governance Risks

Our moral and ethical imperative makes us acknowledge our Environmental, Social and Governance footprints. Owing to the nature of our mandate and investments, we are accountable to the government, our staff, contractors, development partners, customers, investors, regulators and community on matters ESG.

In the past, we have learnt that ESG factors around Konza Technopolis are changing at a faster rate. So is the expectation of stakeholders who expect us to act right. We therefore acknowledge that ESG risks predispose us to higher levels uncertainties, a position detrimental to our mandate, business and investments.

Environmental

Climate change affects Konza Technopolis in several ways. While development of infrastructure contributes a certain degree to climate change, the infrastructure we develop is also affected by the very climate change it contributes to.

The immediate impacts are borne by the infrastructure, our investors, residents and neighbouring communities whose lifestyles get disrupted or altered.

Particularly, our roads have Subsurface Utility Corridors which contain wet utilities and dry utilities. The wet utilities include water reticulation systems, sewer systems and wastewater recycle lines. The dry utilities include fiber optic cables, ICT systems, electrical systems and pneumatic solid waste systems which are all sensitive to flooding.

Flooding is therefore dangerous to the Technopolis as it contaminates the wet subsurface utilities i.e., water, sewer and recycled water. It is also dangerous to the dry utilities i.e., fiber, electricals and ICT systems as it can cause short circuits, rusting, corrosion and electrocution,

Konza Technopolis being in a semi-arid area, experiences intense heat for most of the year. Extreme heat due to unmitigated climate change is dangerous to the Horizontal Infrastructure as it causes buckling and cracking of the roads and accelerated tear and wear of other associated infrastructure and investments. It compounds the operational costs for residents and businesses as it increases demand for air conditioning, operations and maintenance costs.

It affects population health and causes mortalities for humans, animals and wildlife. The characteristics of Konza Technopolis puts it at a comprising position should it experience unmitigated climate change. Characteristically, the Technopolis sits in a savannah which is situated in a semi-arid area, endowed with wildlife and livestock.

The extreme dry conditions are potential causes for health risks, mortalities and human-wildlife conflicts. Historically, the area has experienced undesired occurrences like heat stress, wildfires, air pollution, spread of disease and human-wildlife conflicts.

Climatic disruptions pose investment risks to investors by exposing investments and infrastructure to physical damage and rapid degradation. It also affects business models, which predisposes us to financial deterioration and accelerated wear and tear of assets.

We project that climate risks will be among the determinants of investments at Konza Technopolis. Investors will lookout for climate risks in their respective sectors of investments. They will want to know how associated climate risks affect their asset classes, and investment clusters.

The Authority evaluates its operations and activities to map out exposures to climate change. The Smart Cities Facilities project, which is a component of the larger Konza National Data Centre and Smart City Facilities project installs environmental sensors and monitoring systems in the Technopolis. The sensors will monitor all climatic parameters to inform climate policies, operations and strategies.

We also continuously monitor the outcomes of our projects. Specifically, their distribution effects, impacts and severity to account for their potentiality of climatic disruptions.

Social

Mega infrastructure projects are implemented to cause significant changes in the society. The Kenya Vision 2030 Blueprint contains a raft of mega flagship projects that purposes to transform our economy into a Medium Income Country (MIC).

The Economic Pillar of Vision 2030 targets to improve and prosper Kenya through various economic development programmes. The aim is to achieve an average GDP growth rate of 10% per annum.

From the Economic Pillar arises the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) Sector where Konza Technopolis is anchored as a flagship project. The BPO Sector targets to create at least 7,500 jobs as and generate additional Kshs. 10 billion to the GDP.

Konza Technopolis adopted these targets with higher limits of creating 17,000 jobs, 30,000 residents and contribute 2% GDP upon completion and operationalization of Phase 1.

Initially the vision as at 2012 was to simply establish a BPO Park. This was later revised to establishment of an ICT City which was further revised to the establishment of a Technopolis. The Technopolis was the most economically feasible. The initial plan is quoted below:

"…one major BPO park in Nairobi (possibly in Athi River) that will have world class infrastructure developed by international IT suppliers. Kenya would offer competitive packages for companies to locate in the park, provide a one-stop-shop for administration of talent and serve as a 'showcase' park to attract more top foreign IT companies".

The establishment of Konza Technopolis has its own unique societal challenges and opportunities. The challenges manifest themselves through strained health systems, exploitation of environmental ecosystems and financial ecosystems.

As societal pressures piles along these ecosystems, we want to soldier on to build a fair society where all participants will feel vested and equal with more equitable societal outcomes.

The current implementation of infrastructure and vertical developments in the Technopolis and its environs can easily predispose us to societal inequalities. The risk of inequality complicates our abilities to solve long-standing challenges of low population, lack of utilities and infrastructure.

It is imperative for us to guide and regulate the local context of developments around the Technopolis to leverage on its uniqueness. This will guarantee attraction and sustenance of both local and foreign investments and secure a competitive niche for the Technopolis and its Buffer Zone.

The Konza Techno City Buffer Local Physical Development Plan (LPDP) provides a framework to ensure harmonious development between the Konza Technopolis and its immediate environs and to protect the integrity of the investments envisaged in the Technopolis.

The effect of emergence of new unplanned residences and informal settlements, shopping centres and other socioeconomic activities in our locality threatens the integrity and value of investments at Konza Technopolis.

Other factors that predispose us to social risks include the threat of human-wildlife conflict considering we are on an active wildlife migratory corridor with occasional droughts. The poorly drained black cotton soils which run deep, causing problems of access during wet seasons and increases excavation costs during construction. The mushrooming uncontrolled urbanization which may run ahead the capacities of the national and county governments to provide supporting infrastructure, and the urban decay of the old Konza Town when focus shifted to Konza Technopolis.

It is, therefore, crucial for the sustainability of the society that we work towards social inclusion and societal equity. Proper management of the Konza Buffer Zone is critical to the successful establishment of Konza Technopolis as it synchronizes the interests of the Buffer Zone Stakeholders with the physical planning principles to ensure the envisaged spatial structures of land use which include Environment and Conservation, Modern Commercial Agriculture, Urban Development and Transportation Network are achieved.

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and smart city facilities in the Technopolis causes societal concerns on potential unintentional discrimination, digital bias and cyberthreats. Konza Technopolis has

partnered with relevant actors in the AI and Cyberspace, including the AI for Peace Laboratory to provide a foundation of trust and transparency in our use of AI and digital technologies to mitigate creation and reinforcement of unfair digital biases, unintended cyber consequences or unlawful discrimination.

Governance

Our corporate governance promotes stability of long-term outcomes. We undertake annual governance audits to determine our compliance levels with existing laws and statutory requirements. All our Board members execute the *Mwongozo Code of Conduct* every financial year in compliance to the statutory requirement and good corporate governance.

We are committed to effective, consistent, and transparent corporate governance. We have now included ESG reporting as a strategy of corporate governance to help us review and analyse potential disruptions that could be occasioned by our ESG issues.

Our board supports transparent governance systems and encourages open communication, collaboration and taking on new challenges. We also promote diverse views and constructive engagement with investors, development partners and other stakeholders.

Stakeholder Engagement

The Authority maintained a leading presence nationally, regionally and globally in legislative and regulatory processes. The Authority constructively and thoughtfully informed and advised government on a wide range of public policy issues on smart cities and innovation, all which are important to Konza Technopolis, its stakeholders, its investors, and employees.

The Authority facilitated participation of staff, management and Board in several business meetings, economic fora and trade associations. This fostered interactions with industry groups and public policy forums both locally and internationally. Our continued engagements entrenched the interests of Konza Technopolis to the government, the region and globally to the benefit of our development partners, private sector and other stakeholders. The apex of this, was our win at the International Association of Science Parks (IASP) 2022 World Conference held in Seville, Spain where Konza Technopolis won the international bid to host the 40th IASP Word Conference in 2024.

. . . wildlife at Konza Technopolis.

Figure 6: Installation of Pneumatic Solid Waste System

Our Experience

Since inception in 2012, Konza Technopolis Development (KoTDA) Authority has implemented mega- infrastructural projects to a tune of approximately Kshs. 100 billion with funding from the investors, governments, donors, and development partners. This has given us sufficient technical capacities and managerial experiences that come with handling mega infrastructure projects.

Our Management works in close collaboration with our Board, the parent Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy (MICDE), the oversight and regulatory agencies, the private sector, development partners and the counties. Our Board plays a key oversight role of guiding the management, in all financial, technical, and operational aspects of our business.

We are endowed with technical and managerial capabilities with skillsets drawn from social sciences, business, engineering, architecture and physical planning. This gives us impetus for efficient implementation of any project.

Our Experience in figures
as of December 31st, 2022

Kshs. 40 B Phase 1 Horizontal Infrastructure	**Kshs. 18 B** Konza National Data Centre & Smart City Facilities
Kshs. 13 B Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)	**Kshs. 3.8 B** Konza Complex
Kshs. 500 B Value of Phase Private Investments	**5,000 acres** Total acreage for Konza Technopolis

Stakeholder Mapping

Successful implementation of Konza Technopolis requires immense support. The support required manifests through investors buy-in, socio-political goodwill and community inclusion and participation. This lays ground for development cooperation, collaborations and endorsements by our primary stakeholders. We require a well sustained positive project implementation attitude and an adaptive a communal culture to mitigate any misconceptions, or loss of materials and vandalism of our infrastructure which can lead to project temporary closures, unrests and legal tussles with stakeholders.

We believe in proper identification and mapping of our primary stakeholders as it helps us understand who they are, what are their interest areas and how much they influence our project. With this mapping, we can accurately avert risks related to improper handling of our primary stakeholders. This mapping cements cooperation and collaboration with stakeholders. It lays ground for successful partnerships, linkages and synergies with the government, private sector and development partners. This is an important step to implementation of our partnerships and resource mobilization goals.

We note that that our stakeholders are in their own unique ways involved in our decision-making processes, activities, projects and programmes. They do have own levels of interventions, valid points of view, knowledge and experience that add value to our activities, operations and management. Our inclusivity and participatory approaches are more likely to make stakeholders have a greater sense of ownership of decisions and subsequently comply as required. We also note that this document has only identified our primary stakeholders at a high level, while there are other more whose cooperation is of utmost importance. The primary stakeholders are therefore as mapped out as below:

Table 1: Stakeholder Mapping for Konza Technopolis

Stakeholder	Responsibility	Expectation of Stakeholder	Expectation from Stakeholder
The Cabinet	Owner of national projects undertaken by government agencies. Makes executive decisions on policy, national resources and strategic partnerships.	Projects undertaken by the Authority to meet their Manifestos and Visions.	Issuance of Executive Orders and Directives. Coordinate relevant implementing agencies towards realization of the objectives of Konza Technopolis
The Parliament	Representation of the people of the constituencies, deliberate on and resolves issues of national importance, enacts legislations, determines revenue allocation between the two levels of government, appropriates funds to national government and state agencies, reviews conduct of the Executive, oversights state agencies and approves states of emergency.	Stakeholder management, compliance with legal and statutory requirements, prudent expenditures, generation of revenues and oversights projects undertaken by the Authority to ensure they meet national expectations and visions.	Support project implementation through sufficient allocation of resources, enactment of supportive laws, oversight of the Authority and resolution of matters legislature that affect the Authority and the Konza Technopolis project.
The Judiciary	Administration of justice, formulation and implementation of judicial policies, compilation and dissemination of case law and other information for the effective administration of justice.	Observance of justice, adherence to laws, regulations and statutory requirements, support of relevant judicial processes touching on the Authority or Konza Technopolis project and collaboration with the Authority to support delivery of judicial service to the nation.	Provision a conducive and a just operating environment for the Authority and Konza Technopolis.

Stakeholder	Responsibility	Expectation of Stakeholder	Expectation from Stakeholder
Ministries, Counties, Department and Agencies	Facilitate implementation of their respective projects plans and policies. Provide technical support, expertise and oversight to projects or functions that fall under their respective mandates. Coordinate management and development of the Konza Technopolis Buffer Zone.	Seamless implementation of projects, interventions and functions. Establishment of Konza Technopolis as per the Vision 2030 Blueprint.	Support implementation, operationalization and maintenance of Konza Technopolis.
The Development Partners	Support external resource mobilization and establishment of partnerships to undertake mutually agreed projects and interventions, promote implementation of policies and development plans touching on Konza Technopolis	Political and social acceptance, strong commitment to partnerships, sustained success of projects mutually implemented, achievement of mutually agreed objectives, innovation, counterpart resourcing, accountability.	Financial and technical support towards implementation, operationalization and maintenance of Konza Technopolis. Collaborate on new ideas, scale up new solutions developed at Konza Technopolis, facilitate knowledge and skills transfer, strengthen our institutional capacity, promote sustainability and engagements with the private sector as well as support management of the Konza Technopolis Buffer Zone.
The Private Sector	Mobilize private capital to undertake parcel developments and investments at Konza Technopolis. Establish commercial spaces, office spaces, and residentials units for letting to accommodate enterprises,	Leasing of parcels to investors, provision of requisite infrastructure, supportive laws and regulations as well as incentives. Other expectations are oversight,	Mobilization of private capital, investments in Konza Technopolis, lease and undertake parcel developments, adhere to approved development codes, guidelines and timelines. The private sector

Stakeholder	Responsibility	Expectation of Stakeholder	Expectation from Stakeholder
	businesses, residents and other commercial activities. Generate employment opportunities and contribute to the national income.	technical support and enforcement of development guidelines and codes.	is also expected to create jobs and contribute to the national income.
Contractors, Consultants and Contracted Services	Adherence to contractual obligations, implementation of scope, compliance to laws and statutory requirements, compliance to development codes, guidelines and standards of Konza Technopolis.	Compliance to contractual obligations, provision of conducive working environment, availability of required employers technical staff to support, oversee and inspect works as well as timely resolution of requests.	Timely delivery of contracted works, services or goods in the expected standards and form. Compliance to laws, statutory requirements, contractual obligations, development guidelines and building codes of Konza Technopolis.
The Community	Project ownership, adoption and goodwill, protection of infrastructure and investments as well as support implementation of planned development of the Konza Technopolis Buffer Zone and Greening Initiatives.	Regular stakeholder engagement, inclusivity, capacity building and awareness creation, dissemination of information and progress updates. Sharing of opportunities for collaborations, partnerships and employment opportunities.	Participation in stakeholder engagement forums, support security and maintenance of Konza Technopolis infrastructure. Take up investment opportunities, employment opportunities and job opportunities at the Technopolis.
Investors	Mobilize private capital to undertake parcel developments and investments at Konza Technopolis. Establish commercial spaces, office spaces, and residentials units for letting to accommodate enterprises, businesses, residents and other commercial activities.	Leasing of parcels to investors, provision of requisite infrastructure, supportive laws and regulations as well as incentives. Other expectations are oversight, technical support and enforcement of development guidelines and codes.	Mobilization of private capital, investments in Konza Technopolis, lease and undertake parcel developments, adhere to approved development codes, guidelines and timelines. The private sector is also expected to create jobs and contribute to the national income.

Stakeholder	Responsibility	Expectation of Stakeholder	Expectation from Stakeholder
	Generate employment opportunities and contribute to the national income.		

Project Progress Update

In 2022, consistent with our 2nd Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026 themed *"Accelerating the Impact of Konza Technopolis"*, we made substantial progress towards completion of the ongoing infrastructure construction works for Phase 1. Our progress is as outlined below:

Phase 1 Horizontal Infrastructure

In the period under review, the government implemented Phase 1 Horizontal Infrastructure for Konza Technopolis to 85% completion. The Horizontal Infrastructure entails development of streetscape, subsurface utilities, parks, Wastewater Reclamation Facilities, and other amenities. Other associated projects are at advanced levels of completion and are expected to be handed over to Konza Technopolis Development Authority by end of this year for operationalization and maintenance.

The Horizontal Infrastructure project provides critical enablers and utilities for the Technopolis to operate. It provides streetscape for motorized and non-motorized transport. It establishes the municipal buildings namely the fire station, police station and other social amenities which are important for health, safety and security of the Technopolis. This project also establishes the Solid Waste Management plant for handling all kinds of solid wastes. It establishes the Water Treatment Plant which processes all portable water for consumption in the Technopolis. Finally, it establishes the

Wastewater Reclamation Facility which processes and recycles all liquid wastes from the populations of Konza Technopolis.

Figure 7 Photo of a transformer at one the Distribution Substations

Konza Complex – Office Block

Figure 9: Sectional View of Konza Complex Office Block

Konza Complex

The Konza Complex project is a stimulus project for other vertical investment projects in the Technopolis. It sets pace for implementation of phase 1 developments and enables government presence onsite to facilitate provision of government services and to oversee and coordinate project implementation. It is key step towards realization Live, Work and Play ambitions of the Technopolis.

The project entails construction of three components namely the Office Block, the Conference Facility and the Hotel Block. The Office Block provides office spaces for our Headquarters and extra floors for letting to anchor tenants and early investors. The Hotel Block provides hospitality services and initial accommodation while the Conference Facility enables Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) in the Technopolis.

In 2022, the Office Block stood complete and occupied, while the construction of Konza Complex Conference Facility project stood at 45% completion. The works for the Conference Facility generally comprises construction of seven-level storey facility. The facility will have meeting rooms at the lower levels and auditorium at the top with seating capacity of 520 people. The Hotel Block was at feasibility study level, with feasibility report having been published.

Konza National Data Centre and Smart City Facilities

To support the Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy, the government rolled out the Konza National Data Centre services to government agencies, private sector clients and enterprises.

The Konza National Data Centre offers services to the government, the private sector and enterprises in the areas of Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Collocation Services and Networking. The Data Centre has also partnered with other government agencies to support digitization of government records and services in line with the Presidential Directive.

The Data Centre has five components namely the Phase 1 Data Centre which is complete, the Primary Data Centre which is also complete, the Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) which is ongoing, the Smart City Facilities which is ongoing and the Disaster Recovery Data Centre which is also ongoing.

Figure 11 Data Centre servers (credits to www.pexels.com / istockphoto.com)

Figure 12: Ongoing construction of KAIST

Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

Our Government together with the Government of South Korea are jointly developing the Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) to enrich graduate education in the country. In the period under review, the KAIST project was implemented as per schedule with the Campus Core Buildings, Administration Buildings, Laboratories and Accommodation being constructed to 35% completion. The development of the University's Curriculum was also completed and approved for implementation.

ESG Adoption

We will collaborate with our investors, contractors, consultants and other stakeholders to encourage adoption of ESG accountability as follows:

- Incorporation of ESG accountability and reporting.
- Analysis of ESG factors on our projects and long-term strategies.
- Reporting of material risks and opportunities.

The ESG reporting aligns with industry-wide monitoring, evaluation and interpretation of ESG risks and opportunities as follows:

- Broad identification and understanding of ESG factors.
- Identification and tracking of our ESG associated risks and opportunities.
- Adoption of recommendations and moving with the ESG trends.

Climate Action

- Konza Technopolis acknowledges potential risks associated with unmitigated climate change. It will pursue a combination of investment portfolios with the least climate change potentials and accelerate the Konza Smart Tree Nursery. It will also embark on development of the city's green infrastructure as per the Masterplan.

- We will continue to observe our ESG contributions and promote accountability and reporting of the same to our oversight agencies, partners and stakeholders.

- We will collaborate with the relevant regulators, and policy makers and our community to mitigate climate-related risks and explore associated opportunities.

- We will establish our ESG baselines upon which monitoring and evaluation and future ESG reporting will be based.

Cultivating Diverse Talent

At Konza Technopolis we value talents of all kinds. We celebrate uniqueness and individual endowments in a *NICE* way. To keep our talent diversity alive, our external hiring consultants rely on traditional and emerging hiring principles to recruit unique talents from a diverse talent pool.

Our success in cultivating a diverse talent pool at the Technopolis has so far been successful as illustrated in the diversity of our staff, contractors and consultants who are all drawn from various nationalities. We also value equity and inclusion to ensure a representative balance of staff.

We have long-standing relationships with other global organizations that support our attraction of diverse talent pool. In 2022, we hosted a team of consultants from Thunderbird School of Management on an exchange programme. The team brought valuable expertise and supported us in review and development of our resource mobilization strategies and partnership strategies.

Figure 13: Staff at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility during the last presidential visit in 2021

Supporting Opportunity Youth, Women and People with Disabilities (PWDs)

We continually implement the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) targeted towards youth, women and people living with disabilities (PWDs). We have supported this special group in line with the government directive of allocation of at least 30% of annual procurement budget to facilitate business and enterprise development culture amongst this special group.

Further, we trained and prequalified members of this special group in our database for ease of access to information, government services and in compliance with procurement laws. Compliance returns were made to the oversight agencies on progress achieved towards implementation of this directive. As a confirmation of our good efforts, we achieved a score of excellent in our last performance evaluation.

Promotion of Local Content in Procurement

The Authority allocated more than 40% of its annual procurement budget running into billions of shillings to promote consumption of local content in procurement. This was implemented in line with the government directive which seeks to stimulate local production and enhance sourcing of locally manufactured goods and services.

The goods which were sourced locally in large quantities include building materials, vehicles, plants and machineries, fuels, and stationery. Other services that were sourced locally in large quantities include labour, consultancies, hospitality, health, transportation among others. The reports on implementation and compliance to this directive were made to relevant oversight agencies.

Alignment to Government Manifesto

Figure 14: Aerial view of Phase 1 from the skies

The implementation of Konza Technopolis is aligned to the Government Manifesto, with a common denominator of inspiring growth of the economy from the Bottom of the Pyramid, with a multidimensional growth upwards.

In our competing developmental objectives, prioritization is an important ingredient for successful delivery Konza Technopolis as key flagship project of Vision 2030 Blueprint.

Our current focus prioritizes projects that will lower cost of living and doing business, eradicate hunger, create at least 17,000 jobs within Phase 1, grow the GDP with at least 2% and establish new enterprises to widen our national income base.

We support the Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, large investors, development partners, donors and government agencies through technology, innovation and data centre services to improve cross-border trade and balance of payments.

We identify innovations through our regular innovation hackathons and bootcamps. Through this, we can pick new innovations and startups to be supported throughout their acceleration and commercialization journey.

Our contribution to the Government Manifesto in the First 100 Days

Infrastructure

The Authority implemented Phase 1 Horizontal Infrastructure for Konza Technopolis to 85% completion. The Horizontal Infrastructure entails development of streetscape, subsurface utilities, parks, Wastewater Reclamation Facilities, and other amenities. The Horizontal Infrastructure is a critical enabler for the Micro-, Small and Medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to set up and do a thriving business at Konza Technopolis.

Education

The Authority facilitated development of Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) through construction of Campus Core Buildings, Administration Buildings, Laboratories and Accommodation to 35% completion. The University will produce highly skilled and innovative workforce to drive the economic growth in line with the Government Manifesto.

Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy

The Konza National Data Centre offers services to government agencies and private sector in the areas of Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Collocation Services and Networking. The Data Centre has also partnered with government agencies to support digitization of government records and services in line with the Presidential Directive.

1. Hispanic also includes employees of Latin descent.

. . . a nightfall at Konza Technopolis.

Opportunities for Partnerships and Resource Mobilization

The Konza Technopolis is envisioned to be a smart city, a technology hub, and an area for innovation, which will advance Kenya's Knowledge-based economy by developing a sustainable Smart-City and Innovation Ecosystem. During the MTP IV period, the Authority targets to undertake the following priority projects:

The priority projects for the MTP IV (2023 – 27) are:

- **Konza National Data Centre.** Complete construction and equip the Primary Data Centre at Konza Technopolis to enable operationalization. The data centre provides services and supports nationally all ICT dependent applications, processes and technologies from the government and enterprises. The Authority will also complete the construction and equipping of the Konza Recovery Data Centre to provide redundancy and backup services for the Primary Data Centre.

- **Konza Smart City Facilities and Services.** Establish smart city facilities and services which include the Integrated Operation Center (IOC), the Internet of Things Laboratory (IOT Lab) Services, the Smart Poles, the Smart Parking, the Public Safety and Emergency Services, the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), the Video Surveillance, the Citywide Network, the Video Conferencing, the Public Wi-Fi, the Asset Management System with GIS capability, the Wayfinding devices for route identification, and the Smart Meters for the city's utilities.

Figure 16: Overview of part of Phase 1 Infrastructure

Figure 17: Installation of Streetlights

- **Horizontal Infrastructure for Phase 1.** The Authority will complete the ongoing construction works for Phase 1 Horizontal infrastructure and commission the project for operationalization. The project entails design and construction, equipping and commissioning of Phase 1 Streetscapes, Subsurface Utilities, Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF), Water Treatment Plant (WTP), Municipal/ Public Buildings and Parks within Phase 1 of the Technopolis.

- **Konza Technopolis Masterplan for Phase 2/ 3.** The Authority will undertake the Cadastral Survey for areas falling under Phases 2 and 3 to establish the Registered Index Maps (RIMS) for the entire 5,000 acres of Konza Technopolis. It will implement the Permitting and Development Control for vertical developments occurring within the 3,500 acres falling under Phases 2 and 3 of the Technopolis. It will also establish the Konza Wildlife Migratory Corridor, undertake Environmental Management, Sustainability and Climate Change Action as well as facilitate Green Certification for infrastructure and vertical developments.

- **Horizontal Infrastructure for Phases 2/ 3.** The Authority will develop designs for Phases 2 and 3 infrastructure covering the entire 3,500 acres of remaining undeveloped land within the Technopolis. It will undertake construction of the designed Phases 2 and 3 infrastructure and commission for operation. It will also design, construct, commission for operation Public Buildings, Municipal Buildings and Social Amenities for Phases 2 and 3 of the Technopolis.

Figure 18: Lights off at Konza Complex - Office Block

- **Konza Knowledge Economy and Innovation.** The Authority will establish a Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Support Centre, establish Science, Technology and Innovation Parks as well as the Konza Innovation Hub to provide space, infrastructure and expertise to facilitate commercialization of innovations, startups and SMEs at Konza Technopolis. The Authority will also facilitate the establishment of Kenya – AIST, the Digital Media City and the Vaccine Facility.

- **Konza Conference Facility and Hotel Block.** The Authority will construct the remaining two components of the Konza Complex project, namely the Konza Conference Facility and the Konza Hotel Block to attract Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) and for convention tourism and hospitality at Konza Technopolis.

- **Investor Outreach and Attraction.** The Authority will stablish a One-Stop-Shop (OSS) and Experience Centre to streamline multi-agency processing of investors at Konza Technopolis. It will also operationalize Konza Investor Incentives Programme and SEZ Benefits to make the Technopolis globally attractive and a preferred destination for investments. It will review and implement the Marketing Plan and Brand Strategy and the Economic Development Plan to ensure the city remains attractive.

ESG Employee Survey

Our independent ESG Consultant carried out two distinct surveys. The surveys were administered to our internal stakeholders and another set administered to the external stakeholders.

In general, the ESG Analysis Data Collection Tools had factored in the form questionnaires several thematic areas of Konza Technopolis. The thematic areas covered were as follows:

- Introduction
- Personal information
- Stakeholder engagement
- Project Implementation Progress and Appraisal
- ESG Indicators
- Environment
  Social
  Governance

The survey tools were administered digitally through a responsive platform and on very few occasions they availed some respondents in hardcopy upon their request. The link of the survey tool was circulated to respondents via phones and email. The outcomes of the Employee Survey are as outlined on the next section of this page.

The 2022 ESG Employee Survey

85	**100**	**15**
Responded	Invited	Interviews
85 %	**5**	**7**
Response rate	Contractors	Departments

Staff Awareness on Projects

| Aware of details of ongoing projects. | Favourable | Neutral | Unfavourable |
| | 75 % | 17 % | 8 % |

Staff Inclusivity

| Involved in project implementation | Favourable | Neutral | Unfavourable |
| | 79 % | 14 % | 7 % |

Post Covid-19 Recovery

Figure 19: Our spaced workstations in compliance to Covid-19 Protocols issued by Ministry of Health

The COVID-19 pandemic and its contractionary protocols that followed led to unprecedented national fallout of our economy. This exposed fragility of mega infrastructure projects like Konza Technopolis. The travel restrictions and lock downs disrupted supply chains and workflows which led to slowdown of most projects and ins some cases unprecedented stoppages. It demonstrated our national shortcomings and opportunities in our public health, financial systems, governance, and economic systems that the Konza Technopolis can plug into.

In 2020, at the peak of the pandemic, we hosted a Covid-19 Innovation Hackathon to identify innovations that would help the country successfully navigate the pandemic complexities. We managed to identify 19 innovations that were scaled and accelerated to maturity in year 2021. Today, most of them have commercialized and are playing critical roles in the Post Covid-19 Recovery journey.

In the last half of year 2022 to date, we implemented a raft of projects and programmes to speed national recovery from the effects of the pandemic. Our Post Covid-19 Recovery Strategy entails the following:

- Multiple vaccinations to staff, contractors and any other personnel working at the Konza Technopolis site.
- Deployment of IdeaHubs® i.e., modern Video Conferencing and Remote Working solutions to the headquarters of Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy (MICDE), the Kenya Investment Authority (KenInvest) Headquarters and at Konza Technopolis. Additional IdeaHubs® will be deployed in this financial year.
- Accelerated infrastructure works to cover for slowed down implementation during the Covid-19 Pandemic and eruption of Ukraine-Russia War.
- Virtual Desktop Infrastructure to TVETS and Higher Learning Institutions to support remote learning continuity, innovation, digital jobs and research.
- Establishment of the Vaccine Production Facility in conjunction with the Government of Kenya and Development Partners.

- Hosting government agencies, the private sector and enterprises at Konza National Data Centre through Collocation Services, Platform as a Service (PaaS), Software as a Service (SaaS), Cloud Infrastructure and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure to for cost efficiency and business continuity.

In 2023, with the support of our stakeholders and investors, we will continue the accelerated implementation of additional Post Covid-19 Recovery Strategies. We will also facilitate research and innovation to support our short-term and long-term resilience strategies to sail us through such global macroeconomic uncertainties.

. . . calling it a day at Konza Technopolis!

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Konza Technopolis is a fundamental public and social infrastructure that aims to transform our society. The envisaged transformation in this case will be similar to the transformations that have occurred in the past with such other mega infrastructure projects, specifically smart cities.

The Technopolis is integral to the lives, affairs and socioeconomic relationship of its residents, enterprises, institutions and corporates that will settle in it. It is expected to revolutionize significant societal processes, functions and resource systems to generate a new set of values for the society. These societal processes, functions and resource systems include commerce, community, culture, education, governance, health, innovation, and science.

Bearing in mind the fundamentality of Konza Technopolis as a public and social infrastructure meant to transform our society, we have aligned our implementation with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Out of the 17 SDGs, we are primarily implementing ten (10), while supporting the achievement of the remaining seven (7).

We have entrenched the implementation of the SDG in all our projects, programmes and activities. We undertake annual review of progress towards implementation and report to our management, Board, oversight agencies and stakeholders.

The Sustainable Development Goals we are implementing:

- **Goal 6**: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- **Goal 7:** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- **Goal 9:** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive, safe and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
- **Goal 11:** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- **Goal 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- **Goal 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- **Goal 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- **Goal 12:** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- **Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

The Sustainable Development Goals we are supporting:

- **Goal 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- **Goal 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- **Goal 3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
- **Goal 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- **Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls.
- **Goal 10:** Reduce inequalities among countries.
- **Goal 14:** Conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Launch of *Jitume* Programme

H.E. Dr. William S. Ruto on 6th December 2022 launched the *Jitume Programme* which is implemented by Konza Technopolis supported by ICT Authority and TVET Authority.

The program enables over one million youth to onboard into the Digital Economy by accessing Borderless digital jobs in the next three years. The *Jitume Program* has three components namely Virtual Learning, Digital Jobs and Virtual Desktop Infrastructural support for TVETS and Higher Learning Institutions.

The Horizontal Infrastructure we are implementing entails development of streetscape, subsurface utilities, parks, Wastewater Reclamation Facilities, and other amenities. The associated projects are at advanced levels of completion and will be handed over to Konza Technopolis Development Authority by end of this financial year for operationalization. This project is a critical enabler for the Micro-, small and Medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to set up and do a thriving business at Konza Technopolis.

We are contributing to quality graduate education in Science, Technology and Mathematics (STEM) by facilitating development of Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (Kenya – AIST). The first phase of the project involves construction Campus Core Buildings, Administration Buildings, Laboratories and Accommodation with completion currently at 35%. The University's Curriculum has been approved, ready for implementation. The University will produce highly skilled and innovative workforce to drive the digital economy.

We continued the construction of the Konza Complex Conference Facility project to 45% completion. The seven-level story facility contains meeting rooms at the lower levels and auditorium at the top with seating capacity of over 520 people. The Conference Facility positions the Technopolis for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibition (MICE) market niche. This will generate convectional tourism, hospitality jobs and offer platform for sharing ideas that spur our economic growth.

17,000+
The number of jobs to be created upon completion and operationalization of Phase 1.

30,000+
The total projected population for Phase 1.

240,000+
The total projected population at full buildout of the Technopolis.

2 %
The projected contributions to our national income.

Figure 21: The Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) deployed during the Jitume Launch

We are driving the national Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy through the rollout of our Konza National Data Centre services to government, the private sector and enterprises. We offer services to our clients in the areas of Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Collocation Services and Networking. Through the Data Centre, we have partnered with government agencies, the industry players and service providers to support digitalization of government services in line with the Presidential Directive.

Our implementation of the Presidential Directive on Digitalization of government in the short run is as follows:

a. **e-Cabinet.** e-Cabinet is a Governance Solution that manages Cabinet affairs, meetings and schedules.

b. **Video Conference Solutions.** We have so far deployed IdeaHubs® (i.e., Video Conferencing Platforms) in select public offices. The IdeaHubs® enhance collaboration, remote working and video conferencing of the government and in compliance to Data Protection Act 2019 on data residency.

c. **Cloud Solution for Government and Private Sector.** We are collaborating with global leading software vendors and solutions providers to supply bundled software solutions and services.

d. **Hosting MCDAs.** We onboarded over 25 Ministries, Counties, Departments and Agencies (MCDAs) in our data centre for efficient delivery of government services.
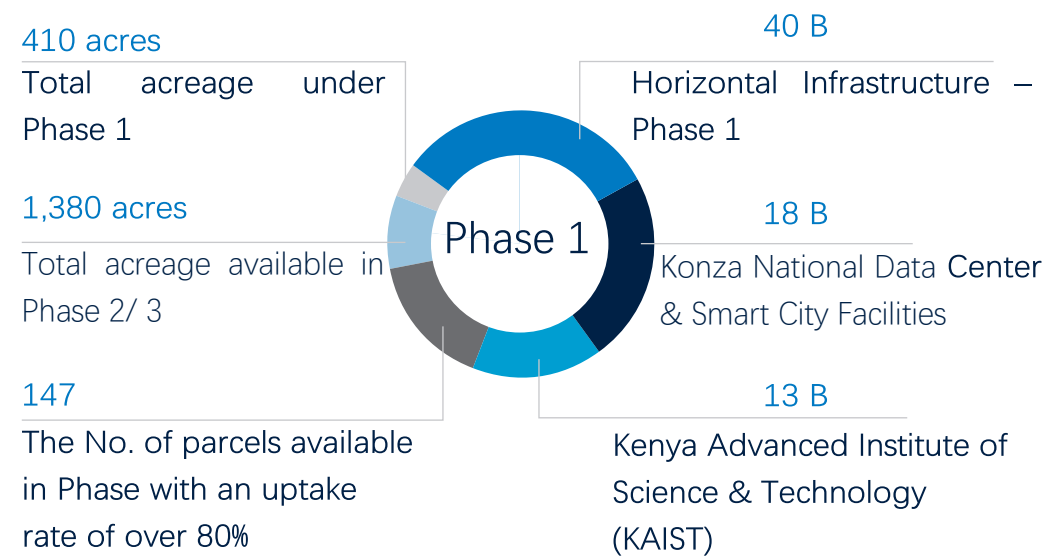
Figure 22: Boundary wall for the 10- Million Tree Nursery

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets demonstrate the scale and ambition of the new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete that which was not achieved. They seek to realize human rights of all and achieve gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social, and environmental.

Our figures at a glance

410 acres
Total acreage under Phase 1

1,380 acres
Total acreage available in Phase 2/ 3

147
The No. of parcels available in Phase with an uptake rate of over 80%

Phase 1

40 B
Horizontal Infrastructure – Phase 1

18 B
Konza National Data Center & Smart City Facilities

13 B
Kenya Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST)

Areas of critical importance to humanity and the planet:

These Goals seek to stimulate action over next 15 years in areas of critical importance to humanity and the planet such as:

- People – End poverty and hunger ensure human beings fulfil potentials in dignity and equality.
- Planet – Protect planet from degradation through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably manage resources and urgent action on climate change.
- Prosperity – Ensure human beings enjoy fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occur in harmony with nature.
- Peace – Foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies free from fear and violence. There cannot be sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.
- Partnership – Interlinkages and integrated nature of Sustainable Development Goals to ensure participation of all stakeholders.

About this Report

Figure 23: Handover Ceremony for the outgoing CEO Eng. John Tanui, MBS upon his appointment as a Principal Secretary for Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy.

2022 Materiality Assessment

Our sustainability materiality assessment analyses relevance of such topics on a broader view beyond the normal financial risk parameters — we consider our administrative, operational and project priorities. We also review our management structure and corporate performance from internal and external perspectives. The Authority undertakes materiality assessments in line with Global Reporting Initiative's (GRI) Reporting Principles and GRI's definition of topics, an approach which promotes robust and consequential understanding our risks and opportunities. This information is shared with our stakeholders. Our materiality assessment is a key step towards Sustainability Strategy and Reporting for Konza Technopolis.

Outcomes of our Materiality Assessment

We assessed various topical issues that were of interest to the user department. These were then subjected to the ESG Committee who reviewed the proposed areas to arrive on a shortlist of the topical areas to be covered in this year's ESG analysis and reporting. We had approximately 20 areas of interest. These were then thinned into thematic areas which we modelled into the current topics. Out of this, we were able to derive a short list of our topics and thematic issues to analyse. We greatly consulted the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework, benchmarked with other ESG reports published in the recent past and borrowed important information from the Authority's reports, strategies and policies. Interviews were undertaken and surveys conducted for staff drawn from the Authority, Contractors and Consultants who are currently onsite. We also reached out to other external stakeholders for their views on these topical issues to come up with our materiality index as follows:

1. Environmental
2. Social
3. Governance
4. Stakeholder Management

Figure 24 Family of Ostriches roaming at Konza Technopolis

2023 ESG REPORT

Konza Technopolis

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(Report template developed by VAF Consulting)

Figure 25: Birds at Konza T