



KENYA INNOVATION OUTLOOK STUDY

2022

CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS



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The primary purpose of this study was to provide a foundational framework upon which Kenya's innovation assessment can be drawn. Overall, Kenya's innovation outlook is relatively complex and still requires better coordination and consolidation. It is therefore worth stressing that the scope of this study as well as its empirical basis is limited as the findings are based on national level indicators with limited in-depth sectoral analysis beyond the national scope. It is, therefore, work in progress and may benefit from further targeted analysis especially around some of the frontier indicators or domains identified by stakeholders. The study has nonetheless succeeded in working with stakeholders to develop an inaugural contextual framework and indicators which Kenyan decision makers and stakeholders can relate with and apply in tracking innovation progress. The report, therefore, provides a template that can be enhanced and improved for assessing and coordinating Kenya's innovation activities on a regular basis. Some of the next steps to steps that could be considered include:

- ➔ Collecting and updating different domains with data that is missing. Further work in coming up with methodologies for collecting specific information/data for the different domains and subdomains is necessary to affirm the indicators.
- ➔ Need for deep drive into particular frontier sub-domains targeting the sector specific and county level analysis. Stakeholders' engagement could further help in developing the various subdomains and piloting this across Counties as a way of documenting County innovation processes and activities.
- ➔ Future outlooks might focus on specific areas especially the frontier (sub) domains identified in this study to generate detailed understanding of innovation dynamics and investment opportunities.
- ➔ Linking with the Innovation Bridge initiative. The study has highlighted the need to continuously showcase innovations in the country and data maybe updated periodically through linkages with the Innovation Bridge Initiative.
- ➔ A guideline document needs to be developed, that would seek to educate and inform those in charge of town planning on the method of harnessing the potentials within the community. The production of such a paper may well be the way the agency (KeNIA) can assist in this matter.
- ➔ Collection of data to measure innovation in the informal sector and of social innovation not amenable to classical R&D indicators remains a challenge and there is need for a longer and well-resourced study to populate this facet of the innovation outlook

The process of innovation has a spatial dimension. It is manifested in our urban centres and in the relationships that result from positive proximity and the dynamics through which we get involved in the economy. These forces are a great resource when channeled to the processes of creating a culture and solving our problems.

A common vision can be developed for the nation through a national charter or working paper with the support of KeNIA.