

MIGORI COUNTY GOVERNMENT PROFILE

1. GOVERNMENT/GEOGRAPHY

One of the most significant changes introduced to Kenya's national governance framework under the Constitutional 2010 is the creation of a two-tier system of government, a national government and 47 county governments. Under this system, county governments have been established to promote social and economic development and provision of proximate, easily accessible services throughout Kenya.

The government of Migori County is one of the 47 county governments as entrenched in the Kenyan Constitution 2010. It is mandated to transact its business geared towards service delivery to its citizens, devolving its resources and power to grassroots level through citizen service centers, mobilizing resources from within and outside the county and building meaningful partnerships with development agencies, governments and private sector.

Migori County endeavors to achieve the vision of the county and the overall vision 2030 of becoming a middle income country offering its citizens with a high quality of life in a clean and safe environment. Deliberate effort and synergy among local, national, regional and international stakeholders and partners is required for successful implementation of the programmes and projects earmarked in the County integrated plan.

Migori County is one of the six counties in the former Nyanza Province of South Western Kenya. Its capital is Migori, which is also its largest town. The county has a population of 917,170 comprising of 444,357 male and 472,814 female or 48.6% male and 51.4% female.

With an inter censal growth rate of 2.7%, this population is projected to reach 1,007,027 by the end of 2012. Approximately 49.4% of the county population is comprised of dependent age between 0-14 years while 37.2% comprised of youthful population between the ages of 15-39 years. It therefore implies that the county government and other development partners should invest much of the resources in programmes that generate income and wealth so as to adequately cater for the great demand from these groups of people.

Migori County is perhaps the most diverse county in Nyanza after Kisumu comprising multi-ethnic communities including Luos, Kuria, Kisii's, Luhya, Somalis and a small pocket of Indians, Arabs, and Nubians. Migori town serves as important link between Kenya and Tanzania and also the second most viable commercial center in Luo-Nyanza after Kisumu.

Population Projection by Age cohorts (2009-2017)

Age Group	2009 (Census)			2012 (Projections)			2015 (Projections)			2017 (Projections)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0-4	89,238	88,874	178,112	100,024	99,616	199,640	112,102	111,645	223,747	120,967	120,473	241,440
5-9	73,915	74,372	148,287	82,849	83,361	166,210	92,853	93,427	186,281	100,196	100,815	201,011
10-14	64,337	63,282	127,619	72,113	70,931	143,044	80,821	79,496	160,317	87,212	85,782	172,994
15-19	53,106	52,265	105,371	59,525	58,582	118,107	66,713	65,656	132,369	71,988	70,848	142,836
20-24	38,713	48,029	86,742	43,392	53,834	97,226	48,632	60,335	108,967	52,477	65,106	117,583
25-29	30,745	34,688	65,433	34,461	38,881	73,342	38,622	43,576	82,198	41,676	47,021	88,698
30-34	23,358	25,643	49,001	26,181	28,742	54,924	29,343	32,213	61,556	31,663	34,760	66,423
35-39	17,034	19,323	36,357	19,093	21,659	40,751	21,398	24,274	45,672	23,090	26,193	49,284
40-44	12,177	14,781	26,958	13,649	16,568	30,216	15,297	18,568	33,865	16,507	20,036	36,543
45-49	10,555	12,895	23,450	11,831	14,454	26,284	13,259	16,199	29,458	14,308	17,480	31,788
50-54	8,570	10,319	18,889	9,606	11,566	21,172	10,766	12,963	23,729	11,617	13,988	25,605
55-59	6,403	7,696	14,099	7,177	8,626	15,803	8,044	9,668	17,711	8,680	10,432	19,112
60-64	5,253	6,003	11,256	5,888	6,729	12,616	6,599	7,541	14,140	7,121	8,137	15,258
65-69	3,384	4,510	7,894	3,793	5,055	8,848	4,251	5,666	9,917	4,587	6,114	10,701
70-74	2,909	3,526	6,435	3,261	3,952	7,213	3,654	4,429	8,084	3,943	4,780	8,723
75-79	2,034	2,970	5,004	2,280	3,329	5,609	2,555	3,731	6,286	2,757	4,026	6,783
80+	2,626	3,638	6,264	2,943	4,078	7,021	3,299	4,570	7,869	3,560	4,931	8,491
Total	444,357	472,814	917,171	498,066	529,962	1,028,028	558,208	593,957	1,152,165	602,349	640,924	1,243,272

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Office, Migori 2013

As shown in table above, the population of Migori County is youthful of which forty-nine (49) per cent are children aged below 15 years while seventy-eight (78) per cent is aged below 30 years. This implies that the county government and other development partners must plan and invest more resources for sustainable provision of food security, schooling and training, college, recreation facilities, medical and career counseling among others.

Population Projections for Selected Age groups

Table below presents population projections for age groups of under one year old, under five, and primary school going age of (6-13). It also contains age groups (14-17) secondary school going age, the youth (15-30), the female reproductive age (15-49), the labour force (15-64) and the aged (65+).

Population Projections for Selected Age groups

Age Groups	2009(Census)			2012 (Projections)			2015 (Projections)			2017 (Projections)		
	Male	F/male	Total	Male	F/male	Total	Male	F/male	Total	Male	F/male	Total
Under 1	19,265	19,309	38,574	21,594	21,643	43,236	24,201	24,256	48,457	26,115	26,174	52,289
Under 5(0- 4)	89,186	88,828	178,014	99,966	99,565	199,530	112,037	111,587	223,624	120,896	120,411	241,307
Primary school Age (6-13)	109,801	109,982	219,783	123,073	123,275	246,348	137,934	138,161	276,095	148,841	149,086	297,927
Secondary School age (14-17)	45,619	43,776	89,395	51,133	49,067	100,200	57,307	54,992	112,299	61,839	59,341	121,180
Youth Population (15-30)	130,049	143,788	273,837	145,768	161,167	306,935	163,370	180,629	343,998	176,288	194,912	371,200
Reproductive Age-female (15-49)	185,579	207,516	393,095	208,010	232,598	440,608	233,127	260,685	493,812	251,562	281,299	532,860
Labour force (15-64)	205,793	231,522	437,315	230,667	259,506	490,173	258,520	290,842	549,362	278,963	313,840	592,803
Aged Population (65+)	11,205	14,882	26,087	12,559	16,681	29,240	14,076	18,695	32,771	15,189	20,173	35,362

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Office, Migori 2013

Under 1: The projected population under one for 2012 is 43,236 children representing 1.1% of the total population. This is expected to increase to 48,457 and 52,289 in 2015 and 2017 respectively. This population needs corresponding investment in pediatric infrastructure to cater for the increasing demand. More efforts should be made to increase immunization coverage to reduce child mortality under this group and to enhance future resistance to some of the common preventable diseases including provision of outreach services.

Under five (0–5 years): The population of the children of (0-4) years which according to 2009 census stood at 178,114 representing 19.4% of the total population. It is projected to increase to 223,624 and 241,307 persons in 2015 and 2017 respectively. Major prevalent diseases affecting children under five include malaria (63 %,) diarrhoea 51%, and acute respiratory complications 23%. In order to effectively reduce the child mortality rate as enshrined in the Millennium Development Goal number 4, concerted efforts shall be initiated towards the provision of mosquito nets, nutritional support and increasing the immunization coverage rate. Other measures include constructing, equipping and training of more ECD teachers.

Primary school age-group (6–13 years): The projected population for the primary school age (ages 6–13) in 2012 was 246,348 persons representing 26.4% of the total population. It is projected to rise to 276,095 in 2015 and 297, 927 in 2017 respectively. These figures means school infrastructure facilities will have to be expanded particularly construction of more classrooms, additional special schools, employment of more teachers and increasing the teacher-pupil ratio from the current 1:52 to 1:30.

Secondary school age group (14-17): The projected population for the secondary school age (ages 14–17) in 2012 was 100,200 persons representing 9.7% of the total population. It is projected to rise to 112,259 and 121,180 in 2015 and 2017 respectively. These figures means school infrastructure facilities will have to be expanded particularly construction of more classrooms, upgrading of day schools to boarding schools and employment of more teachers.

Youth population (15-30): The number of youths in the county according to the 2009 census was 237, 837 representing 29.9% of the county population. This number is projected to rise to 306,953 in 2012 and 343,998 and 371,200 in 2015 and 2017 respectively. This age is crucial in the provision of labor force required to exploit and make into use the vast resources available in the county. Efforts shall be made to equip and revitalize the existing 13 polytechnics to offer the necessary skills relevant to the job demand. There is increased demand to establish youth friendly Centres such as sports complex, ICT centres e.t.c. Equally, measures shall be instituted to increase the youth funds and conduct seminars aimed at enhancing their investment and growth skills.

Female reproductive Age-group (15–49 years): The number of females in the reproductive age group (15 -49) was 393,095 in 2009 representing 42.8% of the total population. It is expected to increase to 493,812 persons in the year 2015 and 532,860 in 2017 respectively. This age group is very crucial as it determines the fertility rate and hence the potentiality to contribute to a substantial population growth rate of the county. Concerted efforts shall be geared towards provision of adequate health cover to ensure a healthy reproductive life for the women in the county.

Labour force (15–64 years): Migori County's labour force is expected to increase from 490,173 persons in 2012 to 549,362 in 2015 and 592,860 persons in 2017 respectively. This labour force consists of 53 percent women and 47 percent men. This is an economically active age group that is largely dependent upon by the rest of the

population in the ages of 0-14 years and those above 64 years. This potential workforce will call for more resources towards employment creation if the county is to reduce the burden of dependency and poverty.

The Aged (65+ Years): The projected population of the aged in the county in 2012 was 29, 240 representing 2.8% of the total population. This age group constitutes the smallest population in the county and is expected to grow to 32, 771 and 35,352 by 2015 and 2017 respectively. There is need to increase funding to programmes which target the aged such as cash transfer programme in order to cushion them from the effects of escalating poverty and neglect. More emphasis should also focus towards the construction of homes for the aged and the extremely vulnerable ones in the society.

Towns and Urban Centres

The county has three recognized towns with population over 10,000 persons. These are Migori, Kehancha and Rongo with a combined population of 95,564 which represent 10.4% of the total county population. As shown in table below, this population is projected to grow to 117,907 and 126, 468 in 2015 and 2017 respectively. Migori town has the biggest urban centre in the county with population of 53,100 persons. This high population could be attributed to the favorable climatic conditions, proximity to Kenya Tanzania border for trade and the existence of relatively adequate social-amenities such as banks, housing, and health services.

The rapid growth in urban populations is already putting much strain on urban facilities like housing, water, health services and primary school places particularly in these urban towns. This calls for the expansion of the county's revenue base to cater for the construction of small scale industries and the expansion of social amenities which are in dilapidated conditions across the urban towns in the county.

Population of major urban centres

	2009(Census)			2012 (Projections)			2015 (Projections)			2017 (Projections)		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Migori	25,6	27,4	53,1	28,4	30,5	58,98	31,6	33,8	65,51	33,9	36,3	70,27
	39	66	00	80	10	4	33	87	5	30	48	2
Kehan cha	15,1	14,9	301	16,8	16,6	33,44	18,6	18,4	37,14	20,0	19,8	39,84
	43	66	09	21	24	6	83	65	8	40	06	6
Rongo	586	648	12,3	6,51	7,20	13,72	7,23	8,00	15,24	7,75	8,58	16,35
	3	7	55	3	6	4	4	4	4	9	5	0
Total			95,5			106,1			117,9			126,4
			64			54			07			68

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Office, Migori 2011

2. ECONOMIC/EDUCATIONAL/CULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Crop and livestock production

The county has fertile soils with favourable conditions suitable for agricultural activities. As a result, most of the sub-county population and particularly those living in the rural areas that form about 80% of the total population are engaged in agricultural activities. The main food crops in the sub-county are maize, sorghum, beans, cassava, finger millet and sweet potatoes. The main cash crops are tobacco, sugarcane, potatoes and maize. There exists huge potential for sunflower and Sisal in Nyatike Sub-County.

Sweet Potatoes and tobacco farms in Migori County



Cane crashing at Sony Factory in Migori County and a sugar cane farm



Acreage under food crops and cash crops

50% of the arable land is under cash crop, 40% under food crop and 10% is left fallow. The large non arable land is due to the unreliability of the rains in some constituencies such as Nyatike and Kuria sub- Counties in Migori County.

Main livestock bred

The community in the county rear the traditional breeds of livestock such as the Zebu cattle, East African goat, indigenous chicken and bee keeping. Most of these livestock are bred for their sentimental value and are used only in emergencies to cover medical and transport costs, pay school fees, entertain guests and pay dowry. There are however pockets of people who are practising modern dairy farming owing to the exposure they have got from the development actors operating in the county like heifer international, NALEP, and IFAD. Migori County has put efforts to empower farmers to practice rearing of high yield animals with the view of increasing productivity and improving nutritional status as well economic empowerment.

Main Fishing activities, Types of fish produced, Landing sites

The county has approximately 5300 fishermen, 6,615 fish ponds and 27 fish landing sites. The main fishing activities are concentrated in Nyatike Constituency along the shores of Lake Victoria. The major species found in the lake include: - Nile Perch, Tilapia, Rastrineobola and Niloticas/ Clarias. The fishing gear used includes fishing nets, hooks, traps, motor boats and dhows. This is the main economic activity for the community along the lake with an average income of over ksh 500million per annum. The government's efforts to construct fish ponds through Economic Stimulus Programme has improved fish production and diversified income sources for the people of the county.

Main forest types and size of forests

The total area under forest in the county is 895.5Ha out of which 43% is woodland while the rest is plantation located on various hills. 435.5 ha is gazetted and 259.7ha non-gazetted forest. There are 19 identified forests in the county. The percentage of the people involved in forest activities is 16%. Among the programmes that has enhanced tree cover in the past in the county includes *Kazi Kwa Vijana* under the Kenya Youth Empowerment Project, Lake Victoria environment management project (LVEMP) and Constituency Development Fund Environment programme.

Promotion of Agro-forestry and Green Economy

a) Income Generating Activities including Farm forest

Over 1,050 people in the county are directly engaged in forest farming as a major source of economic livelihood. They are able to get income through sale of the forest products such as timber, poles, wood fuel and charcoal among others.

b) Protection of Water Catchment Areas

The county lies in the low lands and depends mainly on rivers whose sources are in the highlands. However, there are numerous springs both in Kuria West and Kuria East Constituencies whose protection is necessary. The government and other development partners have been engaged in protection of the springs and wells in the county thereby improving access to safe drinking water to the public.

c) Prevention of Soil Erosion

Soil erosion has been a big problem especially in the low lying regions of the county such as Nyatike Sub-county. The surface run off and the rivers have led to erosion which has led to siltation of the lake and dams. Various stakeholders including the Ministry of Agriculture have been involved in sensitizing the public on the measures to curb the problem. Some of the measures being put in place include building gabions, terracing, farming away from the river banks and planting of grass. The government has also initiated irrigation projects around the county such as Lower Kuja Irrigation Project which is expected in addition to enhance food security in the county, control the flooding levels and improve water conservation measures.

d) Provision of Wood Fuel and Generation of Energy for Industries

Forest has been the major source of energy in the county with 79.7 percent of the people in the county relying on firewood for cooking and 16.7 percent using charcoal. This is in addition to 0.6 percent who relies on firewood as the main source of lighting. In addition, fire wood is used for curing of tobacco which is one of the major cash crops for people in Nyatike, Kuria East and Kuria West Constituencies in Migori County. These have led to reduction of the forest cover in the county.

The government through the Ministry of Energy is involved in promotion of energy saving *jikos* which could go a long way in reducing the depletion of trees in the County.

e) Improvement of Soil Fertility by Growing Fertilizer Trees

Fertilizer trees are varieties of shrubs that capture nitrogen from the air and transfer it to the soil, a process known as nitrogen-fixing. This restores nutrients and increases crop productivity; with potential to double or triple harvests. The trees can be interplanted with crops for 1-3 years before being cut and left to decompose, providing fuel and more fertilizer. This is a concept that is yet in pilot stage in Kenya through the planting of

Faidherbia Albida commonly known as Acacia tree. Other fertilizer trees which can be planted include Sesbania, Tephrosia and Gliricidia. The widely used method by farmers to add nutrients to the soil is crop rotation.

f) Growing of Fruit Trees for Improved Nutrition both for Domestic Use and Surplus for Markets

There are many varieties of fruit trees being planted by farmers in the county. These provide rich sources of nutrients as well as income to the households. Some of the fruit trees being planted include mango, orange, avocado and guava trees. However production is mainly done on small scale.

g) Provision of Carbon Sinks e.g. Carbon Trading

Some of the carbon sinks in the county include land growing plants, soil and forests. They help in absorbing the carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere. The process by which carbon sinks remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere is known as carbon sequestration.

The government has been active in mitigating against global warming and climate change through forestation which is being undertaken under the coordination of the Kenya Forest Department. Also, the government through the Ministry of Agriculture has been campaigning for use of organic fertilizer so as to reduce the gases in the atmosphere. The contribution of the county in green house gases emission is minimal as there are not many industrial activities taking place except for the sugar industry.

h) Beautification Activities in Towns, Highways Schools, Homes, and other Public Places

The common beautification activities on going in the county include tree planting along the town streets and highways particularly in Migori and Rongo, street lighting in Migori town, rehabilitation of recreational parks, and erection of bus parks stands, construction of beautiful houses and hotels are also coming up especially in Migori, Rongo, Isebania and Kehancha.

i) Animal Feeds Production Venture

There is potential in using ground seeds of *Crotonmegalocarpus* as an ingredient of poultry feed. This is in addition to the tree being used to provide timber, charcoal and shade. The seeds have been found to be rich in oil and source of protein. Crotonoil is also reported to have medicinal value including croton seed meal in the diet could lead to saving in food consumption.

j) Growing and Processing for Medicinal Purposes/Value Plants and Products

The tree products have been used as medicines for a long time. The herbs have been used to treat common ailments and also snake bites. However, no large scale production of the trees for medicine has been under taken in the county.

k) Provision of wood fuel and generation of energy for industries e.g. for Tea Estates

77.4% of the people in the county rely on forest for firewood and 18.8% for charcoal production. This is in addition to 2.9% who rely on firewood as the main source of lighting. This has led to reduction of the forest cover in the county. The trees are also depleted through the curing of tobacco which is one of the major cash crops for people in Nyatike, Kuria East and Kuria West constituencies. The government through the Ministry of Energy has been involved in promotion of energy-saving *Jikos* which could go a long way in reducing the depletion of trees in the county. The county has the capacity to produce its own source of hydro-electric energy based on the available water supply for instance from Gogo waterfalls pictured below.

Figure 1: Gogo waterfall in Uriri Sub-county



Mining

The county is blessed with mineral resources that are scattered within the county. These are Gold in Masara, Macalder, Masaba, Kehancha, Kitere, Kamwango (Rongo) and Migori, Copper, Azarite and Silver in Macalder all in Migori County. The exploration of these minerals at commercial levels has not been determined although currently individual and cooperative prospecting is being done on artisanal scale. The gold mining has not been fully explored in meaningful commercial front.

In addition to gold mining potential, the county has adequate deposits of good quality sand along lake Victoria and major rivers like Migori, Kuja and Kuria. Hardcore stones which are crushed for ballast are also available in plenty in the upper regions of Nyatike sub-County. Ballast and sand are therefore comparatively cheap within the county and sufficient to meet the future requirements in the construction industry.

Tourism

There is potential for harnessing the existing cultural and historical sites. Among the major sites includes Thim *Lich Ohinga* museum and *Godkweru* religious site. They have the potential to attract large number of tourist due to the richness of their historical background once sufficient marketing and ongoing improvement of the road network is enhanced.

Thim Lich Ohinga and Muhuru Bay Tourist Site



In addition, the county is rich in diverse culture due to the presence of various communities. The presence of the lake and beaches along the shores of Lake Victoria should be exploited in order to provide the community with more recreational parks as well as ensuring that the county gets more revenue.

Various animals have been identified to be in the county such as the gazelles, monkeys, snakes, leopards and hyenas. This is due to the proximity of the county to neighbouring Ruma national Park in Homabay County and Narok County where the famous Maasai Mara Game Park is found. In the Lake Victoria, there is presence of wild animals such as the hippopotamus and variety of birds.

Tourist class hotels/restaurants, bed occupancy

There are numerous guest houses, bars and restaurants. In the recent past there has been an increasing growth in the construction of hotels especially in major urban centres of Migori, Isebania and Rongo. The bed occupancy in the unclassified hotels range between

70 and 100 beds which can somehow serve tourists. The county is seeking for investors invest on first class tourists hotels in the level of five star hotels.

Industry

The formal industrial ventures in the county include, Sony sugar industry, the Prinsal Fish Processing Company, the British American Tobacco and Mastermind. The other ventures worth considering establishing are a fruit-processing firm in Suba East, milk cooling and processing firm in Migori and an additional Sugar and Tobacco factories, fish-processing factory at Sori in Karungu division.

The county's cottage industry is still at its infant stage with over 5000 artisans registered in 200 Jua kali associations. Major trades in the industry include carpentry and joinery, metal and mechanical works. Effort is being made by the county government of Migori to build an industrial park for artisans which once complete shall enhance their skill and offer wider markets for their products.

There exists huge potential for the agro-processing industry particular for processing fruits such as mangoes, guavas, avocados and water melons. Value addition has been prioritized under agriculture and rural development sectors and once irrigated agriculture takes root particularly the low Kuja irrigation project in Nyatike sub-county, the county's agro-processing industry and horticultural products from the county is expected to be more vibrant.

The county government's investments in fish auction centers at Sori, Rongo and Muhuru bay, is boosting the county's revenue generation and finally leading to increased job creation.

Employment and other sources of income

a) Wage earners

The county is majorly agriculturally based where about 64 % of the population depend on agriculture as their major source of income. 6 per cent are in wage employment, 10 per cent are in rural self-employment and 9 per cent are in urban self-employment.

b) Self-employed

About 10% of the population are self-employed operating small businesses in the major centres in the county. The major activities performed include retail trade, cottage industries and value-added agriculture.

Water supply schemes

The County has three major piped water supply schemes in Migori, Awendo and Rongo. The schemes are operated by MIKUTRA (acronym for Migori, Kuria and Trans Mara)

Water and Sanitation Company Ltd. Currently, the New Migori water supply and sanitation project is in the final stages of completion. The project is planned to serve a population of 200,000 people once complete. Other water supply schemes exist in Isebania and Kehancha towns (Kuria West sub county), Macalder and Muhuru (Nyatike sub county), Uriri and Kegonga (Kuria East) which is still under construction.

Road, Rail network, Ports and Airports, Airstrips and Jetties

Migori County borders Tanzania and is traversed by 104.6 km of Road A1 that links Kenya with Tanzania through Isebania. This is the only road that is bitumen. However during first County Integrated Development Plan of 2013-2017 some substantial number of roads have been earmarked for construction to bitumen standard. The rest of the road network of 1928 kilometers comprise of 25% gravel and 75% earth in the county.

The county has three airstrips, namely: Migori at Lichota, Macalder and Kehancha. None of the airstrips has bitumen surface implying that they can only accommodate relatively light aircrafts. These airstrips are expected to continue facilitating air transport in the county especially in the tourism and horticulture sub-sector.

Water transport is still at its infancy stage despite the county being served by Lake Victoria at Nyatike sub-county. It still remains a favorable means of transport between Migori and the adjacent destinations such as Mwanza in Tanzania and Homabay including major islands in the lake (Migingo Island etc). The county has neither a railway system nor a pipeline transport capability and will need the same in line with Kenya Vision 2030.

Posts and Telecommunications: Post Offices, Mobile telephony and landline

Penetration of the mobile telephone currently stands at approximately 75% while the number of post offices is 5. The number of post offices is not increasing due to competition from the mobile operators which are engaged in money transfers like the MPesa. Due to increased competition, the post offices have diversified and expanded their services to include courier services and payment of social protection monies and utility bills. The use of landline services has virtually ended in the county.

Financial Institutions: Banks, SACCOs, Micro Finance Institutions

There is an improved presence of financial institutions within the county. There are 6 banks with 18 branches spread all over the major towns and within the county. These include Cooperative Bank, Barclays Bank, Kenya Commercial Bank, National Bank of Kenya, Equity Bank, Kenya Women Finance Trust and Diamond Trust. Other Microfinance Institutions are Kenya Women Finance Trust, Faulu Kenya, K-Rep, and KADET among others. The concept of Financial Services Associations is being encouraged and has already picked up in Karungu, Uriri, Awendo, Kehancha, Ntimaru, Masaba and Muhuru divisions in Migori County.

Energy Access

The main source of energy for cooking in the county is firewood with 77.4% of the households using firewood for cooking followed by charcoal at 18.8% and paraffin at 2.8% while 94.4% of the households use paraffin as the main source of energy. Other sources of energy for lighting include firewood at 2.9% and electricity at 2.1%. Electricity coverage has increased over the last few years with several trading centers, health and education facilities being connected. During the current County Integrated Development Plan of 2013-2017, the county government in liaison with the National government has prioritized to connect power to 145 trading centers, 234 schools and polytechnics and 29 health facilities.

Markets and Urban Centres

The County has three major urban centres that is; Kehancha, Migori and Rongo. Other centres such as Kegonga and Uriri though serving as the sub-county headquarters for Kuria East and Uriri constituencies respectively have not attained the status of a town as per the urban areas and cities act 2011. Most of the centres have electricity but they lack other social amenities such as water and sewerage.

Education Institutions: Primary/Secondary Schools, Polytechnics, Colleges, Universities

As at the year 2012, the county had 816 primary schools, and 5,252 teachers serving an estimated pupil population of 241,949 aged 6-13 years. The County had 207 secondary schools, 1233 teachers and a student population of 98,411. There is 1 University College, 2 public university campuses, 1 public and private teachers training college and 13 youth polytechnics. In order to effectively absorb the large proportion of schools leavers, the county government has prioritized to refurbish and equip all the tertiary institutions during the current plan period of 2013-2017.

Investment Opportunities:-

There are several investment opportunities in the county including Investment on a sports complex with capacity to host world cup; Agriculture Fruits and vegetables production; Fish Farming; Dairy farming; Herbs and spices production; Sugar cane, tea and coffee production; Cereal crop production e.g sorghum and grain amaranth; Horticulture crop production e.g butter nuts, water melons, pawpaw, chilies, tomatoes, onions and improved mangoes, tissue culture bananas; Oil crop production e.g sunflower and simsim; Root crop production e.g cassava; Fibre crop production e.g. cotton, sisal; goat keeping, both local and dairy breeds; Commercial bee keeping enterprise, Commercial poultry production and animal feed mill; Tanning of hides and skins ,Handbags, foot wear, belts, fishing flies production; Exotic skins e.g. Nile perch, crocodile; Hotel culture Centre, yachting in Lake Victoria, water skiing, sport fishing, bird and animal watching; Air chartering/service agents services, Textile and garments making; Bricks production, Curving blocks, sand harvesting, Processing of Lime, Cement manufacturing; Furniture, seasoned and treated wood; Meat processing and canning; Fish processing; Processed

dairy products; Drying/blending herbs and spices; White & brown sugar processing; and Processing of milk and milk products e.g. Mala, Yoghurt, Cheese, Ghee and Butter.

3. SUSTAINABILITY/GROWTH POTENTIAL

The County of Migori supports environmental, economic and human sustainability through promotion of Agro-forestry and green economy, employment of competent staff in diverse fields, increasing revenue base and forging meaningful international economic cooperation & networks.

The county government of Migori boasts of 3 airstrips as mentioned above. It also takes only 2 ½ hours by road to reach Kisumu International Airport.

The County Executives Committee has resolved to forge twinning relationships with City of Milwaukee to step up economic growth by double digit, inculcate international peace and promote cultural exchanges. The county assembly of Migori County already passed legislation favouring public private partnerships and twinning relationships with other governments/cities.