

## THE PARTY MANIFESTO - FORWARD KENYA PARTY



The registered head office of the Party shall be based at View Park Towers P.O. Box 27999-00100 Nairobi.

The party email is [forwardkenyaparty@gmail.com](mailto:forwardkenyaparty@gmail.com)

The party website is <https://forwardkenyaparty.com>

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"



## Table of Contents

<b>1.0 Forward Message from the Party Leader .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.0 History .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.0 Brief Justification of the Party Manifesto .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4.0 POLICY PREFERENCE AREAS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS .....	5
2.1 HEALTH CARE .....	6
2.1.2 Health Care Gaps Identified by the Party .....	6
2.1.3 OUR PLAN .....	7
❖ Short-Term Interventions (0–2 years) .....	8
❖ Medium-Term Interventions (2–5 years) .....	8
❖ Long-Term Interventions (5+ years) .....	9
2.2 AGRICULTURE .....	10
2.2.1 Gaps .....	10
2.2.2 Our Plan .....	12
• Short-Term Interventions (0–2 Years) .....	12
• Medium-Term Interventions (2–5 Years) .....	13
• Long-Term Interventions (5+ Years) .....	14

## 1.0 Forward Message from the Party Leader

Dear Fellow Kenyans,

Today marks a significant milestone in the journey of the *Forward Kenya Party* as we officially submit our party manifesto to the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties as part of our registration process.

This manifesto represents the foundational values, vision, and mission that will guide our party's role in shaping a better Kenya for all. It is a reflection of our firm commitment to a politics of integrity, inclusion, and transformation—anchored on service to the people and the pursuit of social and economic justice.

Our submission is not just a procedural step—it is a declaration of intent. An intent to participate meaningfully in the democratic space. An intent to bring fresh, people-driven leadership to the forefront. And an intent to unite Kenyans under a shared dream of progress, equity, and national dignity.

As *Forward Kenya Party*, we believe that Kenya's future must be built on transparency, accountability, innovation, and unity. This manifesto is our pledge to uphold these ideals.

We thank all supporters, volunteers, and stakeholders who contributed to the development of this manifesto. Your voices and aspirations are at the heart of our agenda.

We now look forward to the next phase of this journey—building a movement that puts the people first.

Forward Kenya. Forward Together.

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

## 2.0 History

The idea for the Forward Kenya Party was conceived in 2022 by a group of civic-minded citizens who recognized a growing gap between the Kenyan people and the political elite. Frustrated by persistent inequality, limited civic participation, and systemic exclusion, these founders envisioned a party that would place people at the center of governance. The journey toward official recognition began in 2023 with the initiation of the party's registration process, driven by a grassroots movement and supported by civic educators, youth leaders, and community advocates across the country.

## 3.0 Brief Justification of the Party Manifesto

The *Civic Egalitarian Manifesto* is grounded in the belief that all individuals, regardless of race, gender, class, religion, or background, deserve equal rights, opportunities, and responsibilities within a democratic society. It seeks to correct systemic imbalances and promote inclusivity by advocating for fair access to education, healthcare, employment, and political participation.

The justification for this manifesto lies in the principle of equal human dignity—the idea that all people are inherently valuable and should be treated as such. In modern societies where inequality persists, civic egalitarianism provides a framework for fostering social cohesion, reducing discrimination, and empowering marginalized groups. By prioritizing justice, mutual respect, and shared civic responsibility, the manifesto envisions a society where equity is not merely aspirational but actively pursued and protected.

## 4.0 POLICY PREFERENCE AREAS

- ❖ Health
- ❖ Agriculture

### IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The implementation of the policy preference areas will be in the short, medium, and long term. This manifesto serves as the practical expression of this ideology. It translates the core principles of egalitarianism into clear objectives, policies, and actions aimed at creating a more just and

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

inclusive society. While egalitarianism provides the vision, the manifesto outlines the mission—what must be done to realize that vision.

## **2.1 HEALTH CARE**

### **2.1.2 Health Care Gaps Identified by the Party**

Kenya's healthcare system faces several challenges that hinder its effectiveness and accessibility, as highlighted by recent reports and data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and other reputable sources. Here are the key issues:

#### **1. Shortage of Healthcare Workers**

Kenya experiences a significant shortage of healthcare professionals, with only 19 doctors per 100,000 people, far below the World Health Organization's recommended ratio of 1,000:1. This shortage is exacerbated by the emigration of skilled workers and the concentration of healthcare personnel in urban areas, leaving rural regions underserved. Additionally, many trained professionals are employed in administrative roles rather than direct patient.

#### **2. High Out-of-Pocket Healthcare Costs**

A significant portion of Kenyans lack health insurance, leading to high out-of-pocket expenses for medical services. According to the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey, only about 25% of the population is covered by health insurance. This financial burden makes healthcare inaccessible for many, pushing them into poverty due to medical expenses.

#### **3. Inequitable Distribution of Healthcare Resources**

There is an uneven distribution of healthcare facilities and personnel across the country. Urban areas have a higher concentration of health services, while rural regions suffer from inadequate infrastructure and staffing. This disparity results in limited access to quality healthcare for rural populations.

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

#### 4. Corruption and Mismanagement

Corruption within the healthcare sector, including embezzlement of funds and procurement fraud, undermines the delivery of quality services. Cases like the mismanagement of resources by the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) during the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the extent of these issues.

#### 5. Limited Access to Essential Medicines and Equipment

Many public health facilities lack essential medicines and medical equipment, affecting the quality of care provided. This shortage is often due to inadequate funding, poor supply chain management, and corruption, leading to stockouts and substandard services.

#### 6. Inadequate Health Data Systems

While Kenya has implemented various health data systems, such as the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS), these platforms are not fully integrated. This fragmentation hampers effective monitoring, planning, and decision-making, limiting the government's ability to address health challenges efficiently.

#### 7. Strikes and Labor Disputes

Frequent strikes by healthcare workers over issues like unpaid salaries and poor working conditions disrupt services and compromise patient care. For instance, a nationwide strike by doctors in 2025 left many patients without medical attention.

### **2.1.3 OUR PLAN**

Kenya's healthcare system faces several persistent challenges, including workforce shortages, unequal access, limited insurance coverage, and infrastructure gaps. Addressing these issues requires a strategic mix of short, medium, and long-term interventions, as supported by data from the Kenya Bureau of Statistics and policy think tanks. To mitigate against these challenges, the party will;

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

## ❖ Short-Term Interventions (0–2 years)

These are urgent, high-impact actions that can stabilize or improve the situation quickly:

### 1. Deploy More Health Workers in Underserved Areas

- Fast-track recruitment and contract-based deployment of nurses, clinical officers, and community health volunteers to counties with shortages.
- Offer temporary hardship allowances to incentivize rural service.

### 2. Subsidize Health Insurance (SHIF) for the Vulnerable

- Expand NHIF enrollment for low-income households through government subsidies.
- Prioritize indigent registration in counties with the poorest health access.

### 3. Restock Essential Medicines and Supplies

- Improve supply chain oversight to prevent stockouts at public facilities.
- Audit KEMSA operations to restore public trust and improve procurement efficiency.

### 4. Resolve Ongoing Labor Disputes

- Engage in structured dialogue with unions to address grievances (e.g., salaries, promotions, equipment).
- Implement emergency funding to prevent service disruption during strikes.

## ❖ Medium-Term Interventions (2–5 years)

These address systemic weaknesses and begin building long-term resilience:

### 1. Healthcare Infrastructure Development

- Invest in building or upgrading health centers in rural and marginalized areas.
- Prioritize level 2 and 3 facilities in counties with low access rates.



## 2. Digitize and Integrate Health Data Systems

- Fully integrate the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS) to improve decision-making.
- Train healthcare workers in digital data entry and analysis.

## 3. Healthcare Worker Retention Programs

- Establish structured professional development, housing benefits, and rural service incentives.
- Decentralize human resource management to county health departments.

## 4. Strengthen Primary Health Care (PHC)

- Expand community-based care programs and link them with referral systems.
- Promote preventive health education to reduce disease burden.

### ❖ Long-Term Interventions (5+ years)

These are transformative strategies aimed at achieving sustainable, equitable, and high-quality healthcare:

### 1. Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Implementation

- Fully restructure SHIF into a mandatory, single-payer model with equitable financing.
- Introduce risk pooling and income-based contributions to reduce out-of-pocket spending.

### 2. Health Workforce Development

- Increase training capacity for doctors, nurses, and specialists through public and private institutions.
- Create a national policy to prevent brain drain and align training with national needs.

### 3. Decentralized and Equitable Health System Financing

- Implement performance-based county funding to reduce regional disparities.

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

- Introduce fiscal accountability mechanisms to improve resource use at all levels.

#### 4. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

- Foster strategic collaborations in equipment provision, service delivery, and health technology.
- Attract investment in telemedicine and mobile clinics to reach remote populations.

## 2.2 AGRICULTURE

### 2.2.1 Gaps

Kenya's agricultural sector faces several challenges that hinder its potential for growth and sustainability. These issues are well-documented by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and other reputable sources:

#### 1. High Cost of Farm Inputs

The escalating prices of essential agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides have become a significant burden for farmers. Factors contributing to this increase include disrupted global supply chains, inflation, and the devaluation of the Kenyan Shilling, which raises the cost of imported inputs. This situation erodes the already thin profit margins of small-scale farmers, leading to reduced productivity and lower yields.

#### 2. Climate Change and Weather Variability

Kenya's agriculture is predominantly rain-fed, making it highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change. Unpredictable climatic conditions, such as prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall patterns, and rising temperatures, adversely affect crop and livestock productivity. These climatic challenges lead to food insecurity and increased vulnerability among farming communities.

#### 3. Limited Access to Credit and Financial Services

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

Smallholder farmers often face difficulties in accessing affordable credit and financial services. Agriculture is perceived as a high-risk sector by financial institutions, leading to high-interest rates and stringent collateral requirements. This limited access to financial resources hampers farmers' ability to invest in modern farming practices, purchase quality inputs, and expand their operations.

#### 4. Poor Infrastructure

Inadequate infrastructure, including poor road networks, lack of storage facilities, and limited access to electricity and water for irrigation, significantly affects agricultural productivity. Poor roads hinder the transportation of produce to markets, leading to increased post-harvest losses and higher costs. The absence of proper storage facilities results in spoilage, especially for perishable goods, further reducing farmers' incomes.

#### 5. Land Fragmentation and Ownership Issues

Inheritance practices often lead to land fragmentation into small, non-contiguous plots, making it difficult to achieve economies of scale. This fragmentation limits the adoption of mechanized farming and efficient land use. Additionally, unclear land ownership titles impede farmers' access to credit and discourage long-term investments in land improvements.

#### 6. Post-Harvest Losses

Significant quantities of agricultural produce are lost after harvest due to inadequate storage facilities, poor transportation infrastructure, and lack of processing opportunities. These losses reduce the overall supply of food, increase prices, and contribute to food insecurity.

#### 7. Pests and Diseases

The agricultural sector faces frequent outbreaks of pests and diseases, such as locust invasions and crop diseases like maize lethal necrosis. These outbreaks can devastate entire crops within a short period, leading to severe losses for farmers and threatening food security.

#### 8. Market Access and Value Chain Constraints

Farmers often struggle to access both local and international markets due to poor infrastructure, lack of market information, and limited value addition. This situation confines farmers to selling their produce at low prices to middlemen, reducing their bargaining power and potential profits. The absence of value addition means that Kenya imports processed food products, despite having the raw materials.

## 9. Youth Disengagement from Agriculture

There is a growing trend of youth moving away from agriculture in favor of casual labor or entrepreneurship. The Fin Access Household Survey 2024 indicates a decline in the proportion of Kenyans depending on agriculture as their main livelihood source, from 25.4% in 2019 to 17.9% in 2024. This shift is attributed to factors such as low profitability, lack of modern farming techniques, and limited access to resources.

## 10. Regulatory and Trade Barriers

Kenyan agricultural exports face challenges in international markets due to stringent regulations and trade barriers. For instance, the European Union has imposed strict standards on pesticide residues and pest control, leading to rejections and interceptions of Kenyan exports like cut flowers and vegetables. These barriers limit market access and reduce export earnings.

### 2.2.2 Our Plan

Here's a structured plan of interventions to address Kenya's agricultural sector challenges, categorized into short-term, medium-term, and long-term solutions, based on insights from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and partner institutions like the Ministry of Agriculture and World Bank:

#### Short-Term Interventions (0–2 Years)

Focus: Stabilizing immediate agricultural production and access

#### 1. Input Subsidies and Relief Support

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

- Subsidize fertilizers, seeds, and pesticides for smallholder farmers to cushion them from high input costs.
- Expand e-voucher systems for targeted distribution.

## 2. Emergency Climate Adaptation

- Distribute drought-tolerant seed varieties and early maturing crops to areas affected by erratic rainfall.
- Provide livestock feed and water points in arid and semi-arid areas.

## 3. Rehabilitate Rural Infrastructure

- Repair feeder roads to reduce post-harvest losses and improve access to markets.
- Install temporary storage facilities and mobile drying units for grains and perishables.

## 4. Improve Market Access

- Link farmers to structured markets like national cereal boards or school feeding programs.
- Facilitate off-take programs for surplus produce to prevent spoilage.

## Medium-Term Interventions (2–5 Years)

Focus: Building resilience, productivity, and value chains

### 1. Expand Irrigation Infrastructure

- Scale up smallholder irrigation projects across counties through public-private partnerships.
- Invest in water harvesting and solar-powered irrigation systems.

### 2. Promote Climate-Smart Agriculture

- Roll out training programs on conservation farming, crop rotation, and integrated pest management.
- Support agroforestry and soil health initiatives.

PARTY SLOGAN: “OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE”

### 3. Strengthen Agricultural Cooperatives & Farmer Groups

- Provide financial and organizational support for farmer cooperatives to enable bulking, processing, and bargaining power.
- Link them to microfinance institutions and government credit guarantees.

### 4. Digitize Extension Services

- Develop digital platforms for weather forecasts, crop advisory, and pest alerts using mobile phones.
- Recruit and train more county-based extension officers.

## Long-Term Interventions (5+ Years)

Focus: Sustainability, innovation, and global competitiveness

### 1. Universal Mechanization and Technology Access

- Fully implement the National Agricultural Mechanization Policy.
- Facilitate leasing and cooperative-based access to tractors, planters, and harvesters.

### 2. Land Reform and Tenure Security

- Accelerate land registration and issue title deeds to secure farmer investments and access to credit.
- Encourage consolidation and cooperative farming models to overcome fragmentation.

### 3. Agro-processing and Value Addition

- Establish Agri-industrial parks in rural areas to process tea, maize, dairy, fruits, etc.
- Support cold storage and transport systems to reduce post-harvest losses.

### 4. Youth and Women Engagement in Agribusiness

- Integrate agriculture into TVET and entrepreneurship programs.

PARTY SLOGAN: "OUR LIVES, OUR HERITAGE"

- Provide start-up capital and incubation hubs focused on agri-tech and value addition.

#### 5. Integrated Agricultural Data Systems

- Fully digitize KNBS and Ministry of Agriculture data collection for real-time production, pricing, and yield data.
- Make data publicly accessible for planners, investors, and farmers.