

LEATHER VALUE CHAIN

The Country's long-term vision is to become an industrialized middle-income country by 2030. In this regard, the leather and leather products sector offers an important opportunity for industrialization and diversification of exports. The leather value chain is a key priority of the Kenya Kwanza Plan **The Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda** (BETA) 2022-2027. To transform the country to be self-sufficient in locally produced leather and leather products the government targets to mop up 3 million hides and 18 million skins for tanning, manufacture leather & leather products and market all leather & leather products produced locally. These interventions are expected to increase incomes from KSh. 15 billion to KSh. 120 billion and job opportunities from 17,000 to 100,000.

Under the Medium Term Plan IV, the government has priorities developing two additional common effluent treatment plans at selected sites to increase tanning leveraging on the County Aggregation and Industrial Parks and also undertaking contract tanning to mop up excess hides and skins. We shall also promote / incentivize establishment of at least four shoe factories with a capacity of 5 million pairs each per year and one leather gloves manufacturing firm with a capacity of 3 million pairs annually valued at Ksh. 1.5 billion

To support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) manufacturing leather products upgrade/increase their production we shall avail affordable credit, Common Manufacturing Facilities to facilitate upgrade of technology therefore transforming the industry from semi-processed leather (wet blue) to finished leather production as well as improving production efficiency. There is also need for continuous skills development to support competitive quality production and towards this end we shall establish a Leather Training Institute and review leather technology and leather products training curricular and enhance leather technology and modern equipment at Animal Health and Industry Training Institute (AHITI), Kenya Industrial Training Institute (KITI), and Kenya Industrial Research Development Institute (KIRDI) and other TVETs.

The Buy Kenya Build Kenya initiative for locally produced leather shoes and goods. (Procurement of Boots, leather products and textiles by Disciplined forces from the local manufacturers shall provide ready market for locally produced leather shoes.