Growth slows to 4.7 per cent as job market cools

- ▶ KNBS blames slowed growth on drop in agriculture sector performance.
- ▶ Survey shows country created 782,300 jobs, 65,800 fewer than in 2023.

GRAHAM KAJILWA, NAIROBI

enva's economic performance slowed down significantly last year as the country struggled to stay afloat amid global and domestic headwinds.

New data released by the government statistician indicates the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expanded by 4.7 per cent in 2024, a drop from the 5.7 per cent growth recorded in 2023.

The Economic Survey 2025 released by Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) yesterday linked the slowed growth to a dip in performance of Kenya's main GDP earner,

agriculture, which reported a decelerated growth of 4.6 per cent compared to 6.6 per cent in 2023.

National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi said the initial projection for 2024 was a growth of 5.3 per cent. However, due to the shocks, the country was only able to realise 4.7

"In fact, at one point, we thought it would slow further to 4.6 per cent," said the CS.

Some of the shocks were constrained fiscal space, high interest rates that have exacerbated debt servicing costs, the infamous Gen Z protests that halted economic activities and extreme weather.

"These extreme weather events and conditions have impacted negatively on our economic growth," Mba-

Other shocks came from the Ukraine-Russia conflicts and war in the Middle East.

"These negative shocks have impacted economic activities and in-



National Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi (centre) with Economic Planning Principal Secretary Bonface Makokha (left) and PS Ahmed Ibrahim during the launch of Economic Survey 2025 in Nairobi, yesterday. [Kanyiri Wahito, Standard]

creased the cost of living underscoring the need for robust and targeted interventions," he said.

Amid this slowdown, Kenya recorded its lowest average inflation of 4.5 per cent since 2020-indicating that the prices of goods and services increased at the lowest level in five years. This has not been felt on the ground, however, with many businesses and households reporting lower incomes and buying power. Some economists have attributed the lower inflation to reduced demand

for goods and services rather than price cuts.

In 2020, the inflation rate stood at 5.4 per cent, which grew to 6.1 per cent in 2021, 7.7 per cent in 2022 and 2023 and 4.5 per cent in 2024.

This is the lowest we have achieved in the last five years. In November, we noted our inflation rate dropped to 2.7 per cent. That happened to be the lowest in many years," said KNDS director general Macdonald Obudho

The number of new jobs created

last year stood at 782,300, a significant reduction of 65,800 compared to 2023. The drop was linked to a slowdown in job creation in the informal sector, as Dr Obudho noted that 90 per cent of new jobs created in 2024 was in the informal sector.

"There was a slowdown in the number of new jobs created in the informal sector from 720,900 in 2023 to 703.700 jobs in 2024."

Among the gaining sectors, financial and insurance activities grew by 7.6 per cent, transportation and storage by 4.4 per cent and real estate by 5.3 per cent.

Construction, however, shrunk recording a contraction of 0.7 per cent from 3.0 in 2023 similar to mining and quarrying courtesy of Base Titanium closing its depleted ore whose contraction was 9.2 per cent in the

Kenya's nominal GDP increased during the period to Sh16.2 trillion from Sh15.0 trillion.

And when looked against other East African Community (EAC) markets, Kenya's GDP growth has been dwarfed by Rwanda that recorded 7.0 per cent, Uganda's 5.9 per cent and Tanzania's 5.4 per cent.

Of the EAC countries, only Uganda and Tanzania recorded an accelerated growth of 5.9 per cent in 2024 from 4.6 per cent in 2023, and 5.4 per cent from 5.1 per cent, respectively. Uganda's growth is linked to oil ex-

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY

NOTICE TO THE NOMINEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 196 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Section 7 [4] & [5] of the Public Appointments (County Approval) Act no 5, 2017 below listed nominees nominated to the positions of the Kisii County Public Service Board Chairperson and Secretary are invited to appear before the Committee on Appointments at Kisii Agricultural Training Centre (ATC) in Kisii town on Wednesday 14th May, 2025 at the time indicated.

No.	NAME	POSITION	TIME
1.	MR. HARON MAOSA ONGUSO	CHAIRPERSON	9.00AM
2.	MR. ALFRED MOREKA NYAGWOKA	SECRETARY	10.00AM

The nominees are required to collect vetting forms from the office of the Clerk, Kisii County Assembly, during official working hours or get them from the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Act no. 5 of 2017 First Schedule available at www.kenyalaw.org and return them with copies of the following documents on or before Tuesday 13th May, 2025 by 5.00pm

- ID card or passport
- Curriculum Vitae, personal credentials and academic certificates
- Compliance certificate from Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)
- Clearance certificate from Higher Education Loans Board (HELB)
- Clearance certificate from Ethics and Anti- Corruption Commission (EACC) Certificate of good conduct from Criminal Investigation Department (CID)
- Clearance certificate from Credit Reference Bureau (CRB)
- Accreditation from Commission of University Education for foreign degrees (if applicable) The nominees are advised to bring the originals of the above mentioned documents on the vetting

Members of the public are invited to attend the vetting exercise or submit to the office of the Clerk any information/ memorandum /petition under oath that may have a bearing on the selection of the candidate(s) by Tuesday 13th May, 2025 by 5.00pm.

> OFFICE OF THE CLERK, KISII COUNTY ASSEMBLY



REPUBLIC OF KENYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MARSABIT

NOTICE OF APPROVAL HEARING FOR NOMINEES OF THE MEMBERS OF

PURSUANT to Section 14 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, H. E. Hon. Mohamud Mohamed Ali submitted a list of nom of members of the Movale Municipality Board, Following the receipt of the notification of nomination, the County Assembly of Marsabit HEREBY NOTIFIES the public and the Nominees that the vetting of nominees for the members of the Moyale Municipality Board will take place on 14th and 15th May, 2025 at the County Assembly of Marsabit Chambers from 09.00 a.m. The nominees are invited to appear before the Committee on Lands. Energy, and Housing and Urban Development as per the schedule belo

	Day 1 (14 th May 2025)					
No.	NOMINEES	NOMINATED BY	TIME			
1.	Aisha Gallo	The Governor	09.00-10.00 am			
2.	Adan Ali Jirmo	The Governor	11.00-12.30 pm			
3.	Zeinab Aliow Issack	The Governor	02.00-03.00 pm			
4.	Khadija Hussein	Umbrella body representing the professional association in Moyale	03.30-04.30 pm			
	Day 2 (15 th May 2025)					
NO.	NOMINEES	NOMINATED BY	TIME			
1.	Hassan Marsa Sarbo	An association representing the private sector in Moyale	9.00-10.00 am			
2.	Suleiman Khalif Maalim	A cluster representing registered associations of the informal sector in Moyale	10.30-11.30 am			
3.	Denge Tullu	A cluster representing registered neighbourhood associations in Moyale	12.00-1.00 pm			

The Nominees are required to collect the questionnaires from the Office of the Clerk during official working hours from 7th May, 2025 and submit it together with copies of the following documents on or before 13^{th} May, 2025 at 5.00 p.m. to the Office of the Clerk (address provided below):

- Certified copies of ID card or Passport;
- 2. Curriculum vitae, personal credentials and academic certificates
- 3. Current Tax Compliance Certificate from the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) 4. Current Compliance Certificate from the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB)
- 5. Current Clearance Certificate from the Credit Reference Bureau (CRB)
- 6. Current Valid Certificate of Good Conduct from the Department of Criminal Investigation (DCI).
- 7. Current Clearance from Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC)
- 8. Current Clearance Certificate from respective professional bodies
- 9. Accreditation from Commission of University Education for foreign degrees (where applicable)

inees are advised to bring the originals of the aforementioned documents on the vetting day.

Any person may, prior to the approval hearing, and by written statement on oath (sworn affidavit), provide the Clerk with evidence contesting the suitability of the candidate to hold the office to which the candidate has been nominated. The Written statement on oath to be sent to info@

The Clerk, County Assembly of Marsabit, P.O. Box 29-60500, Marsabit

The same to reach the office of the Clerk on or before 13th May, 2025 by 1:00 P.M.

CPA CHARE MATO CLERK/SECRETARY, COUNTY ASSEMBLY SERVICE BOARD