



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF SIAYA

**AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT RECOMMENDING UGUNJA URBAN AREA FOR
CONFERMENT OF MUNICIPALITY STATUS**

PRESENTED TO H.E. SC. JAMES AGGREY ORENKO, EGH

GOVERNOR, SIAYA COUNTY

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 Introduction:	2
1.1 Composition of the Ad Hoc committee on conferment of urban areas status, Siaya County:	2
1.2 Terms of Reference:	3
1.3 Methodology:	3
2.0 Status Analysis for Suitability:	3
2.1 Population:	3
2.2 Integrated Development Plan:	4
2.3 Revenue Collection/Potential/Capacity:	4
2.4 Service Delivery as per the first schedule:	5
2.5 Active participation:	9
2.6 Space for Expansion:	9
2.7 Infrastructural facilities:	9
2.8 Waste Disposal:	10
3.0 Recommendation:	10
3.1 Justification:	10

1.0 Introduction:

The County Government of Siaya is desirous of decentralizing service delivery and enhancing active participation of residents of Ugunja urban area. To facilitate the decentralization, it initiated the delineation of its urban area boundary and subsequently appointed an Ad Hoc Committee. The mandate of the committee was to recommend the area for conferment of urban area status in accordance with the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011.

1.1 Composition of the Ad Hoc committee on conferment of urban areas status, Siaya County:

In line with the provisions of Section 8(2) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 the Ad Hoc Committee was constituted as follows;

NAME	ORGANISATION	DESIGNATION
Dr. Fredrick Omondi Owino	Town & County Planners Association of Kenya (TCPAK)	Member
Arch. John Kanyangweso	Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK)	Member
Luke Okeyo	Institute of Surveys of Kenya (ISK)	Member
Teresia Achieng Wasonga	Bondo Traders Association	Member
Beryl Jumar	Law Society of Kenya (LSK)	Member
CPA Eston Okinyi	Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK)	Member
Dr. Emmanuel Midheme	Kenya Institute of Planners	Member
George Odunga Obare	County Government of Siaya	Joint Secretary
Elizabeth Mosa Agina	County Government of Siaya	Joint Secretary

The Ad Hoc committee was supported by a secretariat drawn from the Department of Lands, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development which included the following officers;

George Rubiik, Maurice McOrege, Maurice Ochieng, Maureen Juma & Roseline Siangla.

It commenced its work on 16th November 2022 when it held its preliminary meeting and appointed Dr. Fredrick Owino as the chairperson. The Ad Hoc committee subsequently undertook its mandate in line with its work plan.

1.2 Terms of Reference:

The Ad Hoc Committee was mandated to undertake the following tasks:

- (a) Evaluate the areas with delineated urban area boundaries against the criteria set out in section 9(3) and 10(2) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 and
- (b) Prepare a report recommending conferment of urban area status for each eligible area for tabling before H.E the Governor, Siaya County for consideration.

1.3 Methodology:

The Ad Hoc committee undertook its mandate using the following methodology:

- a. **Literature review:** The Ad Hoc Committee relied on the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 and Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019. It also reviewed the Ugunja urban area delineation report, the County Assembly report approving the urban area delineated boundary, the Kenya National Housing and Population Census report for Ugunja urban area for the year 2019, Siaya County financial statements, existing Land Use Plan for Ugunja and relevant information available online.
- b. **Key Informant Interviews:** The Ad Hoc Committee conducted key informant interviews. It received both oral and written responses from Administrators stationed at Ugunja.
- c. **Site visits:** The Ad Hoc Committee undertook site visits in Ugunja to assess their service levels as enumerated under the First Schedule of the Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019.

2.0 Status Analysis for Suitability:

The Ad Hoc committee used the eligibility criteria set out under Section 9(3) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 and the First Schedule of the Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019 for grant of Municipality Status, to assess conferment suitability.

2.1 Population:

Ugunja urban area is composed of the following areas which fall within its delineated urban area boundary;

Area	Percentage (%) of the area covered	Estimated population of the area within the delineated boundary:
Ugunja	100	12,620
Ambira	100	7,380
Ngunya	100	5,087
Ligega	100	6,568
Umala	100	7,905
Rangala	100	6,498
Got Osimbo	100	4,985
TOTAL		51,043

A tabulation of the population of the Ugunja delineated urban area estimates the population as **51,043** as per the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census report. In that regard, Ugunja satisfies the requirement for an estimated population of 50,000 which is required for grant of Municipality Status.

2.2 Integrated Development Plan:

An area is eligible for grant of Municipal status if it has an integrated development plan. The Ad Hoc committee established that Ugunja urban area has a local land use plan which provides a lay out for different land uses within the area and guides development control.

2.3 Revenue Collection/Potential/Capacity:

It is a requirement under Section 9(3) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 that an area should have a demonstrable capacity or potential to generate and collect revenue to qualify for grant of Municipal status. The Ad Hoc committee established that Ugunja urban area has a wide array of economic activities which provide an avenue for own source revenue collection. The County Government of Siaya currently collects rates from the following revenue streams:

- Single Business Permit
- Parking fees
- Cess- sand harvesting, bricks and building stones
- Market levies

- Development plan approval fees
- Survey fees
- Liquor lincensing fees
- Land rates
- Entry fees for cultural sites
- Mining fees
- Hospital and Morgue fees
- Water and Sewerage fees
- Advertisement fees
- Enforcement charges
- Rent from government houses and buildings
- Fire inspection licence
- Food premises inspection fees
- Ambulance fees
- Veterinary fees

The Ad Hoc committee took note of potential revenue streams the urban area can tap into, including the following:

- Solid waste management through recycling waste for re-use.
- Fees from hire of institutional facilities.
- Pier access fees on River Nzoia (Madiwra)
- Hearse service fee
- Outdoor promotion fees
- Outdoor Catering service fee
- Value addition and legalization of the local brew (Local Gin also known as Chang'aa)
- Upscale on craftsmanship (metal works, carpentry and joinery)

It also identified potential external revenue sources the urban area can pursue to enhance service delivery such as:

- Grants from Multilateral and Bilateral Donors
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities supported by agencies

2.4 Service Delivery as per the first schedule:

An urban area qualifies for conferment of Municipality status if it has capacity to deliver essential services to its residents as provided in the first schedule. The Ad Hoc committee

established that Ugunja urban area has the capacity to deliver the following services in line with the first schedule:

Service:	Remarks:
Planning and Development Control	Planning and Development Control services are available. They are currently being done by the County Government
Traffic Control and Parking	There are designated parking bays in public and private facilities including a Bus Park at the CBD opposite Manna Supermarket and parking bays next to the Bus Park
Water and Sanitation	SIBOWASCO provides water and sanitation services. Water is also supplied from the Nzoia water scheme There is a sewer line
Street Lighting	There are street lights along all major roads and streets
Outdoor Advertising	There are several billboards for outdoor advertising
Cemeteries and Crematoria	There is sufficient fallow land in the area which can be acquired for a cemetery
Public Transport	There are several public service providers in the area including matatus, motorbikes, taxis and boda bodas
Libraries	There is an existing library in Rambula
Storm Drainage	There is an existing storm water drainage network along the two high ways serving the area
Ambulance Services	There are several ambulances serving the urban area stationed at facilities including Ambira Sub County Hospital, Inuka Hospital and Matibabu Hospital
Health Facilities	Aside from the County Hospital there are several hospitals in the area including Matibabu Hospital Inuka Hospital, Rangala Mission Hospital, Home ground Hospital, Got Osimbo dispensary, Rangala Health Centre and Ombwede Health Centre
Fire Fighting and Disaster Management	There is a fire engine serving the urban area
Control of Drugs	There is an existing Sub County Liquor Lincensing committee
Sports and Cultural Activities	There is a community playing field at Nyasanda There is a playground space in the local land use plan There is a proposed stadium
Electricity and Energy provision (gas, kerosene etc.)	There is electricity connectivity in the urban area powered by the Kenya Power and Lightning Company (KPLC) and Solar Companies

	Several fuel stations supply gas and kerosene
Abattoirs	There is an existing Abattoir next to Ambira bridge
Refuse Collection	There are several waste collection bins within the urban area and in major public spaces for refuse collection
Solid waste management	There is an existing dump site for waste collection near Got Osimbo
Pollution (Air, water, soil) control	There are County environment officers ensuring adherence to regulations on pollution control. National Environment and Management Authority (NEMA) operate within the area
Child Care Facilities	There is an existing Paediatric ward at Ambira Sub County Hospital, Home Ground Hospital, Inuka Hospital and Matibabu Hospital as well as several ECDs for education
Pre-Primary Education	There are several ECDs within the area including Nyasanda, Ugunja, Rangala, Uluan, Got Osimbo, Ngunya, Ombwede, Masamra and Ulumba Integrated, Dendio, Umina, Ulawi and Simerro in public schools and several private academies
Local Distributor Roads	There are several roads within the area including Rwambwa-Ukwala-Ugunja-Mumias, Kisumu-Busia, Ogaso-Segere-Siaya, Ambira-Ngunya-Ligano, Ambira-Dendio, Ambira bridge, Sigomere-Kanyumba, Sigomere-Sidindi, Rangala-Siaya and Ngunya-Uluan
Community Centres	There is a community centres in the area, the Town Hall at the Ugunja Sub County Office
County Hospital	There is Ambira Sub County Hospital
Constituent University Campuses	There is a Equator Integrated Complex constituent campus
Polytechnic	There is Nyasanda Technical Training, National Youth Service at Simerro area, Rambula special school and vocational training, Kenya Medical Training Campus in Mbosie
County School	There are several schools including Ambira High School, Umina High School, Rangala Girls High School, Rangala Boys High School, Simenya High School, Simerro High School, Moi Uloma Secondary School, St. Aloice Mbosie Secondary School, Uluan Mixed Secondary School, Ligega Secondary School, St. Edward Masamra Secondary School, Got Osimbo Secondary School and Rambula Secondary School
Stadium	There is space for a stadium in the local land use plan

Airstrip	There is a nearby Airstrip in Sega which is 6 kilometers away, Busia, Kakamega and Omwale City airstrips and can access Kisumu International Airport 60 kilometers away
Theatre	There are available spaces which can host a theatre
Library/ICT services	There is an existing library in Rambula. There is internet connection within the urban area powered by several mobile companies such as Safaricom, Airtel and Telkom
Administrative Seat	There is a Sub County Office for both the National and County Government. The Deputy County Commissioner and Sub County Administrator and their members of staff operate within the urban area. There are two chief's camps in Ugunja and Ambira Kenya Revenue Authority is hosted within the urban area
Local Economic Development Plan	The County Government has an existing County Integrated Development Plan which guides economic development for areas in the County including Ugunja. Additionally, there are annual development plans which provide development programs for the area.
Museum/cultural centres	There is a cultural site for pilgrimage in Nzoia
Fire Station	There is a fire engine serving the urban area, however there is no constructed fire station
Emergency Preparedness	There are Sub County Disaster Management Matangwe Hospital and Committees which are decentralized upto the ward level and comprised of multi-sectoral actors including Red Cross
Telecommunication services /postal services/ICT	There is internet connection and telecommunication boosters within the urban area powered by several mobile companies such as Safaricom, Airtel and Telkom There is a post office They can access local TV and Radio stations
Funeral Parlour	There are four Morgues within the urban area; Ambira Sub County Hospital morgue, Matibabu Hospital morgue, Inuka Hospital morgue, Rangala Mission Hospital morgue
Cemetery	There is sufficient fallow land in the area which can be acquired for a cemetery
Recreational Parks	There is an open space at Nyasanda
Animal control and welfare	There are several veterinary clinics within the area and a Sub County Veterinary Office in the area

Religious Institution	There are diverse religious institutions in the area for religious persuasions including Islam, Catholics, Pentecostal, ACK, Roho Maler and Legion of Mary.
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2.5 Active participation:

To qualify for grant of Municipality status, an urban area is required to have institutionalized active participation by its residents in the management of its affairs. The Ad Hoc committee established that Ugunja urban area had several avenues for active participation for its residents and stakeholders. There are several local radio stations in the urban area including Mayienga, Radio Nam Lolwe and Ramogi where residents can contribute to and receive information on current affairs. The area also boasts of robust associations including; Ugunja Cultural Self-Help Group, Ugunja Fish Traders, Ugunja Bar Owners Association, Ugunja Development Initiative, Tembea Youth Centre for Sustainable Development, Ugunja Northern Boda Boda Association, Ugunja Central Boda Boda Youth, Umala Widows Group and Ugunja Youth Parliament Group for sector-based engagements.

2.6 Space for Expansion:

An urban area qualified for conferment of Municipality status if it has sufficient space for expansion. The Ad Hoc committee established that there are several large parcels of fallow land in the peripheries of Ugunja urban area which can be utilized for expansion. The local land use plan has also proposed areas which can be reserved for public use.

2.7 Infrastructural facilities:

Eligibility for grant of Municipality status is subject to having infrastructural facilities. The Ad Hoc committee established that Ugunja urban area has several infrastructural facilities including hospitals, roads, education facilities, light industries, bus park, storm water drainage facilities and markets as evidenced from its capacity to deliver services as highlighted above in the service table.

2.8 Waste Disposal:

Grant of Municipality status is considered where an urban area has capacity for waste disposal. It was a finding of the Ad Hoc committee that Ugunja urban area has a waste management structure in place which involves waste disposal in waste bins, waste collection by casual workers and disposal in a central collection site near Got Osimbo.

3.0 Recommendation:

On the basis of the eligibility criteria for conferment of Municipality status as required by the prevailing legislation, the Ad Hoc committee has established that Ugunja urban area qualifies for grant of Municipality Status.

3.1 Justification:

Ugunja urban area has met the minimum population requirement of 50,000 in line with the first schedule of the Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act, 2019 and has satisfied the criteria stipulated under section 9(3) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011.