Uasin Gishu County, Kenya – This morning, Uasin Gishu County Deputy Governor, H.E. Evans Kapkea, alongside the County Secretary Mr. Philip Meli, CECM for Lands Mr. Edward Sawe, Hon. David Letting (Kipkenyo Ward), and Hon. Gilbert Lagat (Kiplombe Ward) held an important meeting with representatives from Pamoja Trust. The delegation, led by Executive Director Mr. Samuel Olando convened to discuss the validation of proposed projects under the Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project (KISIP) Component 2 – Social Economic Inclusion. These projects are aimed at benefiting residents of Kipkaren and Mwanzo informal settlements through the formulation of Community Development Plans (CDPs).

H.E. Evans Kapkea praised the ongoing impact of the KISIP program, which has already transformed several informal settlements around the country. The Deputy Governor highlighted the significant progress, with meanders of tarmacked roads improving access in five settlements. He emphasized that the social-economic inclusion component would have a lasting positive effect, reducing crime, creating youth employment, and ultimately improving the lives of the residents.

“I must commend the KISIP programme for its interventions in Uasin Gishu, especially as it continues to include more settlements in its social-economic projects. This is a true reflection of their unwavering support for our county,” said Kapkea.

Mr. Samuel Olando, Executive Director of Pamoja Trust, together with the Board Chair Mr. Ofenda Lumumbs, shared the exciting plans for the 10-year Community Development Plans (CDPs) that were presented at the workshop. Key projects set for Mwanzo informal settlement include the construction of a Social Hall and ICT Hub, Waste Collection Points, a drainage system, and a Community Policing initiative. In Kipkaren, the community will benefit from the development of a Playground, a Community Centre, capacity-building programs on agro-farming (such as poultry keeping), drilling of a community borehole, a GBV support centre, and waste management and recycling points.

Mr. Edward Sawe, the County Executive Committee Member for Lands, Physical Planning, Housing, and Urban Development, noted that the ongoing collaboration between the county government and the KISIP program has been instrumental in securing additional funds for social-economic interventions in more informal settlements.

“The prudent expenditure of funds has led to more settlements being included in this vital social-economic component. Let’s ensure that we prioritize projects that address the most pressing needs of our communities,” said Sawe. He further stressed the importance of lobbying for funds from various organizations to support the successful implementation of these projects.

Hon. David Letting, MCA for Kipkenyo Ward, expressed his appreciation for the KISIP program's interventions, saying that Kipkaren was finally considered for major infrastructural and socio-economic changes. He reiterated that the community was eagerly anticipating the improvements, which would have a long-lasting impact.

Chief Officer Mr. Julius Koech took the participants through the detailed documents, advising the team on how to identify and implement quick

Directors Ms Beatrice Menjo-Cordinator KISIP 2 Component 2, Eng. Benjamin Kirongo- Public Works and Mr. Charles Kapkiai- Governors' delivery unit were also present