



SENSITIZATION NOTICE

ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN, YOUTH, AND PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES (PWDS)

Promoting Inclusive Economic Empowerment through AGPO

In line with the Government of Kenya's commitment for social inclusion and economic empowerment, the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) invites all stakeholders to join the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) Programme actively.

The program provides a level playing ground and orderly process through which Women, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) can access government procurement contracts.

Using AGPO to Advance Inclusive Economic Empowerment

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) encourages all parties involved to actively participate in the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) program in order to support the Government of Kenya's commitment to social inclusion and economic empowerment. Through this program, women, youth, and people with disabilities (PWDs) can take advantage of government procurement contracts in an equitable and organized manner.

This is consistent with:

- At least 30% of all public procurement opportunities must be set aside for these special interest groups, according to the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act of 2015.
- The Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which prioritizes entrepreneurship assistance and inclusive growth at the Centre.
- One of the most important ways to stop economic marginalization, which can

be a major contributing factor to crime and social unrest, is to establish a fair business environment.

- Economically empowering marginalized populations encourages peaceful coexistence, social cohesion, and a reduction in inequality.

Why This Matters

In support of the Government of Kenya's commitment to social inclusion and economic empowerment, the NCRC urges all stakeholders to actively engage in the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) Programme. This initiative provides a fair and structured platform for Women, Youth, and Persons Living with Disabilities (PWDs) to benefit from government procurement contracts.

This is in line with:

- The Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, 2015, which mandates that at least 30% of all public procurement opportunities be reserved for these special interest groups.
- The Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which places inclusive growth and entrepreneurship support at the center of national development priorities.
- Eligible groups must be:
 - Registered as businesses or suppliers under Kenyan law.
 - Certified under the AGPO Programme by the National Treasury.
 - Compliant with statutory requirements including tax and registration obligations.

The BETA Agenda and Economic Inclusion

The BETA agenda envisions a Kenya that includes all people. By providing access to finance, capacity-building, and market access for women-owned, youth-owned, and PWD-owned MSMEs, the government seeks to reduce poverty and offer sustainable jobs.

AGPO framework directly supports BETA pillars, including:

- Job creation and support to SMEs.
- Promotion of social justice and equity.
- Increasing local industry contribution to national development.

How to Participate

1. Register Your Business as a youth-, women-, or PWD-owned business.
2. Submit an AGPO Certification application on the National Treasury AGPO Portal (<https://www.agpo.go.ke>).
3. Place bids for Opportunities in government tenders set aside for your category.
4. Participate in Capacity Building programs offered by various state agencies.

At the National Crime Research Centre, we value the fact that economic exclusion can result in crime and insecurity.

We hence call on all qualified groups to maximize AGPO opportunities, and we call on all state agencies to apply the 30% preference rule to the letter in their procurement activities.