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THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - FOURTH SESSION - 2025

DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES
DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

REPORT ON:

THE AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES BILL (*SENATE BILL
NO. 12 OF 2022*)

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 16 FEB 2015	DAY: TUE
TABLED BY:	HON. BRIGHTON YEGON, MP VICE-CHAIRPERSON, DC ON AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	A. SHIBUKO

CLERK'S CHAMBERS
DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
NAIROBI

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

REF	-	Reference
NA	-	National Assembly
DDC	-	Directorate of Departmental Committees
A&L	-	Agriculture and Livestock
DR	-	Doctor
PhD	-	Doctor of Philosophy
CBS	-	Chief of the Burning Spear
MP	-	Member of Parliament
UDA	-	United Democratic Alliance
ODM	-	Orange Democratic Movement
DAP-K	-	Democratic Alliance Party of Kenya
NOPEU	-	National Ordinary People Empowerment Union
ICT	-	Information, Communication and Technology
KeFAAS	-	Kenya Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services
SMEs	-	Small Medium Enterprises
AFA	-	Agriculture and Food Authority
MAAIF	-	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
NAADS	-	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NGOs	-	Non-Governmental Organisations
MOALD	-	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
CS	-	Cabinet Secretary
KEPHIS	-	Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service
KALRO	-	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation
CoG	-	Council of Governors
CEO	-	Chief Executive Officer
KENAFF	-	Kenya National Farmers' Federation
CSO	-	Civil Society Organisation
AIRC	-	Agriculture Information Resource Centre
TIMPS	-	Technologies Innovations and Management Practices
SRC	-	Salaries and Remuneration Commission

ANNEXURES

- Annex 1: Adoption Schedule for this Report
- Annex 2: Minutes
- a) Minutes of the 2nd Sitting
 - b) Minutes of the 48th Sitting
 - c) Minutes of the 45th Sitting
 - d) Minutes of the 44th Sitting
 - e) Minutes of the 41st Sitting
- Annex 3: Copy of the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No. 12 of 2022)
- Annex 4: Letter Inviting Stakeholders for a Meeting to Discuss the Bill
- Annex 5: Copy of the Newspaper Advertisement on Public Participation
- Annex 6: Matrix
- Annex 7: Witness Attendance Schedules for the Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report contains proceedings of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock on its consideration of the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (*Senate Bill No.12 of 2022*) which was published in the Kenya *Gazette* Supplement No. 205 of 30th December 2022 and passed by the Senate with amendments on 21st February 2024. The Bill went through the First Reading on 28th February 2024 and was thereafter committed to the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock for consideration and reporting to the House pursuant to Standing Order 127.

The Bill has thirty-nine (39) clauses and one Schedule and seeks to provide for agricultural and livestock extension services and establish the Agricultural and Extension Service. The Bill proposes to put in place an agricultural and livestock service managed by a board of directors and provides for the establishment, powers, composition and functions of governing bodies to oversee Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services in the country. It also provides for assistance to farmers to gain new information and develop new abilities and to apply directly on the farm the latest scientific Knowledge through transfer of technology.

Following placement of advertisements in the print media on Friday, 8th March 2024 seeking public and stakeholder views on the Bill pursuant to Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 127(3), the Committee received one memorandum from the Council of Governors.

The Committee also invited stakeholders vide letter REF: NA/DDC/A&L/2023/054 dated 25th September 2024 for a stakeholders' engagement meeting on the Bill which was held on 15th October 2024 and on 14th November 2024 with three (3) stakeholders making oral presentations before the Committee.

The stakeholders were in support of the Bill, noting that its enactment will play a key role in ensuring that extension services are entrenched in the sector. They observed that in adopting the Bill, the country can unlock the full potential of agricultural, livestock, and fisheries sectors through the provision of suitable extension and advisory services to farmers, leading to increased income for them, job creation, and overall economic growth across the country.

The Council of Governors noted that the sovereign power of the State is vested in the two levels of government, that is, the National Government and county governments whose distinctness is recognized in Article 6 (2) of the Constitution. It was therefore important to ensure that all legislation is cognizant of the fact that agriculture is a fully devolved function under Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution.

The Committee on its part observed that the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (*Senate Bill No.12 of 2022*) will play a key role in ensuring that extension services are taken closer to the people. Members of the Committee noted that the Bill will help foster coordination and collaboration in extension services by National Government, County Governments, non-governmental organization, learning institutions, research bodies and other non-state actors; to achieve sustainable agricultural and livestock productivity and improved benefits; to enhance coordination and collaboration through improving research-extension-clientele linkages across the agricultural and livestock product value chain; and for the continuous and sustained research on extension services.

The Committee is grateful to the Offices of the Speaker and Clerk of the National Assembly for the logistical and technical support accorded to it during its sittings. The Committee also thanks the

Agriculture and Food Authority, the State Department for Industry, the Council of Governors, and the Cotton Ginners Association for submitting their views on the Bill.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to the Honourable Members of the Committee and the Committee Secretariat who made useful contributions towards the preparation and production of this report.

On behalf of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock and pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 199 (6), it is my pleasant privilege and honour to present to this House the Report of the Committee on its consideration of the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (*Senate Bill No.12 of 2022*).

It is my pleasure to report that the Committee has considered the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No.12 of 2022) and has the honour to report back to the National Assembly with the recommendation that the Bill be **approved with the amendments provided in the Schedule under Chapter Seven of this report.**

Hon. (Dr.) John Kanyuithia Mutunga, PhD, CBS, MP
Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock

CHAPTER ONE

1 PREFACE

1.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock is one of the fifteen Departmental Committees of the National Assembly established under **Standing Order 216** whose mandates pursuant to the **Standing Order 216 (5)** are as follows:

- i. To investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned ministries and departments;*
- ii. To study the programme and policy objectives of Ministries and departments and the effectiveness of their implementation;*
- iii. To study and review all the legislation referred to it;**
- iv. To study, access and analyse the relative success of the Ministries and departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;*
- v. To investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned Ministries and departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the House;*
- vi. To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order No. 204 (Committee on appointments);*
- vii. To examine treaties, agreements and conventions;*
- viii. To make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation;*
- ix. To consider reports of Commissions and Independent Offices submitted to the House pursuant to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution; and*
- x. To examine any questions raised by Members on a matter within its mandate.*

1.2 MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

2. In accordance with the Second Schedule to the Standing Orders, the Committee is mandated to consider agriculture, livestock, food production and marketing.
3. In executing its mandate, the Committee oversees the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.

1.3 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

4. The Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock was constituted by the House on 27th October 2022 and comprises of the following Members:

Chairperson

Hon. (Dr.) John Kanyuithia Mutunga, PhD, CBS, MP
Tigania West Constituency

UDA Party

Vice-Chairperson

Hon. Brighton Leonard Yegon, MP
Konoin Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Sabina Wanjiru Chege, CBS, MP
Nominated Member

Jubilee Party

Hon. Ferdinand Kevin Wanyonyi, MP
Kwanza Constituency

Ford Kenya Party

Hon. Geoffrey Makokha Odanga, MP
Matayos Constituency

ODM Party

Hon. Justice Kipsang Kemei, MP
Sigowet/Soin Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Jared Okello Odoyo, MP
Nyando Constituency

ODM Party

Hon. Lawrence Mpuru Aburi, MP
Tigania East Constituency

NOPEU Party

Hon. David Kiplagat, MP
Soi Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Gabriel Gathuka Kagombe, MP
Gatundu South Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Monicah Muthoni Marubu, MP
Lamu County

Independent Member

Hon. Pamela Njoki Njeru, MP
Embu County

UDA Party

Hon. Patrick Kibagendi Osero, MP
Borabu Constituency

ODM Party

Hon. Peter Kalerwa Salasya, MP
Mumias East Constituency

DAP-K Party

Hon. Yussuf Mohamed Farah, MP
Wajir West Constituency

ODM Party

1.4 COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

5. The Committee is facilitated by the following staff:

Ms. Lauren Omusa Wesonga
Clerk Assistant I/Head of Secretariat

Mr. Victor Kanda Kilimo
Clerk Assistant III

Ms. Brigitta Mati
Legal Counsel I

Mr. David Ng'eno
Principal Research Officer II

CPA Robert Ng'etich
Fiscal Analyst II

Mr. Gerald Kadede
Legal Counsel II

Mr. Muhumed Shillow
Research Officer III

Ms. Zainabu Sora
Serjeant-at-Arms I

Ms. Edith Chepngeno
Media Relations Officer III

Mr. Erastus Lotuk
Public Relations Officer III

Mr. Dickson O. Oloo
Audio Assistant

CHAPTER TWO

2 BACKGROUND OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES IN KENYA

2.1 INTRODUCTION

6. Extension is an instrument to facilitate development and it ranges from the transfer of technology to participatory problem-solving educational approaches, which aim at reducing poverty and enhancing community involvement in the processes of development.
7. Effective public extension and advisory services have the potential to improve agricultural productivity; net farm income; and food security amongst resource-poor farmers.
8. Kenyan farmers had traditionally benefited from two types of extension systems: The Ministry of Agriculture extension system, focusing mainly on food crops; and commodity-based systems run by government parastatals, private companies, and cooperatives which dealt mainly, but not exclusively with commercial crops such as coffee and tea.
9. Various approaches were used to deliver extension services such as the farmer-groups approach, farmer-to-farmer approach, commodity-based approach, and individual farm visits.
10. Extension services have been focusing on increasing production only and now there is need to incorporate marketing, climate change, soil and water management, and barriers affecting the adoption of agricultural innovations.
11. Recently, ICT-based agricultural extension methods such as iCow, *Mkulima* Young, Digi-Farm, M-Farm, etc have emerged. The internet, mobile phones, and mass media channels can be used to relay farmer challenges to the extension workers and in turn give feedback through the same channel.
12. The challenges facing extension in Kenya include low capacity for extension services; low funding; weak research-extension linkages; poor collaboration and coordination; inadequate policy, legal, regulatory, and institutional framework, and lack of quality assurance for extension services.
13. Government research institutions are poorly resourced in terms of personnel, funding, and equipment. Consequently, agricultural extension has fallen steadily in the recent past.
14. Weak coordination of plural extension services has been a challenge leading to the dissemination of conflicting extension messages to clients, duplication of efforts, and wastage of resources. The Kenya Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (KeFAAS) has been formed to improve coordination and reduce such duplication.
15. There exist professional associations such as the Kenya National Farmers' Federation, Society of Crop Agribusiness Advisors of Kenya, Kenya Livestock Producers Association, and Kenya Veterinary Association. The committee may consider the role of such associations in the Bill.
16. Extension service providers need a standard approach and objectives that feed into an overall national goal.

2.2 POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICE

17. The National Agricultural Sector Extension Policy 2012 adopted a sector-wide approach to providing extension services.
18. The Agricultural Policy 2021 recognizes the challenge of uncoordinated research by government institutions, the private sector, and international research organizations in Kenya due to the lack of a common vision for research and development. Policy statements thus aim to set a national agricultural research agenda, develop infrastructure, improve funding, provide research dissemination channels, and enhance collaboration between the aforementioned groups.
19. The Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy seeks to launch three (3) knowledge and skills-building programs focused on technical and management skills in the field for two hundred (200) national and county government transformation leaders, one thousand (1000) farmer-facing SMEs, and three thousand (3000) extension agents.
20. Under the promotion of scheduled crops in the Crops Act, the functions of AFA can contribute to extension service, especially sections 8(b), 8(f), and 8(h) on marketing, research linkage, and farmers training. Additionally, section 13(g) of the Crops Act provides that AFA shall regulate farmers' training and provision of extension services.

2.3 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

21. **Ethiopia** has the highest farmer-extension agent ratio in Africa and has invested well in its extension system leading to higher adoption of modern agricultural inputs. Productivity increases in Ethiopia are driven by technologies adopted and the expansion of cultivated areas.
22. Although substantial progress has been made in recent years, the country still faces several challenges including overburdened agents, under-resourced farmer training centres, over-standardized services, and poor research-extension linkages.
23. **Uganda**, like Ethiopia has farmer training centres. The current agricultural extension system in Uganda is pluralistic. The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) provides overall leadership, management, and coordination of the extension system; while the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) provides funding and technical support to extension service providers.
24. Local Governments are responsible for planning and implementing extension services at the local level and the private Sector delivers extension services to farmers on a contractual basis. NGOs also play a role in providing extension services, particularly to resource-poor farmers.
25. The challenges of Agricultural Extension in Uganda are limited funding, lack of qualified personnel, multiple actors leading to a fragmented extension system, and limited access to information and technologies.
26. **Brazil** has a decentralized extension model where federal and state agencies collaborate, with states receiving funds to deliver free technical assistance and extension services to farmers. Government programs play a big role, but private firms and farmer organizations also offer specific technical advice.

27. Some programs promote practices that improve yields without harming the environment. Recent policies prioritize supporting smaller-scale family farms.
28. A variety of approaches are used, including training sessions, field demonstrations, farmer-to-farmer extension, and participatory methods that consider both traditional and scientific knowledge.

CHAPTER THREE

3 OVERVIEW OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES BILL (SENATE BILL NO. 12 OF 2022)

3.1 INTRODUCTION

29. The Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill 2022, is a Bill for an Act of Parliament to make provision for the regulation, practice, and standards of Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services.
30. The Bill seeks to establish the Livestock Extension Services Board, to provide a framework for extension services.
31. The Bill further seeks to promote national and county agricultural and livestock extension services, policy, and strategy.

3.2 OBJECTS OF THE BILL

32. The objective of the Bill is to provide a framework to:
 - a) foster coordination and collaboration in extension services research by the National Government, county governments, NGOs, learning institutions, research bodies, and other non-state actors;
 - b) promote the generation of high income for farmers and traders through increased production and sourcing of competitive markets;
 - c) continue and sustain research on extension services for the development of the agriculture and livestock industry;
 - d) adopt a sector-wide approach to the provision of extension services; and
 - e) provide financial support to the various players in the extension service.

3.3 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK PROPOSED IN THE BILL

33. Clause 6(1) establishes the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Service, whose functions in addition to the development of National Policy and Standards for extension services, are to:
 - a) enhance the competitiveness of the agriculture and livestock industry in Kenya;
 - b) increase the long-term productivity of agriculture and livestock industry while maintaining and enhancing the natural resource base on which the agricultural economy depends on;
 - c) develop new uses and products for agricultural commodities and develop alternative production methods for new crops; and
 - d) improve risk management in the agriculture and livestock industry.

3.4 REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

34. Clause 4(1) tasks the Cabinet Secretary to develop an agricultural and livestock extension services policy and review at least every five years. The county executive committee member responsible for agriculture will develop a county-specific extension services strategy guided by the national agricultural extension policy whereas Clause 37 provides for county-specific legislation.
35. Clause 39(1) provides that the Cabinet Secretary may, on the recommendation of the Service and the county governments, make regulations for or concerning any matter which is necessary or expedient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the Act.

3.5 IMPACT OF THE BILL

36. The Bill is likely to improve extension services and hence agricultural and livestock production and productivity by upscaling knowledge and skills to improve food security and livelihoods among livestock keepers and the overall contribution to the National economy.

3.6 CLAUSE BY CLAUSE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL

37. **Part I (clauses 1 to 3)** of the Bill provide for preliminary provisions, that is the short title, interpretation of terms as used in the Bill and objects of the Bill.
38. **Part II (clauses 4 to 6)** of the Bill provide for the Cabinet Secretary to formulate and publish in the *Gazette* an agriculture and livestock extension services policy at least once every five years. It also provides for the county executive committee member responsible for matters relating to agriculture to formulate and publish in the *Gazette* a county-specific extension service strategy.
39. **Part III (clauses 7 to 13)** of the Bill establish the Agriculture and Livestock Extension Service as a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal, headquarters of the Service, and functions of the Service. It provides for the Board of Directors, composition of the Board, qualification and appointment of the Board members their tenure, and vacation from office.
40. **Clauses 14 to 20** of the Bill provide for the functions of the Board, committees of the Board, delegation by the Board, and remuneration of members of the Board. It also provides for appointment of the Chief Executive Officer and their functions and the procedure for removal from office of the Chief Executive Officer.
41. **Clauses 21 to 25** of the Bill provide for recruitment of staff of the Board, protection from personal liability, common seal, signing authority, and conduct of meetings of the Board in accordance with the Schedule to the Bill.
42. **Part IV (clauses 26 to 31)** of the Bill provide for the role of county governments, recruitment of extension service officers, their qualifications, their registration, and the register of extension service providers maintained by each county and publicizing of extension services by the county government.
43. **Part V (clauses 32 to 36)** of the Bill contain provisions on funds of the Board, annual estimates and accounts and audit of the accounts, annual reports, and the financial year of the Board.

44. **Part VI (clause 37 to 39)** of the Bill contain provisions on county-specific legislation, adherence to the set rules, and the power to make regulations
45. **First Schedule** of the Bill contains provisions relating to the conduct of business and affairs of the Board.
46. The Bill concerns county governments in terms of Article 110 (1) of the Constitution as it contains provisions that affect the functions and powers of county governments as set out in the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution.

CHAPTER FOUR

4 STAKEHOLDERS VIEWS/COMMENTS ON THE AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICE BILL (*SENATE BILL NO. 12 OF 2022*)

47. Following the call for memoranda from the public through placement of advertisements in the print media on 8th March 2024 and vide a letter REF: NA/DDC/A&L/2024/054 dated 10th October 2024 inviting stakeholders for a meeting, the Committee received memoranda from the following stakeholders:

- a) The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development;
- b) The Council of Governors;
- c) The Kenya National Farmers Federation; and
- d) The Agriculture Information Centre

The stakeholders submitted as follows:

4.1 THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

Through their written memorandum, reference MOALD/CS/ADM/13/6(34) dated 15th October 2024, the Ministry proposed the following amendments to the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill, 2022:

Long Title

48. Amend the long title including advisory services in the interpretation of extension services because advisory services form a core part of extension and include information such as those in inputs.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the core function of the Bill is extension service through the establishment of the Agriculture and Livestock Extension Service, advisory is one of the functions of the Service.

Clause 2

49. Provide definition of "*extension service*" as established in section 6, as an agricultural extension service that offers technical advice on agriculture and livestock to farmers, and also supplies them with the necessary inputs and services to support their agricultural and livestock production. This is to provide clarity.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the definition is limiting the scope of the extension service.

Clause 3

50. Amend paragraph 3 (a) to read as follows, "*to foster coordination and collaboration in extension services by National Government, county governments, non-governmental organizations, learning institutions, research bodies and other non-state actors for proper coordination and collaborations*".

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the provision in the Bill is sufficient.

51. Amend paragraph 3 (b) to read as follows, "*to promote the generation of high income for farmers and traders through increased production and marketing linkages; this is because the sourcing of competitive markets is the responsibility of producers and marketing agents*".

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was adopted with amendments.

52. Delete paragraph 3 (e) because the Bill does not include any section that is referring to provision of financial support to the various players in the extension service.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The Proposal was adopted.

Part II

53. Delete Part II because the Kenya Agricultural Sector Extension Policy 2023 was approved in December 2023 and provides for all that are identified in this Part. Policy and Strategy development is better managed administratively.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The Proposal was rejected because Part II of the Bill provides for formulation and gazettment of an agricultural and livestock extension services policy at least once every five years, for the implementation and standard delivery of extension services by the county governments. The existing policy may be changed or modified to adapt to current trends on extension service.

Clause 8

54. Amend sub-clause 8(1) to read as follows, "*Regulation and management of agricultural and livestock extension services*" this is to provide clarity on the functions of the service and to avoid overlaps with other institutions like KEPHIS, AFA and KALRO.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was adopted

Clause 9

55. Amend the clause to read, “*Chairperson to be appointed by the President and membership be as per Mwangozo Code of Conduct for parastatals. Align appointment of Board members with the Mwangozo Code of Conduct for parastatals*”.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was adopted and the Committee proposed an amendment for the chairperson to be appointed by the President in line with the *Mwangozo Code of Conduct for parastatals*.

Clause 14

56. Amend by moving these functions to clause 8 of the Bill. The Board functions should be as provided in *Mwangozo Code of Conduct for parastatals*

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected since it is important for the Bill to clearly outline the functions of the Board.

Clause 18

57. Amend sub-clause 18 (1) to read as follows, “*There shall be a chief executive officer of the Service who shall be competitively recruited and appointed by the Board on such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine.*” The Chief Executive Officer is for the institution which is the Service but secretary to the Board to provide clarity.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because management of the Service is vested in Board of Directors under clause 9 hence the Chief Executive Officer being responsible for the day-to-day management of the affairs of the Board under clause 19 is the CEO of the Board and not the Service.

58. Amend sub-clause 18 (3) to read as follows, “*The Chief Executive Officer shall hold office for a term of three years and is eligible for re-appointment for another one further term*”. This is to provide clarity.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the practice is for the CEO to hold office for a renewable five-year term whereas board members hold office for a renewable three-year term.

59. Amend paragraphs 18 (3) (a) to (e) to read staff of the service.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the management of the Service is vested in Board of Directors under clause 9. The Board may employ such officers, agents and staff as are necessary for the proper and efficient discharge of the functions of the Board under clause 21 hence the staff are for the Board.

Clause 21

60. Amend sub-clause 21 (3) to read as follows, "*staff of the service*" to provide clarity.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the management of the Service is vested in Board of Directors under clause 9. The Board may employ such officers, agents and staff as are necessary for the proper and efficient discharge of the functions of the Board under clause 21 hence the staff are for the Board.

Clause 23

61. Amend the side note to read as follows, "*common seal of the service*" to provide clarity.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the management of the Service is vested in Board of Directors under clause 9.

Clause 26

62. Amend paragraph 26 (1) (f) to read as follows, "*Improve on safe production and processing of and adding of value to agricultural and livestock produce*". This is limiting yet there are more agricultural and livestock produce that need to be included.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the provision in the Bill is sufficient

63. Amend paragraphs 26 (2) (a) to (e) to provide for the functions to the Service. For national uniformity, the functions are better handled at the Service level. Some extension service providers work across counties.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the functions fall under the role of county governments which have a significant role to play considering that extension service is a devolved function. The functions are better performed at the county level.

Clause 27

64. Amend the Bill by deleting the entire clause because hiring of county public staff is provided for in other instruments. The provision is also only limiting to Public Service while there are other institutions also offering extension services.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the clause provides for county governments to competitively recruit and appoint such extension services officers as it may consider necessary for the proper and efficient implementation of the Act without going into details of the procedure for appointment. This is a standard requirement of the Act.

Clause 28

65. Amend the clause to read as follows, "*the training should be in agriculture and livestock related course for not less than two years and in addition to undertake an Extension service induction course at Kenya School of Agriculture or similar institution as approved by the service*". The provision is not adequate due to general use of term certificate. There are Degree, Diploma and general Certificate practitioners who are qualified in agricultural specialty course and only need to undergo a training programme in extension to provide the services.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because sub-clause 2 provides that county governments may prescribe additional qualifications through legislation for employment as an extension service officer other than the mandatory certificate in extension service from a tertiary institution recognized in Kenya. Extension service is very broad and the specific qualification for the specific sectors cannot be narrowed down to in the Act.

Clause 29

66. Amend sub-clause 29 (1) (2) by deleting the term "*private entity*" because a private entity may not possess requisite qualifications. Recognition should focus on professionals.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The Proposal was rejected because there are other non-governmental organisations that provide extension services in their private capacity. There is need to recognise and register them as private entities for the benefit of farmers who would want to procure their services. The Bill recognizes the registration of persons and entities.

67. Amend by introducing a new sub-clause 29 (3) that reads, “*The County Executive Committee Member shall provide the Service with an updated register of extension service providers annually*”.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because clause 29 deals with registration of extension service officers whereas the register of extension service providers is under clause 30 and not clause 29.

Clause 31

68. Amend by deleting sub-clause 31 (2) because the spirit of clause 31 is to publicize extension service while 31 (2) is carrying actual extension messages. Extension messages are time/period specific and are best provided by specific means.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because clause 31 deals with publicizing of extension services, sub-clause 32(2) outlines the bare minimum information that must be published on the website and other platforms maintained by the county government and not the actual extension message.

Clause 37

69. Amend to provide for making of regulations in the areas under sub-clause 37 (2). The proposed county specific legislation are Regulations under the Act and for uniformity in the country, they are better developed at the National level.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was adopted with amendments to allow counties to make county specific legislations without limiting the counties on what to legislate on. However, county specific legislations are different from the national government regulations made by the Cabinet secretary hence cannot be made at the national level but are legislated by the respective county assemblies.

Clause 38

70. Amend to provide for procedures, standards, code of ethics and guidelines not prescribed in the Bill. Requirements for compliance are only possible to already prescribed procedures.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because procedures, standards, code of ethics and guidelines cannot be included in the Act but are better off in the regulations.

Clause 39

71. Amend sub-clause 39 (1) to read as follows, “*The Cabinet Secretary may, on consultation with the Service and the county governments, make regulations for or with respect to any matter which is necessary or expedient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act*” The Cabinet Secretary will be able to exercise the delegated power in line with Statutory Instruments Act, 2013.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the Service is better placed to advise the Cabinet Secretary on extension service since that is one of their roles and considering that extension service is devolved, the recommendation of the Service and county governments is sufficient.

72. Amend sub-clause 39 (2) to read as follows, “*Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Cabinet Secretary may make regulations in regards to the following*” The opening statement guides only on minimum standards yet other areas will also be covered.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because it is rewording the clause without any substantial change. The provision in the Bill is sufficient.

73. Amend the Bill by deleting paragraph 39 (2) (d) because it is beyond the scope of this law.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was adopted with amendments to allow the Cabinet Secretary to make guidelines on fees chargeable by extension service and not remuneration of extension service officers. The guidelines are to cushion farmers who procure the services of independent entities registered by the counties.

4.2 THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

74. In their memorandum, Ref. No. COG/6/48Vol.61 (65) dated 28th March 2024, the CEO, Ms. Mary Mwiti, informed the Committee that the CoG was in support of the Bill. She proposed the following amendments to the Bill:

Title of the Bill

75. Amend the title of the Bill to read as follows; “*Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No. 12 of 2022)*”. This is for incorporation of the fisheries sector into provisions of the Bill.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because fisheries does not fall under the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and might create a contradiction with regards to the relevant Cabinet Secretary.

Long title

76. Amend the long title of the Bill to read as follows: "*An Act of parliament to provide for agricultural, livestock, and fisheries extension services, role of National and county governments and for connected purposes*". This is for incorporation of the fisheries sector into provisions of the Bill.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because fisheries does not fall under the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and might create a contradiction with regards to the relevant Cabinet Secretary.

Clause 2

77. Amend by deleting definitions of the words "*Board*" and "*Chief Executive Officer*". They were opposed to the establishment of the Service as the provision of agricultural, livestock, and fisheries extension services is a function fully devolved to county governments. Creation of the Service therefore claws back on devolved functions.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the Service is established as a national body to ensure uniform standards in the provision of extension service with the county governments having specific roles in their respective counties.

78. Amend definition of the word "*extension services*" to read as follows, "*Extension services means Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Extension Services*". This is for incorporation of the fisheries sector into provisions of the Bill.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because fisheries does not fall under the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and might create a contradiction with regards to the relevant Cabinet Secretary.

Clause 4

79. Amend sub-clause 4 (1) to read as follows, "*The Cabinet Secretary shall formulate and publish in the Gazette an agricultural, livestock, and fisheries extension services policy*".

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because fisheries does not fall under the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and might create a contradiction with regards to the relevant Cabinet Secretary.

Part III

80. Amend the title of Part II to read as follows, *“Role of the National Government”*.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the Service is established as a national body to ensure uniform standards in the provision of extension service with the county governments having specific roles in their respective counties.

81. Delete clauses 6, 7, 8(1), 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the Service is established as a national body to ensure uniform standards in the provision of extension service with the county governments having specific roles in their respective counties

82. Amend sub-clause 8(2) functions of the National Government.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the Service is established as a national body to ensure uniform standards in the provision of extension service with the county governments having specific roles in their respective counties

Justifications for the proposed amendments in Part III

83. The proposed establishment of the Agricultural and Livestock National Parastatal Service raises concerns about its Constitutionality. The Fourth Schedule to the Constitution designates provision of agricultural, livestock, and fisheries extension services as functions fully devolved to county governments.
84. The Council opines that the creation of this National parastatal appears to be an overreach and a potential clawback on the devolved functions. Empowering county governments is a cornerstone of Kenya's devolution framework. By taking overextension services, this parastatal could undermine the ability of counties to address the specific agricultural needs of their sectors and hinder their progress toward food security and economic growth.

Part V

85. Amend the Bill by deleting Part V to align with recommendations of CoG.

Committee’s Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was rejected because the Service is established as a national body to ensure uniform standards in the provision of extension service with the county governments having specific roles in their respective counties

4.3 THE KENYA NATIONAL FARMERS FEDERATION

In a meeting with the Committee held on 15th October 2024, Ms. Mary Gekani, Research Policy, Lobby and Advocacy Officer, KENAFF, proposed the following amendments to the Bill:

86. Definition of the extension services needs to be included in the interpretation of terms. There is need for a clear definition of the services; are the services only limited to advisory on farm inputs/factors of production? Does it include monitor the farmers' productivity and monitor their consumer rights of the products for example the farm chemicals they use and its impacts on their produce, and environment. 2. Part II clause 4(2) (b, d and e); Stipulate for provision of adequate support and capacity development for growers and other stakeholders in mung bean industry. There is need to amend this to speak to all agricultural crops.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The statement is misplaced since it is addressing a different Bill dealing with Mung Beans and not extension services. This might a have been a mix up or a typographical error or omission.

87. Clause 8: there is need to incorporate monitoring impacts of farm inputs use as one of the responsibilities of the extension services, and ensuring farmers rights are well taken care of to ensure the quality of products farmers use is safe for both their safety and the environment. Extension officers could also be mandated to enforce the agricultural regulations and any person contravening the guidelines held accountable for their actions.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was taken into consideration in the roles of the Service and the roles of county governments however extension officers cannot enforce regulations and guidelines, there are relevant bodies to undertake the task.

88. Clause 8c: development of new uses and new products for agricultural commodities and alternative production method to develop new crops: This is mandates of KALRO and Biosafety Authority. Extension services could be involved in the monitoring of the impacts of the new agricultural commodities and the new production methods.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was considered and an amendment introduced by the Committee to include a representative of the umbrella body of the farmers' organizations and the Director General of KALRO in the Board.

89. Extension services board needs to incorporate the representatives from the Natural resources, conservation and or environment, veterinary and representation from the NGO and CSO who are involved in agriculture.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was considered and an amendment introduced by the Committee to include a representative of the umbrella body of the farmers' organizations and the Director General of KALRO in the Board. The Bill has also provided for recognition registration of private entities that provide extension services under clause 29.

90. The bill needs to have provisions for the adoption of regulated. the e-extension services and how they will be

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was taken into consideration and the inclusion of information technology in extension service interrogated by the Committee. As a result, the committee introduced two new parts in the Bill; Part IV (A) and IV (B) introducing a Data Centre and Diagnostic Centre in the Bill to incorporate the use of information technology in extension service.

91. What is the implementation and the monitoring strategy for the extension services?

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The Committee introduced two new parts to the Bill on inclusion of the use of technology and establishment of a data centre and diagnostic centre to centralize all data on extension service for dissemination.

92. The scope of the agriculture and livestock extension services should also consider aquaculture and apiculture.

Committee's Observation/Recommendation

The proposal was considered but the challenge is that fisheries is not under the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development hence there might be a conflict on the relevant Cabinet Secretary.

4.4 AGRICULTURE INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE

93. In a meeting with the Committee held on 14th November 2024, Mr. Festus Njogu, Assistant Director at AIRC, informed the Committee that the roles of AIRC are:
- a) Documenting, producing and disseminating technical agricultural information products through mass media platforms to farmers, extension workers, and other stakeholders;
 - b) Collecting, processing, disseminating, storing and repository of agricultural information from research institutions, universities, relevant state agencies and other stakeholders across the agricultural sector;
 - c) Collaborate with relevant agencies to produce and disseminate information on agricultural priority value chains, Technologies Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPS) within and outside the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development;
 - d) Document and share the progress, success stories and impacts of various agricultural development initiatives for shared learning;

- e) Carryout tailor-made capacity building courses on selected topics in ICT for agriculture, agricultural information and knowledge management;
 - f) Production and airing of radio programs to inform farmers and other stakeholders and also create interactive platforms of knowledge sharing;
 - g) Host the main library for the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.
94. Considering the above roles, AIRC is a key source of information from institutions like KALRO and KHEPIS and any other institution whose materials are relevant to the public. These roles cut across all the agriculture and livestock value chains.

CHAPTER FIVE

5 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

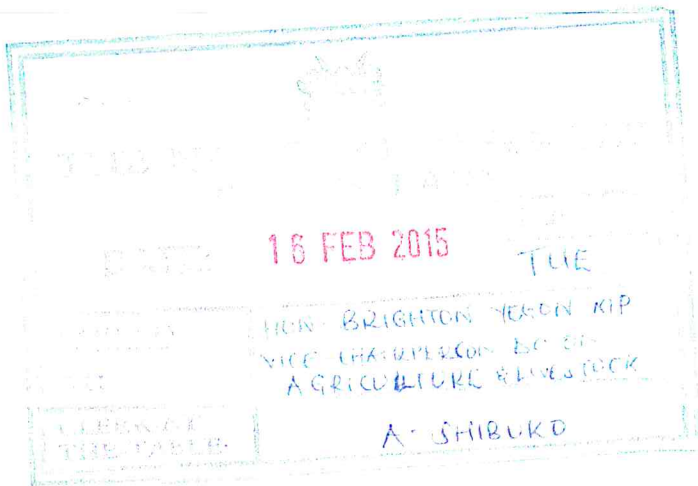
The Committee observed as follows on the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill 2022 (*Senate Bill No.12 of 2022*):

1. The Bill will foster coordination and collaboration in extension services by National Government, county governments, non-governmental organizations, learning institutions, research bodies and other non-state actors;
2. The Bill will promote sustainable agricultural and livestock productivity and improved benefits;
3. The Bill will enhance coordination and collaboration through improving research-extension-clientele linkages across the agricultural and livestock product value chain;
4. The Bill will foster a continuous and sustained research on extension services for the development of the agricultural and livestock industry;
5. The Bill will develop a sector-wide approach to the provision of extension services which will enable access to appropriate quality services from the best service providers and attain higher productivity as well as increased incomes and standards of living; and
6. The Bill will provide financial support to the various players in the extension service sector.

CHAPTER SIX

6 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee having considered the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill 2022 (*Senate Bill No.12 of 2022*) recommends that the House approves the Bill with amendments as proposed in the Schedule in Chapter Seven of this Report.





THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - FOURTH SESSION - 2025

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

ADOPTION SCHEDULE

We, the undersigned Honorable Members of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock today, Thursday, 13th February 2025 do hereby affix our signatures to this **Report on the Consideration of the Agricultural and Livestock Extension Services Bill (Senate Bill No. 12 of 2022)** to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity:

S/NO.	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	HON. (DR.) JOHN KANYUITHIA MUTUNGA, PhD, CBS, MP - CHAIRPERSON	
2.	HON. BRIGHTON LEONARD YEGON, MP - VICE-CHAIRPERSON	
3.	HON. SABINA WANJIRU CHEGE, CBS, MP	
4.	HON. FERDINAND KEVIN WANYONYI, MP	
5.	HON. GEOFFREY MAKOKHA ODANGA, MP	
6.	HON. JUSTICE KIPSANG KEMEI, MP	
7.	HON. JARED ODOYO OKELO, MP	
8.	HON. LAWRENCE MPURU ABURI, MP	
9.	HON. DAVID KIPLAGAT, MP	
10.	HON. GABRIEL GATHUKA KAGOMBE, MP	
11.	HON. MONICAH MUTHONI MARUBU, MP	
12.	HON. PAMELA NJOKI NJERU, MP	
13.	HON. PATRICK KIBAGENDI OSERO, MP	
14.	HON. PETER KALERWA SALASYA, MP	
15.	HON. YUSSUF MOHAMED FARAH, MP	

