The KENYA INSTITUTE for PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH and ANALYSIS

CALL FOR ESSAYS

BUILDING BACK BETTER IN POST COVID-19 ERA TO ACCELERATE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE BIG FOUR AGENDA

The Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), in collaboration with Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOOUST), is planning for a research and public policy workshop. The workshop will be held at JOOUST on the **2nd and 3rd December 2021**. The workshop is organized under KIPPRA flagship programme called **KIPPRA Mentorship Programme for Universities** (KMPUs). The programme seeks to mentor university students and teaching staff for effective participation in the public policy formulation, research, policy analysis, and debate. The event brings together university students, teaching staff and representatives from the National Government and private sector. One of the activities during the workshop will be a Debate on public policy on the workshop theme. The theme for this year's workshop is **Building back better in post COVID-19 era to accelerate achievement of the Big Four Agenda**. The discussants to the debate are a select number of students who participate in an **essay competition**.

This is therefore to call for interested students of JOOUST and other invited universities from the Lake Region Economic Bloc to enter into this year's **Workshop Essay Competition** by submitting an **original essay** on the theme. The essays will be evaluated by a Joint Essay Competition Evaluation Team comprising of staff from KIPRRA and JOOUST. Students who will submit top scoring essays will lead and participate in the Debate discussion as panelists. The top scoring essays will be published on the KIPPRA website. All students who submit their essays will be issued with **Certificates of Participation** in the Essay Competition.

The essays should meet the following criteria:

i. Include your **full name, school/department, registration number, email** and **phone number**
ii. Not exceeding **1000 words** using font type Tahoma, font size 12 with 1.5-line spacing and **MUST not be plagiarized**. The document MUST be in **Ms Word Version only**
iii. Ensure that the focus of the essay is on **only one side** of the two sides of the debate given herein as:
   a. Proposing Side: Kenya has the potential to contain the effects of COVID-19 and to put the economy back on track such that the achievement of the Big-Four-Agenda initiatives is feasible by 2022. **Or**
   b. **Opposing Side:** Kenya is constrained to contain the effects of COVID-19 and to put the economy back on track, thus the achievement of the Big-Four Agenda initiatives is not feasible by 2022.
iv. The essays should address any of the areas of the Big Four Agenda which include **Food Security and Nutrition, Manufacturing, Universal Health Coverage** and **Affordable housing**, with an aim of demonstrating:
   - Your **understanding** of the 'Big Four' Agenda.
   - The **effects of** COVID-19 pandemic in the realization of the Big-Four-Agenda.
   - Either Kenya's **potentials** or constraints to recover from the socio-economic shocks of COVID-19.
   - **Policy interventions** to exploit the potential or to address the constraints discussed, to promote the realization of the Big Four Agenda amid COVID-19.

Kindly note:

1. A student will be allowed to submit **ONLY ONE essay** for the Essay Competition.
2. Submissions **MUST** be done using **student corporate emails only and in Ms Word**
3. **The deadline for submission** of the essays is **9th November 2021** after which they will undergo a review process and successful entries will be notified by 16th November 2021**.**

All Submissions to be addressed to and submitted to Dr. Nancy Nafula through the email mentorship@kippra.or.ke and copied to Ms. Keziah Ogada – JOOUST University through the email pr@jooust.ac.ke