THE DIGITAL AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION BILL, 2026

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

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A Bill for

AN ACT of Parliament to provide for the establishment of the Kenya Agricultural Digital Information Centre; to provide for the establishment and administration of a comprehensive integrated agricultural management information system; to provide for the promotion and the use of digital technologies and innovations in the agriculture sector; and for connected purposes.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Kenya as follows—

PART I—PRELIMINARY	
Short title.	**1.** This Act may be cited as the Digital Agricultural Information Act, 2026.
Interpretation.	**2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
	"agricultural value chain actor" means any person or entity engaged in the production, aggregation, processing, distribution, financing, insuring or marketing of produce or products from growing of crops, or rearing of livestock or fish and fishing;
	"Board" means the Board of the Centre established under section 6;
	"Cabinet Secretary" means the Cabinet Secretary for the time being responsible for matters relating to agriculture.
	"Centre" means the Kenya Agricultural Digital Information Centre established under section 5;
	"county government" has the meaning assigned to it in Section 2 of the County Governments Act;
	"data" means raw, unprocessed facts, figures or observations relating to agricultural activities in electronic or other form;
	"digital agriculture" means the integration of digital technologies and data-driven innovations in the agricultural value chain; and
	"digital technologies" includes artificial intelligence, robotics, drones, remote sensing, blockchain and other advanced technologies.

	"information" means data that has been processed, analysed, organized or interpreted to provide context, meaning, or insight that supports decision making, policy formulation, research, innovation, farming profitability or service delivery in the agricultural sector.
	"information system" means the comprehensive integrated information system established under section 18.
	'knowledge' means refers to the fluid mix of framed experience, values, contextual information, intuition, judgement and expert insight that provides a framework for evaluating and incorporating new experiences and intelligence.

Object of this Act.	**3.** The object of this Act shall be to—
	(a) provide a comprehensive legal framework for the collection, management, sharing and utilisation of agricultural data, information systems and digital technologies to enhance productivity, value addition, market access and resilience across the agricultural food system;
	(b) enhance the collection, integration, accessibility, interoperability and reliability of agricultural data and information for evidence-based policy formulation, planning, investment and decision-making in the agricultural sector;
	(c) facilitate public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder coordination for inclusive access to digital agriculture services, particularly for smallholder farmers, cooperatives and women/youth in agriculture;
	(d) support digital transformation, innovation and the use of modern technologies, including Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things in agriculture for improved sector performance, resilience and sustainability; and
	(e) strengthen the coordination, governance and management of agricultural data and information in Kenya.
Guiding Principles.	**4**. In implementing the Act, all persons shall be guided by the following principles—
	(a) agricultural data, information and knowledge is recognized as a strategic national asset;

	(b) safeguard of the privacy, confidentiality, integrity and security of agricultural data and information in all processes of collection, storage, sharing and use;
	(c) digital agricultural systems shall facilitate data sharing and use for informed decision-making at all levels of the agricultural sector; and
	(d) the digital agricultural ecosystem shall serve the needs of the agricultural sector and promote inclusive, progressive and equitable access to information, services and innovations to enhance productivity, sustainability and food security.
PART II—ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE	
Establishment of the Centre.	**5.** (1) There is established a Centre to be known as the Kenya Agricultural Digital Information Centre.
	(2) The Centre shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall, in its corporate, name, be capable of—
	(a) suing and be sued;
	(b) acquiring, holding and disposing of movable and immovable property; and
	(c) doing or performing such things as may be done by a body corporate.
Headquarters.	(3) The headquarters of the Centre shall be in Nairobi County.
	(4) The Board may establish such branches in Kenya as it may consider necessary for the efficient and effective performance of its functions.
Board of the Centre.	**6.** (1) There shall be a Board of the Centre which shall consist of—
	(a) a non-executive Chairperson, who shall be appointed by the President;
	(b) the Principal Secretary responsible for finance or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;
	(c) the Principal Secretary responsible for agriculture or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;
	(d) the Principal Secretary responsible for livestock development or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;

	(e) the Principal Secretary responsible for fisheries or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;
	(f) the Principal Secretary responsible for cooperatives or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;
	(g) the Principal Secretary responsible for Information Communication Technology or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;
	(h) the Principal Secretary responsible for Irrigation or a person designated in writing by the Principal Secretary;
	(i) two persons, not being a governor, nominated by the Council of County Governors and appointed by the Cabinet Secretary;
	(j) two members, not being public officers, appointed by the Cabinet Secretary; and
	(k) the chief executive officer of the Centre, who shall be an ex-officio member of the Board with no voting rights.
	(2) The appointment of the chairperson and members of the board appointed under the subsection (1)(i) and (j) shall be by notice in the Gazette.
	(3) a person qualifies to be appointed as the chairperson of the board if the person—
	(a) holds a bachelors' degree in agricultural sciences, finance, business management, economics, law, information communication technology, or any other relevant degree from a recognized institution;
	(b) has at least ten years of work experience six of which are at a senior management level;
	(c) meets the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution.

	(4) A person qualifies to be appointed as a member of the board under subsection(1)(a), (i) or (j) if the person— (a) is a Kenyan citizen (b) holds a bachelors' degree in agricultural sciences, finance, business management, economics, law, information communication technology, or any other relevant degree from a recognised institution;

	(c) has at least ten years of work experience six of which are at a senior management level; (d) meets the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution.
	(5) In the appointment of the Board, the appointing authority shall ensure that the membership reflects gender, regional balance, youth, persons with disabilities and an appropriate mix of skills and competencies required to achieve the functions of the Board.
	(6) The chairperson and members of the Board appointed under subsection (1)(i) and (j) shall hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment for one further term.
	(7) The office of the chairperson or members of the Board appointed under subsection(1)(i) and (j) shall become vacant if the chairperson or member—
	(a) in the case of the chairperson resigns by a notice in writing addressed to the President;
	(b) in the case of the member of the Board appointed under subsection(1)(i), resigns by a notice in writing addressed to the Council of County Governors;
	(c) in the case of the member of the Board appointed under subsection(1)(j), resigns by a notice in writing addressed to the Cabinet Secretary;
	(d) is unable to perform the functions of the office by reason of mental or physical infirmity;
	(e) is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without the permission of the chairperson, and in the case of the chairperson, without the permission of the President;

	(f) is adjudged bankrupt or enters into a composition scheme or arrangement with creditors;
	(g) is sentenced to imprisonment for a term of six months or more; or
	(h) dies.

Functions of the Centre.	**7.** The functions of the Centre shall be—
	(a) to manage the integrated information system;
	(b) to develop and manage the national data and digital agriculture infrastructure in collaboration with the Ministry responsible for Information, Communication and Technology.
	(c) collaborate with county governments to register farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk and other agricultural value chain actors, and maintain and regularly update a national farmer register and farm-level data for planning, policy formulation and service delivery
	(d) to facilitate the exchange of agricultural data, information and knowledge among the Ministries, Departments and Agencies, County Governments, and other stakeholders;
	(e) to provide tailor-made, insightful, data-driven digital advisories to agricultural value chain actors;
	(f) to develop and maintain interactive digital platforms to facilitate access to agricultural information, digital services, and engagement with farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk, and other stakeholders across the agricultural sector.
	(g) provide access to reliable agricultural information for farmers, county governments, researchers and other stakeholders;
	(h) to collate and disseminate data, information and knowledge generated by the Ministries, Departments and Agencies, County Governments, and other stakeholders;
	(i) to collaborate with Kenya National Bureau of Statistics in undertaking census of agriculture and periodic survey;
	(j) to develop and operationalize a data governance framework for the agricultural sector;
	(k) to validate and incubate digital agricultural solutions and innovations;

	(l) to build the capacity of county governments and other stakeholders in relation to digital agriculture;
	(m) collaborate with county governments in establishing county-specific digital agriculture incubation units;
	(n) collaborate with county governments in establishing county-specific data, information and knowledge management units;
	(o) to advise the Cabinet Secretary on policies and strategies related to digital agriculture and information; and
	(p) perform any other function for the better discharge of the mandate under this Act.
Powers of the Board.	**8.** (1) The Board shall have the power to—
	(a) open bank accounts for the funds of the Centre;
	(b) enter into any agreement or partnership with any other party for the performance of the functions of the Centre;
	(c) acquire, manage, control and administer the assets of the Centre for performance of the functions of the Centre;
	(d) charge fees and levies for services offered by the Centre; and
	(e) invest any of the funds of the Centre that are not immediately required for performance of the functions of the Centre.
Remuneration of members of the Board.	**9.** The members of the Board shall be paid such remuneration and allowances as may be determined by the Cabinet Secretary, on the advice of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission.
Conduct of affairs of the Board.	**10.** The conduct of the affairs of the Board shall be as set out in the schedule.
Delegation by the Board.	**11.** (1) The Board may establish such committees as the Board may determine. (2) The Board may by resolution, in writing, either generally or for a particular case, delegate to any committee of the Board or member of staff of the Centre, the exercise of any of the powers or the performance of any of the functions of the Board.

Chief Executive Officer.	**12.** (1) There shall be a Chief Executive Officer of the Centre who shall be appointed by the Board on such terms and conditions of service as the Cabinet Secretary may, in consultation with the Salary and Remuneration Commission, approve.
	(2) A person shall be qualified to be appointed as the Chief Executive Officer if that person—
	(a) holds a degree in either agricultural sciences, finance, business management, economics, law, information communication technology, or any other relevant degree from a recognised institution;
	(b) holds a master's degree from a university from a recognised institution;
	(c) has at least ten years' of work experience in agriculture, finance, business management, economics, law, information communication technology, five of which are at senior management level;
	(d) meets the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution.
	(3) The Chief Executive Officer shall be the accounting officer responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre, under the general direction of the Board.
	(5) The Chief Executive Officer shall hold office for a term of three (3) years and is eligible for re-appointment for a one further term.
Corporation Secretary.	**13.** (1) The Board shall competitively recruit a person qualified as a Certified Secretary in Kenya, to serve as the Corporation Secretary of the Board.
	(2) The Corporation Secretary shall be responsible for arranging the business and meetings of the Board, the keeping of records of the Board's meetings, the keeping of the records of the proceedings of the Board.
Staff.	**14.** The Centre may employ such members of staff as it considers necessary for the discharge of its functions, upon such remuneration and other terms and conditions as the Board may determine and in consultation with other relevant agencies.

Protection from personal liability.	**15.** (1) Where an act is done by a member of the Board, a member of staff or agent of the Centre is done in good faith in the performance of the functions of the Centre, or the exercise of the powers of the Board, the member of the Board, a member of staff or agent of the Centre shall not be personally liable for any action, claim or demand.
	(2) Subsection (1) shall not relieve the Centre of the liability to pay damages for any injuries or loss caused in the performance of the function of the Centre or exercise the power of the Board.
Confidentiality.	**16.** (1) A member of the Board or staff of the Centre may not without the consent in writing given by, or on behalf of, the Board, publish or disclose to any person other than in the course of the person's duties, the contents of any document, communication or information which relates to, and which has come to the person's knowledge in the course of the person's duties under this Act.
	(2) The limitation on disclosure referred to under subsection (1) shall not be construed to prevent the disclosure of criminal activity by a member of the Board or staff of the Centre.

PART III—ROLE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

Functions of County Governments.	**17.** The functions of county governments shall be—
	(a) to develop a county-specific data and information system that can integrate with the information system;
	(b) to support the implementation of digital agriculture initiatives;
	(c) to build the capacity of agricultural value chain actors in relation to digital agriculture;
	(d) to leverage on the information system developed to disseminate tailor-made, insightful, data-driven e-extension messages and advisories to agricultural value chain actors;
	(e) to establish and manage county-specific digital agriculture information centres; and
	(f) to share with the Centre on county-specific data, information and knowledge for the agricultural value chain actors.

PART IV—ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINSTRATION OF THE INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SYSTEM	
Establishment of the information system.	**18.** (1) There is established an information system to be known as Kenya Integrated Agricultural Management Information System.
	(2) The information system shall operate as a secure and integrated point of collection, collation, processing, analysis, reporting, storage, sharing, retrieval, use and archival of agricultural data, information and knowledge.
	(3) The information in Information System shall be used to support the development, production, packaging and dissemination of agricultural information, training and media materials.
	(4) The Information System shall serve as the national platform for the registration, management and maintenance of data on farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk and other agricultural value chain actors.
	(5) The Information System shall provide an interactive digital platform through which farmers, pastoralists, fisherfolk and other agricultural value chain actors shall access tailored, data-driven advisories, information, digital services to support decision-making, productivity and access to markets.
PART V—AGRICULTURAL DATA GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK	
Agricultural data governance framework.	**19.** (1) The Centre shall, in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary, establish an agricultural data governance framework.
	(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Cabinet Secretary shall provide for—
	(a) the establishment of standards for integration, interoperability, ownership and exchange of data;
	(b) the conduct routine data quality checks;
	(c) the security and accountability of data while promoting appropriate data use and sharing;
	(d) the integration and interoperability of all county-specific information systems as per set standards;
	(e) the designation of agricultural data and information; and

	(f) The approval of formats and platforms for data, information and knowledge.
Collection of data, information and knowledge.	**20.** (1) The Centre shall obtain data, information and knowledge from the following entities—
	(a) relevant ministries, departments and agencies in the national government;
	(b) relevant ministries, departments and agencies in the county governments;
	(c) research and academia institutions;
	(d) private sector entities;
	(e) farmer organizations and cooperatives;
	(f) development partners implementing agricultural programmes; and
	(g) any other relevant source.
	(2) The entities specified in subsection (1) shall designate a data controller and data processor responsible for reporting, managing and exchanging designated agricultural data, information and knowledge with the Centre. (3) The data controller and data processor designated under subsection (2) shall report and share data, information and knowledge with the Centre in the formats and platforms approved by the board.
	(4) A person who, without reasonable cause, does not comply with subsection (1) commits an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both.
Custody of data, information and knowledge.	**21.** (1) The Centre shall be the custodian of agricultural data, information and knowledge. (2) The Cabinet Secretary may make Regulations to give effect to this section including facilitate authentication, exchange, quality, sharing and interoperability among stakeholders.

Compliance with the Data protection Act. Cap. 411C.	**22.** A person processing personal data under this Act shall comply with the Data Protection Act.
PART VI—DIGITAL AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIONS	

Establishment of national agricultural innovation hub	**23.** (1) The Centre shall, in collaboration with the Ministry responsible for ICT, establish and operate a national agricultural innovation hub for the purpose of incubating, testing and scaling of digital technologies.
	(2) The Centre may enter into partnerships and collaborations with entities in the government agencies and private sector to support investment, research and innovation in digital agriculture.
Establishment of incubation centres.	**24.** The county governments in collaboration with the Centre, shall establish and manage county-specific digital agriculture incubation centre for the purpose of promoting innovation, building the capacity of agricultural value chain actors and the adoption of digital technologies.
PART VII — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS	
Financial year.	**25.** The financial year of the Centre shall be the period of twelve months ending on the thirtieth day of June in each year.
Funds of the Centre.	**26.** The funds of the Centre shall consist of—
	(a) money appropriated by the National Assembly;
	(b) Digital Agricultural Fund;
	(c) money and assets that accrue to the Centre for levies and fees on services and goods rendered
	(d) money and assets that accrue to the Centre in the exercise of its powers or performance of its functions; and
	(e) money from any other source provided, donated, lent or given as a grant to the Centre.
Annual estimates.	**27.** (1) The Centre shall submit to the Cabinet Secretary an estimate of the income and expenditure of the Centre during the financial year, at least six months before the commencement of the financial year;
	(2) The annual estimates submitted under subsection (1) shall make provision for all the estimated expenditure of the Centre for the financial year concerned and in particular shall provide for—
	(a) payment of salaries, allowances, gratuities, pensions and other charges in respect of the members of the Board and Centre;

	(b) maintenance of buildings and grounds of the Centre; and
	(c) funding of training, research and development of activities in relation to the exercise of powers and the performance of the functions of the Centre.
	(3) The annual estimates shall be approved by the Board before the commencement of the financial year to which they relate, and shall be submitted by the Centre to the Cabinet Secretary for tabling in the National Assembly.
	(4) The annual estimates, once approved by the Board, shall not be amended before being tabled in the National Assembly.
	(5) The Centre shall not incur any expenditure except in accordance with the annual estimates approved under this section.
Accounts and audit.	**28.** (1) The Board shall keep all proper audit books and records of accounts of the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the Centre.
Cap. 412B.	(2) The accounts of the Centre shall be audited in accordance with the Public Audit Act.
Annual report.	**29.** (1) At the end of each financial year, the Chief Executive Officer shall prepare an annual report on the activities of Centre.
	(2) The annual report prepared under subsection (1) shall be submitted for tabling in the National Assembly not later than one month after the submission of the Auditor-General's report under section 27.
	(3) The annual report prepared under subsection (1) shall contain—
	(a) the financial statements of the Centre; and
	(b) a description of the activities and outcomes of the exercise of the power and the performance of the functions of the Centre.
Investment of funds. Cap. 412A.	**30.** All monies in the Centre which are not immediately required to be applied for the purposes of this Act shall be invested in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act.

PART VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Regulations.	**31.** (1) The Cabinet Secretary may make regulations prescribing anything which under this Act may be prescribed, and generally for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.
	(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by subsection (1) the regulations may prescribe—
	(a) establishment and operationalisation of innovation centres;
	(b) the management policies and procedures of agricultural data, information and knowledge;
	(c) the fees payable for services offered by the Centre;
	(d) the forms;
	(e) the implementation of agricultural initiatives;
	(f) the protocols and methodologies of data security; and
	(g) any matter which is necessary for the implementation of this Act.
	PART IX—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS
Transfer of staff	**32**. (1) All persons, being public officers, who, immediately before the commencement of this Act, are employed by the Government for the purposes of the activities of the Agricultural Information Resource Centre in the State Department for Agriculture, shall at the commencement of this Act be deemed to be on secondment otherwise ceases in accordance with the terms of such Secondment.
Transfer of assets	**33.** (1) all property, except such property as the Cabinet Secretary may determine, which immediately before the commencement of this Act was vested in the Government for the use of the Agricultural Information Resource Centre, shall with approval of the Cabinet Secretary, and, upon the taking effect of a notice by the Cabinet Secretary published in the Gazette, and without further assurance, vest in the Centre, subject to all interests, liabilities, charges, obligations and trusts affecting such property.
	SCHEDULE

	CONDUCT OF AFFAIRS OF THE BOARD
Meetings.	**1.** (1) The Board shall meet at least four times in every financial year and not more than four months shall elapse between the date of one meeting and the date of the next meeting.
	(2) A meeting of the Board shall be held on such date time and place of and at such time and place as the Board may determine.
	(3) The chairperson of the Board may at any time, and shall upon written request by a majority of the members of the Board, convene a special meeting of the Board
	(4) The chairperson of the Board shall preside every meeting of the Board at which the chairperson shall be present and in the absence of the chairperson at a meeting, the members present shall elect one of their number who has, with respect to that meeting and the business transacted there at, have all the powers of the chairperson of the Board.
Quorum.	**2.** The quorum for the conduct of business at a meeting of the Board shall be two-thirds of all members of the Board.
Voting	**3.** Unless a unanimous decision is reached, a decision on any matter before the Board shall be by concurrence of a majority of all the members present and voting at the meeting.
Signification of instruments and decisions of the Board.	**4.** All the resolutions made by the Board shall be signified by the chairperson of the Board.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The principal object of this Bill is to provide for the establishment of the Centre for Digital Agriculture Information. The Centre shall serve as a central institution for the coordination, collection, management, sharing, and utilization of agricultural data, information, knowledge and digital innovations across national and county agricultural value chain actors. The Bill further seeks to promote the adoption and use of digital technologies to strengthen agricultural productivity, enhance market access, improve food security, and foster evidence-based decision-making within the agricultural sector.

Part I of the Bill sets out the preliminary provisions, including the short title, interpretation clauses, and the object and guiding principles of the Bill**.**

Part II of the Bill provides for the establishment of the Kenya Agricultural Digital Information Centre, its legal status, functions, powers, and governance structure. It also outlines the composition and functions of the Board, the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer, the Corporation Secretary, and other staff, as well as provisions on delegation by the Board and protection from personal liability.

Part III of the Bill provides for the role of county governments which include implementing digital agriculture initiatives, developing county specific data and information systems, and supporting integration of county data and information platforms with the national information system.

Part IV of the Bill provides for the establishment of a comprehensive integrated agricultural information system.

Part V of the Bill provides for the submission of data and information, establishes a governance framework, and designates the Centre as the custodian of all agricultural data and information. It also provides for compliance with the Data Protection Act.

Part VI of the Bill provides for the establishment of the national agricultural innovation hub and county-level incubation centres**.**

Part VII of the Bill provides for the financial provisions relating to the Centre, including its funding sources, preparation of annual estimates, auditing of accounts in accordance with the Public Audit Act, and submission of annual reports to the National Assembly.

Part VIII of the Bill provides for the making of regulations by the Cabinet Secretary.

Dated………………………………………………………….., 2026.

MUTAHI KAGWE,
Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture
and Livestock Development.