GARDEN OF HOPE
FOUNDATION



THRIVING FUTURES
STRATEGIC PLAN
2026–2029
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Over the past decade, Garden of Hope Foundation has witnessed the extraordinary potential that exists within every child, young person, and community. Our journey has reinforced one simple truth: lasting change is created not by what we give people, but by the opportunities we help them unlock for themselves.

Our 2026–2029 Strategic Plan marks the beginning of a new chapter. Building on ten years of learning, partnership, and impact, we are deepening our commitment to creating pathways from education to livelihoods, ensuring that children not only stay in school but are equipped with the skills, mentorship, and economic opportunities needed to thrive throughout their lives.

This strategy reflects the voices of the communities we serve, the dedication of our staff and partners, and our belief that sustainable development is achieved when communities are empowered to lead their own transformation. As we look ahead, we remain committed to innovation, accountability, and collaboration as we expand our reach and deepen our impact across Kenya.

To our partners, supporters, volunteers, and communities, thank you for believing in our vision.

Victor Odhiambo

Co-Founder & Executive Director

Garden of Hope Foundation

WHY THIS STRATEGY MATTERS NOW

The 2026-2029 strategy responds to connected youth development challenges in Kenya: weak transition pathways from education to livelihoods; limited access to mentorship, TVET opportunities, digital and practical skills, enterprise support, capital, and markets; persistent gender and social barriers; and the continued dominance of informal and unstable livelihoods among school leavers.

STRATEGIC IDENTITY

Vision

Youth as champions in entrepreneurship, education, and leadership development in urban and rural communities.

Mission

To equip youth to be change makers through mentorship, entrepreneurship, and leadership development in urban slums and other underserved communities in Kenya.

Overall Goal

Empower vulnerable youth and women in Kenya to transition successfully into sustainable livelihoods through integrated empowerment models.

Core Values

- Gratitude.
- Stewardship.
- Collaboration.
- Inclusivity.

STRATEGIC SHIFT

What is shifting	Previous emphasis	2026-2029 direction
Programme model	Broad programme delivery and training-heavy approaches.	Focused, outcome-driven education-to-livelihood pathways.
Institutional growth	Growth led mainly by delivery scale.	Growth supported by stronger governance, partnerships, resource mobilization, communications and MEL systems.

2029 HEADLINE AMBITION

9,000
Youth reached with mentorship, life skills, digital literacy and climate awareness

3,500
Youth and women trained in entrepreneurship and financial literacy

USD 400,000
leveraged through strategic partnerships

15,000
unique beneficiaries tracked through MEL systems

Launch positioning: *Thriving Futures is a call to align youth mentorship, practical skills, enterprise development, financial and market linkages, partnerships, and institutional systems into one pathway for sustainable livelihoods.*

STRATEGY AT A GLANCE

How the Strategy Creates Change

1. Structured youth support
Mentorship, life skills, digital literacy, climate awareness, career guidance and enterprise support.

2. Improved readiness
Youth and women become more prepared for TVET, employment, enterprise and income opportunities.

3. Linkages and pathways
Participants connect to markets, capital pathways, referrals, partners and support systems.

4. Stronger delivery systems
GoHF strengthens partnerships, governance, staffing, finance, communications and MEL.

5. Long-term result
Vulnerable youth and women transition into more sustainable livelihoods and thriving communities.

FIVE KEY RESULT AREAS

Key Result Area	Strategic Focus	Core Outcome
1. Education Empowerment	Structured mentorship, life skills, digital literacy, climate awareness, career guidance, TVET and transition pathways	Increased youth access to structured education, mentorship, and transition pathways that improve readiness for TVET, employment, or enterprise.
2. Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment	Market-informed entrepreneurship, financial literacy, incubation, capital pathways, market linkages, and climate-smart and digital enterprises.	Increased youth and women with established income-generating, market-linked, and resilient livelihoods through enterprise or employment.
3. Strategic Partnerships and Collaborations	Formal partnerships, referral pathways, county coordination, community entry, joint delivery, learning mechanisms and resource mobilization.	Enhanced partnerships and collaborations for youth transition pathways and resource mobilization.
4. Institutional Sustainability	Governance, accountability, resource mobilization, financial controls, staffing, field hubs, strategic communications and visibility.	Enhanced governance, financial sustainability and institutional capacity to support growth and quality programme delivery.
5. Impact Measurement and Learning	Unified MEL framework, KPI dashboards, beneficiary tracking, data quality, outcome monitoring, learning reviews and evaluations.	Evidence generated for improved programming and decision-making to promote scale-up and equity.

CROSS-CUTTING COMMITMENTS

GESI

Reach girls, young women, youth with disabilities and marginalized groups through disaggregated data and targeted support.

Digital Inclusion

Build digital skills and use technology-enabled enterprise, reporting and data systems.

Climate Resilience

Integrate climate awareness and promote climate-smart enterprise models.

Safeguarding

Apply child protection, data protection, safe reporting and ethical practice standards.

GOHF'S DISTINCTIVE VALUE PROPOSITION

GoHF bridges the gap between classroom and career through a community-rooted, partnership-driven model that combines mentorship, TVET linkages, financial support pathways and enterprise incubation. Its presence in urban informal settlements and rural counties supports context-sensitive delivery, local legitimacy and measurable impact.

DELIVERY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND PARTNERSHIP

HOW THE STRATEGY CREATES CHANGE

Delivery partners

Schools, TVET institutions, community leaders, financial institutions, private sector actors, development partners and relevant government structures.

Growth model

Phased geographic growth, adding one additional county per year while consolidating quality, legitimacy, partnerships, staffing, systems and funding.

County alignment

Programmes align with county priorities and County Integrated Development Plans, particularly in Nairobi, Homa Bay, Kilifi, Siaya and Samburu.

Systems requirement

Partnership tracking, MEL systems, financial controls, staffing, governance, resource mobilization and communications must keep pace with growth.

HEADLINE 2029 TARGETS

60	schools reached across 5 counties
9,000	youth supported with practical, market-relevant education
3,000	students supported through transition pathways
3,500	youth and women trained in entrepreneurship and financial literacy
1,200	micro-enterprises supported through incubation
350	climate-smart and digitally enabled enterprises supported
30	formal partnership arrangements established
80%	programmes implemented with at least one partner
85%+	data quality compliance strengthened

Investment and Resource Mobilization

USD 1,000,000

strategic plan budget requirement for 2026-2029.

Investment will support education-to-livelihood pathways, enterprise incubation, county-level delivery, partnerships, institutional systems, communications, and MEL.

Accountability and Learning

- Unified MEL framework, KPI dashboard and county reporting systems operational across 5 counties.
- 100% of programmes covered by data systems and 15,000 unique beneficiaries tracked.
- Quarterly learning reviews and annual programme adjustments institutionalized.
- Two independent evaluations completed with data quality compliance strengthened to 85%+.

STAKEHOLDER CALL TO ACTION

Donors and development partners

Invest in the USD 1M strategy, co-design initiatives, support scale-up, and fund evidence generation.

County governments

Align youth empowerment priorities, facilitate local coordination, and support referral pathways.

Schools and TVET institutions

Strengthen mentorship, transition support, practical skills, apprenticeships and career pathways.

Private sector and financial actors

Open market linkages, apprenticeships, digital marketing support, finance pathways & enterprise mentorship.

Community leaders and CSOs

Support safe community entry, inclusion, safeguarding, youth advisory structures and local accountability.

Board, staff and mentors

Champion disciplined implementation, resource stewardship, learning, communications and partnership follow-through.



FOR THE FULL STRATEGY, PARTNERSHIPS OR INVESTMENT DISCUSSIONS:

CONTACT US:

Phone
Email
website



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