

## Activity Brief – Kerugoya-Kutus Integrated Tomato Processing Facility

<b>Location:</b> Kirinyaga County, Kenya	<b>Sector:</b> Agro-processing
<b>Investment Size:</b> £1.950m~ (Ksh371m)	<b>Seed Fund Contribution:</b> £487.5k ~(Ksh93.37m)
<b>Jobs Created:</b> 5,225	<b>Other Benefits:</b> Climate resilience, reduced waste
<b>Date Deal Signed:</b> November 2023	<b>Date Operational:</b> June 2024

**Project Synopsis:** The UK Government through its Sustainable Urban Economic Development Programme in supporting Wakiba Investments Limited to establish an integrated tomato processing facility in Kerugoya-Kutus Municipality in Kirinyaga County. The facility will process fresh tomatoes into three high quality products tomato products: tomato paste, tomato sauce, and tomato juice.

**Financials:** Wakiba is investing £1.462m (Ksh 278m) into the project to set up the operations in Kerugoya. The UK Government has played a key role in unlocking this investment by providing technical assistance in the deal structuring as well as providing £487.5k (Kes 93.37m) in seed fund support.

**Impact:** SUED's support will enable Wakiba to set up its operations in Kerugoya-Kutus generating employment opportunities in the form of direct and indirect jobs. Wakiba will employ skilled and unskilled staff to run its operations. Wakiba will also create indirect jobs by collaborating with small-scale to large-scale farmers through contract farming directly with farmers, which will be providing farmers with a stable market for their produce while guaranteeing the facility access to fresh tomatoes.. It aims to contract 5,000 farmers from Kirinyaga County by Year 2 of operation, potentially increasing to 20,000 farmers over 5 years. Tomato growers in the region will have a reliable market fostering economic growth and entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector, which will contribute to the region's overall economic and urban development.

To promote climate resilience Wakiba plans to adopt a circular economy model such that waste generated from tomato processing can be recycled, to generate electric power from biodigesters thus reduce GHG emissions that could result from diesel backup generator systems.