

Children, Youth and Women Sensitive Planning and Budgeting in Kenya: Kericho County Brief, 2014/15-2017/18



County Government of Kericho

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BRIEF

This brief provides an analysis on how the **County Government of Kericho** plans and budgets for the needs of children, youth and women. The analysis focused on social sector (health, education, water and sanitation, child protection, youth, women and nutrition) budgets for the period 2014/15-2017/18. The analysis was based on budget data and information collected from the Controller of Budget, county policy documents, and face-to-face interviews with relevant county stakeholders. The key highlights from the analysis are summarized below:

- a) **An estimated 46 per cent of the Gross County Product (GCP)¹ of Kericho, which contributes 1.8 per cent to national GDP, comes from agriculture.** However, agricultural productivity is rain-dependent and vulnerable to weather shocks, resulting in unpredictable economic growth trends. Moving forward, the county should put in place measures to mitigate weather shocks, while at the same time promoting manufacturing through agro-processing, and enhancing access to agriculture markets, including through collaboration with the private sector.
- b) **The county's own source revenue increased from Ksh 0.4 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.5 billion in 2016/17 before declining to Ksh 0.4 billion in 2017/18.** As a share of the total revenue, the county own source was low and declined to 6.7 per cent of total revenue in 2017/18 from 9.5 per cent in 2014/15. Overall, total county revenue increased from Ksh 9.6 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 13.0 billion in 2017/18 mainly because of increase in equitable share. To improve the share of own source revenue, the county should strengthen measures for tax collection and management.
- c) **The budget for health increased from Ksh 1.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.2 billion in 2017/18, contributing to improvement in maternal and child health outcomes in the county.** The number of women with access to skilled delivery increased from 63.1 per cent in 2014 to 66.6 per cent in 2018. This is largely because of introduction of free maternity services in 2013. The share of fully immunized children in the county slightly declined from 63.8 per cent in 2014 to 63.7 per cent in 2018. The county needs to prioritize investments in children-targeted health programmes that are performing poorer than maternal.
- d) **The budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased from Ksh 0.46 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.6 billion in 2017/18.** Partly because of increased spending on ECDE, gross ECDE enrolment rate in the county increased from 62.6 per cent in 2014 to 90.4 per cent in 2018. Looking forward, there is still need to develop quality infrastructure and increase the number of teachers for the same cadre of pupils.
- e) **The county allocation for water and sanitation increased from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2015/16 to Ksh 0.4 billion in 2017/18, averaging 4 per cent of the county total budget over the review period.** The county access to improved water and sanitation, however, remained constant at 66 per cent and 79 percent, respectively. The county needs to implement targeted WASH programmes to ensure improvement in the performance outcomes.
- f) **The county allocation for child protection, youth and women as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period averaged Ksh 0.09 billion.** With increasing demand for protection programmes such as cash transfers, there is need to align the county government protection programmes with the national government to avoid duplication of activities, while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the relevant beneficiaries.
- g) **The county budget for nutrition for interventions, which directly contribute to boosting child nutrition, increased from Ksh 9.2 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 82.4 million in 2015/16 before a significant decrease to Ksh 11.4 million in 2017/18.** The children nutrition indicators remained relatively low and above the national averages

with stunting recording 29 per cent. The county should ensure that there is consistency in nutrition budget allocations with visible budget lines for direct nutrition interventions.

- h) The budget execution rate for most social sector budgets, especially health, education and social sector were generally high.** For instance, budget execution rates for health and education averaged 94 per cent and 85 per cent, respectively, during the review period. Although the execution is commendable, this indication of under-planning or estimation of some of the social sector expenditures. There is need to enhance planning and budgeting to moderate the existence of executions of over 100 per cent across some sectors.
- i) Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditure reports, it was not possible to establish how much of the county government budget was spent on child protection, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming.** By having standalone budget lines on the above, the county would be better placed to effectively deliver the above-mentioned services, especially to women and girls. On child protection, for example, the county recorded an increase in number of reported cases of child neglect and abandonment from 53 in 2014 to 2,454 reported cases in 2018, yet there is no specific budget line for this. The same also applies to gender-based violence which has increased in recent years.

1. COUNTY OVERVIEW

Kericho county occupies a land area of approximately 2,479 km² and is divided into 6 sub-counties and 30 wards. According to the 2019 census, the county's population was 901,177, representing 1.9 per cent of the national population. The total county population constituted of 450,741 males, 451,008 million females and 28 intersex persons.

In 2015/16, the overall poverty rate of the county was 30.0 per cent, with 7.3 per cent living in extreme poverty, which was slightly better than the overall national rate of 36.1 per cent for overall poverty and lower than 8.6 per cent for extreme poverty. Among children, one in every three were affected by monetary poverty or lack of financial means,² which amounted to 26.6 per cent for youth and 30.6 per cent for women. Additionally, 44.8 percent of children were living in multidimensional poverty; that is, deprived in several areas including nutrition, healthcare, education, housing and drinking water³ with youth and women recording 52.1 and 61.5 per cent, respectively. The level of multidimensional poverty among women was above the national average and was highest in comparison to that of youth and children. The overall high rates of poverty, especially among women and youth, means that planning and budgeting should better consider human capital sectors so that the county can maximize on the productive and innovative potential of its future workforce and initiate a fast and sustainable growth trajectory (Table 1).

2. STATE OF COUNTY ECONOMY

Table 1: Kericho County administrative, poverty and demographic profile (2015/16)

Administrative Profile							Latest Available
Area (km ²)							2,479
Number of sub-counties							6
Number of wards							30
Overall poverty (%)							30.0
Extreme poverty (%)							7.3
Population (2019)							901,777
Group	Children	National Children	Youths	National Youths	Wo/men	National Wo/men	
Monetary Poor							
Male (%)	29.8	42.1	32.3	29.1	24.9	30.5	
Female (%)	32.6	41.0	21.3	28.8	35.2	34.1	
Total (%)	31.2	41.6	26.6	28.9	30.6	32.4	
Population	452,250	20,742,290	282,435	13,443,268	145,722	7,847,350	
Multidimensionally Poor							
Male (%)	45.5	49.3	51.9	44.7	54.8	51.0	
Female (%)	44.1	47.1	52.3	49.4	68.1	60.8	
Total (%)	44.8	48.2	52.1	47.1	61.5	56.1	
Population	452,250	20,742,290	282,435	13,443,268	145,722	7,847,350	

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2018)

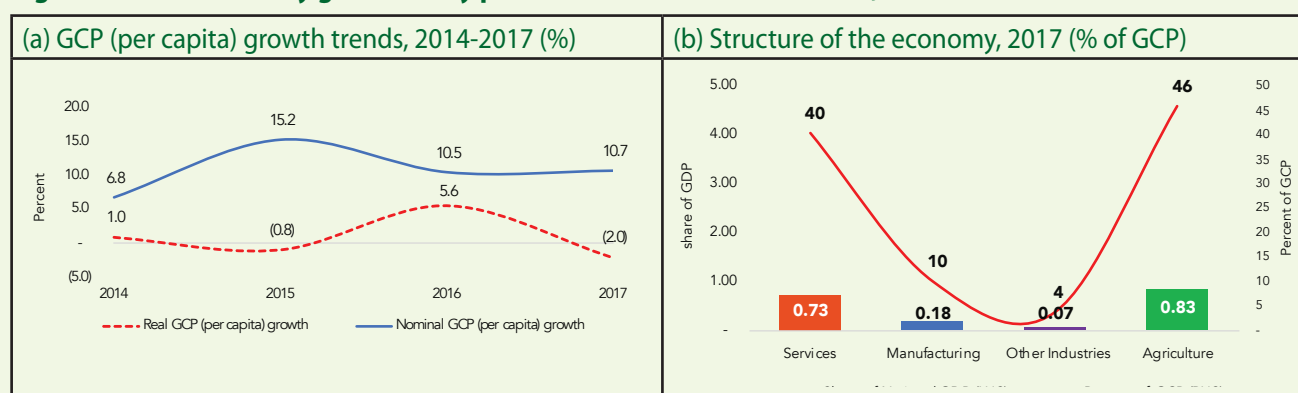
2.1 Gross County Product Growth

Kericho County accounted for 1.8 per cent of the national GDP in 2017. The Gross County Product (GCP) per capita growth rate fluctuated between a maximum of 5.6 per cent in 2016 and a minimum of negative 2.0 per cent in 2017 (Figure 1a). The most recent downturn was largely due to the prolonged electioneering period.

The economy remained reliant on agriculture that accounted for 46 per cent of GCP and 0.8 per cent of the national GDP. This was followed by the services sector which accounted for 40 per cent of GCP and 0.7 per cent of GDP (Figure 1b). Manufacturing and other industries, including but not limited to electricity supply, water supply and construction, contributed 10 and 4 per cent, respectively, of GCP. The improvement of these sub-sectors is important for job creation for young workers, PWDs and women. With increasing numbers of the younger population and higher poverty levels among the women (who are also the majority in agriculture), there is need for the county to invest and create an enabling environment for job creation and to improve participation of youth and women in these sectors. To increase agricultural productivity and the participation of women and youth within the sector, the county should put in place mechanisms to reduce the cost of farming, enhance the marketing of agricultural produce and promote value chains. This can be done through developing infrastructure and enhancing farmer's capacities in modern agricultural methods, extension services, agribusiness and research needs to be promoted. The county should also seek to attract more investment in manufacturing, and services, for a balanced economy. This can be done through collaboration with different sub-sectors, especially the private sector.

2.2 Overall Budget Performance

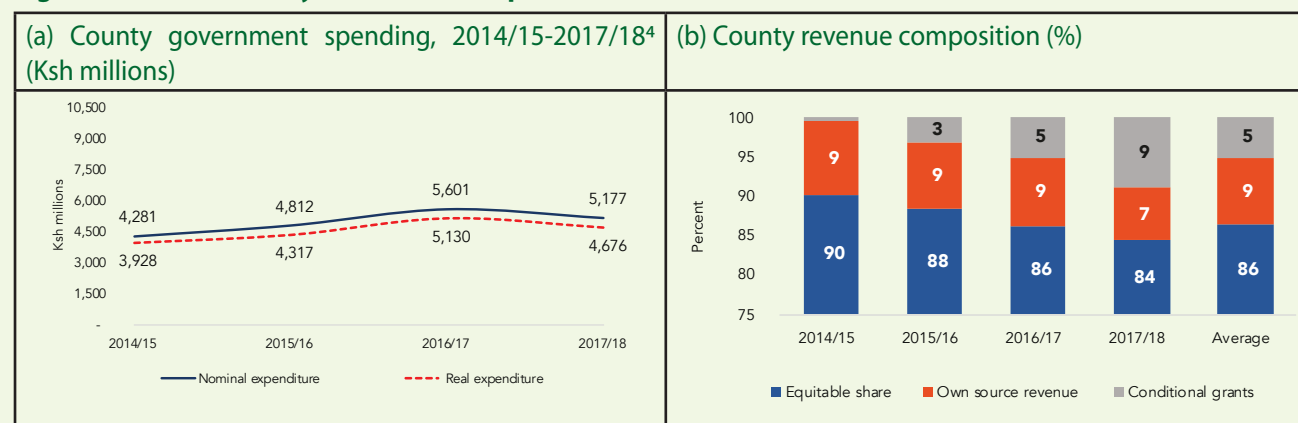
Figure 1: Kericho County gross county product and economic structure, 2014-2017



Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019), Economic Survey

The county government annual spending grew from Ksh 4.28 billion to Ksh 5.6 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, before a moderate cut in 2017/18 (Figure 2a). This spending is heavily dependent on the national government transfers, accounting for 87.2 per cent for the review period. In nominal terms, own source revenue increased from Ksh 0.4 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.49 billion in 2016/17 before declining back to 0.4 billion in 2017/18 while the equitable share transfer increased from Ksh 3.9 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 5.2 billion in 2017/18. Although the contribution of own source revenue declined from 9.5 per cent in 2014/15 to 6.7 per cent of the total revenue in 2017/18, conditional grants contribution improved from 0.5 per cent in 2014/15 to 9 per cent in 2017/18. The burden of the drop in the county government spending mostly affects social

Figure 2: Kericho County revenue and expenditure trends, 2014-2017

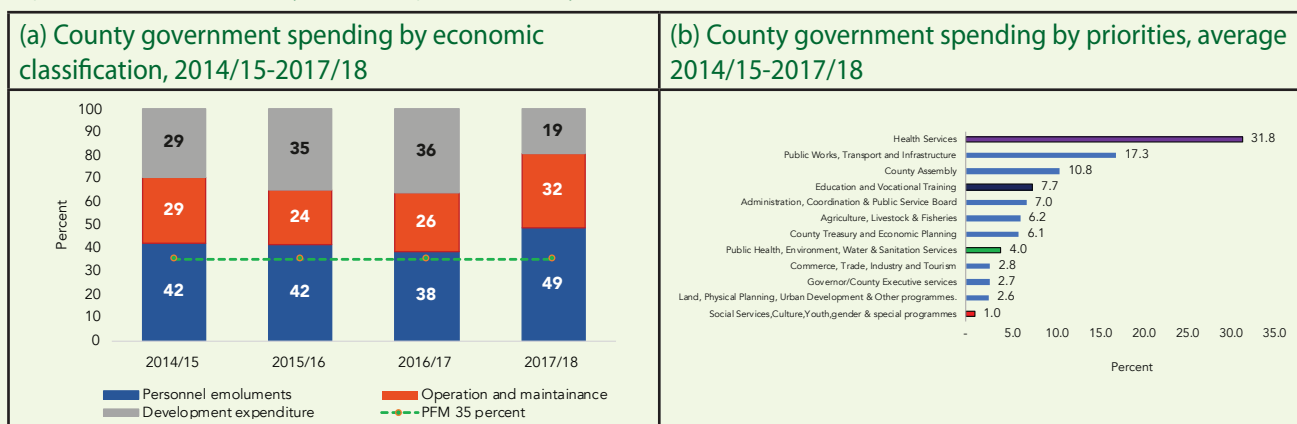


Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

sector spending's which are recurrent in nature. This calls for enhanced fiscal efforts to accelerate revenue mobilization from both local revenue and conditional grants (Figure 2b).

The development share of the total budget increased from 29 per cent in 2014/15 to 36 per cent in 2016/17 before declining to 19 per cent in 2017/18. The recurrent expenditure accounted for over 60 per cent of the county government spending in the review period. Wages accounted for, on average, 57 per cent of the county government spending (Figure 3a). This reflects low compliance to the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act 2012 provision that limits development spending at a minimum of 30 per cent of total budget, and Regulations 2015 which require that not more than 35 per cent of the county's total revenue should go to payment of wages and salaries.

Figure 3: Kericho County spending priorities by economic and administrative classification, 2014-2017



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

The county spent over 50 per cent of the total expenditure in the period under review on health, education, agriculture, nutrition, social protection, youth, gender, water and sanitation (Figure 3b). These sectors are regarded as being more sensitive to the needs of children, youth and women. The effects of this expenditure on the various programmes and activities vary across sectors.

3. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL SECTOR SPENDING

3.1 Health

3.1.1 Health sector priorities

During the period under review, the county outlined key priorities that targeted children, youth, women and persons with disability (CIDP 2013-17). During this period, the sector's priorities included: expanding and rehabilitating the existing health facilities; reducing the distance to the nearest health facility from 15km to 12km; reducing the nurse/patient ratio from 1:20000 to 1:1700 and doctor/patient from 1:23000 to 1:2000; reducing infant mortality by ensuring adequate supply of vaccines and insecticide treated nets (ITNs); increasing the number of deliveries by skilled birth attendants; provision of focused antenatal care, essential obstetric care, and prevention of mother to child transmission; improving sanitation by increasing latrine coverage from 36,834 to 44,569 households; free checkups for cancer, diabetes, ENT, TB, HTN; prolonging life for Persons Living with Disability; and reducing HIV/AIDS prevalence from 5.1 per cent to 3 per cent by 2017.

The number of women with access to skilled birth attendant increased from 63.1 per cent in 2014 to 66.6 per cent in 2018 due to introduction of free maternity services in 2013. The proportion of children fully immunized worsened during the review period, although it was above the national average. The share of fully immunized children in the county slightly declined by 0.1 per cent between 2014 and 2018. Infant mortality and under 5 mortality rates were estimated at 69 deaths per 1000 live births, which is much lower than the national average of 79 deaths per 1000 live births.

3.1.2 Health budget and expenditure

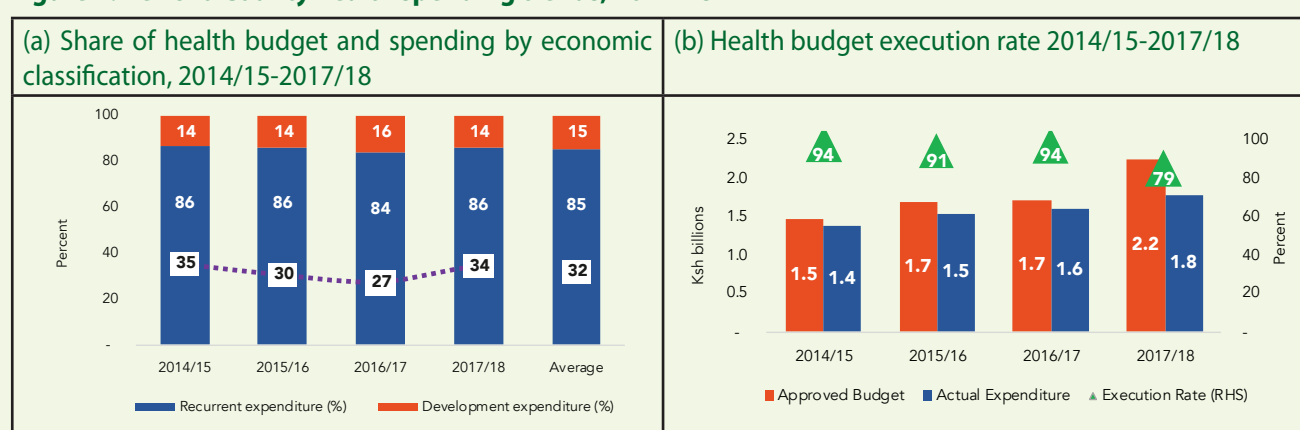
The share of health budget as a proportion of total county budget allocation increased from Ksh 1.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.2 billion in 2017/18. Health actual expenditure expanded from about Ksh 1.4 billion to Ksh 1.8 billion. Spending on health averaged Ksh 1.7 billion, of which 85 per cent constituted recurrent and 15 per cent development expenditure (Figure 4a). The absorption rate declined from 94 per cent in 2014/15 to 79 per cent in 2017/18. This is attributable to failure by the exchequer to release the full amount approved in the health budget.

Table 2: Kericho County selected health sector performance indicators

Selected Health Indicators	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	County	National	County	National	County	National	County	National	County	National
U5MR (death per 1,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	69.0	79.0	-	-	-	-
MMR (death per 100,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	243.0	495.0	-	-	-	-
Skilled birth attendant coverage (%) (source: DHIS2)	43.1	53.5	56.0	56.9	62.4	59.3	44.7	53.0	60.5	64.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least one ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	58.1	76.4	68.0	75.4	76.5	76.9	57.2	73.7	72.4	81.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least four ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	23.1	35.9	30.7	39.7	31.6	39.8	19.3	32.6	32.7	48.7
Proportion of children under one year who are fully immunized (%) (Source: DHIS2)	63.8	70.2	64.9	75.7	58.4	72.4	52.6	65.9	63.7	77.0
DPT/Hep+HiB3 dropout rate (%) (Source: DHIS2)	3.5	6.8	5.4	7.2	6.5	6.6	5.4	10.1	4.5	4.0
Still Birth Rate (Source : DHIS2)	54.8	29.3	25.4	22.6	27.2	21.5	30.3	22.6	22.7	20.4

Source: Ministry of Health (2018), Demographic Health Information System (DHIS)

Figure 4: Kericho County health spending trends, 2014-18



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

3.1.3 Health medium term expectations

The county aims to continue investing in health, especially in child and maternal health, by prioritizing quality health infrastructure and human resources in all sub-counties. Priority programmes include increasing elimination of communicable diseases and management of non-communicable diseases, intensifying immunization campaigns, and increasing access to health services. Further, the county has prioritized reproductive health and intends to increase access to maternal services and provision of family planning services to women and youths in the county.

To realize these new milestones, the county will need to address various challenges, including: limited funds relative to health needs for the county, including those for children and mothers; long procurement processes; delays by the National Treasury in releasing funding to the sector; and pending bills affecting the overall sector absorption rate.

3.2 Education and Vocational Training

3.2.1 Education sector priorities

The county governments are responsible for early childhood development and education (ECDE) and youth polytechnics, which are part of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as per Schedule IV of the Constitution of Kenya. During the plan period 2013-2017, the county education sector focus was to enhance the quality and access to Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE), primary, secondary, tertiary, adult and non-formal education. Development of physical and human infrastructure through construction of new facilities, expanding existing facilities and equipping them was a key focus. The county planned to improve transition and transitions rates at primary and secondary school, and construct at least six (6) well-equipped technical institutes by 2015.

Gross ECDE enrolment rate increased from 62.6 per cent in 2014 to 90.4 per cent in 2018 while net enrolment rate (NER) increased from 41.8 per cent to 67.9 per cent during the same period. The gross enrolment was lower than national average of 94.4 per cent while net enrolment was above the national average of 63.5 per cent, meaning that more children joined ECDE after 2013. The increase in enrolment rate can also be explained by the Ward Envelope Fund that led to construction of more ECDE centres. The expansion of infrastructure was accompanied by employment of more teachers and provision of learning materials and equipment, while increasing enrolment rate. More girls are enrolled in ECDE than boys in Kericho County. This signifies inequality in access to education between male and female school-going children in favour of girls as shown in Table 3.

Gross primary and secondary enrolment rates were 110.8 per cent and 51.4 per cent, respectively, in 2014. Net enrolment rate (NER) increased from 77.2 per cent to 92.2 per cent for primary school and 24 per cent to 38.1 per cent for secondary school during the same period. There was significant gender disparity in enrolment rates at primary school level. However, the proportion of students transitioning to secondary education from primary school level education was low as indicated by the 67.6 per cent GER and 38.1 per cent NER at secondary school level compared to 117.9 per cent GER and 92.2 per cent NER at primary school level in 2018 (Table 3).

In 2018, there were 12 accredited vocational centres in the county, enrolling 1,525 learners.

3.2.2 ECDE budget and expenditure

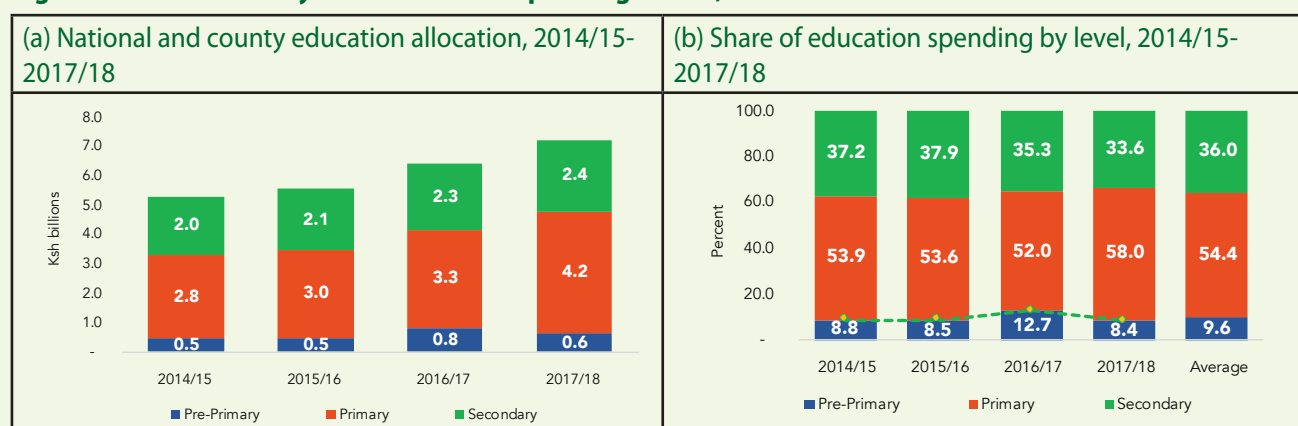
Table 3: Kericho county selected education sector performance indicators

Pre-primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	62.6	73.6	90.4	94.4
Net enrolment ratio (%)	41.8	71.8	67.9	63.5
Male (%)	42.0	73.4	65.7	62.5
Female (%)	41.6	70.2	70.4	65.0
School size (Public) (Pupils) (Average)	64.0	75.0	82.0	85.0
Gender parity index (value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (Public)	29.0	31.0	27.0	31.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	35.5	31.5	33.0	33.0
Primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	110.8	104.0	117.9	107.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	77.2	88.0	92.2	82.4
Male (%)	75.0	86.0	91.9	81.7
Female (%)	79.4	90.0	92.5	83.0
School size (Public) Average No. of pupils	316.0	338.0	367.0	375.0
Gender parity index (Value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.)	43.0	42.0	39.0	40.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	19.0	16.0	17.0	16.0
Secondary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	51.4	58.7	67.6	66.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	24.0	47.4	38.1	37.5
Male (%)	61.0	49.6	38.1	35.4
Female (%)	(13.0)	45.2	38.1	39.8
School size (Public)	-	-	345.4	392.0
Gender parity index (value)	0.9	0.9	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC)	29.0	30.0	34.0	32.0
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC and BOM)	19.6	20.2	19.0	20.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	44.9	30.7	3.3	5.8

Source: Ministry of Education (Various), Education statistical booklets, 2013-2018

The share of ECDE spending in the county remained constant at 0.5 billion in 2014/15 and 2015/16 before increasing to 0.8 billion in 2016/17 and later decreased to 0.6 billion in 2017/18. Despite the expansion in overall education sector spending from Ksh 2.8 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 4.2 billion in 2017/18 in primary and Ksh 2 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.4 billion in 2017/18 for secondary (Figure 5a), ECDE spending stagnated at an average 9.6 per cent of total education spending in the county (Figure 5b).

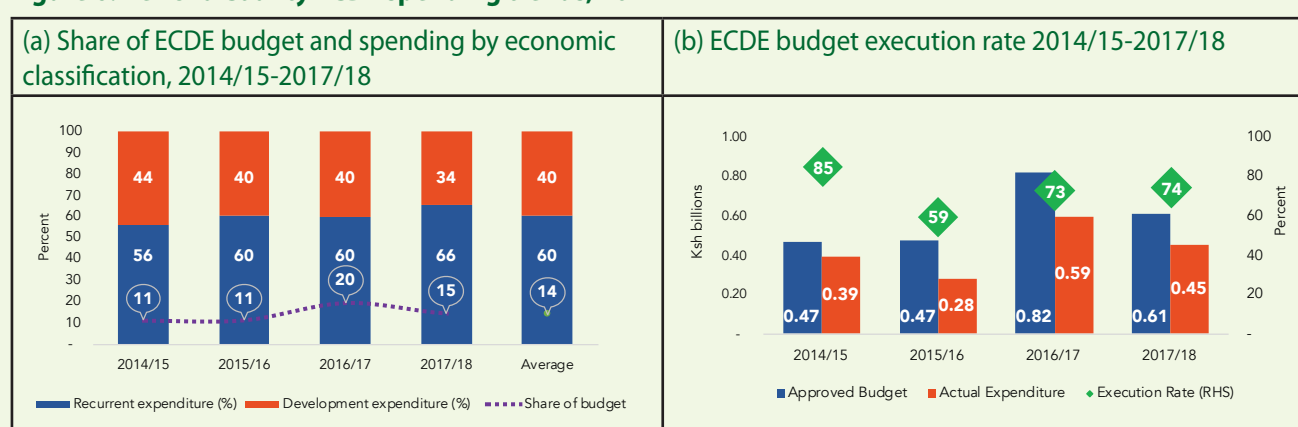
Figure 5: Kericho County basic education spending trends, 2014-2017



Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS

The share of ECDE budget in the total county budget allocation averaged 14 per cent over the review period, comprising of 40 per cent development and 60 per cent recurrent (Figure 6a). The absorption rate declined from an average 85 per cent in 2014/15 to 59 per cent in 2015/16 before increasing to 74 per cent in 2017/18.

Figure 6: Kericho County ECDE spending trends, 2014-17



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

3.2.3 Education medium term expectations

The county still has a challenge in providing modern child friendly classrooms and ablution blocks; modern kitchen; equipment; and staffing to improve ECDE learning outcomes. Moreover, vocational learning is challenged with the unavailability of the required infrastructural resources such as classrooms and equipment; staff and poverty that makes it hard for the youths to afford learning.

The county government with support from stakeholders, therefore, aims to construct modern child friendly ECDE facilities that include 750 modern classrooms and 750 ablution blocks, and employ 750 teachers. The county intends to construct, equip and operationalize 29 workshops; 5 administrative blocks; 6 dormitories; subsidize VTCs school fees for 7,700 students; and employ 200 instructors. To achieve these objectives, the county will require to partner with the national government and the private sector to enhance ECDE and vocation training through infrastructural development, and equipping both ECDE and vocational training centres.

3.3 Water and Sanitation

3.3.1 Water and sanitation priorities

The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2013-2017) outlined key priorities for both the water and sanitation sub-sectors. The county aimed to increase access to water coverage by constructing and rehabilitating water schemes; promoting rainwater harvesting among households; and conducting training programmes for water management committees and operators to enhance water management.

Access to improved water and sanitation was estimated at 66 per cent and 79 per cent, respectively. The population within the service area of water utility (company) decreased from 50 per cent to 39 per cent between 2014 and 2018. The

proportion of population covered or served by the utility declined from 63 per cent in 2014 to 58 per cent in 2018. The sector experiences the problem of non-revenue water⁵ at about 51 per cent as at 2018, an improvement from 55 per cent in 2014. High non-revenue water denies the water utility revenue to enhance water service delivery and in meeting operations and maintenance costs.

Table 4: Kericho county selected WASH sector indicators

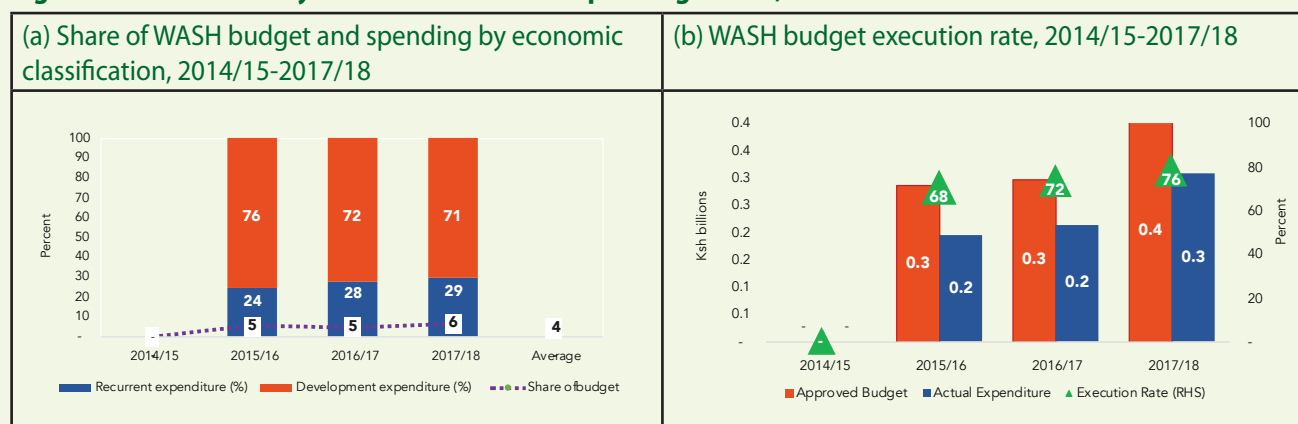
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
County population within service areas of WSPs (%)	50	*	39	*
Water coverage by utilities (%)	63	53	58	*
Non-revenue water (NRW) (%)	55	42	51	*
Sanitation coverage within utility area (%)	74	69	-	*
Sewerage coverage (%)	9	*	13	*
Access to improved water (%)	66	*	66	*
Access to improved sanitation (%)	79	*	79	59
No toilet facility – Potential open defecation county-wide (%)	5	*	5	8

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), KDHS 2014; County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018

3.3.2 Water and sanitation budget and expenditure

On average, water and sanitation was allocated 4 per cent of total county budget between 2014/15 and 2017/18. The county water and sanitation sector budget increased from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2015/16 and to Ksh 0.4 billion in 2017/18. This comprised of an average of 73 per cent development and 27 per cent recurrent spending for three financial years (Figure 7a). The approved budget increased from Ksh 0.29 billion in 2015/16 to Ksh 0.41 billion in 2017/18, and the absorption rate increased from 68 per cent in 2015/16 to 76 per cent in 2017/18, respectively. This can be attributed to the capacity building of the county financial management staff to execute their mandate.

Figure 7: Kericho County water and sanitation spending trends, 2014-18



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

3.3.3 Water and sanitation medium term expectations

The county still faces the challenge of poor management of water resources; high non-revenue water; low sewerage coverage; and poor access of clean water at public places. In the plan period 2018-2022, the county aims to conserve and protect 243 water catchment/springs; reduce unaccounted for water to 20 per cent; increase by 19 per cent rural household water access and by 20 per cent in urban areas; rehabilitate and expand the existing 158 water projects; construct 8 water treatment plants; rehabilitate 4 treatment plants and construct 2 sewerage systems; increase by 7.5 per cent the number of households connected to the sewerage system; construct 75 dams and procure and install 706 water tanks in public places; and develop 2 policies for environment, water and sewerage management.

3.4 Child Protection, Youth and Women

3.4.1 County priorities

The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2013-2017) highlighted key priorities for the sector. The integrated development plan highlighted the need to involve the marginalized and vulnerable groups: orphaned children; PWDs; street families; single teen parents; and windows in the management of activities and policy making. Moreover, the county endeavored to provide credit finance to youth-led enterprises; develop a skills inventory data to ascertain technical skills

available; construct and equip youth empowerment centres; promote technical, industrial and vocational education and training; campaign against drug abuse among the youth; and establish sports and talent academies.

Specifically, on child protection, the county recorded an increase in number of reported cases of child neglect and abandonment from 15 reported cases in 2014 to 2,370 cases in 2018. There were 14 cases of child labour reported in 2018, up from 3 reported cases in 2014 while child emotional abuse increased to 13 reported cases from one case in 2014. Child physical abuse remained constant in the review period, with only 5 cases reported. Child trafficking, abduction and kidnapping had 42 reported cases in 2018. This informs the need for the county to focus on child protection.

Table 5: Kericho county selected child and women protection indicators (No. of reported cases)

Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Child Neglect and Abandonment	15	767	2,370	73245
Child Sexual Abuse	9	636	-	172
Child Trafficking, Abduction and Kidnapping	-	32	42	1022
Child Labour	3	168	14	378
Child Emotional Abuse	1	58	13	853
Child Physical Abuse	5	583	5	2031
Female Genital Mutilation	-	9	-	40

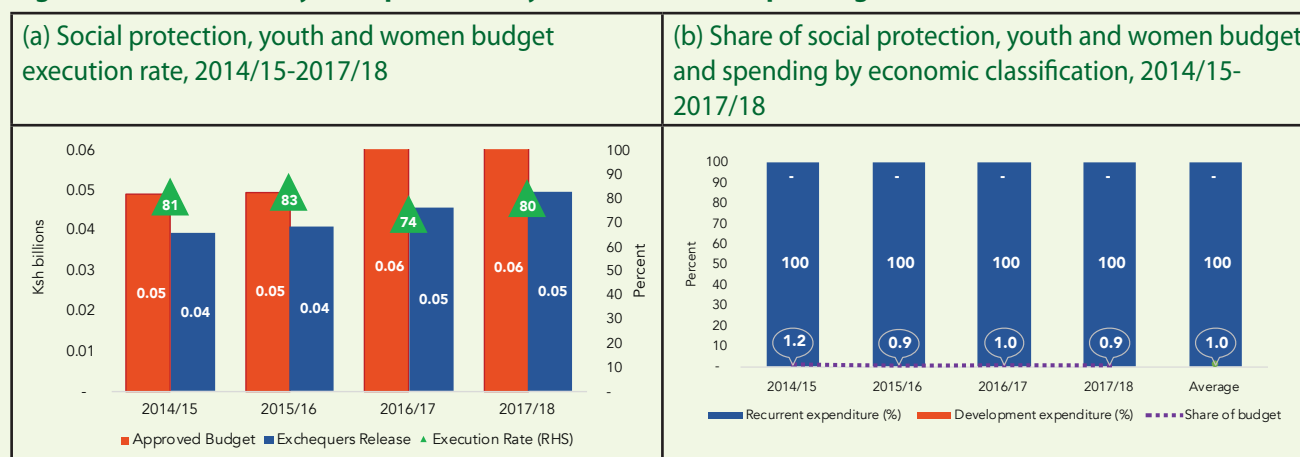
Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), KDHS 2014; County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018

3.4.2 Budget and expenditure on selected child protection, youth and women

The share of total county budget allocated to child protection, youth and women averaged 1 per cent of the total budget between 2014/15 and 2017/18. Spending on the above issues was, on average, Ksh 0.09 billion, constituting 100 per cent recurrent spending (Figure 8b). Absorption rates improved from 81 per cent in 2014/15 to 83 per cent in 2015/16 before declining to 74 per cent in 2016/17 and increasing to 80 per cent in 2017/18. This was due to failure by the county exchequer to release the entire approved budget amount (Figure 8a).

3.4.3 Child protection, youth and women medium term expectations

Figure 8: Kericho County child protection, youth and women spending trends, 2014-17



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

Between the plan period 2018 and 2022, the county aims to construct a modern data centre; construct Kericho stadium to international standards; establish a county information communication technology (ICT) innovation hub for the youth; and purchase assorted assistive devices for PWDs. With increasing demand for social protection programmes such as cash transfers, there is need to align the county government social protection programmes with the national government to avoid duplication of activities while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the relevant beneficiaries. The county should also allocate a share of social protection funds to development expenditure.

3.5 NUTRITION

3.5.1 Nutrition priorities

The CIDP 2013-2017 outlined a few key areas of focus in the nutrition sector. The county sought to improve the nutritional status by supplying supplements to targeted populations by 25 per cent.

For children, county nutrition indicators were generally higher than national averages, according to 2014 data. Stunting affected 29 per cent of the population while wasting and underweight children were 6 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively. The levels were higher than the national average of 26 per cent, 4 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively (Table 6). Furthermore, the proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt in the county was 99.5 per cent of the target population. Vitamin A supplementation among children aged 6 to 59 months was 67 per cent, which was 4 per cent higher than the national average in 2014.

The proportion of overweight or obese women in the county was 24 per cent, which was better than the national average of 29 per cent. The average Body Mass Index (BMI) of women in the county was equal to the national average at 23.

Table 6: Selected nutrition performance indicators

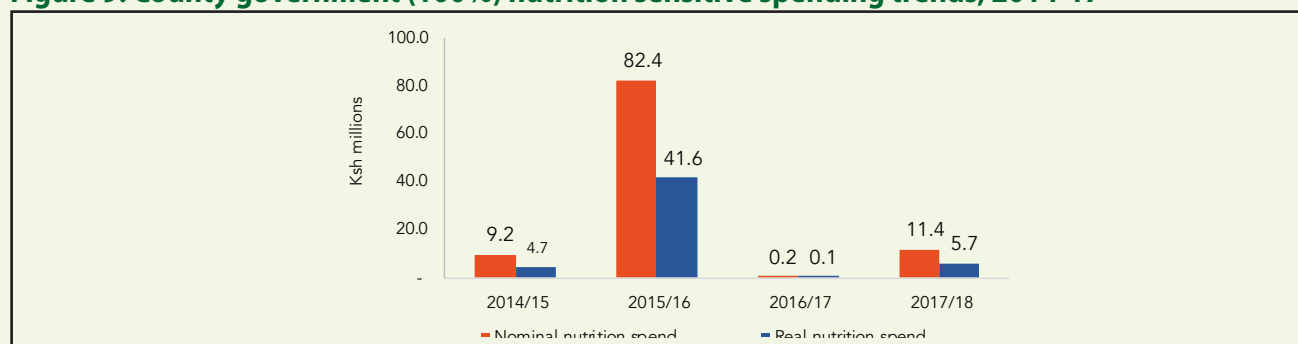
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National
Stunted children (%)	28.7	26.0
Wasted children (%)	5.6	4.0
Underweight children (%)	12.4	11.0
Vitamin A supplements coverage	9.8	24.0
Proportion of children aged 6 to 59 months- Received Vitamin A supplement	67.1	71.4
Proportion of children consuming adequately iodized salt.	98.7	99.1
Proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt.	99.5	99.2
Household salt iodization (50 – 80 mg/Kg KIO ₃) (% samples)	54.0	57.0
Number of Women (BMI)	23.1	23.2
Overweight or obesity among women aged 15 to 49 years.	23.9	28.9

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), KDHS 2014

3.5.2 Nutrition budget and expenditure

The county spending on nutrition (direct nutrition interventions) in nominal terms was Ksh 9.2 million in 2014/15, which increased to Ksh 82.4 million in 2015/16 before declining sharply to Ksh 0.2 million in 2016/17 and improving to Ksh 11.4 million in 2017/18. This indicates inconsistent prioritization of nutrition in the county.

Figure 9: County government (100%) nutrition sensitive spending trends, 2014-17



Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS 2014-2018

3.5.3 Nutrition medium term expectations

In the period 2018-2022, the county plans to promote nutrition education and strengthen the Community Units to offer broad-based services to eliminate malnutrition cases. To realize the objective, the county will be required to increase the share of nutrition sensitive spending, which has been inconsistent.

3.6 Other Initiatives for the Special Interest Groups

Box 1: Key highlights on children, youth, women and PWDs' initiatives

a) AGPO

The county reported compliance to the 30 per cent allocation of Access to Government and Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) reserved for women, youth and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

b) Children

The county has implemented a school feeding programme for ECDE children and provides legal redress for reported child abuse cases. Further, the county provides a waiver of health fees for children below 5 years. The county also achieved 50 per cent in repatriating street children to their families; implemented a cash transfer programme for orphans and vulnerable children; and a 56 per cent reduction in HIV infections.

c) Youth

The county has established centres of excellence and incubation centres targeting the youth. Sports promotion has also been undertaken through establishment of talent centres targeting youth in athletics.

d) Women

The county provided a Women Enterprise Fund which provided women with low interest loans.

e) PWDs

The county promotes economic empowerment of PWDs by providing employment at all cadres and implementing AGPO. In addition, the county procures and distributes assistive devices to PWDs. New buildings comply to PWD requirements under the building code.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY

A summary of implications for policy and responsible actors is presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Recommendations and responsible actors

Sector	Finding	Recommendation	Responsibility
Gross County Product	The county economy remains reliant on agriculture, which contributes about 46 per cent to the gross county product.	Put in place measures to mitigate weather shocks, while at the same time promoting manufacturing through agro-processing, and enhancing access to agriculture markets, including through collaboration with the private sector.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Executive/Department of Agriculture
Revenue	Budget execution rates for health and education averaged 94 per cent and 85 per cent, respectively, during the review period.	Strengthen measures for tax collection and management.	County Treasury and Planning/ Directorate of Revenue
Expenditures	Budget execution rate for most social sector budgets, especially health, water and sanitation, was low. Budget execution rates for water and sanitation declined from 57 per cent in 2014/15 to 31 per cent in 2017/18.	There is need to enhance planning and budgeting to moderate the existence of executions of over 100 per cent across some sectors.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Water and Sanitation/KEWASCO
Health	Increased allocation to health budget allocation from Ksh 1.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.2 billion in 2017/18.	Prioritize investments in children targeted health programmes that are performing poorer than maternal health programmes.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Health
Nutrition	County has not allocated resources for nutrition spending between 2014/15 and 2015/16.	Ensure that there is consistency in nutrition budget allocations with visible budget lines for direct nutrition interventions.	County Treasury/Public Health
Education	Budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased. from Ksh 0.46 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.6 billion in 2017/18.	Improve development of quality infrastructure and increase in the number of teachers for the same cadre of pupils.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Education/Children Department
WASH	The county allocation for water and sanitation increased from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2015/16 to Ksh 0.4 billion in 2017/18, averaging 4 per cent of the county total budget over the review period.	The county needs to implement targeted WASH programmes to ensure improvement in the performance outcomes.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Water and Sanitation/NARUWASCCO/ NAWASCCO
Child Protection, Youth and Women	The county allocation for child protection, youth and women as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period averaged Ksh 0.09 billion.	Align the county government protection programmes with national government to avoid duplication of the activities while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the relevant beneficiaries.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Culture and Social Services

Budget Execution	The budget execution rate for most social sector budgets, especially health, education and social sector were generally high.	There is need to enhance planning and budgeting to moderate the existence of executions of over 100 per cent in across some sectors.	County Treasury and Planning, All County departments; National Treasury
Disaggregated Data	Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditure reports, it was not possible to establish how much of the county government budget was spent on crucial social services such as child protection, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming.	Establish standalone budget lines on the listed sectors so that the county is better placed to effectively deliver the referred services, especially to women and girls.	County Planning, Statistics and M&E Unit, and Social/Gender Departments

(Endnotes)

- ¹ *Gross county product* is conceptually equivalent to the county share of GDP. Gross domestic product is a measure of newly created value through production by resident economic agents (in this case individuals, households, businesses, establishments, and enterprises resident in Kenya).
- ² *Monetary poor* people are considered at risk of monetary poverty when their equivalized disposable income (after social transfers) is below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median value.
- ³ *Multidimensional poverty* captures different deprivations experienced by poor people in their daily lives, such as lack of access to basic education, health or WASH services, inadequate nutritional intake, experiencing physical or emotional violence or abuse, etc.
- ⁴ Base year 2013.
- ⁵ *Non-revenue water (NRW)* is water that has been produced and is "lost" before it reaches the customer. Losses can be real losses (through leaks, sometimes also referred to as physical losses) or apparent losses (for example through theft or metering inaccuracies)

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