

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



County Government of Nyandarua

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BRIEF

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

- a). **The economy of Nyandarua County contributed 3.3 per cent to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2017, ranking 5th among the 47 counties and dominated by agriculture with 85 per cent share of Gross County Product (GCP)¹.** However, agricultural productivity is vulnerable to weather shocks, thus requires measures to mitigate the shocks while promoting manufacturing through agro-processing, and enhancing access to agriculture markets.
- b). **The county's own source revenue increased from Ksh 0.258 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.288 billion in 2017/18.** However, this declined as a share of total revenue from 6.6 per cent in 2014/15 to 5.7 per cent in 2017/18. Equitable share transfer decreased from Ksh 4.7 billion to Ksh 4.3 billion during the same period. Innovative strategies to grow own source revenue will be critical, including increasing revenue base, administration capacity and public awareness.
- c). **The county health budget allocation increased from Ksh 1.1 billion in 2013/14 to Ksh 1.3 billion in 2017/18.** However, health indicators declined, with number of women accessing a skilled birth attendant during delivery decreasing from 51.3 per cent in 2014 to 50.4 per cent in 2018, and the share of fully immunized children reducing from 85.5 per cent in 2014 to 80.5 per cent in 2018.
- d). **The budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.3 billion in 2017/18.** Similarly, the share of ECDE spending in the county grew from 5.5 per cent to 5.9 per cent. The gross ECDE enrolment rate in the county increased from 93 per cent in 2014 to 95 per cent in 2018. The county needs to sustain the allocation trends for the ECDE programme towards quality education and sustainability of enrolment.
- e). **The county allocation for water and sanitation increased from Ksh 0.19 billion to Ksh 0.37 billion annually, which was, on average, about 5.8 per cent of the county total budget over the review period.** The county had levels of 80 per cent and 81 per cent of the population having no access to improved water and sanitation services, respectively. The county needs to increase allocation for water and sanitation to reach 100 per cent coverage.
- f). **The county's allocation to child protection, youth and women grew from Ksh 0.05 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.11 billion in 2017/18.** Looking forward, the county needs to increase allocation to child protection given the high levels of child neglect, abandonment and child labour; and expand relevant social services to reach vulnerable girls as a protective measure against early pregnancies, FGM, early and/or forced marriages.
- g). **The county allocation for nutrition spending increased from Ksh 108 million in 2015/16 to Ksh 124 million in 2017/2018, but the execution rate was about 50 per cent annually.** However, stunting, wasting and underweight children stood at 35 per cent, 7 per cent and 16 per cent, respectively, in 2014, lagging the national average. The county

should ensure that direct nutrition interventions in sectors such as agriculture, education and health are budgeted for with visible budget lines in the county plans and budgets.

- h). The budget execution rate for health and education declined over the period compared to water, social protection and nutrition which showed mixed results.** For instance, budget execution rates for water and sanitation was 105 per cent in 2015/15 and 58 per cent in 2017/18. The low budget execution rate was partly because approved budgets were not released on time by the National Treasury. Procurement systems and cash flow planning by the county. were also weak. To improve budget utilization rates, there is need for the National Treasury to adhere to disbursement schedules by releasing resources on time. On its part, the county should strengthen procurement systems and improve cash flow forecasting. There is need for inter-departmental peer review and learning to enhance budget utilization.
- i). Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditure reports, it was not possible to establish county government budgets and expenditure for children development, women and girls' empowerment, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming.** Standalone budget lines will enable the county deliver more targeted services for the said groups. Continued capacity development on the categories of data required will be an asset to county monitoring and evaluation of its impact on the population and society.

1. COUNTY OVERVIEW

Nyandarua county occupies a land area of approximately 3,245 km² and is divided into 5 sub-counties and 25 wards. The county's population was about 638,2890 in 2019, which was 1.3 per cent of the national population. This constituted of 315,022 males and 323,247 million females and 20 intersex persons.

In 2015/16, the overall poverty rate of the county was 34.8 per cent with 37.6 per cent living in extreme poverty, which is slightly better than the overall national rates of 36.1 per cent and 8.6 per cent, respectively. Among children, more than one in three were affected by monetary poverty or lack of financial means,² which amounted to 27.9 per cent for youth and 32.7 per cent for women. Additionally, 12.7 per cent of children were living in multidimensional poverty; that is, deprived in multiple dimensions including nutrition, healthcare, education, housing and drinking water,³ with youth and women recording 31.4 per cent and 43.2 per cent poverty rates, respectively. The overall high rates of poverty especially among younger populations means that planning and budgeting processes should better consider human capital sectors so that the county can maximize the productive and innovative potential of its future workforce and initiate a fast and sustainable growth trajectory (Table 1).

Table 1: Nyandarua county administrative, poverty and demographic profile

Administrative Profile						Latest Available	
Area (km ²)						3,245	
Number of sub-counties						-	
Number of wards						-	
Overall poverty (%)						35.0	
Extreme poverty (%)						3.4	
Population (2019)						638,289	
Group	Children	National Children	Youths	National Youths	Wo/men	National Wo/men	
Monetary Poor							
Male (%)	40.2	42.1	28.7	29.1	34.6	30.5	
Female (%)	39.3	41.0	27.2	28.8	32.8	34.1	
Total (%)	39.8	41.6	27.9	28.9	32.7	32.4	
Population	317,331	20,742,290	177,106	13,443,268	139,099	7,847,350	
Multidimensionally Poor							
Male (%)	14.3	49.3	25.2	44.7	43.9	51.0	
Female (%)	10.9	47.1	37.3	49.4	43.7	60.8	
Total (%)	12.7	48.2	31.4	47.1	43.2	56.1	
Population	317,331	20,742,290	177,106	13,443,268	139,099	7,847,350	

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2018)

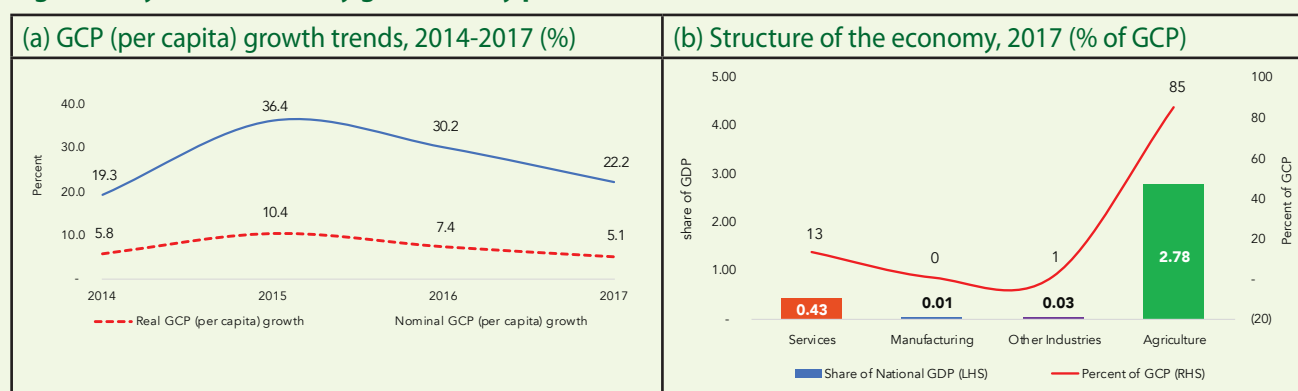
2. STATE OF COUNTY ECONOMY

2.1 Gross County Product Growth

Nyandarua County accounted for 3.3 per cent of the national GDP in 2017. Its Gross County Product (GCP) per capita growth rate fluctuated between a maximum of 10.4 per cent recorded in 2015 and a minimum of 5.1 per cent recorded in 2017 (Figure 1a). The most recent downturn was largely due to the prolonged drought across the county.

The economy is dominated by agriculture, which accounted for 85 percent of GCP followed by the services sector with 13 per cent (Figure 1b). Manufacturing contributed 1 per cent while other industries including mining, quarrying, electricity, water and construction accounted for less than 1 per cent to the county economy. This trend calls for diversification to manufacturing and boosting the other industries/sectors apart from agriculture and services. 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 agricultural value chains. This can be done through developing infrastructure and enhancing farmers' capacities in modern agricultural methods. Extension services, agribusiness and research needs to be promoted. The county should also seek to attract more investments in manufacturing, and services, for a balanced economy. This can be done through collaboration with different sub-sectors, especially the private sector. However, agricultural productivity is vulnerable to weather shocks, requiring measures to mitigate the shocks while promoting manufacturing through agro-processing, and enhancing access to agriculture markets.

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

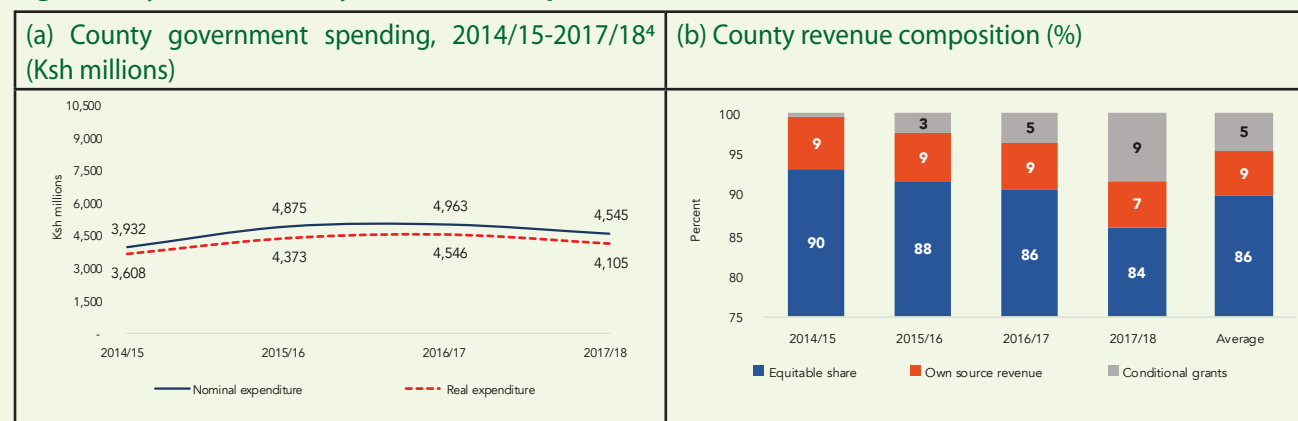


Source: KNBS (2019) Statistics

2.2 Overall Budget Performance

The county government annual spending in real terms grew from Ksh 3.9 billion to Ksh 4.9 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, before a moderate cut to 4.5 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 2a). The effect of inflation accounted for, on average, Ksh 0.4 billion in loss of purchasing power during the period. This spending is heavily dependent on national government transfers accounting for 90 per cent. The burden of the drop in the county government spending predominantly affects social sector spending, which are recurrent in nature. In nominal terms, own source revenue increased from Ksh 0.24 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.32 billion in 2017/18 while the equitable share transfer increased from Ksh 3.4 billion to Ksh 4.8

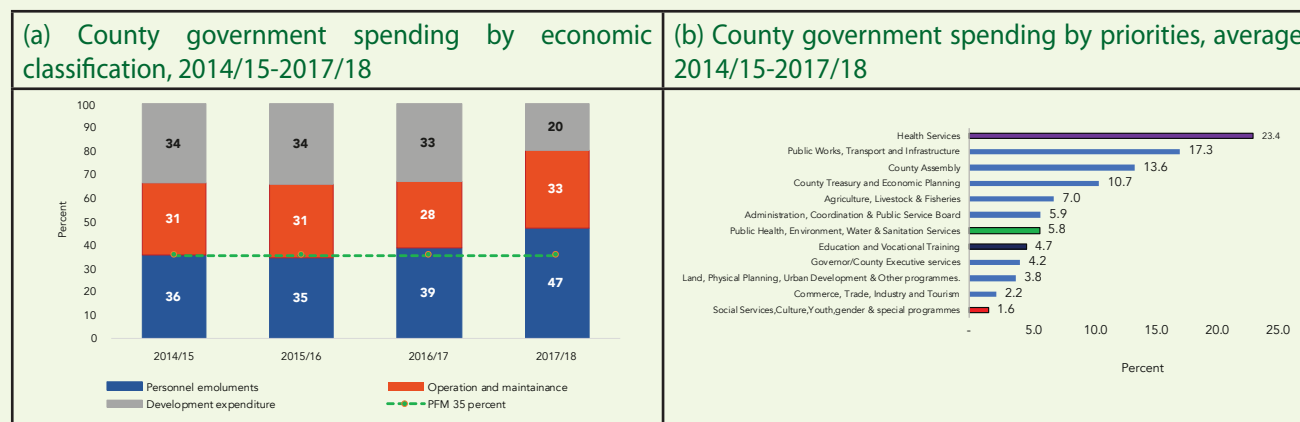
Figure 2: Nyandarua county revenue and expenditure trends, 2014-18



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

billion during the same period. However, own source revenue declined to 5.6 per cent of total revenue in 2017/18, down from 7 per cent in 2014/15 (Figure 2b). The contribution of own source revenue and conditional grants were, on average, 6 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively (Figure 2b). The county needs to enhance its fiscal strategies to accelerate revenue mobilization from both local revenue and conditional grants to cover the declining share of own source revenue.

Figure 3: Nyandarua county spending priorities by economic and administrative classification, 2014-18



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

The development share of actual spending declined from 34 per cent in 2014/15 to 20 per cent in 2017/18. The county expenditure on wages, and operations and maintenance, dominated spending and constituted 47 per cent and 33 per cent of the total spending, respectively in 2017/18. This was in contravention of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act 2012 provision that ceils 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.

The county spent over 42.5 per cent of total expenditure during the period under review on health, education, agriculture, nutrition, social protection, youth, gender, water and sanitation. Health services spending accounts for the largest share of total spending at 23.4 per cent or a fifth of the total spend for the last five years. The education sector (Early Childhood Development, and Vocational Training Centres) is third, accounting for 4.7 per cent of the total spend with water and sanitation, social services, culture youth and gender accounting for 5.8 per cent and 1.6 per cent, respectively (Figure 3b).

3. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL SECTOR SPENDING

3.1 HEALTH

3.1.1 Health sector priorities

The County Integrated Development Plan for 2013-2017 indicated that the county planned to improve access to quality healthcare to the community. The focus was on reduction of infant and maternal mortality rates through upgrading local health facilities to offer maternity services that would help the rural communities' access pre- and post-natal maternal services. Other strategies to be used included health education, prevention of the spread of communicable diseases and rehabilitation of the sick, increased immunization coverage, and enhanced disease surveillance. The county planned to roll out a community health strategy programme by engaging community health workers in sensitization and provision of health care. Specifically, the county gave priority to: installation of theatre equipment, completing and equipping maternity wards, training of community health workers, ambulance services, upgrading health centres and dispensary projects, upgrading of level 4 hospitals, computerizing revenue collection and Health Management Information System (HMIS), construction of a college of nursing, and upgrade Ol'kalou hospital to a referral centre for the county.

The number of women who had access to skilled birth attendant during delivery decreased from 51.3 per cent in 2014 to 50.4 per cent in 2018, despite the introduction of free maternity services in 2013. The proportion of children who were fully immunized worsened during the review period, although above the national average. The share of fully immunized children in the county declined from 85.5 per cent in 2014 to 80.5 per cent in 2018. Infant mortality and under

5 mortality rate was estimated at 60 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016, slightly higher than the national average of 79 deaths per 1,000 live births.

Table 2: Nyandarua county selected health sector performance indicators

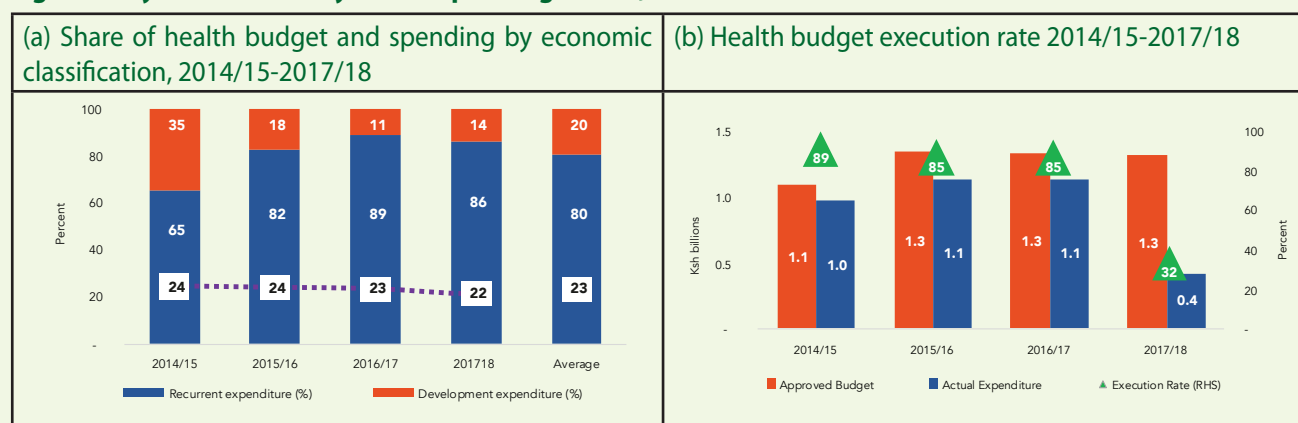
Selected Health Indicators	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	County	National	County	National	County	National	County	National	County	National
U5MR (death per 1,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	60.0	79.0	-	-	-	-
MMR (death per 100,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	364.0	495.0	-	-	-	-
Skilled birth attendant coverage (%) (source: DHIS2)	51.3	53.5	35.5	56.9	42.9	59.3	41.9	53.0	50.4	64.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least one ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	72.8	76.4	44.1	75.4	54.5	76.9	52.3	73.7	72.6	81.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least four ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	37.4	35.9	28.4	39.7	31.4	39.8	27.6	32.6	40.6	48.7
Proportion of children under one year who are fully immunized (%) (Source: DHIS2)	85.5	70.2	72.0	75.7	85.6	72.4	72.1	65.9	80.5	77.0
DPT/Hep+HiB3 dropout rate (%) (Source: DHIS2)	1.6	6.8	2.9	7.2	2.0	6.6	4.6	10.1	0.7	4.0
Still Birth Rate (Source : DHIS2)	13.6	29.3	11.6	22.6	14.0	21.5	13.9	22.6	16.1	20.4

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

3.1.2 Health budget and expenditure

Health is a key spending priority of the County Government of Nyandarua, consuming about 23.4 per cent of the total budget between the period 2014 and 2018. The share of health budget in the total county budget allocation was 23 per cent over the review period, composed of 80 per cent recurrent and 20 per cent development (Figure 4a). Despite the expansion in county health budget allocation from Ksh 1.1 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 1.3 billion in 2017/18, the absorption rate declined during the review period from 89 per cent to 32 per cent. This is attributable to failure by the exchequer to release the full amount approved in the health budget. Health actual expenditure expanded from about Ksh 1.0 billion to Ksh 0.4 billion. This translated to absorption rate of over 70 per cent in the period 2014/15 to 2017/18, with a high of 91 per cent in 2015/16.

Figure 4: Nyandarua county health spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



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

3.1.3 Health sector medium term expectations

The CIDP for the period 2018-2022 the county is expected to implement various priority areas like: Upgrade of JM Kariuki Memorial hospital to level 5, Upgrade of Engineer hospital, Renal and radiology equipment Procurement of drugs, commodities and services, Establishment of community health units for disease control and response – Expansion of KMTC, Upgrade of Health Centre to a Sub- County Level four facility, Purchase of specialized vehicles (ambulances and trucks).

The county aims to continue investing in health, especially in child and maternal health by prioritizing quality health infrastructure and human resources in all the sub-counties. The county also aims to prioritize investments in reproductive health information, especially for the youth and undertake awareness campaigns on the importance of healthy practices. It also aims to continue investing in provision of quality health services by employing more health service providers, construction of more health facilities and equipping them. 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 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 Education (ECDE) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as per Schedule IV of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. During the plan period 2013-2017, the county education sector planned to discharge its mandate on ECDE and youth polytechnics. The county planned to improve youth polytechnics to encourage many school leavers to enrol for various courses. The county planned to support free primary education by enrolling students of primary school age, and promote increase in transition and retention rates at all levels. The county planned to develop Community Learning Resource Centres and construct classrooms, dormitories, laboratories in secondary schools. It also planned to undertake youth training, upgrade of polytechnics, develop hostels for youth polytechnics, construct workshops and ECDE classrooms, and recruit ECDE teachers.

Gross ECDE enrolment rate increased from 93.0 per cent in 2014 to 95.4 per cent in 2018 while net enrolment rate (NER) increased from 92.0 per cent to 70.6 per cent during the same period. This was generally higher than the national averages of 94.4 per cent for GER and 63.5 per cent for NER in 2018, indicating that more children joined ECDE than before with the implementation of devolution. Almost an equal number of boys and girls are enrolled in ECDE in Nyandarua county. There is equality in access to education between male and female school-going children as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Nyandarua county selected education sector performance indicators

Pre-primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	93.0	73.6	95.4	94.4
Net enrolment ratio (%)	92.0	71.8	70.6	63.5
Male (%)	90.0	73.4	73.9	62.5
Female (%)	94.0	70.2	67.6	65.0
School size (Public) (Pupils) (Average)	45.0	75.0	50.0	85.0
Gender parity index (value)	0.9	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (Public)	17.0	31.0	26.0	31.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	36.6	31.5	39.0	33.0
Primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	96.0	104.0	110.1	107.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	83.0	88.0	89.8	82.4
Male (%)	96.0	86.0	88.4	81.7
Female (%)	70.0	90.0	91.3	83.0
School size (Public) Average No. of pupils	301.0	338.0	354.0	375.0
Gender parity index (Value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.)	40.0	42.0	35.0	40.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	16.0	16.0	17.0	16.0
Secondary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	57.4	58.7	81.4	66.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	39.0	47.4	49.1	37.5
Male (%)	38.0	49.6	46.6	35.4
Female (%)	40.0	45.2	52.0	39.8
School size (Public)	-	-	380.1	392.0
Gender parity index (value)	1.0	0.9	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC)	28.0	30.0	34.0	32.0
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC and BOM)	22.1	20.2	22.0	20.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	30.9	30.7	9.3	5.8

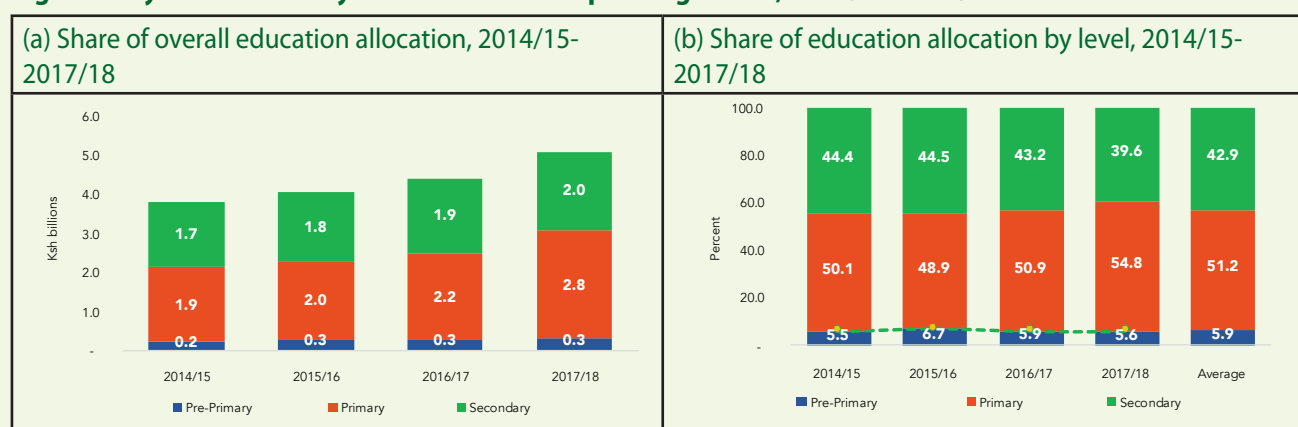
Source: Ministry of Education (Various), Education statistical booklets, 2013-2018

Gross primary and secondary enrolment rates stood at 110.1 per cent and 81.4 per cent in 2018, respectively. Net enrolment rate (NER) decreased from 83 per cent to 89.8 per cent for primary school and increased from 39.0 per cent to 49.1 per cent for secondary school during the same period. There was inequality in access to primary education between male and female school-going children in favour of girls as shown in Table 3. More boys than girls enrolled in primary school while more girls than boys enrolled in secondary school.

3.2.2 ECDE budget and expenditure

The share of ECDE allocation in the county increased from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.9 billion in 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18. The county expanded the primary level budget from Ksh 1.9 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.8 billion in 2017/18 while the secondary school budget increased from Ksh 1.7 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.0 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 5a). ECDE allocation averaged 5.9 per cent of the total education spending in the county (Figure 5b).

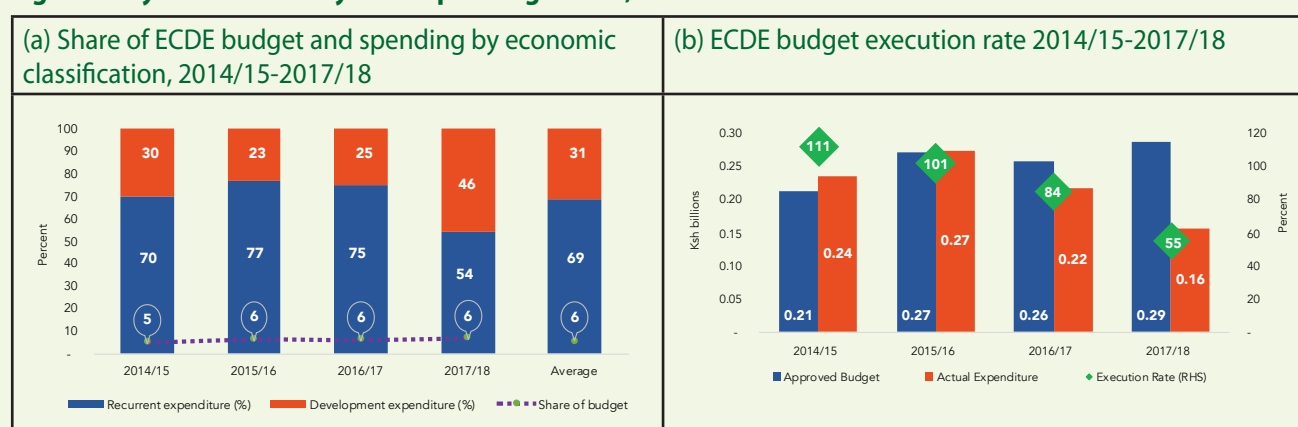
Figure 5: Nyandarua county overall education spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS

The share of ECDE budget in the total county budget allocation increased from 4.7 per cent in 2014/15 to 6.1 per cent in 2015/16 before decreasing to 5.8 per cent in 2016/17 then increased to 6.4 per cent in 2017/18. Total spending on ECDE increased from Ksh 0.24 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.27 billion in 2015/16 before decreasing to Ksh 0.22 billion in 2016/17 and increasing to Ksh 0.16 billion 2017/18 (Figure 6b). Spending comprised of on average 31.2 per cent development expenditure and 68.8 per cent recurrent expenditure during the period (Figure 6a). The absorption rates decreased from 111 per cent in 2014/15 to 55 per cent in 2017/18.

Figure 6: Nyandarua county ECDE spending trends, 2014-18



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

3.2.3 Education medium term expectations

Over the period 2018-2022 the county government with support from stakeholders aims to continue to invest in early childhood development and supporting youth training. It recognizes in the CIDP that institutions need more qualified teachers, suitable classrooms, sanitation facilities, play equipment, teaching/learning materials and feeding programme, in addition that education subsector requires a robust curriculum supervision and co-curricular activities programme. The youth polytechnics needs include; engagement of qualified instructors. Some of the key programmes earmarked include;

ECDE development, Promotion of Education standards, Mentorship programme, Youth training, building of classrooms, Governance and support of management, teachers and instructors, strengthened vocational training Centre for employment and promote access to education through bursaries.

3.3 Water and Sanitation

3.3.1 Water and sanitation priorities

The 2013-2017 Nyandarua County Integrated Development Plan outlined investment in the expansion of water and sanitation infrastructure as the main sector priority. The county planned to drill and equip boreholes, rehabilitate water intake works, construct storage tanks and distribute pipelines, desilt and rehabilitate dams and pans, build sewers, construct public toilets, build a dumping site, and rehabilitate the Aberdares Ranges water tower.

Access to improved water and sanitation services was estimated at 82 per cent and 81 per cent of the population against the national average of 72.6 per cent and 59.0 per cent, respectively. The population within the service area of water utility (company) decreased from 24 per cent to 21 per cent between 2014 and 2018. The proportion of population covered or served by the utility reduced from 40 per cent in 2014 to 35 per cent in 2018. The sector experiences the problem of non-revenue water⁵ at about 49 per cent as at 2018, an improvement from 52 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: Nyandarua county selected WASH sector performance indicators

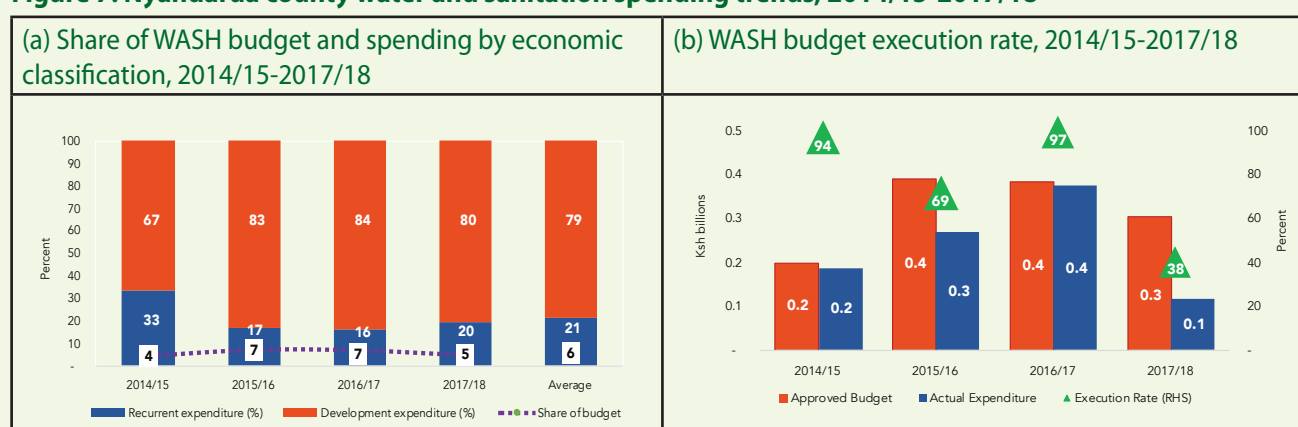
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
County population within service areas of WSPs (%)	24	*	21	*
Water coverage by utilities (%)	40	53	35	*
Non-revenue water (NRW) (%)	52	42	49	*
Sanitation coverage within utility area (%)	75	69	-	*
Sewerage coverage (%)	-	*	-	*
Access to improved water (%)	82	*	82	*
Access to improved sanitation (%)	81	*	81	59
No toilet facility – Potential open defecation county-wide (%)	0	*	0	8

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), KDHS 2014; County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018. NB: * Data not available

3.3.2 Water and sanitation budget and expenditure

Water and sanitation was allocated about 5.8 per cent of the county budget over the review period. This comprised of 79 per cent development and 21 per cent recurrent spending (Figure 7a). The spending increased from about Ksh 0.186 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.372 billion in 2016/17, before declining to 0.11 in 2017/18. Therefore, while the approved budget increased from Ksh 0.196 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.303 billion in 2017/18, the absorption rate declined from 94 per cent in 2014/15 to 38 per cent in 2017/18. This is also attributed to failure by the exchequer to release the entire approved budget amount, and also due to capacity constraints including technical capacity and machinery.

Figure 7: Nyandarua county water and sanitation spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



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

3.3.3 Water and sanitation medium term expectations

In the plan period 2018-2022, the county aims to: develop water supply through water infrastructure projects (tanks, boreholes, pipelines and intakes; rehabilitate and maintain water supply projects; construct and rehabilitate small dams and water pans; water harvesting (including subsidized cost of excavation of small dams; development of small scale irrigation projects; construction of water treatment plant; development and implementation of water and sewerage master plan; and construction of the six planned major dams and the associated infrastructure.

3.4 Social Services, Youth, Gender, and Culture

3.4.1 County priorities on social services

The integrated development plan for the county highlighted coordination and development of communities through social welfare. The priority areas included: Older Persons Cash Transfer; Persons with Severe Disabilities Cash Transfer; Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) Cash Transfer; Youth Empowerment centre (Library block); Education support to the OVCs; incubate agro-based economies to the people and value addition; provide burial site for the residents; supply of sun-screen lotions to persons living with albinism; mobilize communities to participate in development; construction of cultural centres; cultural and music festivals; art exhibitions; Youth Empowerment centre; county talent centres; construction of a children's rescue and rehabilitation centre; Women Enterprise Fund; and Youth Enterprise Fund.

The availability and disaggregation of data to support policy analysis on social protection, services and empowerment dimensions especially for youth, women and persons with disability is a major challenge for the county. This calls for concerted effort to build capacity on data. However, some sources have data on children, which enables analysis of child protection (Table 5).

Table 5: Nyandarua county selected child protection performance indicators (No. of reported cases)

Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Child Neglect and Abandonment	20	767	3,180	73245
Child Sexual Abuse	6	636	30	172
Child Trafficking, Abduction and Kidnapping	2	32	68	1022
Child Labour	1	168	15	378
Child Emotional Abuse	-	58	13	853
Child Physical Abuse	5	583	118	2031
Female Genital Mutilation	-	9	2	40

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

Specifically, on social child protection, the county recorded a high number of reported cases of child neglect and abandonment rising from 20 cases in 2014 to 3,180 cases in 2018. Similarly, child trafficking, abduction and kidnapping increased from 2 in 2014 to 68 in 2018. In addition, cases of child sexual abuse and child labour increased significantly.

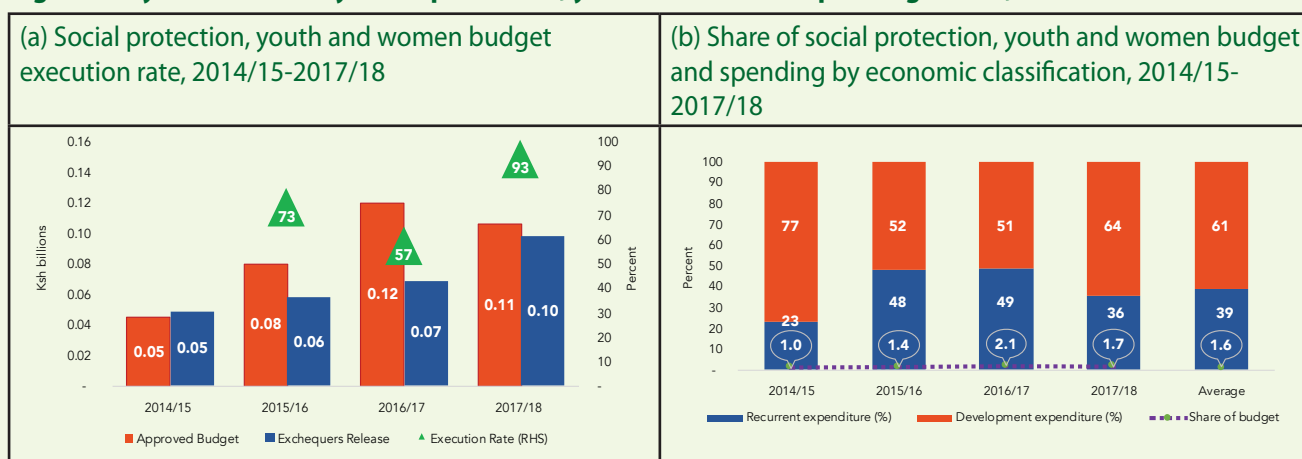
3.4.2 Social protection budget and expenditure

The county's allocation to social protection, youth and women grew from Ksh 0.05 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.11 billion in 2017/18. However, absorption rate deteriorated from 107 per cent in 2014/15 to 57 per cent in 2016/17 before increasing to 93 per cent in 2017/18, largely due to delays in disbursement from the National Treasury, and failure by the county exchequer to release the entire approved budget amount (Figure 8a). The share of recurrent spending gradually increased from 23.3 per cent to 35.6 per cent between 2014/15 and 2017/18, with a high of 48.9 per cent in 2016/17 and averaging 38.9 per cent during the review period (Figure 8b).

3.4.3 Social protection medium term expectations

Between the plan period 2018 and 2022, the county aims to provide care, support and build capacities of individuals, vulnerable groups and communities for equity and self-reliance. 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.

Figure 8: Nyandarua county social protection, youth and women spending trends, 2014-18



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

3.5 Nutrition

3.5.1 Nutrition priorities

The County Integrated Development Plan 2013-2017 gave priority to various initiatives in promotion of nutrition in the county. Promotion of nutrition education and improvement of nutritional status of households to eliminate malnutrition cases was the focus for the county, according to the County Integrated Development Plan 2013-2017.

The county nutrition indicators remained relatively higher/worse than the national average for the years 2014. For children, stunting stood at 35.0 per cent of the population with wasting and underweight children standing at 7.0 per cent and 16.0 per cent, respectively in 2014 (Table 6).

The proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt in the county was slightly higher than the national figure, and in line with the target proportion of 100 per cent. Vitamin A supplementation among children aged 6 to 59 months was 80.5 per cent of the children, which was higher/better compared to the target proportion of 80 per cent and higher than the national coverages of 71.4 per cent in 2014.

The proportion of overweight or obese women in the county stood at 40.6 per cent, higher than the national average of 28.9 per cent. The average Body Mass Index (BMI)⁶ of women in the county was 24.5 against the national average of 23.2, per cent, which was within the normal range.

Table 6: Selected nutrition performance indicators

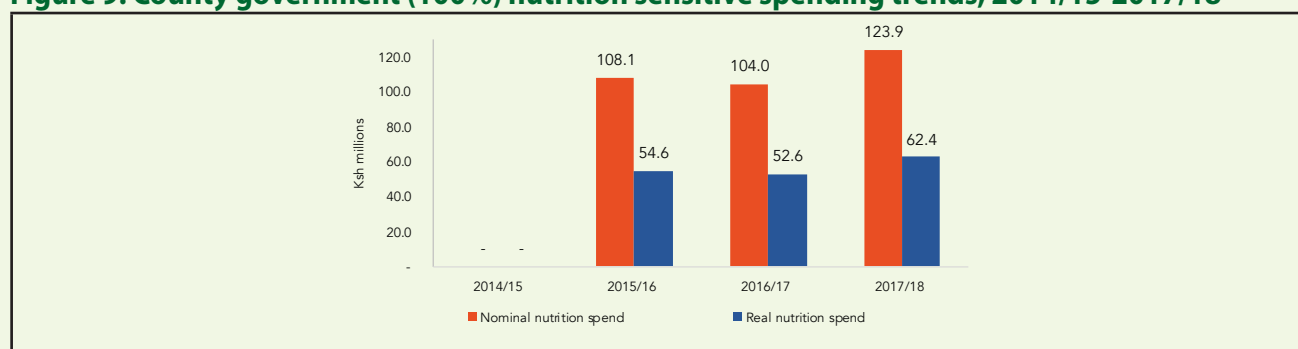
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National
Stunted children (%)	35.0	26.0
Wasted children (%)	7.0	4.0
Underweight children (%)	16.0	11.0
Vitamin A supplements coverage	24.9	24.0
Proportion of children aged 6 to 59 months- Received Vitamin A supplement	80.5	71.4
Proportion of children consuming adequately iodized salt.	100.0	99.1
Proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt.	100.0	99.2
Household salt iodization (50 – 80 mg/Kg KIO ₃) (% samples)	52.0	57.0
Number of Women (BMI)	24.5	23.2
Overweight or obesity among women aged 15 to 49 years.	40.6	28.9

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

3.5.2 Nutrition budget and expenditure

Considering 100 per cent nutrition sensitive (direct nutrition interventions) spending, the county has not been financing nutrition post-2014/15. The county allocated Ksh 108 million for nutrition spending in 2015/16, Ksh 104 million in 2016/17 and Ksh 124 million in 2017/18. There was no clear budgetary allocation for nutrition 2014/15.

Figure 9: County government (100%) nutrition sensitive spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



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 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:** Ensure compliance to the 30 percent Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) reserved for women, youth and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
- a) **Children:** County has plans for mentorship and adoption of children, ECDE, rescue centres, feeding and nutrition programmes, immunization and cash transfers.
- b) **Youth:** The county has plans for youth training, bursaries, talent centres, youth development fund, youth empowerment centre, hostels for youth polytechnics, agriculture for youth, sports and youth development, youth and agribusiness.
- c) **Women:** The county has plans for women including: training and mentorship on entrepreneurship, sport women, women empowerment, girls empowerment, women enterprise fund, gender mainstreaming, women employment and gender violence recovery centre.
- d) **PWDs:** The county has plans for PWDs including to supply PWDs with assistive devices; improve PWDs representation in groups, job opportunities, special consideration for business licensing, access to credit, tender opportunities.

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 economy of Narok County contributed 3.3 per cent to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2017, ranking 5 th among the 47 counties, but is dominated by agriculture with 85 per cent share of the Gross County Product (GCP)	Agricultural productivity is vulnerable to weather shocks requiring measures to mitigate the shocks, while promoting manufacturing through agro-processing, and enhancing access to agriculture markets.	County Treasury and Planning/County Executive/Department of Agriculture
Revenue	The county's own source revenue increased from Ksh 0.258 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.288 billion in 2017/18. However, this declined as a share of total revenue from 6.6 per cent in 2014/15 to 5.7 per cent in 2017/18. Equitable share transfer decreased from Ksh 4.7 billion to Ksh 4.3 billion during the same period.	Innovative strategies to grow own source revenue will be critical including increasing revenue base, administration capacity and public awareness.	County Treasury and Planning/ Directorate of Revenue
Expenditures	The budget execution rate for health and education declined over the period compared to water, social protection and nutrition which showed mixed results.	There is need for inter-departmental peer review and learning to enhance budget utilization.	All sectors/County Treasury and Planning/ County Executive
Health	County health budget allocation increased from Ksh 1.1 billion in 2013/14 to Ksh 1.3 billion in 2017/18. However, health indicators such as access to a skilled birth attendant during delivery decreased.	The county lags the national averages, which calls for continued scaling up of investments to improve health status	County Treasury and Planning/County Department of Health
Education	The budget for ECDE increased from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.3 billion in 2017/18.	This indicates that the county needs to increase and sustain the allocations for ECDE programmes towards quality education and sustainability of enrolment.	County Treasury and Planning/County Department of Education

Sector	Finding	Recommendation	Responsibility
WASH	The county allocation for water and sanitation increased from Ksh 0.19 billion to Ksh 0.37 billion annually, which was, on average, about 5.8 per cent of the county total budget over the review period.	The county needs to increase allocation for water and sanitation to reach 100 per cent coverage from the prevailing 80 per cent.	County Treasury and Planning/County Department of Water and Sanitation/Water Service Providers
Social Protection	The county's allocation to child protection, youth and women grew from Ksh 0.05 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.11 billion in 2017/18.	The County needs to increase allocation to child protection given the high levels of child neglect, abandonment and child labour; and expand relevant social services to reach vulnerable girls as a protective measure against early pregnancies, FGM, early and/or forced marriages.	County Treasury and Planning/County Department of culture and social services
Nutrition	The county allocation for nutrition spending increased from Ksh 108 million in 2015/16 to Ksh 124 million in 2017/2018, but the execution rate was about 50 per cent annually.	The county should ensure that direct nutrition interventions in sectors such as agriculture, education and health are budgeted for with visible budget lines in the county plans and budgets.	County Treasury and Planning/County Department of Health and all other sectors, namely education, agriculture, social protection and WASH
Budget Execution	The budget execution rate for health and education declined over the period compared to water, social protection and nutrition, which showed mixed results. For instance, budget execution rates for water and sanitation was 105 per cent in 2015/16 and 58 per cent in 2017/18.	To improve budget utilization rates, there is need for the National Treasury to adhere to disbursement schedules by releasing resources on time. On its part, the county should strengthen procurement systems and improve cash flow forecasting. There is need for inter-departmental peer review and learning to enhance budget utilization.	County Treasury and Planning; All 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.	By having standalone budget lines on the listed sectors, the county is better placed to effectively deliver the above-mentioned services, especially to women and girls.	County Planning, Statistics and M&E Unit. County, and Social/ Gender Departments

(Endnotes)

- 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).
- Monetary poor people are considered at risk of monetary poverty when their equivalised disposable income (after social transfers) is below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median value.
- 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.
- Base year 2013
- 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)
- Body Mass Index (BMI) is a value derived from the mass (weight) and height of a person. It is expressed in units of Kg/M². Broadly, a person is categorized as underweight if BMI is below 18.5 Kg/M²; normal weight: between 18.5 Kg/M² and 25 Kg/M²; and overweight: 25 Kg/M² to 30 Kg/M² and obese: over 30 Kg/M².

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