

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



County Government of Baringo

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BRIEF

This brief provides an analysis on how the County Government of **Baringo** plans and budgets in support of 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, child protection, youth and women services, water and sanitation, and nutrition. 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) **Baringo County was ranked 33rd among the 47 counties in terms of Gross County Product (GCP)¹ as a share of Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).** The GCP accounted for 1.2 per cent of total national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as at 2017. Agriculture remains a key sector, which contributed 58 per cent of the county's GCP. Other industries' including agro-based processing and mining constituted 39 per cent of GCP. There was no sustained improvement in productivity, especially in agriculture. To increase agricultural productivity, the county should put in place mechanisms to promote the development of value chains. This can be done through developing infrastructure, enhancing extension services and developing farmers' capacities in modern agricultural methods. The county should also support investment in manufacturing and services sectors through collaboration with the private sector for a more balanced economy.
- b) **The county's nominal value of its own source revenue increased marginally from Ksh 0.2 billion in 2013/14 to Ksh 0.3 billion in 2017/18.** The respective shares of equitable share and own source revenue, which were 87 per cent and 5 per cent in 2017/18, remained similar to their 2013/14 levels. Nevertheless, the own source revenue generated was lower than the projected revenue. To enhance efficiency in collecting own source revenue, there is need to strengthen revenue management systems including the functions of both revenue collection and its transfer. **There was an improvement in key health indicators of children and women, including immunization and access of women to skilled delivery in 2014/15 to 2017/18 period.** These improvements correspond with increase in the share of health budget as a proportion of total county budget and the introduction of free maternity services in 2013. However, the key health indicators of the county remain below the national averages, necessitating the need to identify and address other constraints to access to health. A key intervention will be to create awareness on availability and importance of free maternity services.
- c) **Although the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) share of the total county budget increased from 10 per cent in 2014/15 to 12 per cent in 2017/18, the ECDE net enrolment ratio actually declined from 84.5 per cent in 2014 to 70.5 per cent in 2018.** There is also a huge infrastructural gap as suggested by the current number of classes (444) versus the required number of 2,034. There is need for massive investments in physical and supporting infrastructure. There is also need to carefully monitor the adequacy of budgetary allocation to ECDE and address possible constraints related to late entry into formal education as suggested by the high ECDE gross enrolment rate of 102 per cent in 2018.
- d) **The share of water and sanitation budget to total budget fell slightly from 1.3 per cent in 2014/15 to 1.1 per cent in 2017/18.** Access to improved water sources and sanitation increased from 48 per cent to 71 per cent between 2014 and 2018. Although non-revenue water decreased from 71 per cent in 2014 to 59 per cent in 2018, it remained much higher than the national average of 42 per cent. This implies there is need for the county to put in place initiatives to reduce non-revenue water to minimize losses and hence channel funds towards further improvement of water supply.

- e) **The total spending on social protection programmes as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period was 2.5 per cent.** The social protection budget execution rate was 54.5 per cent in 2017/18, implying financial constraints in implementing social protection programmes. In addition, the implemented social protection activities seem to duplicate those of the national government. Interventions include the need to align the county government social protection programmes with those of the national government to avoid duplication and build synergy. The adequacy of the budget allocations may need to be closely monitored in the context of increasing needs. For example, there has been a rise in reported cases of child neglect and abandonment from 8 to 100 cases between 2014 and 2018.
- f) **The county's proportion of stunted children (29.5%), wasted children (6.9%) and underweight children (20.2%) are higher than the national averages of 26 per cent, 4 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively.** This partly reflects low public investments as the county's spending on direct nutrition interventions declined from Ksh 42 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 18 million in 2017/18. The status of the county's nutrition indicators and budget trends suggests the need to assess the adequacy of the resource allocations towards nutrition specific and sensitive programmes in the various sectors. The county needs to establish specific budget lines for nutrition support initiatives.
- g) **The budget execution rate for most social sector budgets, especially health, water and sanitation, was low.** For instance, budget execution rates for water and sanitation declined from 78 per cent in 2014/15 to 76 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 was 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.
- h) **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 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 one case in 2014 to 1,441 in 2018, yet there is no specific budget line for this. The same also applies to gender-based violence which increased during the review period.

1. COUNTY OVERVIEW

Baringo is one of the largest counties in Kenya but with a relatively small population compared to other counties. The county occupies a land area of approximately 11,015 km² and is divided into 6 sub-counties and 30 wards. According to the 2019 census, the county's population was 666,763, which was 1.4 per cent of the national population. This constituted of 330,428 female, 336,322 male and 13 intersex persons.

In 2015/2016, the overall poverty rate in Baringo county was 39.6 per cent with 8.5 per cent living in extreme poverty, against overall national rates of 36.1 and 8.6 per cent, respectively. Among children, at least 4 in every 10 were affected by monetary poverty or lack of financial means², which also affected 30.6 per cent of the youth and 39.6 per cent of the women. Also, 56.6 per cent of children were living in multidimensional poverty; that is, deprived in multiple dimensions including nutrition, healthcare, education, housing and sanitation.³ The proportion of youth and women in multidimensional poverty were 56.7 per cent and 67.4 per cent, respectively. Clearly, women bear the highest burden of poverty in Baringo County. Mitigating the high poverty levels in the county requires a planning and budgeting process that better considers the human capital sectors such as enhanced access to basic education. This could enable the county to maximize its productive and innovative potential of its future workforce and to initiate a fast and sustainable growth trajectory (Table 1).

Table 1: Baringo County administrative, poverty and demographic profile 2015/16

Administrative Profile	Latest Available
Area (km ²)	11,015
Number of sub-counties	6
Number of wards	30
Overall poverty (%)	39.6
Extreme poverty (%)	8.50
Population (2019)	666,763

Group	Children	National Children	Youths	National Youths	Wo/men	National Wo/men
Monetary Poor						
Male (%)	45.0	42.1	35.2	29.1	38.0	30.5
Female (%)	43.2	41.0	26.0	28.8	39.6	34.1
Total (%)	44.0	41.6	30.6	28.9	39.0	32.4
Population	353,209	20,742,290	190,978	13,443,268	104,339	7,847,350
Multidimensionally Poor						
Male (%)	60.6	49.3	60.0	44.7	63.9	51.0
Female (%)	53.0	47.1	53.4	49.4	67.4	60.8
Total (%)	56.6	48.2	56.7	47.1	66.0	56.1
Population	353,209	20,742,290	190,978	13,443,268	104,339	7,847,350

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (Various)

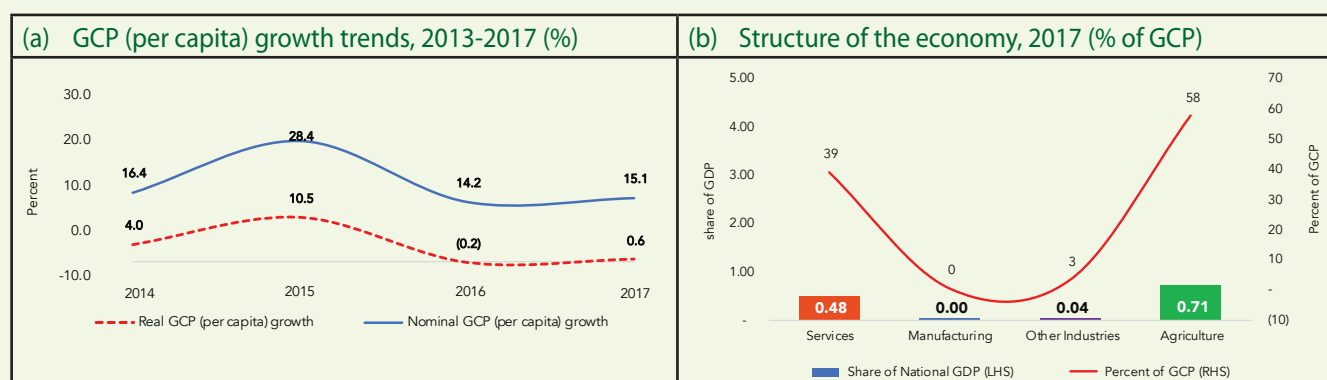
2. STATE OF COUNTY ECONOMY

2.1 Gross County Product Growth

Baringo County accounted for 1.2 per cent of the national GDP in 2017. The real GCP per capital growth declined from 10.5 per cent in 2015 to 0.6 per cent in 2018. The low real GCP per capital growth of -0.2 per cent in 2016 was largely attributable to severe drought which adversely affected agricultural activities, the main source of revenue in the county.

The economy remains heavily reliant on agriculture. Overall, agriculture activity accounted for approximately 58 per cent of GCP (Figure 1b). The county manufacturing industry accounts for 3 per cent of GCP while the contribution of services industry is negligible. Other industrial services – mainly agro-based processing - represent 39 per cent of the GCP. Although agriculture remains an important driver of job creation for women, youth and PWDs, its productivity has not improved. The county needs to consider a mix of agriculture productivity enhancing measures such as modernization of production systems, reduction of cost of farming, improvement of infrastructure to link rural areas with markets, and identify and develop value chains promotion to boost the sector's productivity. The county should also seek to attract more investments in manufacturing, and services, for a more balanced economy.

Figure 1: Baringo County gross county product and economic structure, 2013-2017

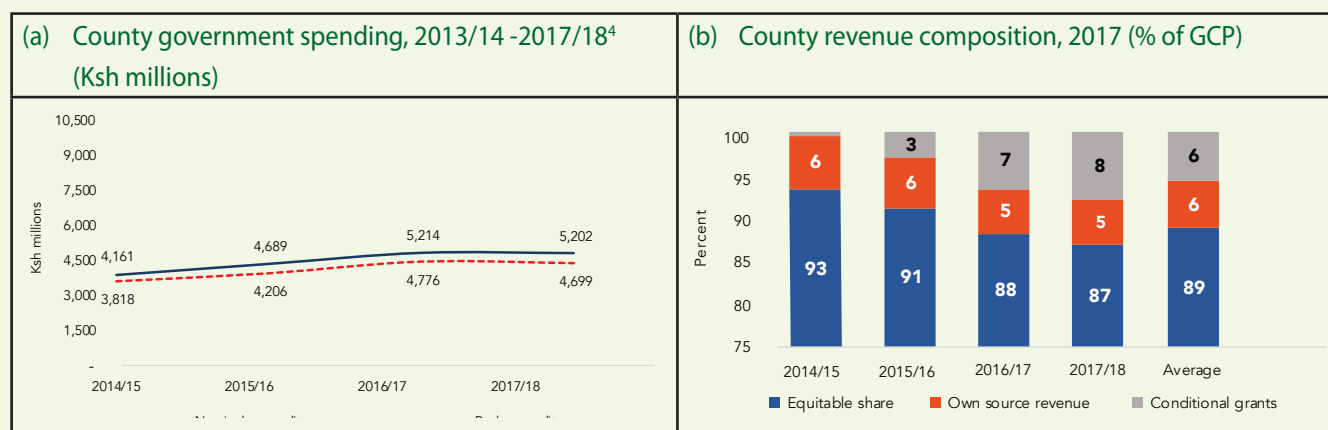


Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019), Economic Survey. NB: LHS=Left hand side; RHS = Right hand side

2.2 Overall Budget Performance

The county government annual spending grew from Ksh 4.1 billion to Ksh 5.2 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, before a moderate drop in 2017/18 (Figure 2a). This spending was heavily dependent on national government transfers accounting for 89.9 per cent of all resources during the period under review. The contribution of own source revenue declined from 6.0 per cent to 5.3 per cent while the contribution of conditional grants increased from 0.6 per cent compared to 4.5 per cent. In nominal terms, own source revenue increased from Ksh 201 million in 2013/14 to Ksh 301 million in 2017/2018. The burden of the drop in the county government spending predominantly affects social sector spending, which are recurrent in nature. The recent drop in annual spending suggests the need to not only enhance absorption but also make fiscal efforts to accelerate revenue mobilization from both own source local revenue and conditional grants.

Figure 2: Baringo County revenue and expenditure trends, 2013/14-2017/18

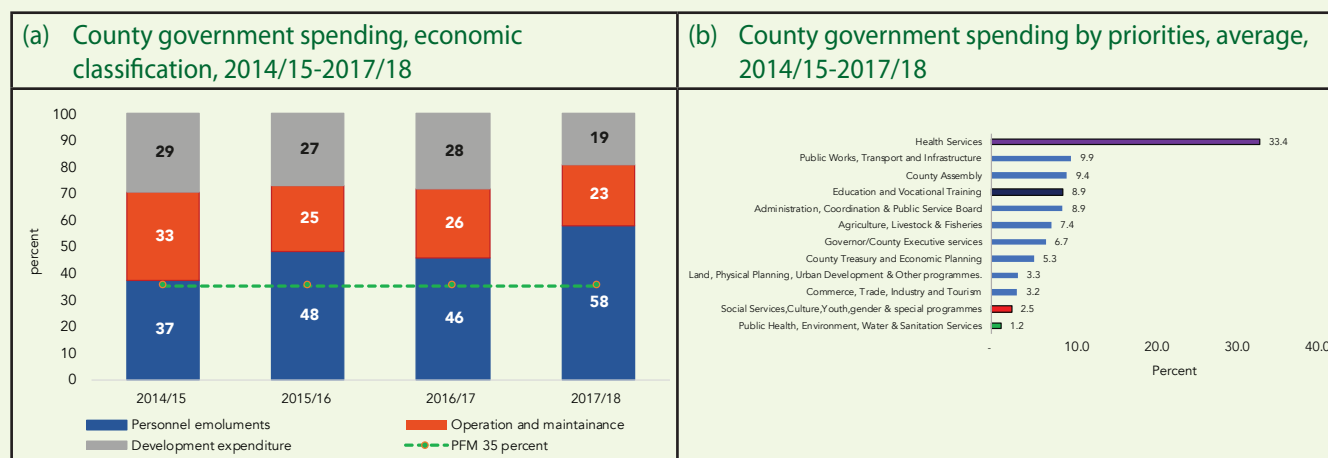


Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014/15-2017/18

The development share of actual spending declined from 29 per cent in 2014/15 to 19 per cent in 2017/18 (Figure 3). Recurrent expenditure accounted for in excess of 70 per cent of the county government spending throughout the period under review. This reflects non-compliance to the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, 2012 provision that caps development spending at a minimum of 30 per cent of total budget, and the PFM 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 53.4 per cent of the budget on health, education, agriculture, nutrition, social protection, youth, gender, water and sanitation. These sectors are regarded as being more sensitive to the needs of children, youth and women. The impact of this expenditure on the various programmes and activities varies across sectors and as discussed in the following sections.

Figure 3: Baringo County spending priorities by economic and administrative classification, 2014/15-2017/18



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

3. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL SECTOR SPENDING

3.1 Health

3.1.1 Health Sector Priorities

Health is a key spending priority of Baringo County Government, consuming more than a third of the total budget in the period 2014 to 2018. During this period, the sector’s priorities were: minimizing the exposure of health risk factors and expansion of health services; improving the quality of health services in existing facilities and equipping them, expanding the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) coverage, and improving the human resource base.

Access to skilled delivery services is lower than the national average despite the free maternity services. The proportion of women who had access to skilled delivery was 53.8 per cent relative to the national average of 61.8 per cent in 2014. Children under 5 born at home was 45.4 per cent, which was higher than the national average of 37.4 per cent in 2014. The relatively low uptake of skilled delivery despite introduction of free maternity services demonstrates the low uptake of maternal services in the county. This is expected to have negative effects on the health status of children and suggests the need for more sensitization on availability and importance of free maternity services. There is also need to enhance physical access to these services through further infrastructural improvements.

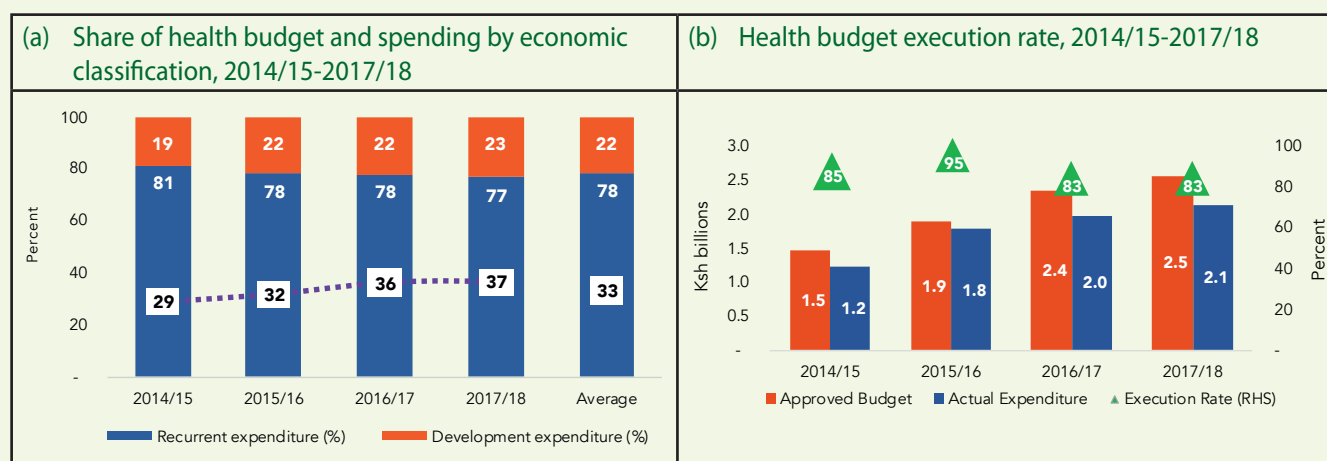
Table 2: Baringo County selected health sector performance indicators

Maternal and Child Services	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Skilled delivery (%)	53.8	61.8	53.8	61.8
Children born at home	45.4	37.4	-	-
Exclusive breastfeeding	-	61.0	-	61.0
Ever breastfed	-	99.0	99.7	-
Fully immunized child	69.4	74.9	-	-
Child Mortality	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Infant mortality (*1000)	-	39.0	-	54.0
Under-5 mortality (*1000)	-	52.0	-	-
Neo-natal mortality (*1000)	-	22.0	-	-
Child mortality (*1000)	-	14.0	-	24.0
HIV (%)	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
HIV adult prevalence (%)	3.0	6.0	1.3	5.6
Children with HIV(No.)	1,353.0	191,333.0	-	-
ART adult coverage (%)	53.0	79.0	64.0	75.0
ART children coverage (%)	36.0	42.0	76.0	82.0

Source: KDHS 2014, KIHBS 2015/16 (- means data not available)

budget allocation was 33 per cent over the review period, comprising 78 per cent recurrent and 22 per cent development expenditure (Figure 4a). Despite the expansion in county health budget allocation from Ksh 1.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.5 billion in 2017/18, the absorption rate declined during the review period. This is attributed to failure by the exchequer to release the full amount approved in the health budget.

Figure 4: Baringo County health spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014/15-2017/18 NB: LHS=Left hand side; RHS = Right hand side

3.1.3 Health sector 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 the sub-counties. The county also aims to strengthen preventative and promotive health services through: malaria control; expanded programmes on immunization; integrated management of childhood illness; and control and prevention of environmentally communicable diseases.

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; sexual and reproductive health needs for all; and access to medical and psychosocial support for survivors of GBV. Other challenges that should be addressed include long procurement processes; delays by the Treasury in releasing funding to the sector; and pending bills affecting the overall sector absorption rate. The county will need to enhance efficiency in use of limited budgetary resources.

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 constitute part of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) under Schedule IV of the Constitution of Kenya. During the review period, the county education sector focus was to enhance the quality and access to ECDE, promote high transition rates, and promote tertiary education through TVETs. Some of the strategies outlined to this end include feeding programme in ECDE sections, ECDE capitation grants, capacity building of ECDE teachers and staff, and establishment of ECDE teacher's college. For basic education, the county sought to increase primary and secondary enrolment rates. For TVET, the main objective of strategies outlined was to fill the gap in training of middle level and technical employees through improved construction of new centres and incorporation of modern infrastructure.

Gross ECDE enrolment rate increased from 86.5 per cent in 2014 to 102.0 per cent in 2018 but net enrolment rate (NER) reduced from 83.5 per cent to 70.5 per cent during the same period. GER was generally lower than national averages of 94.4 per cent while NER was higher than the national average of 63.5 per cent, indicating that more children joined ECDE than before with the implementation of devolution. More girls are enrolled in ECDE than boys in the county, necessitating the need to examine measures to ensure gender parity (Table 3).

Gross primary and secondary enrolment rates stood at 115.8 per cent and 60.2 per cent in 2018, respectively. Net enrolment rate (NER) declined from 85.5 per cent to 82.9 per cent for primary school and 45.3 per cent to 26.9 per cent for secondary school during the same period. The county recorded a decline in net enrolment rates in primary and secondary schooling. The transition rate from primary to secondary school is still below the 100 per cent envisaged by the national policy.

In 2017, the county had 13 vocational training institutions with 48 teachers and an enrolment of 1,520 students. Low uptake of technical training, inadequacy of facilities, and inadequacy of training tools and materials in the county contributes to the low enrolment rates.

Table 3: Baringo County selected education sector performance indicators

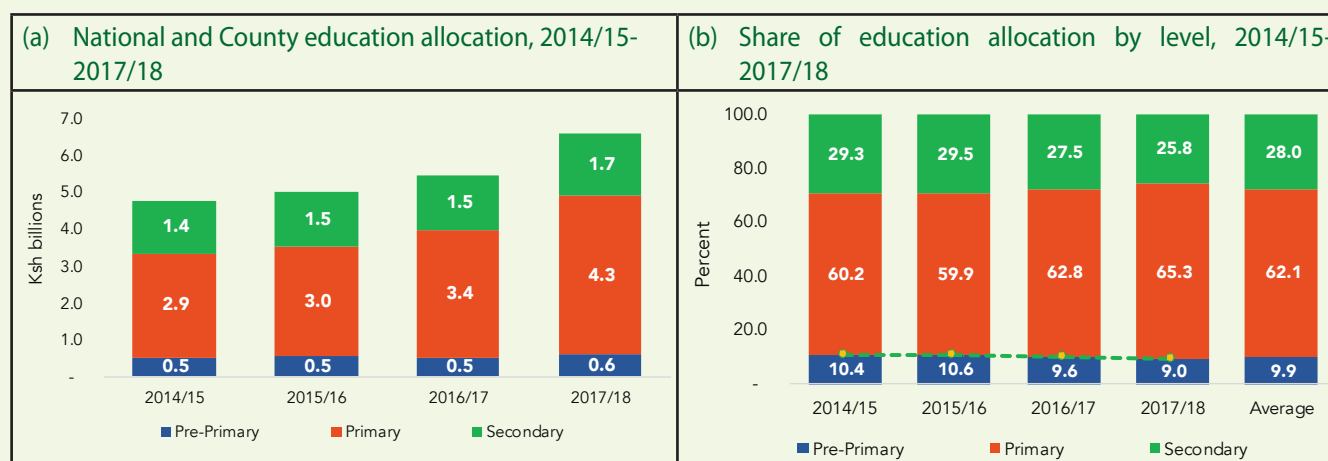
Pre-primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	86.5	73.6	102.0	94.4
Net enrolment ratio (%)	83.5	71.8	70.5	63.5
Male (%)	84.5	73.4	76.7	62.5
Female (%)	82.5	70.2	66.4	65.0
School size (Public) (Pupils) (Average)	66.0	75.0	70.0	85.0
Gender parity index (value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (Public)	22.0	31.0	20.0	31.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	18.2	31.5	16.0	33.0
Primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	99.0	104.0	115.8	107.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	85.5	88.0	82.9	82.4
Male (%)	87.2	86.0	85.9	81.7
Female (%)	83.8	90.0	80.5	83.0
School size (Public) Average No. of pupils	214.0	338.0	209.0	375.0
Gender parity index (Value)	0.9	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.)	25.0	42.0	27.0	40.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	11.0	16.0	9.0	16.0
Secondary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	53.9	58.7	60.2	66.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	45.3	47.4	26.9	37.5
Male (%)	47.0	49.6	20.0	35.4
Female (%)	43.6	45.2	34.5	39.8
School size (Public)	-	-	262.3	392.0
Gender parity index (value)	0.9	0.9	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC)	28.0	30.0	29.0	32.0
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC and BOM)	18.7	20.2	18.0	20.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	29.5	30.7	4.6	5.8

Source: Ministry of Education (Various), Education statistical booklets, 2014-2018 (- means data not available)

3.2.2 Basic Education Budget and Expenditure

The share of ECDE allocation in the county increased from Ksh 500 million in 2014/15, 2015/16, and 2016/17 to Ksh 600 million in 2017/18. This accounted for on average 9.9 per cent of the allocation to education by the county during the period. Allocation to primary education increased from Ksh 2.9 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 4.3 billion in 2017/18 while allocation to secondary education increased from Ksh 1.4 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 1.7 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 5b).

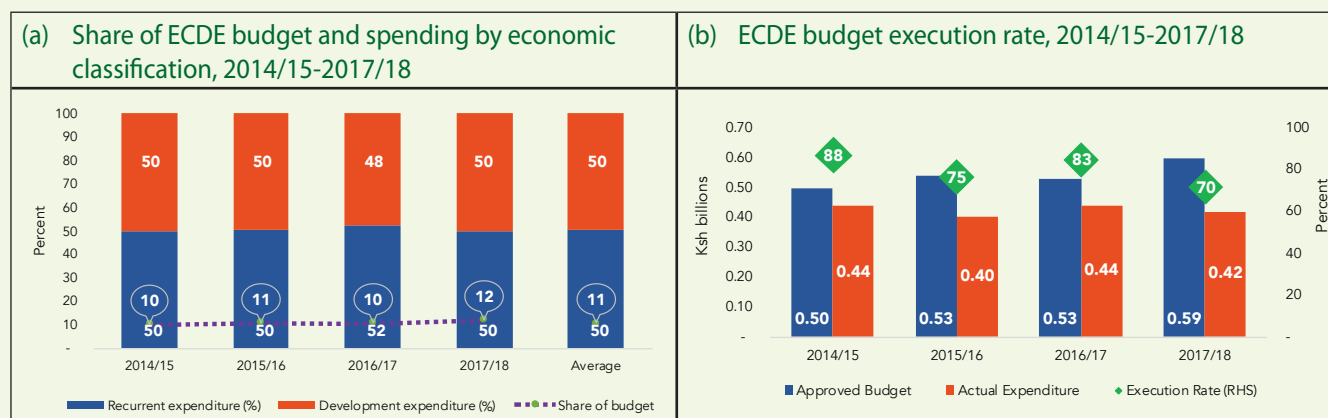
Figure 5: Baringo County basic education spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS

The share of ECDE budget in the total county budget allocation fluctuated between a minimum of 10 per cent in 2014/15 and 2016/17 and a maximum of 12 per cent in 2017/18. It comprised of on average 50 per cent recurrent allocation and 50 per cent development allocation (Figure 6a). In nominal terms, the allocation to ECDE increased from Ksh 500 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 590 million in 2017/18. Expenditure on ECDE fluctuated between a minimum of Ksh 400 million in 2015/16 and a maximum of Ksh 440 million in 2014/15 and 2016/17. The absorption rate fluctuated during the review period between a maximum of 88 per cent in 2014/15 and a minimum of 70 per cent in 2017/18.

Figure 6: Baringo County ECDE spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014/15-2017/18 NB: RHS = Right hand side

3.2.3 Education medium term expectations

The county teacher/pupil ratio of 1:29 remains higher than the standard ratio of 1:25, while the 444 ECDE class rooms were below the county requirement of 2,034 ECDE classes, implying infrastructural constraints. Further, the county experiences lower secondary and tertiary school transition rates due to high poverty and inadequate social investment in bursaries to meet the demand for social assistance.

The county government with support from stakeholders aims to continue investing in early childhood development through infrastructural development, employment of ECDE teachers, provision of sanitation facilities and enhanced school feeding programme. To achieve these objectives, the county will require to partner with the national government and private sector to enhance ECDE and vocation training through infrastructural development, and equip both ECDE and vocational training centres.

3.3 Water and Sanitation

3.3.1 Water and sanitation priorities

The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018 to 2022 outlines investment in the expansion of water and sanitation infrastructure as the main sector priority. Additionally, the sector will prioritize creation of awareness on importance of hand washing facilities and management of human waste disposal in rural and informal settlements in the county urban setups.

Access to improved water was estimated at 48 per cent of the population, against the national average of 72.6 per cent.

The population within the service area of water utility (company) increased from 5 per cent to 10 per cent between 2014/15 and 2017/18. The proportion of population covered or served by the utility improved from 58 per cent in 2014 to 62 per cent in 2018. The sector experiences the problem of non-revenue water⁵ at about 59 per cent as at 2018, which is an improvement from 71 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. The prevailing water shortage in the county, and an average distance of 5 km to the nearest water point, implies that women and children spend many hours in sourcing water, which hinders their economic productivity.

Although the county has a relatively high access to improved sanitation of 71 per cent, potential open defecation county-wide was high at 28 per cent above the national average of 8 per cent. (Table 4).

Table 4: Baringo County selected WASH sector performance indicators

Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
County population within service areas of WSPs (%)	5	*	10	*
Water coverage by utilities (%)	58	53	62	*
Non-revenue water (NRW) (%)	71	42	59	*
Sanitation coverage within utility area (%)	69	69	*	*
Sewerage coverage (%)	*	*	*	*
Access to improved water (%)	48	*	48	*
Access to improved sanitation (%)	71	*	71	59
No toilet facility – Potential open defecation county-wide (%)	28	*	28	8

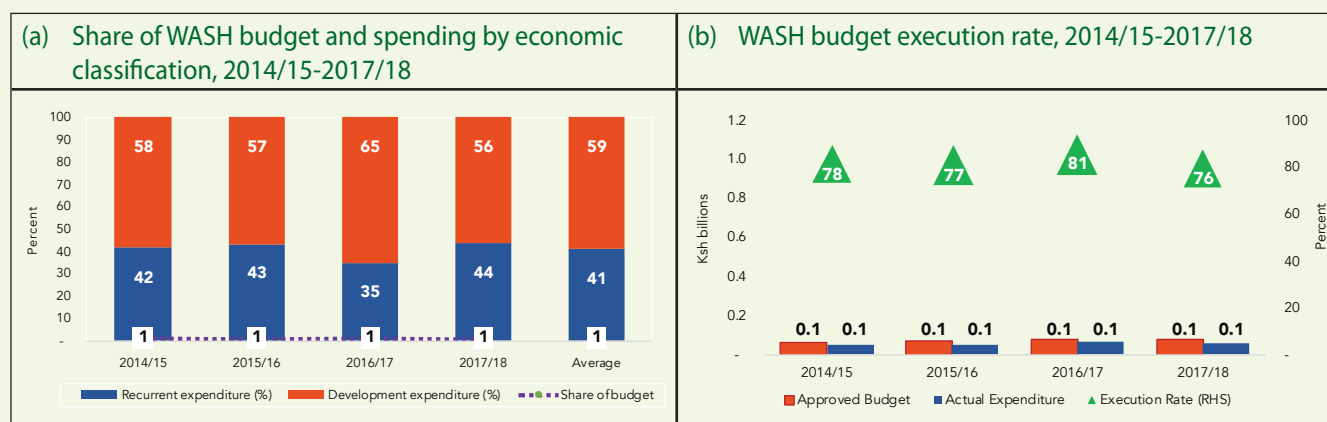
Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), KDHS (2014), County Government of Baringo (2018), CIDP (2018-2022)

*Data not available

3.3.2 Water and sanitation budget and expenditure

The average budget allocation to water and sanitation as a share of the total county budget allocation during the review period was 1 per cent, constituting 41 per cent recurrent and 59 per cent development. In nominal terms, the approved budget increased from Ksh 60 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 80 million in 2016/17 before decreasing to Ksh 60 million 2017/18. The absorption rate decreased slightly from 78 per cent in 2014/15 to 72 per cent in 2015/16 before increasing to 81 per cent in 2016/17 then decreasing to 76 per cent in 2017/18. This is also attributed to the exchequer failure to release the entire approved budget amount and capacity constraints.

Figure 7: Baringo County water and sanitation spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014/15-2017/18 NB: LHS=RHS = Right hand side

3.3.3 Water and sanitation medium term expectations

The county's strategic plan for the period 2018-2022 seeks to improve access to clean water, decent sanitation and improved solid waste management. However, the increasing percentage of non-revenue water, few technical staff in the water sector, high breakage of water pumps compounded by a declining share of recurrent spending, and cut in water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) budget, constrains the county's strategic plan. Therefore, increased focus needs to be given to operations and maintenance for the county to realize the outlined milestones in its CIDP.

3.4 Child Protection, Youth and Women

3.4.1 Child protection, youth and women priorities

The CIDP 2018 to 2022 highlights coordination and development of communities through social welfare; empowerment of women, PWDs and youth through training; management of sports activities; and promotion and regulation of responsible gaming. Other key areas of focus for the social services, youth, gender and culture department highlighted in the CIDP included promotion of cultural development activities, and gender mainstreaming.

On social child protection, the county recorded an increasing number of reported cases of child neglect and abandonment, substantially increasing from 8 cases in 2014 to 100 cases in 2018. Similarly, the reported cases of child emotional abuse increased from 2 in 2014 to 13 in 2018. However, reported cases of child physical abuse declined from 5 to 1 over the same period (Table 5).

The county has no records of FGM cases, child sexual abuse, child labour, trafficking, abduction and kidnapping. The low/non-reporting of female genital mutilation (FGM) to government institutions can be attributed to either the intensive campaigns and initiatives to protect the girl child, fear by the population to report such cases, or culture that approves such practices.

Table 5: Baringo County selected child protection performance indicators (No. of reported cases)

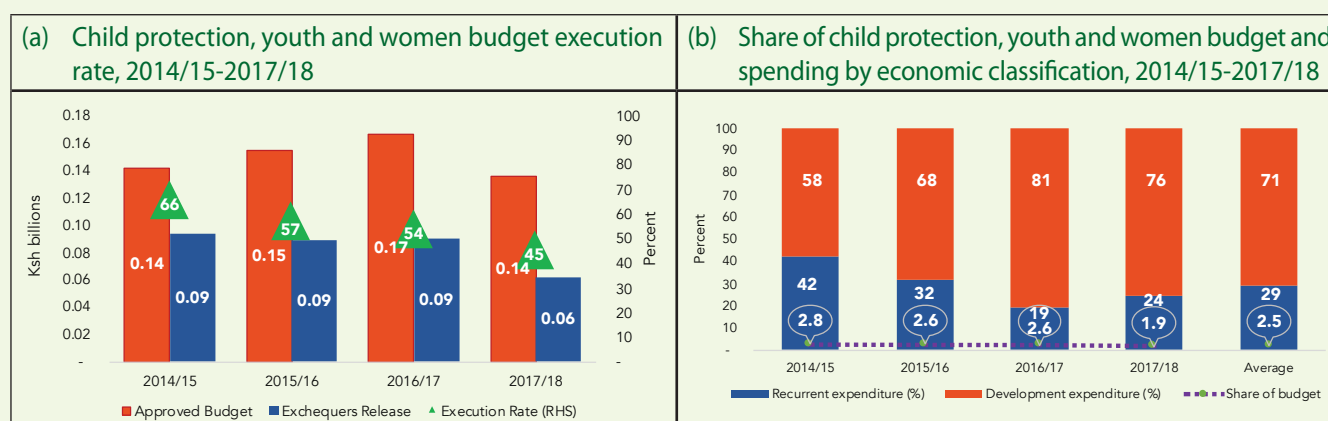
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Child Neglect and Abandonment	8	767	100	73,245
Child Sexual Abuse	7	636	-	172
Child Trafficking, Abduction and Kidnapping	-	32	-	1,022
Child Labour	2	168	-	378
Child Emotional Abuse	2	58	13	853
Child Physical Abuse	5	583	1	2,031
Female Genital Mutilation	-	9	-	40

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), KDHS (2014/15); CIDP (2018-2022) (- means data not available)

3.4.2 Child protection, youth and women budget and expenditure

The total spending on child protection, youth and women as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period was 2.5 per cent, constituting of 71 per cent development expenditure and 29 per cent recurrent expenditure. The county reported high disparity between the approved budget and the exchequer releases. The absorption rate declined from 66 per cent in 2014/15 to 45 per cent in 2017/18 due to county failure by the exchequer to release the entire approved budget amount (Figure 8a).

Figure 8: Baringo County social protection, youth and women spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18



Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014/15-2017/18

3.4.3 Child protection, youth and women medium term expectations

The sector faced a number of challenges during the period. Unemployment, poor access to funding, lack of entrepreneurial skills, limited access to funding and credit facilities were a major hindrance to youth economic empowerment. Other socio-economic challenges included: lack of access to resource centres and increased number of teenage pregnancies. For women, there was low participation of women in trade and leadership. With regard to persons with disability, the main challenges were poor access to sporting facilities, exclusion in public policy, high cost in aid equipment and unemployment. Poor access to government tenders remains a cross cutting issue among the youth, women and PWDs.

Between the plan period 2018 and 2022, the county aims to continue implementing the 30 per cent Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) programme, provide capacity building and enhance access credit facilities for youth, women and PWDs. For children, the county intends to continue rehabilitation and reintegration of street children, construction of rescue centres, and cash transfers to households with orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs).

3.5 Nutrition

3.5.1 Nutrition priorities

Promotion of nutrition education and improvement of the nutritional status of households to eliminate malnutrition cases was the focus for the county, according to the CIDP for 2013-2017. Some of the programmes the county targeted were growing fruits under agriculture, and school meals programme which targeted to improve health and nutrition through distribution of variety of food.

The county nutrition indicators remained relatively low based on 2014 data. The proportion of stunted children was 29.5 per cent against the national average of 26.0 per cent. The proportion of wasted children was 6.9 per cent and the proportion of underweight children was 20.2 per cent against national averages of 4 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively (Table 6).

The proportion of overweight or obese women aged 15 to 49 years in the county stood at 23.2 per cent, lower than the national average of 28.9 per cent. The Body Mass Index (BMI)⁶ for women was 21.9 in 2014 compared to national average of 23.2.

Table 6: Selected nutrition performance indicators

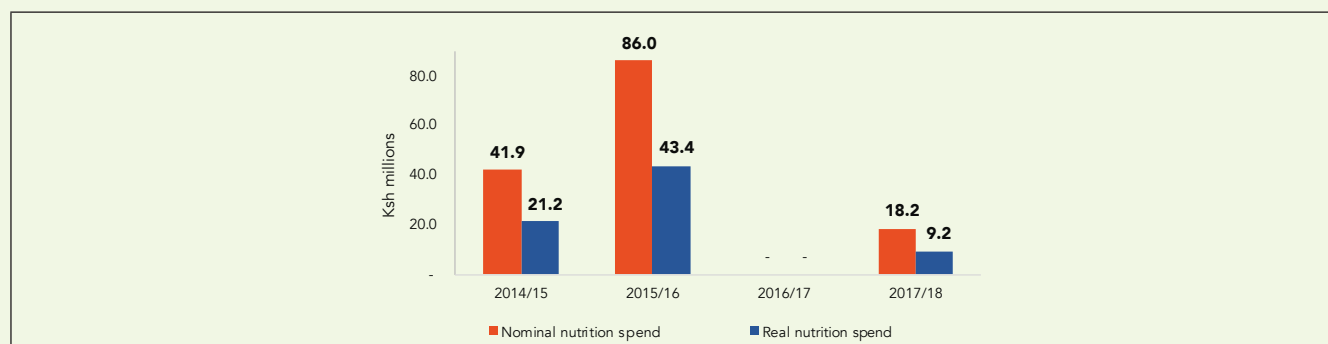
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National
Stunted children (%)	29.5	26.0
Wasted children (%)	6.9	4.0
Underweight children (%)	20.2	11.0
Vitamin A supplements coverage	19.3	24.0
Proportion of children aged 6 to 59 months- Received Vitamin A supplement	67.2	71.4
Proportion of children consuming adequately iodized salt	100.0	99.1
Proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt	99.7	99.2
Household salt iodization (50–80 mg/Kg KIO ₃) (% samples)	39.0	57.0
Number of Women (BMI)	21.9	23.2
Overweight or obesity among women aged 15 to 49 years.	23.2	28.9

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2014), Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

3.5.2 Nutrition budget and expenditure

The county nominal spending on nutrition (direct nutrition interventions) decreased from Ksh 42 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 18 million in 2017/18. There was no direct spending on nutrition in 2016/2017. This could be attributed to lack of proper nutrition plans (and budget lines) in the county.

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



Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS 2014/15-2017/18

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. Continued support and partnerships is needed to enhance uptake of the *Linda Mama* programme, which provides ante-natal, skilled delivery, neo-natal and post-natal care.

3.6 Other Initiatives for the Special Interest Groups

Box 1: Key Highlights on Children, Youth, Women and PWDs Initiatives

- a) **AGPO:** During the period under review, the county government set out to establish a law to guide public procurement whose major principle is to encourage participation of local groups including youth, women and PWDs in public procurement processes.
- b) **Children:** The county has drafted a policy for children play centres, which is currently awaiting county executive committee approval. To address the problem of street children affecting Baringo town, the county is establishing a drop-in centre for street children.
- c) **Youth:** The county has established the Directorate of Youth, with the overall mandate of nurturing youth talents through sports and arts. The Directorate will mark the international youth week annually as a forum to interact with youth and collect information to help improve service delivery.
- d) **Women:** The county aims to refurbish and establish women empowerment and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) rescue centres. The process to develop a gender policy and strategic plan has been initiated. A database of women has been initiated that shall facilitate empowerment through credit and savings activities. Prevention and response to GBV is also highlighted as a major activity for the county. The county has formed a GBV technical working group, and training of duty bearers on GBV justice system has been started. Additionally, a GBV referral tool has also been developed.
- e) **PWDs:** The county has carried out a milestone to actualize the county PWD fund. The county has profiled 78 PWD companies; built capacity for 550 PWD groups; and distributed mobility and assistive devices for PWDs with physical, hearing and visual impairments.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY

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

Table 7: Recommendations and responsible actors

Sector	Finding	Recommendation	Responsibility
Gross County Product	The county economy remains heavily reliant on agriculture, which contributes about 58 per cent to the gross county product	Enhance agricultural productivity and promote value addition Enhance access to land by women and youth to promote inclusion Attract more investment in manufacturing as well as services to have a balanced economy	County Treasury and Planning/ County Executive/Department of Agriculture and Industry
Revenue	Own source revenue fell to 5.3 per cent from 6 per cent during the review period.	Innovate strategies to grow own source revenue for example the county could improve revenue collection and transfer systems through automation of revenue streams to prevent leakages Link revenue streams to provision of high-quality services to all county residents including men, women elderly and PWDs	County Treasury and Planning/ Directorate of Revenue
Expenditures	Agriculture and social services are poorly financed, implying that an important segment of the population especially women is left out in terms of sectors that improve their social welfare	Ensure that the resources are effectively allocated and efficiently used to improved service delivery to the citizens	All sectors/County Treasury and Planning/ County Executives
Health	Although allocations to health increased from Ksh 1.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.52 billion in 2017/18, the budget execution rate declined	Treasuries, both national and county, need to release all health budget on time. Align health procurement plan to cash flow projections	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Health
Education	The share of ECDE spending in the county declined during the review period. Although the gross ECDE enrolment rate in the county increased from 86.5 per cent in 2014 to 102.0 per cent in 2018, there is a huge infrastructural gap of required ECDE classes	Allocate more resources for the ECDE programme and ensure that the county core function of ECDE and TVET is given priority rather than using departmental share to give education bursaries for other levels of education whose national share is growing	County Treasury and Planning / County Department of Education
WASH	More than half of the population have no access to improved water sources and sewerage coverage in the period 2014-2018.	Increase investment in new water infrastructure with attention given to operations and maintenance of the existing infrastructure and accessibility by households to remove the burden on children and women.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Water and Sanitation/Baringo WASCCO

Child Protection, Youth and Women	There is significant duplication of social services, youth, gender and culture services between the two levels of government. High number of cases of child neglect and abandon was recorded between 2014 and 2018. The budgetary allocation to youth and women has been low with minimal impacts.	Align the county government social services programs with national government programmes to avoid duplication of the activities while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the relevant beneficiaries. Provision of timely and comprehensive GBV services (medical and psychosocial support). Expand Child Protection, Youth and Women services to reach vulnerable girls as a protective measure against early pregnancies, FGM, child and forced marriages. Increase resources towards youth and gender issues given their significance in socio-economic development.	County Treasury and Planning / County Department of Culture and Social Services
Nutrition	The county has not allocated funds to nutrition spending since 2016/17	Improve the predictability in financing the nutrition budget in the county – preferably through creation of a budget line	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Health and ALL other sectors, namely education, agriculture, social protection and WASH
Disaggregated Data	There is no evidence of prioritized investments in disaggregated data by the county Limited collection and utilization of disaggregated data means women's domestic care work is not measured in the economy	The county will need to prioritize investments in disaggregated data collection and management and apply the utilization of data in evidence-based planning, budgeting, monitoring and service delivery Apply disaggregated data to measure women's domestic/ unpaid care work, understand the socio-economic implications of limited participation in the economy, and further develop social and economic policies and implement programmes that empower women	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 poverty* measures the lack of financial means of households to provide its members with basic goods and services deemed necessary for their survival and development. Extreme poverty refers to an income below the food poverty line. Households whose adult equivalent food consumption expenditure per person per month fell below Ksh 1,954 in rural areas and Ksh 2,551 in urban areas were deemed to be food poor. Similarly, households whose overall consumption expenditure fell below Ksh 3,252 in rural areas and Ksh 5,995 in urban areas, per person per month were considered to be overall poor.
- ³ *Multidimensional poverty*, unlike monetary poverty, captures different deprivations experienced by an individual. In measuring child poverty in Kenya, these dimensions included: health care, nutrition/adequate food, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, education, knowledge of health and nutrition, housing and standard of living, and access to information. In the analysis, dimensions are measured as binary variables with "1" denoting deprived and "0" non-deprived
- 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).
- ⁶ *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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