



COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

THE IMPACT OF DEVOLUTION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS IN KENYA



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FOREWORD

The Constitution of Kenya 2010, was envisioned to end discrimination and gender inequalities by promoting the inclusion of women and other marginalized groups including youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities. One of the principles of democracy is respect of gender equality and non-discrimination. Women make half of the population of Kenya yet remain invisible in leadership and decision making.

The objectives of devolution include promoting the democratic and accountable exercise of power; enhancing popular participation in the exercise of the powers of the state and in decision-making that affects citizens; protecting and promoting the interests and rights of minorities and marginalized communities; promoting social and economic development; and providing easily accessible services throughout the Country. To this end county governments have made efforts towards empowering women and girls and promoting gender equality in their development agenda.

Devolution has opened up opportunities for women and other previously marginalized groups to participate in county level planning, budgeting and ensuring an opportunity for county governments to integrate gender-responsive mechanisms in development planning and budgeting.

Twelve years since the promulgation of the Constitution and eight years since the inception of devolution this report presents “the women and girls voices on the story of devolution”.

The report synthesizes and documents the impact of devolution on women and girls in select Sectors thus; Education, Health, Agriculture, Water and Sanitation, and Urban Planning across the 14 counties namely Busia, Garissa, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Lamu, Mandera, Marsabit, Narok, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir and West pokot. The report has documented the story of the gains of devolution with a view to scaling up in the 47 counties.

The report presents a balanced perspective from an independent analysis, resulting from and in-depth interviews with county representatives and conversations with women and girls on the progress in meeting set out expectations, unfulfilled ambitions and opportunities for the future. The assessment was commissioned by the Council of Governors with the support of UN Women and UNCDF and was undertaken through technical backstopping provided by a multi-agency team comprising of officers from line ministries, independent commissions, research and academia.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council of County Governors (COG) is a non-partisan organization with a mandate to provide a mechanism for consultation amongst County Governments, share information on performance of the counties in execution of their functions, facilitate capacity building for Governors, and consider reports from other intergovernmental forums on National and County interests amongst other functions.¹

The Council works through sectoral committees anchored within the Secretariat and chaired by governors. There are 17 committees guided by the Council's Strategic Plan; 2017. To mainstream gender in the county service delivery processes, the CoG signed a one-year partner agreement with the UN Women in a project titled: 'Enhancing and sustaining gender resilience for Sub national local economic development in the post COVID-19 era', whose main objective is to support counties to engage in gender-sensitive policymaking while ensuring the appreciation and application of gender perspectives in governance, leadership, programming, and evaluations. It has supported work in 14 counties.²

The report benefited from the input of a broader multi agency team with representatives drawn from: State Department in charge of Gender, State Department in charge of Devolution, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), University of Nairobi Department in charge of Gender Studies, National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC). The CoG acknowledges the participation of key county officials from the select counties and peer review input of the technical leads in charge of various thematic areas at the CoG. This report is prepared by the CoG committee in charge of gender under the invaluable guidance of the Chief Executive officer Ms. Mary Mwiti, with the support of two consultants namely Winfred Lichuma, and Samuel Mulu.

The Council of Governors, the UN Women and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), are pleased to present this report and look forward to continued partnership with the various stakeholders to make devolution towards achieving gender equality and empowerment of work for women and girls.

¹ See Section 19 and 20 of the Intergovernmental Relations Act (IGRA) 2012

² The counties are Busia, Garissa, Isiolo, Kajiado, Kilifi, Lamu, Mandera, Marsabit, Narok, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir and West pokot

ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

ADP	County Annual Development Plan	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
AGDI	African Gender Development Index	MCA	Member of County Assembly
ASALs	Arid and Semi-arid lands	MDAs	Ministries Departments, and Agencies
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women	MSE	Micro and Small Enterprise
CECM	County Executive Committee Member	MTP	Medium Term Plan
CHMT	County Health Management Team	NGEC	National Gender and Equality Commission
CIDPs	County Integrated Development Plans	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CIMES	County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System	OAG	Office of the Auditor General
CoG	Council of Governors	OCOB	Office of Controller of Budget
CRA	Commission for Revenue Allocation	PBB	Program Based Budget
CSO	Civil Society rganization	PC	Performance Contracting
CPMF	County Performance Management Framework	PMS	Performance Management System
CPSB	County Public Service Board	PFM	Public Financial Management
ECDE	Early Childhood Development and Education	PMC	Project Management Committee
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions	PPRA	Public Procurement Regulatory Authority
FY	Financial Year	PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	SDG	State Department of Gender
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
GoK	Government of Kenya	TSC	Teachers Service Commission
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting	UN	United Nations
HMT	Health Management Team	UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
HRM	Human Resources Management	UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission
IBEC	Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management System	UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
IGRTC	Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development	UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics	VTCs	Vocational Training Centres
		WSP	Water Services Providers

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1.0 BACKGROUND

1.0 Background

The Council of County Governors (CoG) is a non-partisan organization established by Section 19 of the Intergovernmental Relations Act (IGRA) 2012 with a mandate to provide a mechanism for consultation amongst county governments, sharing information on performance of the Counties in execution of their functions, facilitating capacity building for Governors, and considering reports from other intergovernmental forums on National and County interests amongst other functions (Section 20). To fulfil its mandate, the Council works through sectoral committees anchored within the Secretariat. There are 17 committees with membership from Governors and each committee is chaired by a Governor. The corresponding annual work-plan is guided by the Council's Strategic Plan: 2017 – 2022 focusing on the five key performance areas; (1) Good Governance; (2) Adequate resourcing for devolved functions; (3) A strong Council of County Governors; (4) Knowledge-driven performance and (5) Sustainable intergovernmental relations. The CoG therefore plays a coordinating and facilitative role amongst the forty-seven (47) County Governments on matters of policy, legislation, administrative actions, and general sector development in the counties.

To mainstream gender in the County service delivery processes, the Council signed a one-year partner agreement with the UN Women in a project titled: *'Enhancing and sustaining gender resilience for Sub national local economic development in the post COVID-19 era'*, whose main objective is to support counties to engage in gender-sensitive policymaking while ensuring the appreciation and application of gender perspectives in governance, leadership, programming, and evaluations.

1.1 Devolution and Women's Rights in Kenya

The objects of devolution among others include to promote democratic and accountable exercise of power, foster national unity and diversity, enhance participation of citizens in decision making and promote interests and rights of minorities and marginalized communities. Devolution principles include the no more than two thirds gender rule. The Theory of Change (ToC) for devolution looks at decentralization of services as a means of eliminating marginalization and inequalities of citizens including women and girls by bringing services closer to the people previously exacerbated by centralized governance.³ Devolution has provided a good platform on which women's agency can not only be exercised but also optimized for positive effects on women and society at large.

Due to the patriarchal nature of Kenya's society, women have continued to be marginalized in most sectors including

in governance and decision making. Gender equality has remained elusive in Kenya for several years post-independence. One of the celebrated policy achievements in Kenya came with the adoption of the Constitution of Kenya (CoK) 2010 that seeks to close the gender gap and end discrimination against women. The CoK promotes gender equality and forbids discrimination based on numerous grounds including sex, pregnancy, marital status, age disability, health status, ethnic and social origin, dress among others. Further it acknowledges that women are a vulnerable category that require special protection measures through affirmative action. This is what has popularly been referred to as the **...not more than two third gender rule** in appointive and elective positions, as a constitutional principal. Further the constitution provides and calls for equality of men and women, right to equal treatment, equal opportunities in political, economic and social spheres and in all decision-making positions.

Women are not homogeneous, hence the constitutional call for intersectional approach by listing youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), the elderly persons, marginalized communities and children as most vulnerable persons within communities requiring attention. The CoK 2010 provides the intersecting aspects of discrimination that include sex, race, age, disability, religion as areas protected from discrimination among others. To this end, State organs and all public officers have the duty to address the needs of all these vulnerable groups within society.

Devolution has ensured the implementation of leadership representation quotas in County Assemblies and county governments; harnessed accruing benefits such as decision-making, sharing in responsibilities and access to financial assets specifically set up for special interest groups. Devolution has reduced gender gaps in health through reduction of maternal mortality and promotion of maternal and child health and has also provided education for disadvantaged populations particularly through Vocational Training Centres (VTCs). Women constitute half of the population of Kenya and therefore, their contribution towards various development projects in terms of identification and implementation is important.

1.2 Study Objectives

The overall objective of the study is to assess and document the impact of devolution on women and girls in select sectors. The sectors identified by CoG and partners are in 4 sectors namely; Education, Health, Agriculture, Water and Sanitation and Urban Planning. The 14 select counties are those supported by the UN Women project. This are Garissa, Mandera Wajir, Marsabit, Isiolo, Lamu Tana River, Turkana, Samburu, Kilifi, Kajiado, Narok, West Pokot and Busia.

³ See Article 174 of the Constitution of Kenya (CoK) 2010

See Article 175 CoK

1.3 Specific Objectives

- i. Carry out an assessment of the impact of devolution on women and girls in select Sectors.
- ii. Document the findings including gains of devolution with a keen focus on women and girls.
- iii. Provide policy recommendations that will promote advance gender equality and empowerment of women at the county levels.

1.4 The Approach and Methodology

The study used a mixed method that combined quantitative and qualitative methods. This was by use of questionnaire, focus group discussions, semi structured interviews, group discussions, case studies and participant observation. The assessment considered review of existing statistics, policy and legal analysis. The study reviewed various county documents including County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and Annual Development Plans (ADPs) among other county planning and implementation documents.

Primary data was collected from the 14 counties. This step provided basic understanding of women and girls and gender relations in respect of the key five sectors of focus in each county. A short questionnaire was developed and administered to the respondents in order to capture key aspects required for effective implementation of programmes geared towards gender mainstreaming or directly on empowerment of women and girls. A Key Informant (KI) guide was used for in-depth interviews with county officials responsible for the select sectors.

The study team interacted with non-state actors and listened to their views on how the county interventions have targeted programmes for women and girls, and thus promoting gender equality. The beneficiaries consulted included women, women leaders, civil society organizations and male champions supporting women interventions. The desk review and field analysis revealed the institutional frameworks and preparedness/unpreparedness for each of the county sector responsible for mainstreaming gender equality and women empowerment interventions as well as their awareness and preparedness to existing national, regional and international frameworks.

Human rights-based assessment approaches and techniques were applied. At the county and national levels, the assessment was framed along the planning, budgeting, implementation and accountability processes. This was followed by identification of one intervention by every county that is a best practice to illustrate progress made. The purpose was

to facilitate the county identify one investment in support of the community with identifiable benefits to women and girls. It also provided an opportunity for the study team to analyze missed opportunities in integration of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

1.5 Contextualizing the Study

The assessment of the impact of devolution on women and girls comprised of three inter-related components: **empowerment, power and agency and equality**. This was in recognition of the fact that economic gain and success (economic advancement) promotes women's power and agency. At the same time, when a woman is able to control and share in resource use (power) and to define and make choices (agency), she is better able to advance economically and achieve equality. The select 14 counties are being supported by the UN Women support programme to develop policies, plans and strategies that address equity accountability and environmental issues while at the same time streamlining revenue collection and budgeting processes.

At the global level, empowering women in the economy and closing gender gaps in the world are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Goal 5- to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls. The other 16 goals have identified gender indicators aiming at reducing inequalities⁴. Kenya is committed to the realization of the 17 goals striving to leave no one behind.

Increasing women's and girls' educational attainment contributes to women's economic empowerment and more inclusive economic growth. Education, upskilling and re-skilling over the life course – specially to keep pace with rapid technological and digital transformations affecting jobs—are critical for women's and girl's health and wellbeing, as well as their income-generation opportunities and participation in the formal labour market. Girls with little or no education are far more likely to be married as children, suffer domestic violence, live in poverty, and lack a say over household spending or their own health care than better-educated peers, which harms them, their children, and communities⁵. Further in the identified counties, the share of women workers in agriculture is high, despite them having less access to, control over, and ownership of land and other productive assets compared to their male counterparts.

Women and girls suffer most from lack of safely managed water and sanitation. Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 80 per cent of households without access to water on premises. Menstrual hygiene management is difficult in the absence of water, soap and gender-responsive sanitation facilities, whether at home, school or work. Women

⁴ <https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment/facts-and-figures>

⁵ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/gender/publication/voice-and-agency-empowering-women-and-girls-for-shared-prosperity>

and girls are more likely to carry the burden of energy poverty and experience the adverse effects of lack of safe, reliable, affordable and clean energy due to indoor pollution.

Environmental degradation and climate change have disproportionate impacts on women and children. Women often bear the brunt of coping with climate-related shocks and stresses or the health effects of indoor and urban pollution, which add to their care burden. As land, forest and water resources are increasingly compromised, privatized or “grabbed” for commercial investment, local communities and indigenous peoples, particularly women, whose livelihoods depend on these resources, are marginalized and displaced. Globally, women are 14 times more likely than men to die during a disaster.

The assessment has focused on documenting the story on the gains of devolution with a keen focus on its impact on women and girls across the select counties with view to inform wider policy change across the counties, the historical perspective to inform the progress in devolution in Kenya cannot be ignored and above all to inform the gender responsiveness of the next CIDPs (2022-2027) that are underway.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

The CoK 2010 allocates functions between the National Government and County Governments. A comprehensive analysis would have been ideal based on the list of all 14 functions specifically assigned to counties. However, it is worth highlighting that the foremost responsibility of both levels of government is to provide for the well-being of citizen with respect of the inter-dependency, consultation and collaboration between levels of government. Due to the financial constraints and the interest of the supporting partner, the study is only focused on the select 14 counties and in the five sectors, namely education, health, water, agriculture and urban planning.

The study is not an all-encompassing but will provide a general overview on devolution and how programming in each county has brought about positive or negative impact on women in terms of gender relations and roles. The study is contextualized responding to how each of the 14 counties has elaborated their gender and women girl's programmes and availed necessary budgets to make the changes desired.

1.7 Literature Review: Measuring progress on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment

Globally, there are numerous databases of gender indicators and statistics. In 2015, the world adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. The 17 Sustainable Goals are integrated and are designed to end discrimination against women and girls among other actions. While other goals⁶ have gender responsive indicators, Goal 5 is on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls. These gender specific indicators are focused on ending all discrimination against women and girls. However, gender equality is across cutting indicator in all the SDGs. The theory of change in SDGs is that empowering women and girls facilitates economic growth and development.

At the African level, there are numerous gender indices to measure the status of gender equality and effects of gender policies in tackling women's marginalization. These indicators also provide African countries with specific tools to measure and monitor progress on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. The tools aim at measuring both quantitative and qualitative progress. The Africa Gender and Development Index⁷ main focus is to measure the country's commitments to global and regional instruments and integrating gender into national policy, planning, programme and legislative frameworks, acknowledging the centrality of gender equality in achievement of socio-economic development. Sex disaggregated data is important to inform planning and policy decisions. Inclusion of gender responsive indicators improves inclusivity in the development agenda.

This study has created its variables from a mix of known indices in order to undertake the assessment since the counties did not select any gender and or women indicators at the beginning of implementing devolution. No baseline was identified in 2013, when devolution was commenced and thus the assessment has used existing information and reports around the commencement period to serve as the baseline indicators where available. The progress, gaps and challenges and existing opportunities will be determined thereof using know parameters and indicators on achieving gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

⁶ End poverty, end hunger, ensure healthy lives, ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation, access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy, promote sustainable economic growth, promote inclusive & sustainable industrialization, reduce inequality within and among countries, make cities and human settlements safe and inclusive, ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, take urgent action to combat climate change, conserve and protect, restore and promote peaceful inclusive sustainable use of oceans, sustainable use of ecosystems Societies and Strengthen the means of implementation

⁷ uneca.org/sites/default/files/fullpublication/agdi_report_en_fin_inov.pdf

Kenya is committed to international and regional instruments on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. In 1984, Kenya signed and ratified the recommendations by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Maputo women protocol among others. Kenya in fulfilment of its international and regional obligations has successfully submitted reports to the monitoring bodies established to monitor progress including submitting itself to the evaluation under the United Nations Economic Commission (UNECA) under its framework-the African Gender Development Index (AGDI). The AGDI provides tools for both quantitative and qualitative measure of progress made at country level.

Kenya's progress towards gender equality and empowerment of women and girls⁸ is supported by legal, policy and administrative process. Legally, the Constitution of Kenya (CoK) 2010 provides for gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. The constitution is supported by numerous enabling laws and policies in all sectors of focus. County governments have also enacted gender county specific laws and policies to aide their programming and implementation of gender equality principles.

In 2019, Kenya adopted the Sessional Paper No. 2 of National Policy on Gender and Development as a framework to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment is integrated into sectoral policies, planning and programmes. The National Policy is supplemented by the Intergovernmental Consultation Framework for Gender Sector that outlines mechanism for consultation and co-operation between the National and County Governments on issues of gender equality and empowerment. Administratively, the State Department of Gender (SDG) under the Ministry of Public Service and Gender oversees implementation of the gender related indicators in the Performance Contracting (PC) Guidelines toward gender mainstreaming and reporting for national and county governments. The tool is for use by Ministries, State Departments, State Corporations, Public Universities, Tertiary Institutions and County Governments. The reporting tool has been specific indicators that are measured annually.

Following fragmented approaches by the county governments, the Council of Governors (CoG) in collaboration with various national government agencies has developed and adopted the County Performance Management Framework (CPMF). The CPMF aims at ensuring accountability in service delivery by ensuring that tasks are performed efficiently, effectively and economically. It also provides a mechanism for citizen to engage and evaluate the performance of their County Government.

The CPMF is aligned to the pillars guiding the national performance management framework to bring congruence and synergy in the implementation of national and county development priorities for the good of citizens. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) has in the recent past released gender responsive indicators providing both quantitative and qualitative statistics. These will be a great source of information for establishing the baseline. The county government structure aims at decentralizing power of decision making to the grassroots. The structure comprises of the County Executive (Committee), the Legislative (County Assembly and the County Public Service Board). The CoG has established sectoral working committee to improve and better co-ordinate its functioning.

CoG has the Technical Committee on Education, Youth, Sports, Gender, Culture. The task of the Committee includes considering, reviewing and monitoring policy and legislation on matters related to education, gender, youth, sports, culture and social services and making recommendations therein. At the Secretariat Level, through the support of UN Women, Kenya County Office, County Governments have been able to engage in numerous gender mainstreaming activities that have recorded success across the devolved sectors. Notably, CoG developed the Gender Mainstreaming Note in partnership with State Department of Gender and UN Women.

In 2017, the CoG conducted a Rapid Assessment of Progress on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment within the County Governments in Kenya.⁹ The aim of the rapid assessment was to aid development of enhanced based programming to support county governments in gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE) Work. The findings from this assessment will be used to assess progress for gender responsive interventions especially by the selected County Governments. The impact of devolution on women and girls is yet to be analyzed. Moreover, even though commendable initiatives have been undertaken including but not limited to strengthening gender statistics by undertaking time-use surveys and the continued production of *County Gender Fact Sheets*¹⁰ and the *Women and Men in Kenya, Facts and Figures 2017 as well as a development of the Woman Empowerment Index* by KNBS, the consequences of the devolved system in Kenya are yet to be fully outlined.

The KNBS has also developed a National Indicator Framework for SDGs that provide the baseline and status of the respective

⁸ See Article 27(4-8) of the Kenya Constitution 2010

⁹The participating 10 counties were Meru, Kisumu, Vihiga, Kakamega, Trans Nzoia, Wajir, Turkana, Mombasa and Kilifi

¹⁰The 10 counties which were involved in the development of Gender Fact Sheets are: Baringo, Bomet, Kakamega, Kilifi, Kirinyaga, Kisumu, Kitui, Marsabit, Meru and Turakana

SDGs indicators. A review of the framework against the list of 52 UN Minimum Set of Quantitative Gender Indicators, revealed that there are gaps that need to be addressed. For instance, out of the 52-minimum gender-related indicators, Kenya has only selected 34. These gaps exist in some thematic areas, including economic structure, participation in productive activities and access to resources; education; health and related services; and public life and decision-making.

The international and regional commitments in support of women have been agreed and states expected to comply and put implementable measures in administrative, policy and legal frameworks. The situation of women has been exacerbated by the increasing levels of poverty that affects everyone but disproportionately affecting majority of lives of women and girls. The 2015 Agenda 2030 has 80 gender responsive indicators out of which Kenya has admitted 34 of them across all the 17 goals. These will inform the analysis in this study.

1.8 Proposed Study Indicators and Variables

Based on the existing information, the following indicators drawn from various international, regional and domestic frameworks towards promoting women's rights are proposed to be used as key variables for consideration in the assessment in absence of set gender responsive indicators by the counties: -

- Provision of the institutional mechanism in support and growth of women and girl's issues or to promote gender mainstreaming or gender issues.
- Availability of national gender policies to guide all sectors gender responsive interventions.
- Inclusion of gender issues in the development plans.
- Efforts to protect human rights of women and awareness creation on the country's regional and international obligations i.e. Convention of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Maputo Women Protocol among others.
- Promotion of women in agriculture and own land and capable of making decisions.
- Availability of gender responsive budgets (GRB).
- Use of Media and specifically efforts made through media to increase female participation.
- Proportionate of women living below the poverty line. Ending poverty of women and girls by addressing structural barriers that increase poverty among women i.e. addressing feminization of poverty for different categories of women.
- Increased women's participation in decision- making and access to power in all spheres, economic, social and political. The respect of the constitutional principle of not more than two thirds gender rule.

- Achieving women's economic independence through empowerment programmes.
- Ending Gender Based Violence and violence directed at women, including focus on causes of violence including ending trafficking of women.
- Addressing gender roles and cultural practices that discriminate women for example Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), early marriages, denying women rights to work, education among others.
- Addressing gender-based barriers in society including harmful cultural practices.
- Addressing policy and legal reforms to end discriminatory practices against women and girls.
- Enabling under 5 years to attend learning, track health and psychosocial well -being.
- Addressing women literacy levels and especially the rate of youth and adults in formal and informal education (VTCs)
- Development of infrastructure that is friendly to women in all the sectors of intervention that disproportionately affect women, girls and children.
- Existence of legal frameworks to promote and enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex. Programmes, laws and policies that are directly focused on the girl child and protecting children or availing education to them.
- Promoting gathering of accurate institutional gender responsive data collection and remittance to KNBS.

1.9 Choosing assessment performance indicators for the study

The women and girl's empowerment measurement will be in three specific areas: -

- i. Integration of women and men's concerns in the development process / agenda.
- ii. Specific activities to empower women and girls.
- iii. Measures taken to benefit men and women with long terms impact to free women from the bondage of patriarchy.

The assessment looked at the following aspects.

- i) Interventions to address women's practical needs i.e. new skills, resources, opportunities or services based on gender roles.
- ii) Increase of opportunity targeting women and men whose goal is to influence or benefit or increase women's role in decision making, opening new frontiers for women, new opportunities for women and getting women out of the traditional roles and providing new skills.
- iii) Creating gender awareness among policy makers with aim to have gender responsive policies that promote gender equality at the institutional level. The organizational culture that promote affirmative action known in Kenya's Constitution as the nor more than two thirds gender rule.

- iv) Where data is not available and with lack of indicators, the finding will be descriptive to the level of the information available on how interventions have contributed to the achievement of gender equality or women's empowerment.

The formulated proposed performance sector specific Indicators for the study are drawn from various gender and women empowerment frameworks.¹¹

Sector	Proposed Indicators
1. Education	<p>ECDE Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal access to girls and boys • Enrolment disaggregated by sex, disabilities etc. • Girls transition rate to PPI • Provision of a hot meal in school. • Recruitment of ECDE teachers by sex. • Construction of ECDE classrooms. • Construction of toilets for boys and girls at the ECDE centres. • Availability of Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) learning materials. • Existence of policy and laws on ECDE programme • Proportion of county budget to ECDE. <p>VTC Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratio of learners by sex, ability, age. • Ratio of instructors by sex and ability. • Type of courses offered for boys and girls. • Institutional requirement for boys and girls. • Bursary offers for girls and women to pursue further education. • Attitudes of boys and girls in accessing VTCs. • Enrollment levels in VTCs over the years based on sex. • Attitude of the community about VTCs and promoting interests of girls. • Provision of learning materials to learners, especially girls. • Cultural aspects that keep girls away from VTCs. • Harmful cultural practices affecting girls. • Proportion of county budgets to VTCs • County continuous reports on education sector disaggregated by sex, age, ability among others. • Women specific programmes at VTC. • Payment of VTC fees. • Level of county literacy for girls compared with boys. • Percentage of women enrolment in VTCs in considered male dominated courses i.e. carpentry, construction, motor mechanics, welding and electrical courses.
2. Water & Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes geared toward improved access of water resources to communities especially for women. • Expanding water infrastructure to domestic and household level. • Improved water resource for sanitation for women in schools, markets and trading centres. • Overall county investment in water and sanitation. • Percentage of households with improved water sources.

¹¹ These indicators have been formulated specifically for this study but borrowed from existing indices nationally, regionally and internationally.

Sector	Proposed Indicators
3. Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of women engaged in agricultural activities. • County support to women farmers programmes. • Level of farm equipment and implements supplied to women farmers. • Support to make farmers. • Women farming in comparison to male farming activities. • Women farmers and access to markets. • Gender issues identified in farming. • Land ownership and access. • Provision of agricultural extension officers by sex. • Recruitment of agricultural extension officers by sex. • Women and livestock extension services officers by sex. • Women in fishing services by sex. • Agricultural programme supporting women. • Women and support to kitchen gardens • Women and increase in agriculture production. • Women and adaptation and mitigation due to climate change. • Total budget progressively in the agriculture sector.
4. Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs geared towards improved health of women and children. • Programs towards reduction of child and maternal mortality. • Hospital infrastructure to improve accessibility. • Free maternal and childcare services. • Any county insurance support plan besides National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). • Increase in health seeking behavior. • Increase in facility-based deliveries, • Improved nutritional status of children. • Support for HIV positive women and households.
5. Urban Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of gazetted urban areas and population by sex • Level of rural to urban settlement (KNBS Statistics). • Urbanization and disproportionate consequences to women and girls. • Women and access to services i.e. housing, water and sanitation, drainage, electricity, solid waste services, education, health and social services. • Street lighting programmes. • Violence against women in urban setting. • Women and use of public spaces. • Women and access to markets and sanitation. • Women in slums / low income and their participation in the development agenda. • Understanding of gender issues in urban planning and design. • Gender responsive policies in urban planning. • Implementation of gender responsive urbanization. • Total budget on gender in urban planning. • Gender related challenges from process of urbanization and how counties have resolved them. • Level of women and men engage in development agenda. • Public participation.
6. Governance in Gender Equality and Empowerment of women and Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting the Gender constitutional quota, not more than two third gender rule. • Level of county representation disaggregated by sex, age and ability in decision-making. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) County Executives. ii) County Assemblies. • Level of representation at the national level as compared to the County population by sex.

1.10 The Structure of the Report

The report draws from the desk review and evidence gathered from county visits and extensive research and consultations with county officials, select county-based stakeholders and gender experts at the national and county levels.

Chapter 1 provides the background information on the study. It sets out the study objectives, approach and methodology. It contextualizes the study, provides study limitations and sets the stage through literature review as an opportunity for understanding the study objectives. It establishes the assessment proposed performance measure indicators for the identified variables. These was an extra learning opportunity that has made the report possible.

Chapter 2 gives the summarized findings and study recommendations for all the counties based on the general findings.

Chapter 3 delves into county specific results-findings and provides recommendations across all the select thematic sectors, identifying achievements and challenges. It provides county specific recommendations to make the sectors gender responsive.

Chapter 4 presents the definition of the gender terms used in the study.

Chapter 5 provides the references of the materials used for the research and findings.





2.0. THE STUDY FINDINGS: AND RECCOMENDATIONS: SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS AND IMPACT

2.1. Overall Sector Thematic Specific Findings

The assessment of the impact of devolution on women and girls presents a mix of gains and challenges alike across all the 14 counties and in select thematic areas.

1. Education: Enrollment rates have sharply increased owing to robust investment in infrastructure and human resources by all counties.

In 2021 Enrolment in pre-primary 1 and 2 increased marginally to 2,845.3 thousand, with enrolment of boys being **1,422,247** while that of girls is **1,423,018**. There are 46, 671 pre-primary schools, with the number of trained teachers being 68,599 (Male=11,225, Female=57,374). In 2013 there were 2,465,605 learners (M=1,230,593, F=1,235,012), 83,814 teachers (M=13,854, F=69,960), and 40,145 pre-primary school institutions.

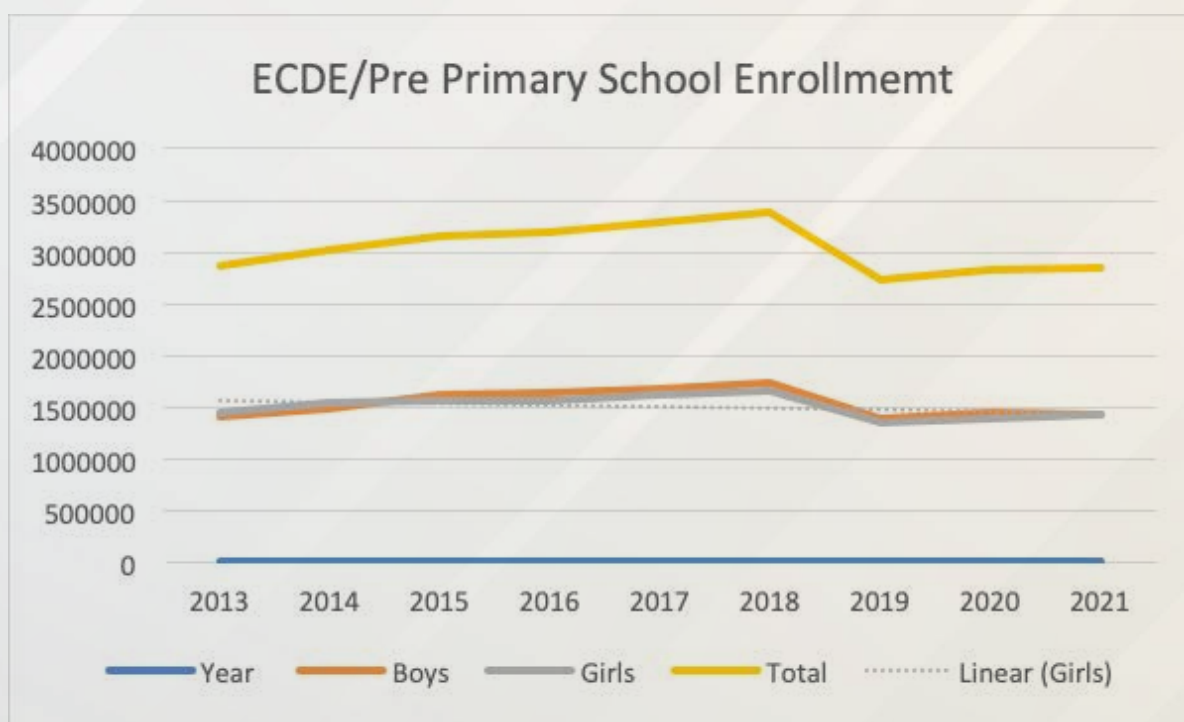


Figure 1: ECDE/Pre-Primary School Enrollment

In the 14 counties, there are 6,512 centers, 10,086 teachers and 252,960 learners. The motivation of ECDE teachers has been enhanced through implementation of the scheme of service with 10 counties out of the 14 at various phase of are implementing the scheme of service. The morale of pupils is high as interventions to keep them in school when faced with unpredictable circumstances are consistent and predictable including but not limited to school feeding programmes, availing of learning materials and aids and also playing equipment.

There has been sustained support to the youth, with 1,156 public VTCs in place up from 701 (2013) and an enabling environment for 88 private VTCs which were 29 (2016).

2. Health: There is enhanced provision of health services in different counties owing to sustained resource allocation averaging 30% of the total county budgets.

There is a concerted effort in infrastructure development and human resource deployment. This has consequently reduced the out-of-pocket expenses, the walking distances and waiting time for women and girls at facilities. Whereas Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) were noted as critical link in promoting healthy behaviours and extending the reach of county health referral system, there is still lack of a mechanism for motivating and retaining them. At national level, the country currently has 86,025 out of an expected 103,783 CHVs giving a gap of 17,763 (17%) . There is a need for

enhanced government concern on the welfare of the CHVs and also on all cadres of health workers. This will reduce the disquiet felt across the fraternity resulting in protracted industrial protests within the course of implementation of devolved healthcare occasioned by low pay, lack of career progression path and poor working conditions.

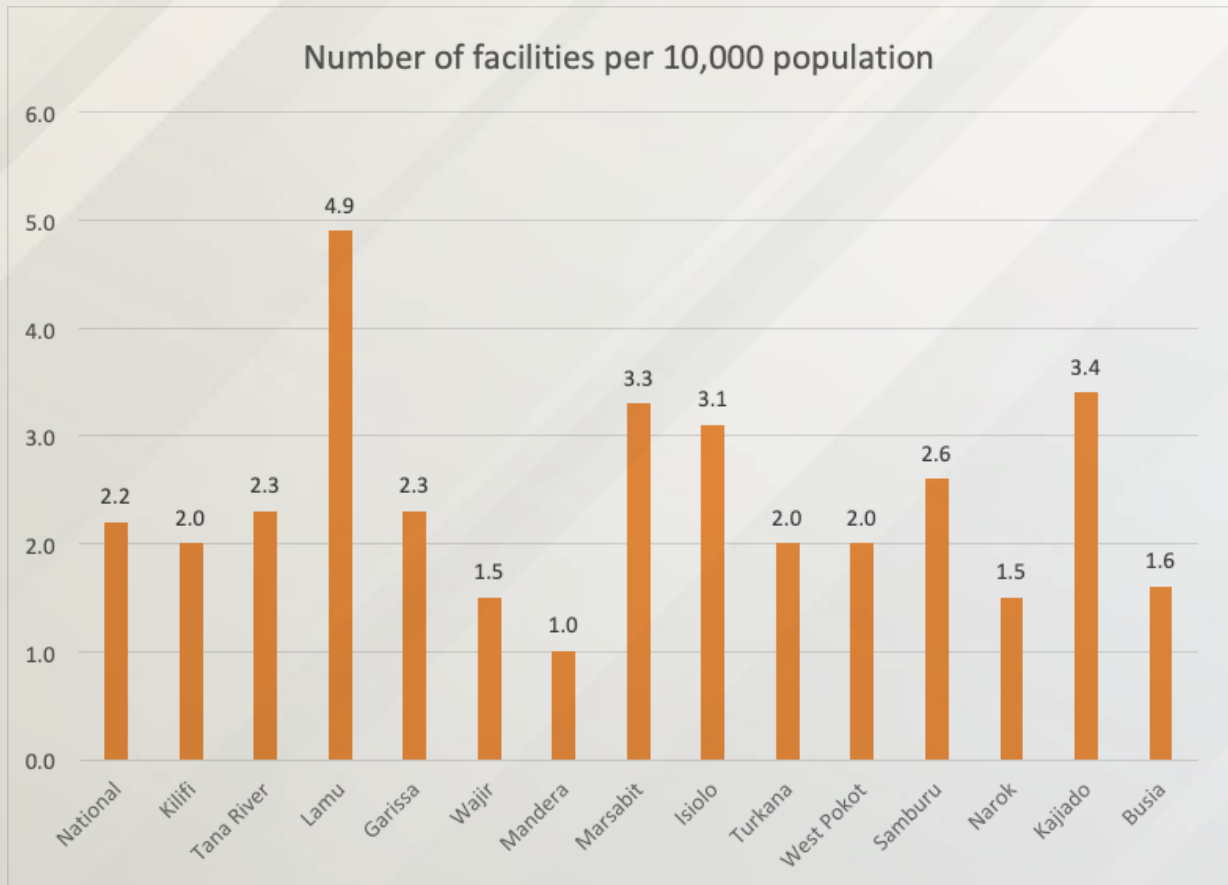


Figure22: Number of facilities per 10,000 population

The significant progress in improving certain indicators has been reflected at the County level, but the 14 counties still lag behind compared to their peers and from the national average lenses. For instance, at national level, between the 2003 and 2014 (KDHS), under-five mortality declined from 115 to 52 per 1,000 live births, with the infant mortality rate dropping from 77 to 39 per 1,000 live births. The percentage of fully immunized children rose from 57 to 79% over the same period. The proportion of mothers who reported receiving antenatal care from a skilled health provider increased from 88 percent to 96 percent between 2003 and 2014. The national average in proportion of births attended in hospitals has increased from 65.3% in 2015 to 85.7% in 2019. Consequently, the Maternal Mortality has declined from 414 to 362 per 100,000 live births between 2003 and 2014.

3. Access to safe water and sanitation: Access to these resources has substantially improved in all the 14 counties within the last

decade. Increases have been attributed to improved investments in water resources in Urban areas through establishment of water service providers and in rural areas through partnerships aimed at rehabilitating, maintaining, and establishing protected and non-protected water sources. Water coverage currently stands at 59% in urban and urbanizing areas covered by Water Service Providers up from 47% in 2010. The effort required to ensure accessibility would even be greater considering that WSPs currently serves only 49% of the national population. Sewered sanitation is currently available to only about 3.9 million people in 26 counties. Sewerage coverage currently stands at 17%. It will be noted that access to sewerage services has been declining with a figure of 19% having been recorded in 2010 due to increased urbanization occasioned by devolution.

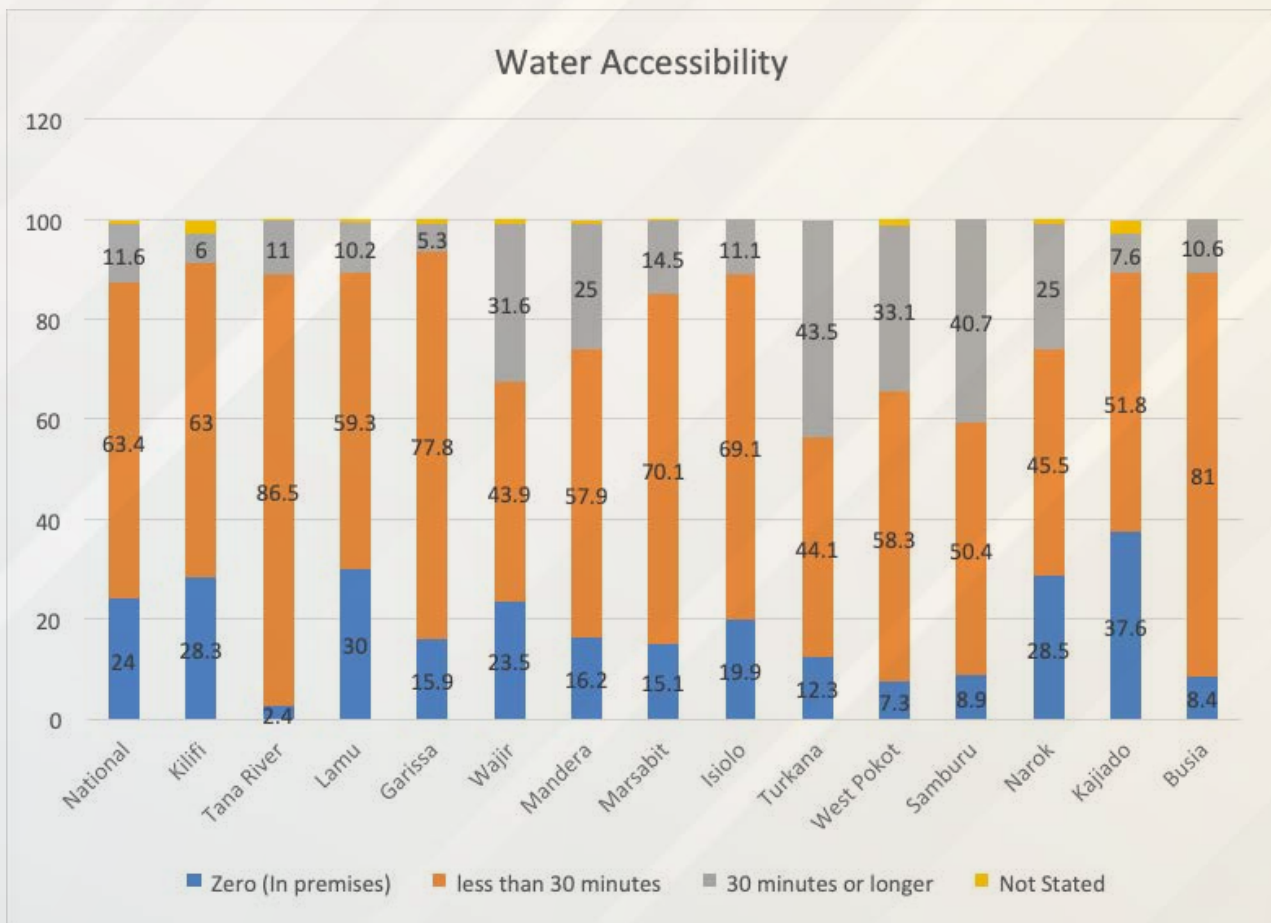


Figure 33: Water accessibility

A comparison of access to improved sanitation facilities in 14 counties against the national averages in 2009 and 2019 highlights the inequality of access. In 2009, the national average was 65%, which in 2019 has increased to 82.2%. From the findings, we can conclude that although the counties have witnessed increased access to improved sanitation facilities with the increasing population, they are still far behind the national average. This can be attributed to the slow progress in scaling up sanitation services in response to the needs of the population.

4. Agriculture: There is improved agricultural outputs through provision of farm inputs for example seeds and fertilizer and availability of technical advice from the agriculture extension workers. However, the envisioned increase in income from agriculture is yet to be realized. Agricultural extension services in the county have limited reach; county government extension officers, while well trained and experienced, are too few to effectively cater to the needs of producers in the county.

The sector has mixed fortunes with a contraction of 0.1 per cent in 2021 compared to a growth of 5.2 per cent in 2020. At the inception of devolution, the sector had a growth of 3.8 per cent in 2012 compared to a suppressed growth of 1.5 per cent in 2011. This can be attributed to erratic and poorly distributed long rains as well as inadequate short rains and pestilences such as the locust invasion.

5. Urban Planning: There has been establishment of municipalities to enhance provision of services in urban areas, providing services that has targeted safety and security of women i.e. street lighting. The subsequent resource allocation has led to improved turn around in response to demand for social services owing to increased urbanization in majority of business hubs located across the 47 Counties. There is improved service delivery in the urban setting through spatial plans that has improved infrastructure including increased services like street lighting, market development among others.

Findings on Impact of Devolution on Women and Girls based on Theory of Gender Mainstreaming

6. Lack of a gender tools to guide implementation of gender mainstreaming i.e. Gender Action Plan (GAP) or gender strategy

There is limited and scanty information on progress made to develop the gender system to coordinate the implementation of the gender mainstreaming at the county levels. The tools are a first step towards gender mainstreaming. In absence of the implementation framework, it is challenging to measure effectiveness of the response based on ad hoc programming that lacks gender performance indicators. The National Gender Policy adopted in 2019, has not been internalized by the counties. Further the gender intergovernmental relationship agreement adopted in 2019 vide the consultative framework on gender between the national and county governments has not been disseminated and counties were unaware of its existence and contents.

7. Lack of Gender Responsive Indicators: There are no gender or women inclusion indicators established at commencement of devolution in 2013. There are no mechanisms for accountability on inclusion and diversity programming in counties. Gender mainstreaming is by default rather by design at county level planning and budgeting cycle. Despite the existence of national level and select county level policies, laws, legislative reforms, plans and programmes, gender disparities still exist at all levels. In terms of planning and budgeting, there are minimal specific gender responsive measures/indicators set by counties and incorporated into the design and implementation in the select thematic areas.

8. Limited expertise in gender mainstreaming and inclusion in programming: Inclusion programmes are technical and the gender expertise is limited for most counties under study. County officers leading the gender departments lack the necessary skills and expertise to design and implement gender responsive or women and girls specific programmes. There is limited guidance on gender responsive programming. Although some counties have appointed officers to lead the gender departments, the counties have failed to provide the gender officers with capacity building trainings to guide gender mainstreaming processes in all county sector specific interventions.

9. Non- availability of budgets for implementing gender and women interventions: Inclusion programming require availability of budgets for effective implementation. County leadership has not provided the required political good will to embrace gender responsive budgeting (GRB) to allow identified and itemized budgets toward gender mainstreaming and promoting targeted women and girls' interventions. There is lack of understanding of gender and the techniques of gender mainstreaming through budgets in county interventions. While the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) developed Gender Responsive

Guidelines for national government in 2013 with review in 2018, that included county governments, these have not been embraced by counties under study.

10. Dealing with gender and inclusion issues as 'add on' and substantial interventions: Gender integration and inclusion of women and girls in the county programming are considered as "add ons" activities and are not budgeted for at all or adequately. Counties experience limited exposure to gender mainstreaming tools and development of gender plans and unavailability of annual monitoring tools for measuring progress.

Affirmative action not understood by county officials and not embraced: The importance of programming for only women and girls is questioned by actors as being discriminatory against men and boys. Affirmative action is not well understood and county leadership proceeds with gender blind programmes.

11. Gender continuous assessment and reward schemes not considered as a powerful tool towards gender mainstreaming: Counties have not taken initiatives to continuously assess their design and programming on women and girls and gender mainstreaming with a possibility of rewarding exemplary sector performance and document the best practices. Counties experienced challenges in identifying their best interventions in terms of creating high impacts on women and girls.

12. Counties lack the ability and capacity to collect gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex, age, ability among other variables. There is limited information on how to provide institutional data by counties to facilitate reporting by KNBS on matters gender. There are no set indicators for counties to undertake comparability studies between each other to determine how they compare. Further, there is unclear relationship between the counties and the KNBS as the principal statistical body based at the national level. The recent move by KNBS to establish the office of the County Statistical Officer is awaited to strengthen institutional data collection.

13. Weak Reporting guidelines on Gender Performance Contracting: Both the national and county governments are required to provide quarterly reports on how they are implementing the performance contracts within the gender sector. There is no single county that has submitted its report to NGEC and State Department of Gender for analysis and ranking.

14. Non-adoption and use of the Sessional Paper No. 2 of 2019 on National Policy on Gender and Development: The policy framework was only adopted in 2019. However there has been weak dissemination of the same at county levels to embrace suggested systematic framework to achieve gender equality and empower women and strengthen affirmative action to address gender inequalities. Few counties had knowledge of its existence and

only few have adopted county gender policy adopting the national framework.

15. Overreliance on support from Civil Society Organization (CSOs) on matters gender and women: Most county interventions and support on women and gender programmes are mainly by non-State actors including private citizens and Foundations, who use their resources to undertake interventions. The counties mainly get invited in such activities but not as equal partners. Accountability in terms of implementation get compromised in such situations. CSOs mainly report interventions and results directly to their donors and are not under any obligation to share the reports with the concerned county. Where data is collected by non-State actors, KNBS has no guidelines on its admissibility as citizen generated data. Therefore, while numerous studies on women and girls including gender impact are undertaken, the findings cannot be used by the KNBS because of lack of regulations to guide such admissibility.

16. Data collection is vital for timely reporting, monitoring and evaluation and tracking the progress in delivery of the devolution promise. There are gaps in constructing the pre-2013 baseline data since most of the data tools did not conform immediately to the model of devolution as set out in the enactment of the Constitution. A culture of timely data collection and openness in sharing must be incubated and cultivated as we move to the next stage of devolution.

17. There is no established criteria for setting up a simple functional performance monitoring index for gender suitable for country functions. The national state machineries, thus the State Department of Gender and the NGEC have not facilitated the county planning and gender units to set up and agree on composite indices of gender inequality as a criterion for such measures. Counties face challenges choosing gender indices, attaining the necessary capacity of usage and measuring interventions for women and girls.

2.2. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE STUDY

1. Create a strong Gender Department with adequate staff and budget provisions for enhanced gender mainstreaming and inclusive programming towards improved service delivery in all the County Departments.

Every county to establish a well-resourced Gender Department in terms of human and financial resources. This will enable the county governments to comply with the gender equality, diversity and inclusivity principles provided by the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and the County Government Act 2012. This is in respect of the no more than two-third gender rule in representation and gender integration into the development agenda and in promotion and protection of the interest and rights of minorities, marginalized groups and communities including women, the youth and other disadvantaged members of the community.

Improved county services mainly targeting women and girls and other marginalized groups cannot be achieved through “a magic bullet”. Gender mainstreaming is complex process that requires constant capacity building, monitoring and accountability at all levels of government for effective results. This requires strong well-resourced gender and inclusion department that is responsible for implementation, facilitation and coordination of the integration of gender issues.

2. Improved Capacities of Gender Departments as county coordination Mechanisms to mainstream and integrate gender into all the development agenda in all county thematic areas of focus.

All the gender departments were at different levels of implementing gender programmes. Notably, most county gender officers lacked capacity and knowledge in the following areas that are key for effective realization of devolved functions and decentralization.

- Gender mainstreaming and integration as a cross cutting issues in the county development agenda.
- Gender Responsive Budgeting.
- Gender planning, monitoring, accountability and evaluation.
- Gender statistics and gender responsive data.

3. Improved Coordination and Capacity through Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting by training the County Officers responsible for Planning and Finance and all Heads of Departments on Gender mainstreaming and its importance in Planning, implementation and monitoring results in all planned interventions and in reporting results.

County departments to support a strong gender coordination mechanism that will bring together all Heads of Department for joint planning and effective joint monitoring and providing gender data and statistics for joint reporting. Further that county governments to appoint gender focal point persons from every department to facilitate integration of gender in every thematic area that is devolved. The gender focal points once appointed should undergo enhanced training in Gender and Gender Mainstreaming and be provided with clear Terms of Reference for engagement.

4. Develop and disseminate Gender Tools for Effective Gender Mainstreaming in Programming to enhance Implementation and Monitoring Progress and Reporting on identified Gender Indicators including Reporting on the Gender Performance Contracting indicators.

County governments displayed weakness in having county strategic policy intervention plans. A few counties had adopted gender policies but not disseminated the same i.e. Kajiado and Narok. The National Gender Policy of 2019 require to be disseminated for adoption by counties. County governments require support to

finalize and adopt the varied gender planning and implementation tools to guide implementation. The tools include:

- i) Gender policy.
- ii) Gender strategy plan
- iii) Gender Action Plans.

The gender tools are important in recognition of gender as cross cutting issues in all the county devolved functions. The gender department can only effectively coordinate planned interventions with budgets. Allocated for implementation.

5. Promote Planning and Implementation through Establishing Gender Responsive Sector Baselines and Developing Tools for Reporting Progress through the use of Gender Statistics and Sex disaggregated Data.

The county governments will provide capacity to the county economic planners, sector thematic leads, monitoring officers, county statisticians, and budget officers on gender mainstreaming, planning, implementation and coordination within their sectors in acknowledging the cross-cutting nature of gender right from planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and reporting of thematic results with gender lens.

6. Foster partnership and collaboration and coordination mechanisms for gender and inclusion support for accountability through adoption of a participatory gender action plan (GAP). The county governments need to have a well-structured and coordinated manner of working with its partners. The partners include development partners, private sector, civil society organizations (CSOs) among others.

The **Gender Action Plan (GAP)** will identify county gender priorities, all players working on matters gender and inclusion at the county level and establish an engagement plan with private actors that will focus on the county gender needs mapping out the relevant actors. The essence of this is to avoid county government allowing ad hoc interventions by partners that may not be a priority to the county.

Further, that results of such engagement will be measurable and that the county will be in the driver's seat of coordination to determine the required gender support and to channel such support to the needy women and girls, within the county in an equitable manner to ensure effective gender mainstreaming and sustainability.

7. The county needs to enhance its strategy to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls through a participatory engagement with communities of women and girls to establish their actual needs and provide informed interventions for lasting and sustainable solutions.

Women's voice has been a critical voice and both women and girls are playing a crucial role in the devolution process. Counties should continue to play a key role in empowering women and protecting the most vulnerable among them in the society, specifically by:

- addressing the cultural beliefs that restrict women's participation through awareness creation, sensitization, and capacity building,
- by changing the legal and institutional frameworks that prevent equal participation,
- and by shifting patterns of power by integrating gender considerations across sectors, and development programs to transform the systems that enable women to transform their own lives and that of their communities especially in health sector.

There are many financial empowerment programmes at the national government level for example Women Enterprise Fund, Youth Enterprise Fund, Uwezo Fund and funds for persons with severe disabilities, and thus the need to avoid duplication.

To this end, the county governments requires to enhance women and girl's participation through a participatory approach with women, women groups, girls and other stakeholders to leverage on the existing resources, knowledge and information to enhance participation of women and girls in county programmes and projects.

8. Promoting Gender Statistics and disaggregated data; The county governments to consider development of gender responsive indicators to capture gender statistics.

Counties lack the ability and capacity to collect data disaggregated by sex, age, ability among other variables.

There is also limited information on how to provide raw institutional data to Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) from counties on matters gender. There are also no indicators for counties to undertake comparability studies between counties to determine how they compare with one another.

9. County Government should consider gender continuous assessment and reward schemes as a powerful tool towards gender mainstreaming.

Counties have not taken initiatives to continuously assess their design and programming on women and girls and gender mainstreaming with a possibility of rewarding exemplary sector performance and document the best practices. Counties experienced challenges in identifying their best interventions in terms of creating high impacts on women and girls. Counties may consider having a gender day celebration, proposed to be on the international day for women on 8th March of every year to undertake the assessment and reward the best performing department in supporting women and girls throughout the year.



Figure 6: Inside Kilifi New Born Unit

3.0. COUNTY IMPACT ANALYSIS ON DEVOLUTION TO WOMEN AND GIRLS

Using the established criteria, each county is subjected to analysis based on its planning tools and operations.

3.1. BUSIA COUNTY

Busia is the 7th smallest county in Kenya, measuring 1,696 Km². The 2009 population census estimated Busia to have **743,946** with females numbering **387,824 (52.13%)** and the males numbering **356,122 (47.87%)** respectively. The total population has since increased to **893,252** comprising of **426,252 male and 467,401 female and approximately 28 intersex persons**¹³. There are about 39,196 (5%) persons with disabilities. The county has a population density of 527 people per Km². It borders the counties of Kakamega, Bungoma and Siaya. Part of Lake Victoria is in the County on the South East and borders the Lake with the Republic of Uganda to the west. The county poverty level is estimated at 69.3%.¹⁴

Majority of its population live in the rural area with population of 779,928 (87%) while the urban setting has 113,753 people (13%). The urban settlement is cosmopolitan. The county has 2 gazetted

municipalities, namely Busia and Malaba. Busia is endowed with rich and diverse culture. It is a border town and experiences great cross border trade where men and women engage. Its inhabitants are majority from the Luhya, Teso and Luo and a few from other communities. The county has 7 sub counties namely Bunyala, Busia, Butula, Nambale, Samia, Teso North and Teso South. The Luhya is the largest ethnic group.

Women in Busia are engaged mainly in reproductive roles (domestic chores) and also engage in subsistence farming and trade. The division of labour within the community assigns women the role of being responsible for domestic chores. Women are smallholder farmers and also deal in livestock and bee keeping thus participating in productive, reproductive and social spheres. Busia has had several incidences of defilement, rape and other forms of violence against women cases reported to the police and prosecution commenced. Incidences of gender-based violence (GBV) sometimes go unreported. Women and girls occasionally get exposed to violence that limits their achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Below is current statistics for women representation in Busia County.

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Elected MCAs		32	3
Nominated MCA		0	16
CECMs		7	3
Chief Officers		11	5
Directors		26	4

a) Institutional Gender Governance Framework

The county does not have a gender policy nor any strategy promoting gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. However, the county has undertaken several programmes since inception that promote activities for women and girls either specifically or through all inclusive programming.

Inclusion of Gender/Women issues.

The review brings forth gender and women issues. The focus was on existence of any harmful cultural practices, high poverty levels among women, high unemployment levels, high inequalities between men and women, increased incidents of child abuse, low participation of women in decision-making.

Strategies of empowering women and girls in the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs).

The first Busia County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), 2013-2017 documented the priority areas of focus for women to be addressed. Issues of women and gender were situated within the department of Community Development Sports, Culture and Social Services for purpose of implementation and coordination. Gender was considered a cross cutting issue. The identified violations were as follows:

- Discriminatory and retrogressive cultural practices (early and child marriages).
- Violation of children's rights.
- Gender Based Violence (GBV) including rape and defilement.
- Violations directed to persons with disabilities (PWDs), especially women.

¹³ EKNBS 2019 Census

¹⁴ KIHBS 2015/16

- Women lack of resources.
- Limited opportunity of women, PWDs and Youth in accessing credit.
- Misconception of gender and women empowerment.
- Negative cross-border effects and sexually transmitted diseases.
- Feminization of poverty.
- HIV/AIDS stereotypes targeting women.
- Women vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.

The county commitments: The first CIDP envisioned provisions of high-quality services to the residents through equitable resource distribution. The county planned to deal with gender equality and empowerment of women as a cross cutting issues. The county outlined its gender disadvantages in **three dimensions** namely **reproductive health, empowerment and labour market**. The county was cognizant of responsibility to reduce gender disparities to achieve sustainable economic growth. Apart from mainstreaming gender in the development agenda and appreciating, the inequalities that exist, the county did not put in place any women empowerment direct interventions and thus failed to allocate any implementation budgets.

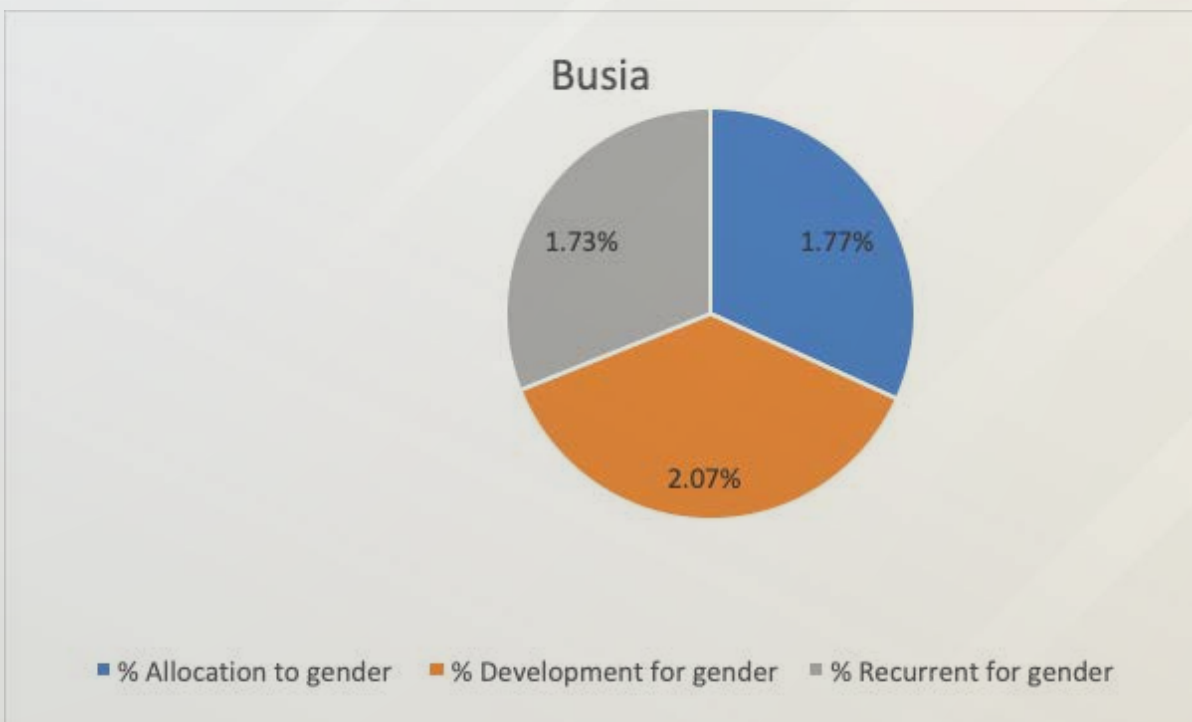
Revenue collection and Budgets

At the onset of devolution, in the FY 2013/14, the County received Kshs.3.4 billion as the national equitable share, collected Kshs.329 million from local sources, and had Kshs.51.1 million as balance

brought forward from FY 2012/13. The funds released to the County during the period under review amounted to Kshs.2.9 billion of which Kshs.2.2 billion (74.8 per cent) was meant for recurrent expenditure while Kshs.735 million (25.2 per cent) was for development expenditure.

During implementation of the first CIDP, the county received a total of Ksh. 32.91 billion with Ksh. 26.7 as equitable shares. In the same period, the government budget for KSh. 880.77 million as grants but only received 616.24 million. The County adopted electronic payment that boosted the monitoring system that increased own source revenue. The county received Ksh. 2,234.94 billion under this head. During this period 2013 – 2017, the total budget under the department responsible for Gender, Community Development, Gender, Culture and Social Services was Ksh 0.694 billion, with an actual expenditure of Ksh 0.490 billion, representing a 70.61% absorption capacity.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.6.11 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.761.84 million as conditional grants, and raised Kshs.322.56 million as own-source revenue. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.7.19 billion. However, in its allocation and utilization, there is no direct allocation to gender related or women and girls’ specific interventions to address the identified gender challenges women issues.



Proportional allocation to department responsible for Gender in Busia County

The department responsible for Gender was allocated 1.77% budget, the second lowest in the County.

The Second CIDP, 2018-2022 had a programme on mainstreaming gender, youth and PWDs and environmental issues. These were considered as cross cutting issues and put programmatically under the office of the Governor. The projects proposed for women and youth are geared towards empowerment. The county identified women priority needs to be addressed. The gender focal person working jointly with the gender officer from the National Government have established a Gender Technical Working Group that has its membership drawn from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other non-state actors.

The consultations with Busia County officials and beneficiaries who included women leaders, CSOs and private actors, noted the achievements and challenges below.

Achievements

- The first county government through its gender unit engaged in capacity building programmes for women and girls.
- Undertook public education in schools on the rights of the girl's child.
- Promoted gender mainstreaming programmes with support of CSOs and development partners.

Challenges

- Many stakeholders did not participate in the development of the CIDPs, ADPs and the annual budgets that were undertaken without inclusive participation of the most vulnerable.
- The CIDPs and ADPs failed to include women empowerment strategic measures.
- Gender mainstreaming was not considered as an implementation strategy in the two CIDPs.
- No budget was allocated for programmes geared towards empowerment of women and girls.
- The county programmes have not enabled women to get out of poverty.
- The high levels of teenage pregnancy, violence against women and high dropout rates of girls from schools has not been fully addressed by the county.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

The Busia County has the Department of Health and Sanitation. The Consultative Management is through the County Health Management Team. The county has 81 sub-county health facilities with Busia County Referral Hospital being the highest in line of providing services. The County Health Budget is divided between General Administration and support services, curative health services and preventative. Great amounts of the budget go to administrative and support services (90.5%).

Achievements

- Developed and completed its accident and emergency blocks at the Busia County Referral Hospital.
- Completion of maternity and newborn unit at Port Victoria Hospital in Bunyala.
- Started construction of Mother to Child Hospital as part of attaining the Universal Health Care (UHC) Programme.
- Developed and passed Health Sector Services Funding Act in 2015 to facilitate service delivery.
- Under UHC, recruited more new health care officers.
- There is decline in facility based maternal deaths due to improved uptake of skilled deliveries.
- There is 46.5% of contraceptive acceptance by women aged 18 years and above.
- Purchased several hospital equipment including hospital and delivery beds.
- Got support from World Bank to strengthen health services including Reproductive Maternal Newborn Care and Health Services (RMNCAH) interventions.
- Every sub-county has a maternity facility making services closer to women.
- Promotion of Linda Mama (National Government Programme) to encourage facility deliveries.
- There are 51% skilled delivery workers, which has improved over a period of time.
- Purchased 7 ambulances.
- Constructed drug warehouses.
- Invested in menstrual hygiene programme.
- High percentage of HIV pregnant women receiving ARVs.
- Over 2000 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) have been recruited and placed on a monthly stipend of KSh. 2,000/=.
- The County has put systems in health facilities to deal with cases of Gender Based Violence (GBV).
- Family Planning Clinics are well stocked.
- Undertook massive capacity building programme to increase registration of National Health Insurance Fund Coverage (NHIF).

Challenges

- There is low male participation in family planning services.
- Men have poor health seeking habits that impact women and girls.
- Young girls and some adult women continue to engage in transactional sex promoted by the truck drivers who park in Busia and Malaba towns waiting to cross the border to Uganda.
- The county facilities occasionally suffer stock outs of drugs and family planning commodities.
- High levels of teenage/child pregnancy and marriages.
- Some health facilities have no water.
- CHVs are not on the county payroll.
- Busia referral hospital is congested.
- There is still a high level of home deliveries due to some

prevailing social cultural and economic factors preventing women to reach hospitals including distance and limited resources.

- Dispensaries occasionally have stock-outs of equipment and medicines, forcing patients to purchase.
- The maternity wards lack enough delivery beds.
- The Referral Hospital has few female wards.
- The menstrual hygiene programme requires collaboration between health care practitioners and school authorities to enhance capacity and sensitize girls on correct usage and disposal methods.
- About 31% of children below 5 years are malnourished while 26.5% are stunted due to poverty levels.

B. Education

Education in the county is coordinated by the Department of Education and Vocational Training. Busia County has invested in Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) Centres and Technical Vocational and Training (VTC) as per the devolution mandate. At the end of 2017, the County had 919 ECDE Centres attached to primary schools.

(i) ECDE

The County recruited 439 ECDE teachers between 2013-2017. The teacher pupil ratio stands at 1:100. In 2018, the pre-school population was 71,519. The county has reported high rate of transition from ECDE to primary across the sub-counties.

Achievements

- Improved infrastructure through construction of classrooms and toilets.
- Recruitment of teachers. High percentage of females recruited.
- Private schools have also been allowed to set up ECDE Centers for parents able to pay.
- Private investors have put-up child-care centers.
- Some ECDEs have infrastructure to accommodate children with disabilities. (15 such ECDE) established).
- County provides learning equipment's in all the centres.
- County has provided play equipment i.e., swings, balls.
- some chairs/desks have been provided.
- ECDE teachers are trained by the county.
- The ECDE Act is in place to guide implementation at this level.

Challenges

- Due to budget constraints, the teachers recruited are not enough.
- Some learners sit on the floor.
- The County is unable to offer any meals to the learners. Parents are requested to contribute to facilitate children to have hot porridge while in school.

- The ECDE centres are constructed without provision of flowing water for hygiene and sanitation.
- Parents continue to hide children with disabilities at home.
- Challenges of delinking ECDE from primary schools that are under National Government management.

(ii) VTC

Achievements

- Established a total of 25 VTCs institutions to date.
- A total of 37 Trainers have been recruited.
- The county Government inherited dilapidated village polytechnics and have revamped them.
- Improved infrastructure to accommodate boys and girls.
- County in process of building ablution blocks to make environment safer for learners.
- County has subsidized the fees and purchased leaning materials.
- Several courses are offered for learners to choose. However, girls always opt for female traditional courses i.e., foods and nutrition, hairdressing and tailoring.
- Developed and passed the VTC policy to guide implementation.
- The county has facilitated adoption of Busia County Vocational Training Act of 2021 and are now developing regulations to guide implementation.

Challenges

- Learners have failed to embrace VTC programmes.
- Parents and pupils have negative attitudes in accessing VTC education.
- Some parents are unable to pay the subsidized cost of learning.
- Girls get pregnant and have to get a break to attend to motherly roles.
- There are a few tutors recruited.
- Some VTCs centres have very poor infrastructure.
- County needs to engage more with learners and parents and guardians on the courses offered.
- Learners require career advice to choose courses carefully.
- There is delay in payment of teacher's salary who get disillusioned.
- Limited promotional and advocacy programme to encourage increased enrolment and retention of girls.
- Non-teaching staff delayed salaries.
- Poor retention of learners.
- Non-availability of baby care centres in the facilities to accommodate young mothers enrolling.
- Learners prefer the National Government Programme – Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Programme (KYEO). The KYEO attaches the learners to a skilled trainer and pay them Ksh. 6,000/= monthly for six months.
- Poor market absorption when the trainees completes the courses.

C. Water and Sanitation

The Department of Water, Environment and National Resources is mandated to deal with matters water. Since inception of devolution, the department has achieved the following: -

- Increased distribution of piped water by 150 kms.
- Rehabilitated 120 hand pumps and 70 shallow wells and 35 springs for domestic use.
- Constructed solar powered boreholes.
- Rehabilitated water catchment areas.
- Purchased 7 water bowsers to facilitate water distribution in the county.

Challenges

- Scarcity of water in Busia both in urban and rural areas.
- The schools lack protected of water sources.
- Women and girls walk long distances in search of water for domestic use.
- A few schools have sunk boreholes.
- The county water purifier broke down and has not been replaced compromising the quality of water being used at domestic level.
- Lack of clean toilets for public use. In urban areas, Youth have taken the cleaning of toilets as a business venture charging Ksh. 10/= for every use.
- Public toilets in town centres have filled up but not emptied.
- New markets constructed lack clean toilets and water for hygiene and sanitation.
- Girls and women lack facilities for menstrual towel disposal.

D. Agriculture

Busia County enjoys good climate for agriculture. Farmers have been facilitated to access farming equipment and seeds. The county has made great progress in agriculture. The department of Agriculture and Animal Resources comprises 3 sections namely Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

Achievements

- bought tractors for use by farmers at subsidized costs.
- supply of subsidized farm inputs to the farmers.
- established an Agricultural Development Fund, accessed by farmers as loans. Including women.
- Recruitment of agriculture extension service officers (male & female) across the County has boosted services to the farmers.
- Continuous capacity building to farmers (male & female).

Challenges

- There is low capacity on animal husbandry and fish rearing.
- Recurrent droughts make farming unpredictable and poses challenges on food security.
- Youth and women are challenged to engage in dairy and fish farming.
- Women do not fish but smoke the fish for sale and are at mercy of fishermen who occasionally demand sex for fish.

E. Urban Planning

The county has developed its Spatial Development Plan and has invested in its two municipalities. Urban Planning is in the Department of Lands, Housing and Urban Development. The Department aims to achieve sustainable urban centres by making town and markets inclusive and safe. The towns and markets are hubs for ideas, businesses, productivity and social development. The county has in place an Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (2010-2030), which provides guidelines on the growth of the urban area in order to address the various land use concerns such as environmental, social and economic issues. It has two Gazetted Municipalities, Busia and Malaba Municipalities, established in April 2021. In line with 176 (2), 184 and 209(3) of the Constitution of Kenya and sections 20 and 32 (2) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act and Municipality, the functions of collecting land rates, solid waste management, building approvals, street lights, water and sanitation and billboards have been delegated to the municipalities.

Achievements

- Improved security and living environment especially with lighting within the town centres.
- Defined urban management structures.
- Upgraded urban areas.
- Designed urban Waste solid management.
- Established public utilities.

Challenges

- Inherited poor and uncoordinated development of constructions in the urban centres.
- Street lighting get vandalized.
- Lighting often gets disconnected because of huge bills. This poses insecurity for female traders at night.
- High rise of GBV crimes in towns at night, due to darkness.
- Inadequate and unsafe water supply

F. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration
Gender is not a consideration in Tax Administration in the county. Funds are levied and passed via tabling a County Finance Bill in the county assembly. The county budget projections are not gender sensitive. Gaps exist in the Busia Tax Administration that does not consider affirmative action for women and girls and PWDs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework

The County Government:

- to reconsider and re-establish the Gender Department/ Unit as an an entity with a budget to undertake gender and women empowerment interventions. It will also be responsive for for gender mainstreaming across all the other county sectors. This should be separated from the Gender Advisor position in the office of the Governor.

- ii. Continuously hold systematic consultations with women and girls in communities as key stakeholders identify areas of need and develop strategies to intervene.
 - iii. To develop and adopt a gender policy: The effective implementation of Gender Agenda in the county requires clear gender policy clear budget line and human resources to implement the same.
 - iv. Set Gender Responsive Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators: The indicators will facilitate continuous monitoring and reporting on gender mainstreaming progress including responding to the gender performance indicators requirements by the State Departments of Gender and the National Gender and Equality Commission as gender machinery bodies in the country.
 - v. The Gender Department will also be responsible for providing capacity to all other County Departments and to the County Assembly.
- II. Health**
- i. The County Government needs to put more budget into curative and preventive and promote Health Services.
 - ii. For CHVs to be effective, the county should consider training and facilitating them through monthly stipends.
 - iii. Stock outs can be avoided by proper planning and Budgeting. Poor and vulnerable women and girls must be considered and offered free maternity services.
 - iv. The County should put more resources in public education targeting poor, rural and marginalized women and girls with health and hygiene related information.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- i. There is need to invest in more ECDE Centres close to the community for ease of access by the young learners.
- ii. Make resources available to equip the ECDE classrooms with desks and other necessary equipment.
- iii. Invest more in infrastructure and include construction of more classrooms, toilets and running water including kitchen to make food.
- iv. Invest in a feeding programme for the young learners, considering that those from poor families come to school on hungry stomachs.

ii) VTCS

- i. The county should invest in sensitization programmes within the communities to understand the courses offered in VTCs including the fees requirement.
- ii. The County needs to have targeted intervention for girls and encourage them to consider training in all the courses offered without restrictions.
- iii. Parents must be sensitized to embrace VTC trainings for the learners who qualify.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- i. County to enhance the provision and management of water and sanitation across the sub-counties.
- ii. The youth to be supported to enhance the model paid toilets in urban setting as business ventures.
- iii. Greater investment is required to boost access to protected water resources and hygienic sanitation especially for domestic use and market setting.
- iv. Prioritize access to improved and protected water resource to enhance hygiene for communities especially women and girls at home and in markets.

V. Agriculture

- i. The county should programme and budget to promote agriculture with targeted interventions for women and girls.
- ii. Educate women on their rights to access services provided by the county without sexual harassment and to utilize the subsidies provided by the county to all farmers.
- iii. The county to provide indicators for monitoring agricultural interventions that are disaggregated by sex.

VI. Urban Planning

- i. There is need to implement the Urban plan to address the development and planning challenges that require immediate redress.
- ii. Implement improved urban planning services paying greater attention to the vulnerability of women and girls as traders.
- iii. Work closely with the Kenya Police to combat high crimes including rape and defilement that is on increase in urban centres attributed to poor lighting.
- iv. Consider investment in alternative source of lighting like solar, which may be cheaper and readily accessible to many residents.

VII. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

- i. The county government must consider favorable conditions for exemption from tax in revenue collection.
- ii. Majority of women are engaged in business and need to access banking products. Women are engaged in borrowing from informal groups. The county needs favorable tax administration policies to embrace inclusion in tax administration with a view of giving women a soft entry level of proximity to resources.

G. Best Practice: Mundika Water Supply Project

A water project was identified in Mundika area and visited. The plant was commissioned in 2019 after several months of work under the World Bank-funded Kenya Development Support Programme (KDSP). The construction of the plant required an investment of

Ksh 45 million shillings and supplies 65,000 people, equivalent to 7,500 households, in Matayos and South Teso sub-counties. The Hybrid Solar Pumping System for Mundika Water Supply supplements the normal Kenya Power supply with solar during the day and electricity at night; the average electricity bill for Mundika which was approximately Sh1m per month has been reduced to approximately Sh0.5m per month. This has further had an impact on the price of drinking water distributed to the populations of Matayos and Teso South sub-counties. The hybrid power has also improved reliance, the county has often than not been delayed in settling the bills with Kenya power disconnecting power that pumps water to health facilities, government institutions and homesteads. The project has undertaken pipe extension and installation of assorted control systems at Mundika water supply and construction of elevated steel tank to reduce the walking dsitances for women and girls and made water more accessible at the domestic level and in schools.



3.2. GARISSA COUNTY

Garissa is the 4th largest county in Kenya covering a total of 45, 720.20 km². The county has a population of about 480,146 (M=58,975, F= 382,344 and 34 intersex) up from 623,060(M= 334,939, F=288, 121. Garissa County has 6 sub-counties which include: Fafi, Garissa, Ijara, Lagdera, Balambala and Dadaab. These correspond to constituencies in the County. There are seven administrative units, which include Fafi, Ijara, Dadaab, Garissa, Balambala, Lagdera and Hulugho.

There are 141,394 households with an average size of 5.9 persons per house hold with a population density of 19 persons per Km². The county borders the Republic of Somalia in the

East. The County has hosted refugees for close to 30 years, with statistics showing that the County presently hosts 218,873 refugees . They are mainly hosted in the Dadaab Refugee Complex spread across Ifo, Dagahley and Hagadera camps.

“In Kenya we have local and non-local communities, but with devolution we are all one now.”

A woman FGD discussant in Garissa

The major physical features are seasonal Laghas and the Tana River Basin on the western side. The river has tremendous effect on the climate, settlement patterns and economic activities within the county. Given the arid nature of the county, there is great potential for expansion of agriculture through harnessing of River Tana and Laghas.

The County lies in the arid areas of Kenya, and temperatures are generally high throughout the year and range from 20 C to 38 C.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Below is current statistics for women representation in Garissa County.

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Elected MCA	30	30	0
Nominated MCA	20	1	19
CECMs	10	7	3

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- i) The county has in place the department in charge of gender designated as Gender, Culture, Sports, and Social Services.
- ii) The Garissa county gender policy, has undergone public participation and is currently awaiting consideration by the County Assembly.
- iii) The county has a monitoring and evaluation policy which seeks to place the practice of monitoring and evaluation within the broader government management accountability framework and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all sectors.
- iv) The county is in the process of developing a Gender Socio-Economic Development Bill which will have a special focus on empowering and building the resilience of young girls, youth, women, and special interest groups

- v) In 2017 elections, Ijara constituency in Garissa County made history by electing the first Somali woman Member of Parliament.
- vi) Women remain underrepresented in decision-making in both formal and informal contexts, and that, as a result, gender equality concerns are often neglected.

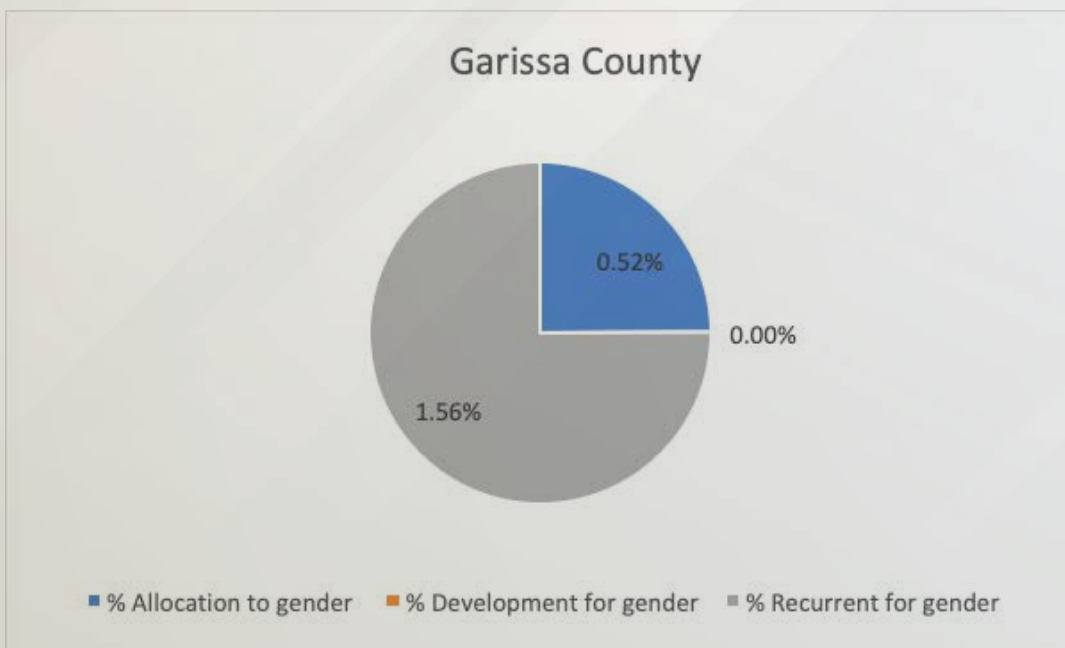
Revenue collection and Budget

At the start of devolution in the 2013/14 financial year, the County had an approved budget of Kshs.4.85 billion consisting of Kshs.3.28 billion (67.6 per cent) for recurrent expenditure, and Kshs.1.57 billion (32.4 per cent) for development expenditure. This budget was to be financed by Kshs.4.41 billion (90.9 per cent) from the national equitable share, Kshs.150.5 million (3.1 per cent) from local revenue, conditional grant of Kshs.290.8 million (6 per cent) and Kshs.108 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13.

During this period the county received Kshs.4.4 billion as the national equitable share raised Kshs.35.9 million from local sources and had a balance brought forward of Kshs.108 million from FY 2012/13. Between 2013-2017 the County received a total of Kshs. 31,379,749,088.07. In the first five years the county received a total of Kshs. 31,379,749,088.07. The allocation to Gender Women, Social Services and Children was 1.51%, the lowest among all departments.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.6.78 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.911.05 million as conditional grants, raised Kshs.110.37 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.578.81 million from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.8.38 billion

The County allocated Ksh 52.70 million to the department responsible for Gender (The 1.56% allocation was only for recurrent expenditure). The absorption rate was 93.4%.



Proportional allocation to department responsible for Gender in Garissa County

Achievements

The county has a Ksh 60m bursary kitty and Ksh100m revolving fund to empower the youths, women and PWDs. The fund has been anchored in law and oversight undertaken by the Garissa County Revolving Fund Committee.

Gender/women priority interventions in the CIDPs

The reproductive female age group is 186,337 which constitute 21.4 per cent of the total population. The fertility rate on the other hand is high at 6.1 compared with the national fertility rate of 3.9. This is attributed to low use of contraceptives by the community.

This age group is quite large and therefore the county in the first CIDP, 203-2017 dedicated to:

- Provide adequate health facilities to cater for this growing population through intensification of reproductive health campaigns.

- Set aside a specific budget line for RH/Family Planning services and commodities.
- Support full implementation of the Adolescent and youth reproductive health policy and the National Policy for Population and Development
- The county to establish youth friendly centres in the health facilities to cater for the youth reproductive health services
- Distribution of sanitary pads to school going girls
- Sensitization on FGM practices and provision of alternative rites of passage for girls and alternative livelihood for women involved in FGM

The Second CIDP, 2018-2022 outlined programmes aimed at:

- Providing women with voluntary family planning information and services.
- Adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- Ensuring equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational, and tertiary education.
- Creating a Sharia compliance Women Enterprise Fund
- Conducting a stakeholders' forum for businesswomen to create awareness about the opportunities in the county government
-

Challenges

- Poor gender representation in county leadership and decision making. Most positions are held by men contrary to the two third gender rule.
- Lack of gender policy, guidelines and strategies to structure gender implementation process. Gender policy pending approval and thus lack of implementation framework.
- Practice of cultural practices that are retrogressive and harmful to women and girls like FGM and early marriage to the advancement of women and girl's empowerment.
- Poor public and civic education directed to women and other vulnerable groups.
- Limited economic empowerment for women and girls as majority have to cope with domestic/family chores that hindered their participation.
- Limited capacity of women and girls to participate in the development agenda through public participation in policy, legal and budget making process.
- Low financial resources directed to gender and women and girls specific interventions.
- High illiteracy levels among women and girls.
- High cases of GBV.
- Limited Gender Recovery Centres to respond to the high cases of GBV.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

Garissa County has a total of 205 health facilities. Out of these, 68 are level 2 facilities, 7 are level 4, 85 are private clinics, 13 level 3 private hospitals, 4 are private Nursing Homes, 1 is private Hospital, 21 are level 3 facilities and one is a level 5 facility based in Garissa Town. There are also 3 Non-Governmental Organization dispensaries and 3 mission health facilities which are inclusive. Good health care services are mostly in the urban areas. The average distance to the nearest health facility is 25Km. Most of the health facilities are along the river and urban centres where there are settlements. The number of trained health personnel is also very low with the doctor population ratio being currently 1:41,538 while the nurse population ratio is 1:2,453. The WHO recommended Doctor and Nurse Population ratio is 1:10,000 for doctors and 1:1,000 for Nurses. This shows that, there is need for recruiting more Doctors and Nurses in the county.

The maternal health care in the county has improved in the recent past having attained ante-natal and post-natal coverage of 48 per cent. The number of mothers delivering at health facilities stand at 52 per cent and those delivering at home is 48 per cent. The county Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is at 646/100,000. There is need to put in place programmes and up scale the existing initiative geared towards improving maternal health care in the county.

During the assessment period, the county operationalized both the ICU and Renal units in Garissa Referral Hospital which is a milestone as patients who used to travel all the way for referral cases to Nairobi will now be treated here in Garissa. The county has a very low contraceptive acceptance rate which stands 6%. The low contraceptive use is attributed to the cultural and religious practices which prohibit family planning. It is also compounded negatively by the long distances to health facilities which currently stand at an average of 25Km. Family planning is key as when women can choose when and how often to become pregnant, they are more likely to have fewer children and are better able to achieve their desired family size which reduces over reliance.

Achievements

- Operationalized both the ICU and Renal units in Garissa Referral Hospital.
- Increased the number of doctors and nurses in health centers and hospitals across the county. The department of Health Garissa County has a personnel strength of 1,483 people consisting of 877 males and 606 females. There are 57 Doctors and 388 Nurses in the County.
- Commenced construction of a unit for new-born babies and refurbished 100 bed maternity center in Garissa hospital now cater for mothers and new-born babies.
- Procured ambulances and distributed them across the sub-counties to enhance referral.

- There is on-going construction and equipment of Cancer Center at Garissa Referral Hospital
- The county is undertaking ongoing renovations and refurbishments of various facilities namely; Masalani level 4 hospital in Ijara sub county, Lagdera sub county hospital in Lagdera sub county, dispensary block in Gedilun Center, Hulugho sub county, delivery unit in Hadley dispensary, Balambala sub county, Liboi Health Center, Dadaab sub county, new dispensary block at Nunow, Balambala sub county delivery unit at Welmarer, in Fafi sub county, maternity ward in Bura, Fafi sub county, dispensary block in Utawal, Garissa township sub county, Benane Health Centre in Lagdera sub county, Jariro dispensary, Garisweno dispensary in Ijara/Fafi sub counties, Baraki dispensary in Lagdera, Furqan dispensary in Ijara sub county, Eldere dispensary in Lagdera

Challenges

- Lack of drugs and commodities and minimal staff still hinder utilization of health facilities.
- Facilities are still inaccessible to most residents due to distances they have to travel.
- Poor flow of funds to the commissioned projects and delays in payment of contractors.
- Unsustainable long procurement processes.
- Poor information and education to women and girls on the available RMNCH services.
- Low contraceptive methods available. Constant stock outs of medicines including Family planning commodities subjecting women and girls to lack of adequate access to family planning services.
- Unmet needs of women and girls of reproductive age seeking services.
- Continued home deliveries of babies.
- Increased GBV cases.
- Continued practice of female genital mutilation despite the national law prohibiting it.
- CHVs are not on the county payroll and work under poor conditions.

B. Education and Vocational Training

In Garissa County proportion of the population that can read and write stands at 39.7 per cent while that of the population who cannot read and write is 57.9 per cent. On average the literacy level in the county is 8.2 per cent while illiterate level stands at 74 per cent. Men are more literate than women. The pre-school net enrolment rate is 9.6 per cent and the completion rate is 89 per cent while the retention rate is 88 per cent. The enrolment rate is low due to the nomadic lifestyle of the people. In addition to formal schooling there are also Madarasa where young children are taught religious studies. The county has four youth polytechnics namely: Garissa, Bura, Daadab, and Masalani. The Masalani youth polytechnic is not operational. There is need to operationalize this polytechnic for

the benefit of young people who wish to pursue their vocational training in that area.

i) ECDE

Achievements

- The government recently completed construction work for 10 ECDE double classrooms in various parts of our county. Garissa County has 281 Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) Centres with a total enrolment of 16,377 consisting of 9,219 boys and 7,158 girls.
- There are 229 teachers translating to a teacher pupil ratio of 1:105.
- The county has a team of quality assurance staff to evaluate the current learning situation of the ECDE system.
- There is complementarity across the sectors, as the ECDE school feeding programme has created employment opportunities for women. The women supply ECDE pupils with milk and uji-mix for nutritional support.
- The county through donor support has in place a safe house and a resource centre at Kamuthe. The haven can accommodate 80 girls below the age of 18, who are rescued or have run away from home because of FGM and child marriage, which makes it impossible for them to attend school. The house is run by the Kamuthe Women Network with support from ActionAid and other donors, the facility was funded by People's Postcode Lottery at Sh7.5 million.

Challenges

- Availability of trained teachers is a critical component of the quality Early Childhood education system; the county meanwhile relies on ECD care givers.
- Poor enrolment of girls in schools. The enrollment of girls is constrained by insecurity due to conflict over natural resource and migration in dry season.
- The county should develop a school feeding policy which will reduce donor reliance.

ii) VTC

The Technical and Vocational Education Training (VTC) are facilitated through the directorate of vocational training that continues to engage the youth (male and female) by assisting them to acquire skills from various centers. Students joining can apply for funding from Higher Education Loans Board, (HELB). Majority have benefited from bursaries provided by the county. VTCs offer to artisan and craft courses.

Achievements

- 600 youths have undergone short courses in Garissa VTC, Mikono VTC, Bura East VTC, and Dadaab VTC.
- The courses are offered to both men and women without restrictions. These include tailoring, beauty therapy, motor vehicle mechanics, electrical wireman, carpentry, welding, and plumbing.

Challenges

- Poor uptake of of the colleges especially for female students.
- Poor infrastructure
- Lack of employment opportunities for VCT graduates
- Poor perception on VCT level of education. Most parents and students think the VCTs are menats for failures and school dropouts.

C. Water and Sanitation

Garissa County currently is experiencing prplonged draught, following failure of three consecutive rainy seasons. This is due to the climate change impact. Garissa has one river as a source of water (River Tana), 25 shallow wells, 109 boreholes, 195 water pans and one dam. Water from other sources is generally unsafe and as such it is treated at the household level by use of aqua tabs, water guard and other chlorine-based purifiers supplied by the relevant government departments. Other areas of the county rely on shallow wells, boreholes, and water pans. Pastoral communities are migrating, moving away from their villages in search of water for domestic use and their animals. Villages are hard hit and women have to walk long distances in search of water. Children and families often fall sick from diarrhea due to drinking unsafe water.

Garissa County is water scarcity with only 23.8 per cent of the population having access to safe water. Access to piped water is limited to the sub-county headquarters where approximately 27,725 households have connection. The county and partners have facilitated construction of boreholes that continue to ease the strain women and girls continue to experience in search of water for domestic use.

The most waste management of waste disposal in the county is through open surface (59.9 percent) followed by opne burning (25.1 percent) and burryig at (15 percent). The county government has adopted a Climate Change Mainstreaming guidele in the water and sanitation sector. However, the same has not addressed the impact of climate change on women and the defining gender roles.

Achievements

- The government has drilled boreholes across the county to enable access clean water. In 2018, some 14 boreholes were sunk in Garissa town sub-county to tackle the problem of persistent water shortage in the town and its suburbs. Also, the government erected two elevated steel tanks, in Iftin and ADC areas- each with a capacity of 300,000 litres of water.
- There county has established two schemes of water namely Garissa Water and Sewerage Company and Garissa Rural Water and Sewerage Company.
- Garissa Water and Sewerage Company, GAWASCO, supplies water to approximately 27,725 households in Garissa Town and its environs.
- Garissa rural water services corporation (GARUWASCO) provides sustainable, adequate, and quality water for

socio-economic wellbeing of Garissa residents in rural areas. The Corporation is equally intended to improve Water Governance in the rural areas.

- There are nine river-based water supply schemes that provide water to communities living along River Tana. These are basically managed by the Water Users Associations.
- 14 boreholes were sunk in Garissa town sub-county to tackle the problem of persistent water shortage in the town and its suburbs.
- During the 2018/19 financial year, the government set aside Sh1.2 which has been used to sink 100 boreholes in strategic parts of the county as a short-term measure to address the problem of acute water shortage. This includes, Shanta-obag borehole in Lagdera, Abdisamat borehole in Balambala and Hagarbul village borehole in Fafi.
- 2 elevated steel tanks, in Iftin and ADC areas- each with a capacity of 300,000 litres of water.
- Government has also undertaken general improvement of water infrastructure in Masalani town, in Ijara sub-county.
- During drought the county undertakes, water distribution using browsers, and the activation of the rapid response team charged with the responsibility of repairing boreholes.

The proportion of the population of the county that uses pit latrines as a means of sanitation is 46.76 per cent while 2.6 per cent use VIP latrines. 50.63 per cent use other means of sanitation such as bushes increasing the number of individuals still using open defecation. There is only one sewerage connection that is currently being constructed in Garissa town. However other towns in the county do not have sewerage connections.

Challenges

- The average distance to the nearest water point is 25Km. However, for residents of Garissa Town, this distance has reduced considerably, the same need to be scaled up in rural areas.
- Various interventions have been undertaken to mitigate against the water shortages during drought but the same remains a huge unreliable.
- Part of the community still practices Open Defecation.
- Poor supply of water contributes to poor sanitation the causes of many illnesses including diahrea among children.

D. Agriculture

Garissa County is principally a semi-arid area falling within ecological zone V-VI and receives an average rainfall of 275 mm per year. There are two rain seasons, the short rains from October to December and the long rains from March to May. Rainfall is normally in short torrential downpour making it unreliable for vegetation growth. The southern parts of the county such as Hulugho, Masalani and Bura receive more rainfall than the northern parts. Balambala and Fafi constituencies practice rain-fed agriculture on small scale. During the dry season, there is a general migration of livestock from the

hinterland to areas near River Tana where water is readily available. However, some pastoralists move with their livestock to adjacent counties of Tana River and Lamu in search of pasture. Much of the County's livestock population are indigenous sheep, goats, and cattle, found in the southern parts which receive more rain.

while camels occupy the drier north. According to the second CIDP 2018-2022, only 1 percent of the Garissa population own title deeds as majority live on communal land.

The total hectareage under food crops in the county is 981 Ha while that under cash crop is 1,800 Ha. The main crops grown include watermelons, mangoes, vegetables, tomatoes, paw paws, bananas, cowpeas, simsim, maize, beans, and green grams mainly under irrigation along the River Tana. Women are engaged in small scale farming and in marketing the produce. Livestock rearing is the backbone of the county's economy. Only 1 per cent of the Garissa population own title deeds as majority of the population live on communal land. This has seen increased cases of land related inter-clan conflicts in the recent past consequently leading to loss of human lives.

The main livestock bred are cattle (Boran), goats (Galla), sheep (black headed Persian) and camel (dromedary one humped). The main livestock products are meat, milk, hides and skins.

The county has 25 registered cooperative societies: 5 livestock marketing, 3 Agricultural Multi-Purpose, 2 Beekeeping, 3 consumer, 10 SACCOs, 1 building and construction and one Jua Kali. Of these, 11 are active while 14 are dormant.

Achievements

- The current agricultural extension staff are 53 (29 men and 24 women) while livestock staff are 132 (114 men and 18 women).
- In the livestock sub-sector, the county government has finalized construction of Bura livestock office and renovated Garissa, Madogashe and Balambala offices.
- The government has procured veterinary drugs, vaccines and equipment and facilitated the vaccination and treatment of over two million livestock per annum
- On-going construction of modern abattoir in Garissa town to boost marketing of livestock products.
- Government organized mass vaccination of livestock across the county- an exercise that covered over one million animals to kick out Rift Valley fever, CCPP and BQ livestock diseases.
- Construction of stalls and livestock sheds at Garissa Livestock market, Madogashe, Masalani, and Balambala.

Challenges

- The extension officer's manpower is inadequate at all levels and the vastness of the county makes service delivery critical challenge.

- Limited capacity in educating the communities and farmers (men and women) and especially women farmers on early warning signs because of the climatic changes caused by climate change.
- Limited support given to farmers especially women farmers in embracing technology in farming and market linkages.

E. Urban Planning

Garissa town was granted a municipality status. The charter was granted after consideration by the County Assembly on the eligible criteria set for the conferment of Municipal status. The charter defines the powers, objectives, and functions of the municipality. It also illustrates the establishment of the Board of the Municipality of Garissa. The municipality border delineation incorporates four wards: Waberi, Galbet, Township and Iftin. Masalani town in Ijara sub county has also been conferred a management board to run the affairs of the town.

Achievements

Garissa municipality has been able to obtain an urban development grant of KSh242 million from the World Bank through the national government under the Kenya Urban Support Program.

As part of the grant implementation, the following has been achieved:

- Waste collection has improved from four trips to 12 trips translating to a daily tonnage of 210 tones.
- The de-silting and cleaning exercise targeting drainage system along Kismayu road and Soko Mugdi areas where loss of property was reported during the flash floods in 2018
- Recarpeting of CBD roads in partnership with key stakeholders
- Storm water drainage, pedestrian walkways
- Garissa street lighting
- Tarmacking of Waberi-Iftin access road, Township-Galbet access road and pedestrian walkways in Garissa town
- Construction of ultra-modern Qorahey Market which is 85 per cent complete and with capacity to hold 426 stalls
- Construction of drainage system in Garissa town and surrounding areas

Challenges

- The municipality is dependent on revenue and funds from monies allocated by the County Assembly through the Annual Budget for the Department of Urban Development for the purpose of management and service delivery.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- Garissa has made significant gains in policies and strategies for gender equality and developed a broad range of mechanisms, there is still room for improvement. There is

need for systematic and effective implementation and follow-up for clarity in mandate, adequate resource allocation and appropriate political support.

- Women have developed a relatively powerful political voice through the CSO networks. However, women should not only be heard through their separate dedicated organizations but rather equitably represented and have access to decision-making at County level and National level.
- The need for the county to invest more in capacity building and knowledge to end harmful cultural practices and promote education of girls and women.
- County to put aside resources towards gender mainstreaming and building capacity of county officials and women and girls to contribute to the county development agenda and end harmful cultural practices.
- County to invest in strengthened partnership with non-state actors to empower women and girls towards greater service delivery.

II. Health

- The County health department, community leaders and Community Health Volunteers(CHVs) need to sustain the momentum gained by ensuring that service access and quality challenges are continually addressed.
- CHVs need to be supported to continue with health education, and provision of culturally acceptable and sensitive service both private and public facilities.
- County require to manage proper records and have timely procurement to avoid reported cases of stock outs.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- To improve quality assurance, the county Government needs to enhance the school feeding program through provision of food, support training of ECD teachers, and sustain distribution of teaching and learning materials to ECD centers and provision of curriculum design support.
- The county to adopt the ECDE scheme of service for teachers.
- The county to put in place a sustainability mechanism for the school feeding programme, this will reduce donor reliance.
- The county to establish more safe houses to protect children from abuse such as violence, sexual exploitation, child marriage, and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).
- There is need to carry out enrollment drives within the communities to enhance enrolment of both boys and girls with special focus on girls.

ii) VTC

- Develop linkages with private sector to enhance dual vocational training for VCT learners
- Enhance youth and parent's sensitization to change the perception on VCTs.

- County to offer more bursaries to the learners in VTCS and popularize the courses offered especially for women.
- Girls to be encouraged to enroll in all courses including those not considered feminine.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- The government needs to intensify water provision efforts through sinking more boreholes in strategic designated areas to address the problem of acute water shortage, especially for domestic and community use.
- The county needs to invest in energy-efficient ground-mounted solar arrays power pumps and Hybrid water pumping system to provide water.
- There is need of support to enhanced technical, management and financial training for all water actors to pay attention to the gender needs in water management.
- There is need to increase water point especially near villages to ease accessibility by women and girls for domestic use.
- The county needs to invest more in provision of safe piped water beyond Garassa town to other towns as well.

V. Agriculture

- The County Government to invest in employment of more extension officers and balance both male and female.
- The county should enhance productivity and profitability of agricultural enterprises through education of farmers. This will entail promotion of distribution networks for agricultural and livestock products and market access, and endeavour to reach out to both female and male farmers.
- The department of agriculture requires to reach out to the farmers especially female farmers to participate in the design of any new county interventions to guide on their actual need for support to improve agriculture in terms of understanding weather patterns, marketing their produce and dealing with pests and insufficient machinery and equipments.
- The county to invest in new gender responsive strategies that will mitigate the challenges the farmers and specifically women farmers are facing. This will include timely trainings and improved information sharing on ways to improve agriculture.

VI. Urban Planning

- Development of a revenue strategy for the municipality, this will actualize the other sources of funding that include revenues arising from rates, fees, levies, investment income and borrowing as provided by the charter and include factors that affect women.
- There is need for capacity building of the municipality on governance and management systems into effective ones that are responsive to the needs of women and girls.
- The municipality needs to develop an urban economic plan which identifies investment promotion strategies in key sectors.

- Improved lighting has a positive impact on women's safety. The county needs to constantly invest in lighting in the urban setting to encourage women traders to engage in trade beyond hours.
- Operationalize the citizen fora and ensure it has active participatory sessions with the appropriate gender mix in representation, where issues are approached in a manner which is sensitive to gender issues.

VII. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

A discussion with women and girls pointed to lack of gender lenses in revenue planning and projection and administration. The county revenue collection officers harass citizens as opposed to guiding them on compliance. The county has recently undertaken training on the Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT) which aims to provide a standardized means of assessing the health of key components of a tax administration system and its level of

maturity in the context of international good practice. Gender is a key consideration in Tax Administration training.

The implementation team comprises of the Director in charge of revenue, 7 sub county revenue officers, and 2 accounting officers. There is need for support for the TADAT implementation which will consider socio-economic factors (such as age, gender, employment status, and educational attainment) and institutional factors (such as trust in government and community satisfaction with the quality of public services) that have an impact on businesses or individual's motivation to comply with tax obligations.

F. Best Practice: Construction of Quarahev Market

The municipality is accelerating construction of Quarahev market. The market will be ready for traders soon as construction of an elevated tower for a 3000L water tank is done & electricity installation.



3.3. ISIOLO COUNTY

Isiolo county is in upper Eastern part of Kenya, about 285 kilometres north of Nairobi City. The county covers an area of approximately 25,700 km². The County has 2 constituencies (Isiolo North and Isiolo South), 3 sub-counties (Isiolo, Merti and Garbatulla) and 10 wards. Isiolo county borders Marsabit county to the north, Samburu and Laikipia counties to the west, Garissa county to the south east, Wajir County to the north east, Tana River and Kitui counties to the south and Meru and Tharaka Nithi counties to the south west.

The population has substantially increased from of 143,294 (M=73,694, F=69,600) in 2009 to 268,002 (M=139,510, F=128,483, Intersex=9) in 2019, of these there 106,427 women aged below 35 years and 5962 women aged above 60 years. Isiolo is the second least populated County in Kenya after Lamu through it has the highest population growth rate of 8.9 per cent. The County has a density of 11 people per Km² with an average household size of 4.6. The demographics are an indicator of a young growing population, and the county therefore expects greater pressure on resources in future if the trend continues.

The county is home to several pastoralist communities, notably the Borana, Somali, Turkana, and the Samburu communities. It is also occupied by a substantial number of the Meru Community.

The county has mean annual average temperatures between 120°C to 280°C. Rainfall ranges from an average of 150mm to 650mm per annum. Livestock production remains the biggest economic activity with approximately 80% of the population relying on it. However, the main economic activity contribution to GDP is services which accounts for 66 per cent of the county's GCP and 0.14 percent to the overall national GDP. Agriculture contributes 21 per cent of the county's GCP while other industries –mainly agro based processing – accounted for 13 per cent of GCP.

Isiolo has a poverty index of 51.9% with 8.9% living in extreme poverty. 56% of women are multi dimensionally poor being deprived off 4.4

Majority of the community structures in the ethnic groups are male dominated, gender issues concerning women and girls are not provided with attention. Only a few women-led organizations and a handful of individuals advocated for women's rights prior to devolution.

out of 7 basic services, similar to national average. The monetary poverty rate among women is 49% (higher than the national average at 31%).In the assessment, Focused Group Discussions with women and girls revealed patriarchal norms and traditional practices that

undermine women's inclusion in decision-making processes. Traditional customs and beliefs have previously led to unbearable living conditions for women and girls within the county. Women and girls are often subjected to inhuman treatments including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), sexual coercion and forced early marriages.

Devolution has afforded an opportunity for women and other marginalized groups in these communities to display leadership and advocate for their inclusion in decision-making processes including but not limited to County planning and budgeting cycle and policy making process. There are local women-led initiatives seeking to protect women's dignity and wellbeing and increase their empowerment in the community.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	0	1
Deputy Governor	1	0	0
Elected MCA	10	0	10
Nominated MCA	0	7	7
CECMs	4	2	6
Chief Officers	12	5	17

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

Gender falls under the department of Education, Youth, Sports, Culture, and Social services.

- In 2017, Isiolo County elected a female senator.
- The county has 2 female County Executive Committee members.
- The county has no elected female MCA, all being nominated.
- Isiolo County officially launched its very own Gender Policy in September 2021 to help mainstream gender in the county's policies and processes. The policy provides a clear framework for the implementation with concrete measures to prevent Sexual Gender-Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and radicalization of youth to violent extremist groups.
- The county has a County Child Protection Policy as well

- Cultural and community attitudes which discriminate against women
- Lack of affirmative action to empower women.
- Persistence of FGM directed to young girls.

To combat the above challenges affecting womrn and girls, the county outlined the following strategies:

- Advocacy for equal opportunities for all genders to be prioritized
- Step up initiatives against FGM and to secure reproductive health for all women
- Implement affirmative action for women in employment and access to other opportunities.

Strategies of empowering women and girls.

In the first CIDP 2013-2017, the county had identified the underlying causes of gender inequality as:

The high female illiteracy levels at a staggering 85% has hindered ascend of more women to decision making postions. The county has prioritized civic education programmes to promote girl child education and encourage women to take up political leadership and decision-making positions.

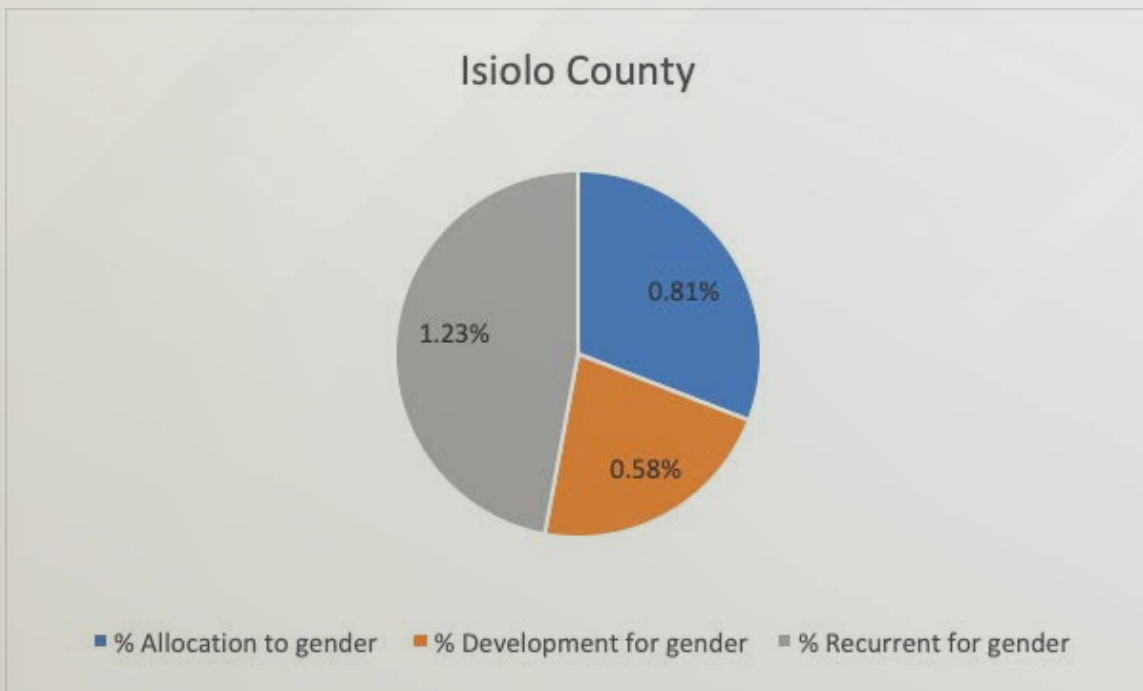
The county envisaged to promote linkage with the various national government programmes, microfinance institutions and cooperative societies targeting improving women's participation in the economy by providing cheap and affordable loans. The women in Isiolo are encouraged to fully utilize the affirmative action facilities to improve their welfare and contribute to the local economy.

The second CIDP, 2018-2022 outlined the following strategies:

- Create and enforce laws that govern and address issues that promote gender violence.
- Create awareness and advocacy against sexual harassment in road transport system.
- Implement the 30% access to government procurement by youth, women and persons with disability.
- Promote inclusivity of the youth and women in leadership and government tenders.
- Develop a structure and program for annual cultural festivals.
- Conduct baseline survey on gender issues.
- Develop policy frameworks for culture.
- Establish annual county cultural festivals and cultural centers.
- Promote cultural tourism.
- Map and register community groups and award certificates.
- Rehabilitate commercial sex workers.

Revenue collection and Budget

In the FY 2013/14, the total expenditure of the county amounted to Kshs.2.0 billion, which was 91 per cent of the funds released. The County spent Kshs.1.5 billion (74 per cent) on recurrent activities and Kshs.0.5 billion (26 per cent) on development activities. There were no available estimates for allocation to Gender Interventions. In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.4.24 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.512.68 million as conditional grants, raised Kshs.5718 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.487.42 million from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget. The county allocated Ksh 126.31 million to the 46.63 million (Recurrent=Ksh 21.50 m, Development=Ksh 25.13 m) to the department responsible for Gender. This was the lowest among all departments and represents a 0.81% proportion of the entire budget. The absorption rate was 72.6% for recurrent and 18.6 % for development.



Proportional allocation to department responsible for Gender in Isiolo County

The consultations with Isiolo county officials, women leaders, CSOs and private actors, noted the achievements and challenges below.

Achievements

- In 2019, Isiolo County Youth, Women and Persons with Disability Enterprises Development Fund Act and Regulations were passed in to law. The law provides for the establishment of Youth, Women and Persons with Disabilities Enterprise Development Fund and promotes the new and existing micro and small businesses and industries. This will increase household income hence improving living standards through providing access finance to do business hence a reliable source of income.
- The county has consistently allocated at least Ksh 8 million for utilization by women, Ksh 6million for youth and, Ksh 4million for person's disability a total of 18million revolving fund in the annual budget. The fund set aside Ksh 18 million in FY 2019/2020, KSh21 million and Sh22 million in 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- 515 vulnerable groups have benefitted from the revolving funds with each group receiving Ksh 100,000 zero-interest loan payable in two years.
- To address gender-based violence the county in partnership with civil society organizations has been sensitizing community elders and religious leaders. This has been through organizing small dialogues with these groups within their respective communities and via community radio stations.

The county has identified gender imbalance and inequalities and has proposed inclusion of women in the development process through the following: initiatives.

- Capacity building for women groups and deliberate efforts at empowering women to enhance their status.
- Girl child education to be mainstreamed in development, with great emphasis on the improvement of girl child enrolment and increased focus given to retention of girls in schools. Efforts have been directed towards strengthening and supporting existing women groups to initiate income generating projects.
- Investments in provision of potable water for the purpose of reducing the distances and time taken by women and girls in fetching water and involvement of women in peace and conflict resolutions in the County were implemented.
- Sensitization of community members to abandon negative cultural attitudes and practices towards women and to encourage gender balanced development.

Challenges

- Though the CIDPs identified strategic interventions towards reducing gender inequalities, the subsequent annual planning and budgeting cycle did not outline mechanism for implementation.

- There is lack of evidence-based programming approaches and sex disaggregated data collection and usage which would have helped address gender needs effectively in the interventions.
- There is no evidence of gender-responsive planning and budgeting and revenue collection and tax administration.
- The level of participation of women in the county planning and budgeting process was low.
- The women's voice is majorly projected by women led community-based organizations.
- FGM prevalence, teenage pregnancy, violence against women and high dropout rates of girls from schools has not been fully addressed by the county.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

At the commencement of devolution, Isiolo was ranked fifth amongst counties with worst maternal mortality rates, thus 790 deaths out of every 100,000 live births, and a high levels child mortality of 154 out of every 1,000 births. The mothers died due to conception and conception-related causes. However the deaths could have been avoided through better access to quality medical health care at the time of pregnancy, labor, and the postnatal period. The indigenous cultural practices also encourage high birth rates, early marriages, teenage pregnancy, cultural barriers like female-genital mutilation.

Over 68 percent of people in the county live in the rural areas where health facilities are inadequate, sparsely distributed, and understaffed. The average distance to a health facility is 25 km. These coupled with the fact that there are inadequate health facilities in the county, makes access to family planning is a big challenge. Up to 73 percent of the women in the county deliver at home with the assistance of traditional mid-wives. More than 60 percent of those in the reproductive age group do not have access to family planning. The contraceptive prevalence rate is 28 percent.

Achievements

- Isiolo had 47 health facilities prior to devolution which have grown to about 57 facilities making health services more accessible. There are 2 tier level 3 health facilities (Isiolo and Garbatulla hospitals), 51 level 2 health facilities and 36 established Community Health Units (level 1). Most of the primary health care facilities lack adequate personnel and health commodities.
- The county has recruited 760 community health volunteers (CHVs) within the 50 health units across the county to strengthen health promotion and management of common illnesses. The CHVs has been designated are an effective tool for stimulating demand for RMNCAH services.
- 8 dispensaries have been constructed and installation of THS fridges, THS assorted RMNCH equipment, and steel cabinets installed.

- 7 new dispensaries have been operationalized.
- 1 female ward, 3 maternity wings and 3 new born units have been constructed.
- 3 new ambulances have been procured to enhance referral in 3 sub county facilities.
- 2 theatre units have been operationalized at Garbatulla and Merti.
- 2, 12 bed capacity paediatric wards has been undertaken in Gabartulla sub county hospital and Oldonyiro health centres.
- The county has constructed 3 new health staff quarters.
- The county has completed 6 classrooms, 8 office units, 136 hostels and landscaping works for Kenya Medical and Training College.
- The county has designed programmes aimed at improving reproductive health services like maternal and child health care services.

The county benefited from the national government UHC pilot programme through an agreement between the National Government and the counties of Isiolo, Kisumu, Machakos, and Nyeri which saw the counties discontinue user fees at level 4 and 5 facilities. The National Government used conditional grants to reimburse the four counties for the lost revenue from the user fees foregone, with support from development partners.

As a result of receiving additional funds, the Isiolo County Referral Hospital, and Garbatulla and Merti subcounty hospitals improved their services including offering blood transfusion services, organized blood campaigns in partnership with Meru satellite for the National Blood Transfusion Centre. It was indicated that no maternal deaths have been reported at the Isiolo County Referral Hospital since the campaigns started. However, it was indicated that mothers have frequently been discouraged from accessing services due to long queues that keep them waiting for long. Patients are said to share hospital beds due to the lack of space at the facilities. Currently:

- Isiolo has surpassed the national target at 29.6 inpatient beds per 10,000 population with 80% occupancy. The maternity bed density stands at 13.3 per 1,000 pregnant women.
- Further, Isiolo has a mean of 42 percent in availability of essential medicines. Access to essential medicines is fundamental to the good performance of the health care delivery system.
- The skilled deliveries stand at 51% with maternal mortality reported at 560 per 100,000 live births with 30 health facilities providing delivery services in the county
- 63.5 percent of children have been immunized.

Challenges

- The CHVs through playing a critical role in linkages with health units and referrals are not remunerated and incentivized.

- Patients experience stock out of medicine and commodities including family planning commodities

B. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

Achievements

- The County has 174 ECDE centres, served by 345 permanent ECDE teachers 95 % of whom are female, an increase from 40 ECDE teachers prior to devolution.
- The county has supported increased enrollment through school feeding programme, provision of learning materials and subordinate staff to.
- Though there has been increased spending on Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) the county has experienced decreased gross ECDE enrolment rate from 107.7 per cent in 2014 to 85.2 per cent in 2018 while net enrolment rate (NER) decreased from 98 per cent to 54.3 per cent during the same period. This was generally lower than national averages of (94.4 and 63.5) as of 2018.
- The national government is committed to enhance access to ECDE by provision of community support to some selected ECDE.

Challenges

- Low enrolment levels due to financial constraints and high levels of poverty in the county especially among the marginalized including single mothers.
- Budgetary constraints that has not fully supported infrastructure and equipment in ECDE centres especially in rural areas.
- Shortage of staff and inadequate working tools and equipment, with pupils sitting on the floor.
- Harmful cultural practices that predispose young girls to early marriage and FGM where they after the cut that compromises women's position to leadership and decision making.
- There no school feeding programme adopted to cushion those children from very poor background who skip school die to hunger.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- The county has 4 vocational centres served by 29 instructors.
- There is availability of diversified courses which include carpentry, masonry, food production, electrical engineering, driving, mechanical engineering, plumbing, welding, dress making, beauty and fashion design, and ICT that are open to male and female applicants.
- Isiolo is the first county to launch a Youth Innovation Centre which has: a business hub, an ICT innovation centre, music art and film incubation.

Challenges

- The community associates the polytechnics especially the VTC with academic failures. There is a belief that only those who fail to make it to the secondary schools should be admitted to the Youth polytechnics.
- The fee charged in some cases where boarding is required is not affordable to the residents of Isiolo County, who are very poor.

C. Water and Sanitation

In Isiolo, 44.2 percent of the population still use open defecation while 22.8 percent, 19.3 and 13.7 percent uses improved, shared, and unimproved sanitation respectively (MoH and WSP, 2014).

“At our households we receive water treatment tabs which the CHVs give us. They also give us zinc and ORS for our children and polio vaccines. We were taught about mother-to-mother support group and father to father support group by the CHVs.” – FGD, Mothers, Isiolo

Isiolo town is set to benefit from Last Mile Connectivity Project which involves laying of 9.2 Km of water pipeline and 12 Km sewer lines.

The project

funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Government of Kenya is set to benefit a population of 48,340 people. In addition, there is a 4.5 Km of sewer pipeline laid and 221 manholes installed.

Achievements

- With support of Nestlé in partnership with the Kenya Red Cross Society, development partners, a Sh13.5 million water supply station in Ngaremara ward, has completed and offered relief to residents. It will benefit more than 2,000 people in the area and neighbouring villages. The project, involves an equipped community borehole, an elevated steel tank and two solar-powered water kiosks
- 13 bore holes drilled and 2 rehabilitated.

Challenges

- Heavily reliant on Ewaso Nyiro River, and there are diverse livelihoods along the catchment of the springs in the upper reaches of the catchment area.

D. Agriculture

More than 80 percent of the land is communally owned and is under the trust ship of the county government. Public land constitutes 10 percent of total land and includes land for schools, administration, army barracks, health facilities and game reserves. The remaining less than 10% of the land is under private ownership and was alienated for private investment in housing, industrial and commercial purposes. Due to frequent conflict, communities get displaced but normally return to their land after the situation calms.

The conflicts are usually fueled by competition for grazing land and water sources.

Over 80% of the land cannot support crop farming and is used as grazing land by the pastoralists. In some wards, areas such as Kinna and along Ewaso Nyiro River, agro-pastoralism is practiced on small scale. The percentage of land with title deeds is less than 1 percent while the rest of the land owners have allotment letters. There is need for securing rights over land to support livelihoods and the county economy.

Achievements

- Owing to livestock losses due to prolonged drought, erratic and unpredictable rainfall, fish farming is becoming a viable alternative for women the county. The maturation period for the fish (6 to 9 months) is not only attractive but the fish farms are also less labour intensive. Development partners such as WFP has provided the farmers with 400 catfish finger lings, and 1200 tilapia fingerlings.
- Through partner support efforts have concentrated on expanding market opportunities to create demand for livestock and livestock products.
- Through the Community Contracting Funds (CCF), inclusive investment along the market system were made to ensure all actors are included based on opportunity to create viable business or market infrastructure. The supported investments are mainly in red meat (18%), white meat (19%) and dairy sectors (63%).

E. Urban Planning

Achievements

- The 10 municipality board members consist of 3 women and 7 men, have already been sworn in to support service delivery.
- Isiolo municipality is part of the Sustainable Urban Economic Development (SUED) program aimed at identifying investment opportunities and plans to address urban challenges.
- 4 flood lights have been erected.
- Drainage works have been undertaken in Isiolo municipality.
- 1 fire engine has been procured
- Two bills that support urban planning (Enforcement Bill and Water Management Bill) have been developed.
- Cabro paving has been undertaken in most part of Isiolo municipality

Challenges

- Dealing with the municipalities structures that were approved before devolution.
- Limited finance to upscale the municipality activities.
- Poor maintenance of the municipal services i.e. street lighting.

- The unreliable operational budgets and unpredictable releases for services are likely to adversely affect solid waste management and the maintenance of urban infrastructure.

RECOMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
 - i. The County should develop a partnership framework with women led CSOs to strengthen their ability to reach out to more grassroots women and help increase women's participation in county government's processes including in planning, budgeting and policy formulation process.
 - ii. Strengthen the multi agency gender-sector working group to play a strong leading role in ensuring enhanced communication between the county government, development partners, CSOs and citizens especially women and girls.
 - iii. To sustain effective implementation of gender equality and women empowerment, the county requires to put strategies in place including budget allocation to implement the adopted gender policy including putting in place mechanisms to sustain the revolving fund.
 - iv. The county has a draft M&E policy which was developed through a participatory approach by all departments. There is need to agree and develop minimum gender indicators to measure interventions.

The formulation of the third generation CIDP should consider prioritizing gender mainstreaming in all thematic areas of intervention.

II. Health

- i. Develop and adopt legislation that give hospitals greater control over resources and key management functions. This will improve the turnaround time for availing of essential medicines to satisfy the priority health care needs of the population
- ii. Sustain interventions towards increasing women's and girls' access to health care: enhance county-level investments in rural and urban public health facilities, particularly for lower-level hospitals and dispensaries that are closer to communities, including ensuring consistent availability of drugs; laboratory equipment.
- iii. Allow flexible working hours for specialists and ensure their mobility to rural facilities, this will address the health needs of all key populations, particularly youth and women.
- iv. Fast track enactment and operationalization of the Community Health strategy Bill 2021, which is a key driver for robust primary health care system, where majority of beneficiaries are women.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- i. Adoption of the scheme of service for ECDE teachers which is critical for their career growth and progression of the ECDE teachers.
- ii. Need to vote more resources for ECDE centres.
- iii. Consider school feeding programme to incentivize the poor children.
- iv. County to consider reduction of the ECDE set fees and allow free access at that level for success of entry and retention of learners.
- v. Invest more in ECDE infrastructure including purchase of desks for learners.

ii) VTC

- i) to seek partnerships with private sector to develop Mobile Non-Formal Curriculum for out of school youth who are not currently enrolled in any formal schooling and develop Non-Formal Education Centers (NFECs) to align to seasonal migratory patterns of pastoralists.
- ii) Invest in apprenticeship partnerships with businesses in Isiolo and neighbouring counties of Meru and Laikipia to absorb the learners when they complete.
- iii) provide start-up grants to polytechnic graduates who prepare viable small business proposals.
- iv) Ensure that the courses taught in VTCs have a ready market and are applicable.
- v) The county needs to make the public aware of the courses offered in VTCS through career bazaars and fairs as well as stepping up popularization of the VTCs.
- vi) The county to offer subsidy for tuition fees and provide boarding facilities in VTCs especially for girls.
- vii) Make fees affordable to cushion the most marginalized and vulnerable learners especially girls who require support to complete training in select courses.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- i. The county needs an integrated water management approach to benefit from the major aquifers that serve Isiolo County.

V. Agriculture

- i. Strategic priorities identified in the current devolution cycle need to be included in the third generation CIDP to reduce overreliance on donor support ensure sustainability.
- ii. The county needs to invest more in hiring and training agriculture extension officer to work with women and educate them on new skills in farming including the newly introduced fish farming.

VI. Urban Planning

- i) There is need for capacity building for Isiolo municipality to implement identified investment opportunities in the Isiolo Urban Economic Plan and regenerate Revenue Generation to ensure financial sustainability.
- ii) Urbanization has led to the establishment of Isiolo municipality for delivery of devolved services, but the stability of the municipal board and technical secretariat will be critical for the reform to be assessed as a success in due course.

F. Best Practice: Tawakal Womens Group

Isiolo Tawakal Farmers Marketing Co-Operative Society Ltd is a business registered in Isiolo County and comprises 28 women and 2 men who engage in milk and camel meat (nyiri nyiri) selling. The group identified a business opportunity because of the rising demand in camel milk and meat due to its nutritional and medicinal values. The group aggregates milk from the interior parts of the county and sells in Eastleigh market in Nairobi and locally in Isiolo. The meat is acquired from a slaughter house in Isiolo, dried and packaged before selling. The price of camel milk per litre is Ksh. 120 and Ksh. 1200 for a kilogram of nyir. The group has scaled up the selling of camel meat called locally 'nyiri nyiri' (meat cut into tiny striped pieces, dried and deep-fried). The Nyiri nyiri if well-preserved can stay for up to a month and is mainly outsourced by the numerous Somali restaurants in Nairobi. The group sends the prepared meat in metal containers to Nairobi twice a week where a kilogram fetches Ksh 1,200. They take 160 kg per week. A kilogram of raw meat is sold in butcheries at Ksh 400 in Isiolo town. The women buy the meat from local butcheries and prepare the meal themselves.

The group in its journey developed a business proposal that they sent to USAID funded Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands—Accelerated Growth (Regal-AG) on camel meat value addition product benefitting from a grant of Ksh 2.5 million. Tawakal partnered with USAID's REGAL-AG activity. REGAL-AG helped them to diversify their operations by developing multiple ventures, such as camel milk ice cream and camel meat.

Tawakal hopes to remain competitive as the market evolves post COVID-19.

3.4. KAJIADO COUNTY

Kajiado is the 8th largest county in Kenya with an area of 21,292.70 square kilometres (Km²). The county is within the Nairobi Metropolis which consists of three other counties: Nairobi, Kiambu, and Machakos. Kajiado county is currently the 16th largest county by population with 1,117,840¹⁶ people (M=557,098, F= 560,704 and 38 intersex). The population has considerably grown from 687,312¹⁷ people (F=430,528) at the advent of devolution. The county is highly cosmopolitan with almost every ethnic community in Kenya represented in the major urban areas. The county continues to experience rapid urbanization and urban growth as a result of high migration from other parts of the country and across the Tanzania border. The growth is demonstrated by the population density which has steadily grown from 31 people per Km² to 51 people per Km². The county Poverty Rate has dropped from 12.1% (KIHBS, 2006) to 36.9% in (KIHBS, 2016).

Kajiado County borders Nairobi City, Makueni, Kiambu, Nakuru, Machakos and Narok counties, extending to the Tanzania border points of Namanga and Loitokitok in south. The county is divided into five administrative sub-counties namely: Kajiado Central, Kajiado North, Loitokitok, Isinya and Mashuuru. There are five constituencies in the county, namely: Kajiado North, Kajiado Central, Kajiado East, Kajiado West and Kajiado South. The county has 25 county wards.

In Kajiado County, women's ability to make economic decision is constrained by the fact that they are not the owners of productive resources like land and livestock. Wealth in the form of livestock and land are mainly owned by men.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	0
Elected MCA	25	0
Nominated MCA	14	2
CECS	7	3

¹⁶ KNBS, 2019 Census

¹⁷ KNBS, 2009 Census

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- Policies supporting Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
- The County a department in charge of gender, tourism and wildlife.
 - Kajiado has a Gender Mainstreaming Policy launched in 2020, the prohibition of FGM policy in 2019 and the Women Economic Empowerment Act 2021.
 - Adopted the county Investment Policy.
 - Through the Kajiado County Villages Delineation Act 2021, the county seeks to decentralize governance further to villages with an aim of ensuring effective service delivery.
 - The Kajiado County Disability Mainstreaming Bill is pending consideration at the county assembly.

Identified Gender/Women issues in County Plans.

Women and girls face harmful cultural beliefs and traditional practices, which strip them the opportunity from achieving their full potential, condemning them to an unequal livelihood. 78% of all girls undergo female genital mutilation (FGM). FGM typically takes place between infancy and the age of 15 and can result in serious, life-long health consequences such as severe bleeding, life-threatening infection, complications in childbirth and increased risk of new-born deaths. Further a lower number of young girls than girls complete primary school and proceed on to attend secondary school due to early teenage marriage and/or unexpected pregnancies.

Adopted Strategies towards empowering women and girls

The first CIDP identified support to over 400 active women groups mostly engaged in various income generating activities. The main activities the groups are involved in include buying, fattening and selling of livestock, making of beaded accessories like belts, necklaces, head gears, bangles and so on. Others are cultural groups engaged in dancing and other forms of entertainment.

The strategies proposed were inclusion of women in decision making/development roles.

and training of women and men on gender issues.

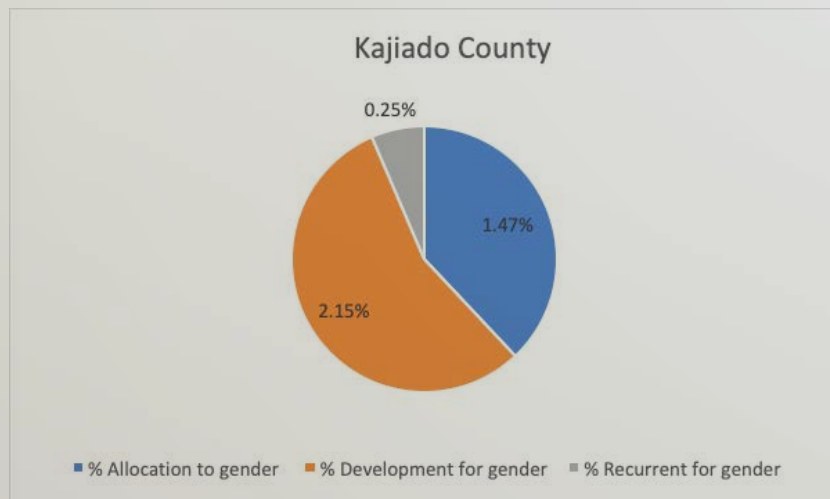
The second CIDP, 2017-2022, outlined focus on:

- sensitization of the community on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM);
- Anti-FGM advocacy campaigns;
- formulation and implementation of a Gender Policy and rescue missions of girls against early marriages, FGM, and Gender Based Violence (GBV) among other .
- empowerment of women through training on entrepreneurial skills, supporting women through projects such as the Ushanga project and providing funds through the through the Kajiado County Youth and Women Enterprise Development Fund (KCYWEDF).

Revenue Collection and Budget

In the FY 2013/14, the county had an approved budget of Kshs.3.76 billion comprising of Kshs.2.52 billion (66.9 per cent) for recurrent expenditure and Kshs.1.2 billion (33.1 per cent) for development expenditure. The budget was to be financed by Kshs.3.23 61 billion (85.4 per cent) from the national equitable share, Kshs.517 million (13.7 per cent) from local revenue sources and Kshs.38.3 million (1.01 per cent) as balance brought forward from the previous financial year. There are no available projections for allocation to gender mainstreaming in the inception of devolution.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.6.42 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.971.81 million as conditional grants, raised Kshs.862.29 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.552.55 million from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.8.86 billion. Gender, Social Services, Culture and Tourism and Wildlife had an allocation of Ksh 147.86 million (Ksh 138.86 million for development and 9 million for recurrent). The actual approved estimate to gender mainstreaming was Ksh 4,096,908 with an expenditure of Ksh 2,580,700 (63%).



Proportional allocation to department responsible for Gender in Kajiado County

Achievements

- The Gender policy will guide gender sensitive approaches in planning and implementation of and development programs.
- The Anti-FGM policy provides the legal framework required to fast track the eradication of FGM at the county level by creating decentralized governance structures to the ward level. There is also a county level Anti-FGM steering committee.
- The Women Empowerment Act has provided a kitty with funds issued to groups which are based and operational at the ward level and are practicing table banking. The groups must have a 50 and above membership. The Fund limit will be between Sh100, 000 and 300,000 for groups and a minimum of Sh100, 000 and Sh1, 000,000 for institutions.
- The county has ensured complementarity in education through increased bursary allocation from Ksh 40 million to Ksh 150 million. The county in consultations with local communities on their educational needs had ensured intervention in other levels of education. In Kajiado East Sub County alone, three ECDE centres.
- About 3,000 pupil have transitioned to primary schools.
- The Kajiado Village Delineation Act, 2021 will provide for public participation which considers the special needs of vey vulnerable people including persons with disabilities, marginalized groups and minorities, women, and other disadvantaged groups.
- 1,200 traders' have been relocated to a model market that has been constructed with majority of traders being women. This will help to decongest Kiserian streets where many traders were selling on the roadsides.

Challenges

- The voice of women and girls was not considered in the development of the 1st and 2nd CIDPS, subsequent ADPs and budgets during public participation forums convened by the County.
- The CIDPs and ADPs included a few women empowerment strategic measures, but with no clarity on follow up on implementation.
- No resources were allocated for the identified strategies targeting women and girls.
- Gender mainstreaming though mentioned as cross cutting issues in the sector programming, has not been used as during implementation.
- High levels of teenage pregnancy, violence against women and high dropout rates of girls from schools are reported and not dealt with firmly.
- Majority within the community still practices FGM targeting young girls with resultant consequence that some girls are subjected to child marriage.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

The Kenya Demographic Health Survey 2014 indicates that 96.7 percent of women between ages 15-49 receive antenatal care from a skilled provider; 62.4 percent of births are in a health facility; 63.2 percent are delivered by a skilled provider and 45.9 percent of women receive postnatal check up in the first two days. The county Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is 299 per 100,000 live births. 99.3 percent and 100 percent of currently married men and women at the age of 15-49 have heard of a modern contraceptive method. At least 45.2 percent of women aged 15-49 currently use any method of contraception. However, 45.5 percent of women of the same age don't use any contraception.

Achievements

- In the planning process on mainstreaming gender issues, the health sector set out to involve women and youth in design and implementation of health-related programs and activities.
- The county endeavoured to ensure that a third of leadership positions for various management committees are filled with women in line with the constitution of Kenya.
- The county government is committed to strive to promote community ownership and management of the health facilities especially in the rural areas.
- The county has invested in physical health access infrastructure by increasing the number of health facilities from 98 in 2017 to the current 112. A further 18 new facilities are at different levels of completion.
- There are 2 main centres being Kajiado county referral hospital and Kitengela sub county hospital. There are 4 sub county hospitals; Kajiado, Loitokitok, Ngong and Kitengela; 17 health centres and 78 dispensaries run by the county government. There are also 6 hospitals, 13 nursing homes, 7 health centres, 27 dispensaries and 101 clinics which are either run by private, faith based, community based and other non-government organizations.
- Kajiado Referral Hospital has a modern MRI and CT scan, a 6-bed renal unit, specialized laboratory Unit, 2 new theatre units, a blood satellite bank, an ICU facility, a cancer clinic unit.
- Increased health staff as follows: Clinical Officers from 70 to 130; and Medical Officers from 21 to 40 with supporting 125 public health officers.
- The doctor population ratio is 1:26,094, Public Health Staff is 1: 7,619, and the nurse population ratio is 1: 1,068.

- The average distance to a health facility is 14.3 km with only 9.9 percent of the population within a distance of less than a kilometre to a health facility.
- The county has raised the hospital bed capacity from the 500 we found in 2017, to 1,660 which we have today; phototherapy machines from 10 to 30; And set up a Blood Transfusion Unit with two blood refrigerators.
- Theatre facilities established at Ongata Rongai and Ngong Sub County Hospitals making all Level 4 Hospitals theatre compliant. The Mashuuru Hospital theatre is at an advanced stage of completion.
- Within the duration of the assessment Kajiado County UHC programme had been rolled out. The programme has a major focus on supporting 146,000 vulnerable households within the next 5 years in a phased approach.
- Kajiado County in partnership with the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) had reached 24,273 households in the first phase of UHC acceleration.
- The county has constructed 34 dispensaries and health centres in four years, 21 of which are complete and operational as well as 9 maternity wards.
- Consequently, 96.7 percent of women between ages 15-49 receive antenatal care from a skilled provider; 62.4 percent of births in a health facility; 63.2 percent are delivered by a skilled provider and 45.9 percent of women receive postnatal check up in the first two days. The county Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is 299 per 100,000 live births¹⁸.
- Rongai Sub County Hospital was recently upgraded to a Level 4 hospital status with increased inpatient capacity, theatre unit, dental services
- Upgraded and expanded 42 health facilities, employed over 300 new staff, strengthened referral systems, as well as ensured essential supplies and medicines are available.
- Operationalized the Facility Improvement Fund (FIF) which allows hospital managements to spend revenue collected at the facilities for operational costs without much bureaucracy.
- The Health Department has also benefited from increased budgetary allocation from Ksh 2 billion in 2017/2018 financial year to the current Ksh 2.1 billion, which is almost 23% of the entire budget.
- Supported Community Health Services by establishing a budget line to support areas such as scaling up primary health care and payment of a stipend to Community Health Volunteers (CHVs).
- Enhanced community health services and enacted the Kajiado County Community Health Services Act which supports Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) whom we have increased from 800 in 2017 to the current 1,932. This law provides a roadmap to transition them from volunteers to full time workers in future.

Challenges

- Community Health Volunteers are recruited but not remunerated since the county is dependent on development partners for their stipend.
- The county has been faced numerous strikes by medical staff and supporting casual workers which has affected service delivery.
- Clinics and dispensaries, reported understaffed and understocked.
- Facilities experience stock outs including family planning commodities that directly impacts women who get exposed to unwanted pregnancy.
- Limited knowledge on choice of family planning methods by women and girls.
- Cultural barriers that impede women access and use of family planning.

B. Education and Vocational Training

A 2006 Kenya National literacy survey of 48 percent of Kajiado residents consisting of 280,000 people were illiterate. This is against a backdrop of 78 percent national illiteracy index consisting of 7.5M people.

At the advent of devolution, the county had a literacy rate at 65.2 percent compared to the national literacy rate of 71.4 percent and an illiteracy rate of 35 percent compared to the national illiteracy rate of 28.6 percent. This was attributed to a combination of factors which include high dropouts' rate, low transition rate and socio-cultural practices among others.

i) ECDE.

Achievements

- At the planning stage in mainstreaming gender issues the sector the county planned to ensure both the boy and girl child are equally considered in education.
- The sector in collaboration with social protection culture and recreation has engaged in adult education programs targeting women to enhance women leadership in preparedness to county various leadership and decision positions.
- Has implemented ECDE scheme of service through employing 700 teachers (both male and female) on permanent and pensionable terms.
- In 2014, Kajiado County had a total number of 811 ECDE Centres (Public=423, Private=388) with a total population of 54604 pupils (26911 girls, and 28493 boys), a gender parity of 0.94 and average school size of 67. There was a total of 2594 ECDE teachers (public 967, private 1208), with a pupil to teacher ratio of 1: 23.1.
- In 2019, the pre-primary enrolment was 56631 pupils (27,799 girls and 28,562 boys) translating to a gender parity of 0.97. The pupils transitioned to a total of 1,909 pre-primary teachers (Public=877, Private =1032), with a pupil to teacher

¹⁸ The Kenya Demographic Health Survey 2014

ratio of 1:29.5 and average school size of 45.

- The walking distance has reduced with 63.8 percent of children walking for over 5Km down from 68.1 per cent and only 8.5 percent walking for 0-1Km away from school up from 5.7 per cent.
- The current ECDE net enrolment rate is 86 percent, the overall retention rate stands at 67 percent. The dropout rate stands at 19 percent, calling for increased retention efforts.
- 226 ECD complexes developed, 172 of which are complete and in use.
- Enrollment in public ECDE centres has increased from 37,687 pupils in 2017 to 43,000 pupils.
- 700 ECD teachers deployed on permanent and pensionable terms in 2018 bridging the gap between teacher /pupil ratio in public ECDE centres from 1:46 to 1:38.
- Reformed the bursary issuance formula by decentralizing it to the Ward Level benefit more than 10,000 students in addition to full scholarships for more than 500 students. In four years, number of beneficiaries has from 3,000 in 2017 to 10,000 this year. So far, 35,000 students have benefited, in addition to 430 students who are on full scholarships.

Challenges

- The county is yet to reach the optimal staffing level for ECDE teachers, there is need to increase the number.
- A key factor in the retention of young learners in school is provision of fortified porridge to all pupils and provision of recommended and approved learning materials. The county no longer provides learners with the feeding programme.
- The walking distances for pupils remain a challenge, there is need to increase the ECDE centres and avail mobile units for nomadic communities.
- Both levels of government are yet to integrate ECDE Curriculum with CBC curriculum to enhance seamless transition to primary school level.

“Ngonja ngombe kwanza ikunywe ndio mama achote maji”

(Wait for the cow to drink then women can fetch water)

FGD discussant

to encourage more out of school youth to access the skills training programme. Further successful beneficiaries receive loans from Sh5,000 to Sh300,000 to set up and run their start-up businesses within the automotive, agribusiness, engineering, beauty and personal care, building and construction and domestic service sectors.

- Training 1,500 motor bike riders in a partnership with the National Youth Service (NYS) and the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) undertaken.

Challenges

- Inadequate modern tools & equipment in the centres.
- Negative perception as institutions for failures and dropouts by the society hence low enrolment.
- Inadequately trained and remunerated instructors.
- Inadequate funding for the sector.
- Inadequate infrastructure.
- Mismatch between training skills and labour market

C. Water and Sanitation

Majority households (63.8) have access to water and soap while 98.2 per cent of the households did not have a designated handwashing facility in their households. There is low access to piped water which stands at 17.8 per cent in urban 8.6 per cent in rural and 33.3 per cent in peri urban areas. The county has low access to piped sewer among households which is 1.5 per cent urban (flush to septic tank) and less than 0.5 per cent coverage both in rural and peri urban areas. In addition, 86.0 per cent rural households do not have a toilet facility while 58.6 per cent of peri urban households use hanging toilets.

Sharing of a toilet facility with other households is common which stands at 24.6 per cent rural, 84.3 per cent urban and 37.9 per cent peri urban. In the discussions with women and girls the water hygiene and sanitation situation in the County was an area of concern. The trekking distances to water sources vary between 15 minutes in urban areas to more than 2 hours in rurales areas to the current water

source limiting the time available for domestic cores and economic participation of women and girls.

Despite the role of women in water supply for household use, they have limited participation in the design and management of the resources. Household water needs rank high for women compared to men. This is attributable to women's domestic gender roles including cleaning and maintaining household hygiene.

Achievements

- The county access to clean water in the county stood at 35 per cent in 2017, it is now at 45 per cent.
- 89 boreholes drilled, 74 of which are operational.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- Kajiado county has in place 5 operational polytechnics (Olekasasi in Kajiado North; Isinya in Kajiado East; Oltiasika and Namelok in Kajiado South; and Entasopia).
- The county has also extensively carried out training of teachers on emerging education strategies, provision of bursary to needy students and provision of curriculum books to teachers and learners.
- There is a partnership framework at vocational level, keenly with the Kenya Commercial Bank to co-sponsor 2000 youths to pursue technical courses in various VTCs under a programme dubbed the “Vijana 2jiajiri” programme. The idea

¹⁹ 2014 Basic Education Statistical Booklet

²⁰ 2019 Basic Education Statistical Booklet

- 9 water pans excavated that not only offer water for our livestock but are also being used for small scale irrigation.
- 82 distillation equipment and tank installations purchased.
- The Nolturesh water pipeline is now serving remote places with key arteries in Oloitokitok and Mashuuru and soon heading to Iltilal and Imaroro.
- Engagement with National Government undertaken to manage water piped from Nairobi to Export Processing Zone (EPZ). The county is now distributing this water to the people of Kitengela through 12 water kiosks where water costs Sh 5 per 20-litre jerrican up from the Sh 50 charged by private water vendors.
- In Kajiado Central, the Oldonyo Orok Water project, which has a 450,000 litres tanks are in place pumping 13,700 cubic litres of water daily. This water serves 12,000 households in the border town of Namanga and neighbouring Maili Tisa town.
- Oloontulugum Integrated Water Project in Kajiado Central established, where more than 2,000 households are benefitting with water for irrigation, livestock and domestic use.
- Rehabilitation of Eremit Springs in Ewuaso Oonkidong Ward in Kajiado West has reached 3,000 households who get water for their homes, small scale agriculture and livestock use.
- Oloitokitok Water and Sewerage Project benefitting 6,000 consumers completed. The project involved rehabilitation of the Nol-Turesh springs, laying of 16 km water pipeline to supply 5 million litres of water per day, installation of 1.5-Megawatt solar system power supply for two pumping stations, laying of 15km lateral and trunk sewers, construction of a waste water treatment treating 3 million litres per day.
- Risa water point under the Amboseli Water Supply Project is supplying residents of Risa, Booster, Amboseli, Meshenani, Lotepesi and Ichakita with 50,000 litres of water per day.
- The Kajiado County Water and Sanitation Bill to enhance access to water and sanitation for all is currently awaiting consideration by Kajiado County Assembly.

Challenges

Kajiado County Department of Health Services with the support of UNICEF and other partners carried out a SMART Survey in 4 sub-counties namely, Kajiado South, Kajiado East, Kajiado Central and Kajiado West. The survey was carried out in the lean period of the year in January and February 2018. The survey revealed that:

- The proportion of the households that queue for water is 35% with Kajiado East and Central having the largest proportion at 44.0 percent and 51.7 percent.
- Although majority of households store their water in closed containers only 30.6 percent treat their drinking water mostly by boiling.
- The proportion of household that are aware of handwashing

is good at 86.3%, only a few of them practiced handwashing in the four critical moments at 16.3%. Majority of them used soap and water as recommended.

- Open defecation is very prevalent in Kajiado county with 59.2% practicing open defecation which is a dangerous sanitation practice. Kajiado west and central had the highest proportion of households that practiced open defecation at 83.8% and 65.1% respectively.
- The assessment established that women are often the ones most motivated to establish and maintain an improved water supply, yet do not necessarily participate in decisions and management of water resources.

D. Agriculture

The agricultural sector in Kajiado county, committed to enhancing gender mainstreaming by ensuring that as the sub sectors work with the communities, gender involvement is encouraged. Involvement of women in the cooperative movements and various committees was identified as a priority.

Agriculture in Kajiado mainly comprises of livestock keeping and small-scale farming. About 14.5 per cent of the households produce crops, 26.0 per cent produce livestock, 0.1 per cent practice aquaculture and about 0.2 per cent are involved in fishing. About 3.9 per cent of the households practice irrigation farming. Currently only 26.2 per cent of households uses irrigation for farming in the past 12 months where the main source of water for irrigation is from rivers at 62.4 per cent. Water from deep well 25.0 per cent water from shallow well 2.6 per cent and water from springs at 10.0 per cent. The county can support irrigation farming by increasing access to water for irrigation.

Achievements

- The County has aggressively invested in interventions aimed at agro-processing and value addition capacities of the county particularly in meat, leather, horticulture (e.g., watermelons, banana, avocado, and pawpaw) and bee keeping (apiculture) production.
- Prioritized capacity building for women groups participating in agricultural activities such as buying, fattening and selling of livestock.
- As part of the Narok Kajiado Regional Economic Bloc is promoting participation in high-value product markets, such as, niche markets for livestock products (e.g., organic milk and meat). This will create value in several ways including:
 - farmers accessing premium process for the produce;
 - rearrangement of the food chain to marketing structures that bypass exploitative middlemen; steady revenues for farmers; and increased economic incentives in adopting sustainable land management practices.
- Set up a county demonstration farm in Kajiado town and procured motorcycles to ease agricultural extension services in various wards.

- Invested in access roads to enhance linkage between farms and markets. 1,419 kilometres of roads have been grading and a further 30 kilometres tarmacked, half of them through the municipalities. Extensive rural road infrastructure plays a central role in provision of affordable access to both markets for agricultural outputs and modern inputs.
- Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Programme to boost communities' production of nutritional food as well as diversifying sources of food is being implemented. The programme has supported 254 groups through improved breeds for cattle, dairy goats and chicken and provided 14,000 fingerlings to farmers.
- 4,000 members Kajiado Women Dairy Cooperative Society have a milk processing plant. Support has been provided to Kiserian Butchers Cooperative Society to rehabilitate Kiserian Slaughterhouse into a modern abattoir capable of selling high quality meat to commercial entities.

Challenges

- There are road access challenges in Kajiado. Kajiado's rural access index (RAI) is still relatively low at 44.0 per cent compared to the national average of 69.4 per cent.
- Poor knowledge by farmers especially female farmers adopting the farming from pastoralism.
- Farmers requires capacity building and demonstration through services extension agricultural officers.

E. Urban Planning

Kajiado County has approximately 13 urban areas with only two established as municipalities, Ngong and Kajiado Municipalities. Other growing urban areas are: Kiserian, Bissil, Namanga, Oloitoktok, Isinya, Entarra, Kitengela, Illasit and Rongai. Other bordering towns that may expand into Kajiado County are Sultan Hamud and Emali. Kajiado and Ngong have populations of 14,434 and 107,042, respectively.

Achievements

- Established municipal boards for Kajiado and Ngong. The boards are responsible for, among other things:
- The county allocated Ksh 91.6 million (Recurrent= 41.86, Development =50.00) for Kajiado Municipality and Ksh 289.29 (Recurrent =Ksh 73.34, Development= 215.95) to Ngong Municipality.
- The county under the Nairobi Metropolitan Services Improvement Program (NAMSIP) is developing 3 markets namely, Kitengela, Ngong and Ongata Rongai. The markets are proposed to be multi story with escalators.
- The county has invested in urban development projects like street lighting that has improved security within the municipalities. This has enhanced confidence of women traders to engage in early mornig and late evening trading.

Challenges

- The municipalities do not have an Urban Economic plan in place to guide structured interventions.
- Poor maintenance of services like replacement of street lights when they blow.

F. Revenue Collection and Tax Administration

- In FY 2020/21, the County generated Ksh.1.12 billion as own-source revenue. This amount represented a decrease of 5.3 per cent compared to Kshs.1.18 billion realised during a similar period in FY 2019/20 and was 67.5 per cent of the annual target. This was a key improvement compared to Ksh 325.20 million at the inception of devolution.
- In the first CIDP, 2013-2017, Kajiado had identified unexploited sources of revenue, untrained personnel, and revenue leakages as an impediment to attaining its revenue potential.
- The strategy put in place was to enhance revenue collection and strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanism. This was to be achieved through capacity building and assessing the revenue potential; however, this was not gender responsive.
- All local revenues to collected by the county have been guided by introduction of Finance Bills to introduced by the executive to the County Assembly outlining all sources of revenue for the county.
- Markets were a key source. A critical element going forward is ensuring proper management framework that will ensure efficient service delivery, revenue enhancement and proper governance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- i) The County Government should operationalize the Gender Policy, Anti FGM policy, and Village Act and ensure the village level structures are in place and avail budgets for implementation.
- ii) The county should put in place gender responsive M&E policy and gender responsive indicators to guide monitoring and evaluation and reporting results.
- iii) Structured consultations with women and girls must happen to continuously identify areas of need and develop strategies to intervene and provide a feedback loop.
- iv) Strategic efforts must be made to include women participation in all planning, budgeting and programming consultations within the county on development projects.
- v) Allocate the gender department resources to undertake gender mainstreaming and capacity building of all sectors and engaging in civic education within the communities to provide knowled and information towards eradicating harmful cultural practices like FGM and chaild marriage as per he laws adopted including development of the 3rd CIDP, 2022.

- vi) The Maasai Culture does not allow youths to closely interact with their seniors (decision makers). The FGD respondents reported that youth and women are usually excluded since they are not allowed to talk in public where men are. There is need for the county to pursue inclusion and participation of women, girls, men and boys in CIDP development process and also the annual planning and budget making process make the process and the feedback mechanism gender responsive.
- vii) The county should operationalize gender safe spaces to provide accommodation for Gender Based Violence (GBV) already established at the Kajiado County Referral Hospital.
- viii) There is need to deliberately target women and girls to be engaged in public participation.

II. Health

- i) The Community health volunteers were committed despite vastness to reach out to beneficiaries in their catchment areas, hence there is need for their motivation through county remuneration by putting them on the payroll.
- ii) The county should deploy adequate health care providers to level 2 and 3 health facilities especially those in rural and far-to-reach areas.
- iii) Special interest groups to be catered for in health service delivery must be clearly identified at lower-level health facilities; these include children, women, and persons with disability, adolescents and youth including teenage mothers, PLHIV, members of ethnic or linguistic minorities among others.
- iv) Gender inequity and cultural practices that hinder women access to family planning should be addressed through advocacy and public education.
- v) The county to make available maternal shelters in level 2 and 3 health facilities to assist women to get closer to the facilities in preparedness for safe facility deliveries.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- i. There is need for cross educational linkages to sustain and consolidate the gains in the ECDE investment and bursary programme. The County Assembly needs to fast-track the amendments to the Kajiado County Public Finance Management (County Bursary Fund) Regulations, 2019 that will set a legal framework to guide the recently launched County Bursary and Scholarship programme.
- ii. The County needs to intensify efforts to increase enrolment by carrying out intensive community sensitization on the importance of education, campaigning against negative cultural practices, enforcing children's Act and mobilization of funds to improve schools' infrastructure and also school feeding programmes, and Water and Sanitation (WASH) programmes.
- iii. The national government and support funds such as CDF

and Equalization Fund should prioritize construction of primary schools and secondary schools to reduce the burden of the county on non-devolved levels of education.

- iv. The school feeding programme should be complemented by support for women entrepreneurs to supply to nearby ECDE centres.

ii) VTCs

- i. The county needs to scale up hiring of VTC instructors.
- ii. The county should enhance the KCB partnerships with more companies to secure an agile system and relevant learning for VTC (technological development, change in practices etc.) which will lead to market linkages.
- iii. The county needs to scale up the training programme for motor bike riders to ensure compliance and safety.
- iv. Public education to promote the courses offered in VTCS and to encourage women to register in all the craft courses offered including non-traditional considered female courses.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- i) The County ought to expand and rehabilitate the existing piped water connection infrastructure to increase access to water, through a communal access point and clustering of several households. household clustered approach.
- ii) Women play a crucial role in accelerating access to sanitation and hygiene services at household level and so there is need to explicitly involve them at community level right from inception and design to implementation and management.
- iii) Community leaders are highly respected in the Maasai community and should be targeted as sanitation ambassadors to encourage the communities and accelerate uptake and use of improved sanitation.
- iv) There is need to target sincling bore holes to make water accessible to communities in terms of domestic use and also in schools, health facilities and VTC institutions.

V. Agriculture

- i) There is need for the county to invest in access roads to enhance linkage between women farmers and markets.
- ii) Invest in crucial market infrastructure including lighting and water services to facilitate trade activities.
- iii) Hire more agricultural extension officers to provide capacity building programmes to farmers including female farmers.
- iv) Educate farmers to grow more drought resistant crops to adapt the the erratic climate change situation.

VI. Urban Planning

- i) Effective agreements should be entered into with market users, majority women, during space allocation to avoid disorganization and disruption of the produce zoning within the markets.
- ii) Financial decentralization needs to be realized in the

municipality. This is essential as it can help the municipality plan and finance the social and physical infrastructure programmes as suggested by citizens through the citizen fora.

F. Best Practice: Kajiado County Referral Hospital

Kajiado Referral Hospital, we now have a modern MRI and CT scan, a 6-bed renal unit, specialized laboratory Unit, 2 new theatre units, a blood satellite bank, an ICU facility, a cancer clinic unit, an oxygen gas manifold among other notable achievements.

The hospital specialties introduced include Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT), general surgery, gynaecology, mental health,

nephrology, general physician, paediatric and dental services, maxillofacial, ophthalmology among others.

Based on the criterion for selecting a Best Practice which includes its evaluation in relation to its relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impact and its replicability in other environments. Kajiado County Referral Hospital met the criteria and embodies community involvement and innovativeness.

We disseminate the information through the usual public channels and assume that the information reaches everybody.

A KII discussant



Kajiado County ICU Unit

3.5. KILIFI COUNTY

Kilifi county covers a total surface area of 12,610km² and accounts for 2.17 percent of Kenya's total surface area. Kilifi borders the counties of Tana River, to the North, Taita Taveta to the West, Mombasa and Kwale to the East. As per the 2019 population census, Kwale has a total population of 1,453,787 comprising 704,089 male and 749,673 females. It registered a total of 25 intersex persons. The County has 8 sub counties namely Chanyi, Ganze, Kaloleni, Kauma, Kilifi North, Kilifi South, Magarini, Malindi and Rabai. Kilifi is one of the counties with Gender Data Sheet undertaken in July 2019 by Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, the UN Women and Women Count. The State of Kenya population report 2020, Kilifi has a prevalence of child marriage of 27.5% with a 63.7% of women married as children. Generally, Kilifi's women are marginalized and very poor. There is high poverty level among women couples with

high numbers of single motherhood. Teenage pregnancy has been on increase during the COVID period with many girls dropping out of school. Despite the return of school policy, poverty levels and peer pressure leading to early marriages has contributed to the girls not returning to school after delivery. Contributory factors to the high poverty levels among women and girls are cultural practices that do not value women education, poor parenting, poverty and inadequate education on SRHR.

The county has established the Department of Culture, Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services. The departments mandate includes promotion of social protection to the vulnerable members in the County, empowering youth and promoting sports. It also works to promote gender equality, preserve positive culture for socio-economic development.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Elected MCA	-	-	-
Nominated MCA		1	19
CECMs	11	6	5
Office of the County Secretary	1	1	0

Identification of gender / women issues in the CIDPs

The first CIDP 2013-2017 of the County outlined gender equality and empowerment of women and girls' interventions that included:

- Promoting social cultural empowerment of vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- Construction of concrete fence to the community library.
- Expansion of the rehabilitation centres.
- Rehabilitation of a rescue centres for vulnerable children.
- Construction of public toilets.
- Supply of solar lanterns to ECDE pupils.
- Installation of solar streetlights.

The 2013-2022, 2nd CIDP build on the gains of the 1st CIDP. The county proposed to have a transformative agenda that fully addresses the needs of the people of Kilifi including empowerment of women and youth, children and PWDs. There are indications that the development of the plans was participatory by inclusion of key stakeholders who include women and youth.

The county has since inception facilitated the establishment of 654

Community Based Organizations (CBO) of which 457 are women groups and 197 are Youth groups. The groups engage in activities like poultry, fishing, bee keeping, small scale farming and in income generating activities. The County has continued to supplement the National Government interventions like the Women Enterprise Fund, Youth Enterprise Development Fund, Affirmative Action Fund, Uwezo Fund among other social protection programmes. The county has taken the approach of taking gender as a cross cutting issue. The 2nd CIDP notes that gender equality and equity will be promoted in all areas of development through Gender Mainstreaming, reduction of gender discrimination and integrating gender concerns by use of Gender Responsive Budgeting tools. The county programmed to do the following gender sensitive activities: -

- Invest in economic empowerment to alleviate poverty especially among women.
- Promote economic empowerment for women, youth, men and PWDs.
- Promotion of women leadership at all levels to promote gender equity.
- Awareness creation on Sexual Gender Based Violence.

- Promotion of Adolescent Reproductive Health and Rights.
- Strengthen accountability mechanism with access to justice mechanism.
- Promote women and youth self-help groups.
- Increase capacity of women and youth to engage.
- Improve access to business financing for women and youth and in fulfilling the Affirmative Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO).
- Facilitate access to information targeting youth toward Behavior Change.
- Establish mentorship program for the Youth.
- Promote women engage in peace building and conflict resolution.
- Increase youth and women empowerment programmes to strengthen communities.
- To institutionalize performance management measures for result orient public services.
- To strengthen policy and legislative equality and empowerment of women and girls.

The County has focused on the priorities on women and girls below;

- Gender Based Violence targeting women and girls.
- Forced child marriages.
- Teenage and child pregnancy.
- Violence against children especially the girl child.
- Gender discrimination and burnt women and girls face.
- High numbers of orphans and vulnerable children requiring support.
- Construction of once correctional rehabilitation centre.
- Supervising establishment of child friendly desks at the police station.
- Investments in safety net social protection programme for the County for The Vulnerable Groups by way of cash transfers to the small number of elderly and other OVCs.

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

Gender Programme is under the department of, Culture, Gender, Youth, Sports and Social services. Its goal is to promote socio-cultural empowerment and access to equitable development opportunities to respond to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups. The mandate of the department is to promote social protection and empower youth and women among others. The sectors vision is to promote sustainable and equitable socio-cultural and economic empowerment of all.

Achievements

- Undertaken sensitization programmes for youth, women and PWDs.
- Trained youth and women as Trainer of Trainers on e-business.
- Distributed non-food items to some elderly persons.
- Engaged in activities to end GBV during 16 days of gender activism celebrated globally.

- Formulated draft gender policy awaiting public participation.
- Conducted campaigns against teenage and child pregnancy in all sub-counties.
- Conducted community dialogues to involve men as support machinery for women.
- Developed the Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health (ASRH)/HIV strategy.
- Women groups are game changers and the county invested a lot in women through education and sensitization programmes.

The gender flagship programmes are in gender mainstreaming. The sector noted its resource requirements to meet its infrastructural support to alleviate poverty, especially among women, fight against GBV and other retrogressive cultural practices, utilization of the opportunities presented by blue economy and construction of GBV rescue centre. The sector planned to construct empowerment centre for PWDs, avail assistive devices, construction of safe houses for children and community library.

The Gender Department transitioned from an ad hoc mode of programming in gender mainstreaming to a more strategic intervention process.

The department has developed draft a Gender Policy and Gender Based Violence policy all waiting for public participation. If the policies are passed, it is the first step towards political goodwill to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. The sector of gender heavily depends upon partners working in gender and women to support most of the intervention. The challenge is that the county rarely gets to implement its own planned activities.

Achievements

- Providing capacity to all County Department's planning a gender lens.
- Held capacity building programmes with women in communities to promote women's rights.
- Positioned women and girls as the face of the mainstreaming agenda.
- Created awareness and sensitized other County Departments on why gender mainstreaming is important. One Deputy Director of Budget is trained on gender sensitive planning and has been instrumental in guiding on Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting.
- Constructive dialogues with communities to appreciate women and girl's role in the community and their vulnerability and to structural solutions.
- Promoted the right of girls to access education.
- Facilitated programmes with women to see themselves as game changers.
- Tackling menace of teenage and child pregnancy through empowerment programmes targeting women and girls and undertaking advocacy on the drainage of teenage pregnancies.

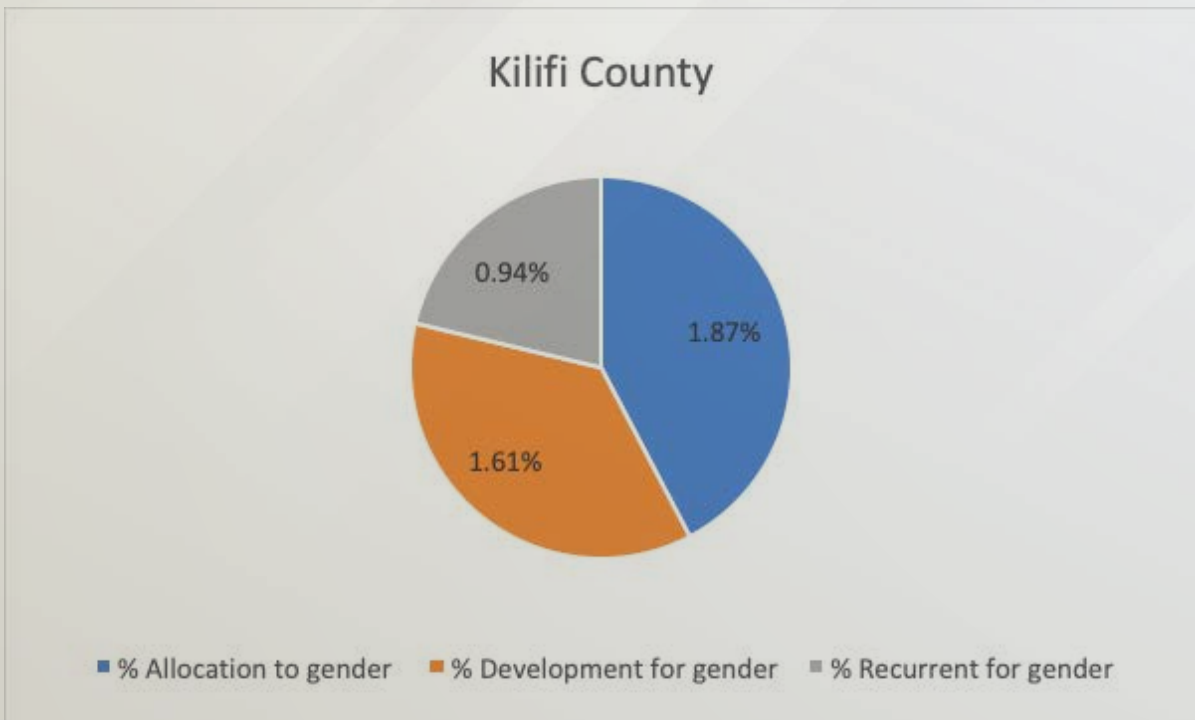
- Advancing strategies linking the girls and women to sexual reproductive health services and Adolescent friendly services.
- Working with partners, the programme is implementing the Back to School Policy for the girls who get pregnant and drop out of school.
- Engaging the young sex workers to understand the implication of being young and the need to remain in school.
- Initiated programmes with young key population already engaged as sex workers.
- The impact of gender mainstreaming is visible in interventions by other departments.
- Within the planning and Budgeting department, the County department care guided in settling some minimum indicators and they have embraced gender responsive planning.

c) Revenue Collection and Budget

In FY 2013/14, the County received Kshs.5.4 billion as the national equitable share, generated Kshs.459.6 million from local sources, and had Kshs.144 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13.

In the period between 2013/14 and 2016/17 financial year, according to the Controller of Budget Annual Reports for 2013/14 to 2016/17, the Kilifi County government has spent a total of Kshs. 30.754B on various project activities. When the approved budget for 2017/18 FY is added, the County government’s total 5-year budget increases to Kshs.53.33B, in which equitable share of the revenue raised nationally is Kshs.37.31B, conditional grants Kshs.1.956B and own source revenue Kshs.3.074B. Social Protection, Culture and Recreation spent Kshs.588.27 (2.23%) for the 5 years.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.10.44 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.1.64 billion as conditional grants, raised Kshs.833.85 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.629.4 million from FY 2019/20 and Kshs.59.89 million as other revenues. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.13.6 billion.



Proportional allocation to department responsible for Gender in Kilifi County

The department responsible for Gender (Gender, Culture & Social Services) received Ksh 274 million (Recurrent= Ksh 187 m, Development=87m). This was 1.87% allocation.

Digital Financial Services

- Youth – doing 75% of business – digital generation.
- Women have a challenge is using digital financial services and have not embraced it.
- Women traders have been conned digitally and they are risk averse.
- Online purchases are feared by citizens in the county.
- Women accessing Uwezo funds etc. successful.
- Poor financial literacy.
- Women in small scale business are happy to deal with cash buyers because they do not have SMART phones.
- Accessibility of financial services is limiting.
- County does not have information centres to facilitate digital information.
- The county does not have any tax waivers for women traders. However, during Covid-19 period, the county introduced some short term, fees waiver to access markets.
- Finance Bill does not promote fees waiver on gender grounds and would call for an amendment.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Education and Vocational Training

The department of Education and ICT offers support to the two county specific mandates in education that are devolved namely ECDE and VTC.

i) ECDE

The county has an enrolment of 138,244 learners in pre-primary. The County is committed toward achievement of quality pre-primary education. It has 1550 public ECD centres and 773 privately owned ECD centres with a total enrolment of 58,628. About 500 centres with furniture and required equipment supplied. The first County Government passed the Kilifi County Early Childhood Education Bill 2016 and the Kilifi County Childcare Facilities Bill 2016. However, the Governor declined to sign the bills and returned them with memorandum urging the County Assembly to collapse it in one law whose objective will be regulate early childhood education and childcare facilities. That has not been affected. The County has also sent to the county assembly the Kilifi County Pre-Primary Education Policy and Kilifi County leading Programme Bill. Both have not been passed.

Achievements

- The sector has ensured that the Board of Management of the ECDE schools meet the two third gender rule in representation.

- a good number ECDE teachers recruited with majority being are women.
- The ECDE Centers act as the holding place for babies to free the mother's time to engage in other businesses.
- The 1st county government introduced school feeding program but it was withdrawn in the second government due to lack of adequate budget.
- Citizens have been empowered to monitor interventions that touch their well-being.
- Enrolment of ECDE has increased with good transition into pre-primary schools.

Challenges

- Lack of ECDE providing special needs care for the children with disabilities.
- Children are not provided with a hot meal (feeding programme). Some centers have made local arrangements with parents to make provision for porridge for the children as an incentive to keep pupils in school.
- Cultural beliefs (about witchcraft) that keep children and teachers out of school.
- Due to high levels of poverty, children are too hungry to go to school.
- Ignorance about schooling with parents resisting to take children to school for fear of indoctrination of their children.
- Many ECDE classrooms constructed without desks and pupils sit on the floor.
- Some ECDE classrooms constructed without toilets and clean water.
- Community still ignorant on their role on public participation. Citizens require transport facilitation to attend county meetings.
- Some parents are lazy to take children to school and give excuses of the long distance.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- Girls engage in sporting activities to keep them active not to engage in early sex and abuse of drugs. Girls are sexually active and engage with adult men when very young.
- County has conducted community dialogues to establish the root causes of teenage pregnancy.
- The county has conducted advocacy promoting youth education and especially girl's education when celebrating key days like International Women's day, 16 days of gender activism among others.

Challenges

- Many youths reportedly have shunned technical colleges despite the investment by the county. Those who join opt to be day scholars citing fees constraints.

- Certificates offered in craft and artisan courses are considered inferior and attributed to school failures.
- The enrolment rate is low, especially for girls. Currently only 5,494 youth are enrolled.
- Many girls drop out of school due to teenage pregnancy.
- Though Return to School Policy exists, the teenage mothers who wish to continue with school lack caregivers to help babysit for them.
- The girls only enroll to study in known traditional female courses i.e. dress making, hairdressing etc.
- Some learners have no resources to pay for subsidized costs of VTC. Parents are unable to pay fees
- Sanitary bins have been put in female toilets to facilitate safe disposal.
- The County offers limited bursaries for the needy. No clear criteria on how the needy are identified and decisions taken to support.
- Poverty is an underlying issue that keeps girls out of any learning institution.
- There are few learners or instructors that have disabilities an indication that they are not free to come out.
- There are many cases in the county of abandoned children due to high levels of poverty.
- No linkages to employment market upon completion of training with high levels of unemployment in the county.
- Shortage of learning equipment in some courses offered.

B. Agriculture

The sector of Agriculture is in the department of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries. The County Agriculture production is dominated by both food and cash crops and women are engaged in both subsistence and commercial levels. Men engage in cash crop farming and also in goat keeping and fishing. Women mainly do subsistent farming, poultry and bee keeping. Over the years, the flagship programmes in Agriculture have included procurement of tractors, construction of water pans procurement of seeds and farm implements for farmers, and rehabilitation of cattle dips. Agricultural programs have targeted increase in soil fertility for in agriculture and Livestock farming and growing co-operative societies. Other support programmes by the County include leasing of farming equipments, crop production and management, agribusiness development and information management, investing in irrigation and information management. Consultations with county officials and women stakeholders in Agriculture agreed on the following as achievements and challenges.

Achievements

- The department has embraced gender mainstreaming in all its interventions in the agriculture.
- Women are beneficiaries of livestock farming but they have also enough information to engage in poultry farming.

- The Agricultural products have empowered women to have continuous income.
- The county supplies seedlings to farmers, thus making farming manageable.
- The community has clear division of roles in terms of Agricultural preferences making it easy for the targeted interventions by the county. For example, maize grown commercially, cashew nuts and coconut are crops for men. Women engage in growing cassavas that has very poor market after harvesting.
- Farmers are being trained on how to mitigate climate change because of drought including adaptation.
- Land ownership in the county is largely still in hands of men.
- Women have been empowered to improve their kitchen gardens and address improved nutrition.

Challenges

- The Agriculture extension officers are recruited to help farmers but have limited gender knowledge.
- Women require more resources to engage in farming and therefore the need for the County to increase access to agricultural loans.
- Climate change has impacted farming and women and girls suffer the consequence of ignorance and lack of proper information including early warning signs.
- The county has not kept gender disaggregated statistics to enable the team establish the involvement and beneficiaries based on their gender roles.

C. Water and Sanitation

Water is managed under the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources. The County has suffered the consequences of climate change with frequency of extreme drought and floods in Ganze, Kaloleni and Magarini areas. The county has many minerals that remain unexploited. The County has made strides in investing in access to clean water but it remains a huge challenge, since majority of its citizens are unable to access it. The county supports water projects in Malindi, Mirorini, langobaya, Malingi Magarini in the Maraja Mararini.

The department strives to sustainably manage natural resources and maintain a clean and health environment. The programme has developed and had the Kilifi County Climate Change Act passed into law. The County has engaged in improved waste management. The County has only 2 sources of water from water pans and boreholes, that cannot adequately meet the needs.

Challenges

- Women and girls have to walk long distances in search of water for domestic use.

- Women are unable to manage their kitchen gardens due to limited water.
- The county government makes attempts to provide households with limited (2) 20 litres container of water but it is usually not enough for family use at home. This causes great burdens on women in search of more water.
- Most schools in rural as well as urban areas have no or limited supply of water.
- Development partners collaboration has more investment in water i.e. World Bank have collaborated with county government to increase water supply. However, it is still very inaccessible.
- Women and girls suffered greatly with limited water during the monthly menses period.
- The issue of climate change and its vulnerability to women has not been considered.

D. Health

Kilifi County health programme is geared towards implementing the Universal Health Coverage as one of the Big 4 agenda for national government. The aim is to ensure the community receives quality promotive, preventative, curative and rehabilitate health services, without suffering financial hardships. The vision is to have a healthy and productive population. The County requires to have efficient and high-quality health care system that is accessible, equitable and affordable for every Kenyan.

Achievements

- Increased health facilities in the county from 91 in 2013 to 150 in 2020, an increase rate of 65%.
- The County statistics show that maternal mortality rate is at 290/100,000 live birth.
- There is increase in number of contraceptive prevalence rate at 40.
- The county has 79% increase in Health Workers between 2013 – 2020.
- The targets for programming for women and girls are an indication that gender has been mainstreamed in health planning and intervention.
- In 2017, 33 percent of women reported have had conversations with their husbands on method of family planning.
- County has adopted a multi-sectoral approach by use of public education as well.
- Deliveries in health facilities have increased by 30 percent.
- There are a few women still using Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs). However, the County is almost eliminating use of TBA through sensitization and training them to instead make referrals.
- The reproductive and maternal care has now been granted a budget line as well as Family Planning.

- There is improved relationship with development partners that has increased donor support.
- County has effectively reached the community through community health structures.

Challenges

- During COVID-19, 2020-2021, cases of GBV were on the increase.
- County not able to capture all GBV data because of lack of infrastructure.
- County reports high levels of teenage pregnancies and increase of young mothers.
- The draft menstrual hygiene policy has not been passed. (If it passes, Kilifi will be the first county to domesticate the National Menstrual Hygiene Policy.
- The Maternal New born Bill is pending before the county assembly.
- Infrastructure investment aims to have a maternity facility in every ward.
- The County Assembly failed to approve payment of a stipend for Community Health Volunteers (CHVs). In total, the County has 2700 CHVs who serve voluntarily.
- Challenges coping with high case of GBV and teenage pregnancy.
- The County has not invested in promoting communities to increase NHIF coverage.
- Unlike other counties, the Kilifi has not put in place programmes to educate women and girls on need to family planning.
- There is limited evidence on male engagement in Family Planning Services.

F. Urban Development

Urban Development is a function under the Sector of Lands, Energy, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development. Kilifi County has critical land tenure issues, inadequate access to energy and housing and unplanned areas. Within its mandate, the county desires to improve urban management of residents in Kilifi and Malindi municipalities as a preferred tourism destination. This aims to increase production and access to efficient energy, provide, and ensure adequate planning. The county 2nd CIDP proposed to undertake the following priority interventions.

- Improve infrastructure and social amenities in urban areas.
- Upgrade informal settlements.
- Develop physical development plans for controlled development.
- To manage development and growth of urban areas to decent and affordable housing.
- The county prioritizing safety management as well as development of urban social and economic infrastructure.

- Prioritize the establishment of an institutional framework to strengthen urban management and governance structures across the county. All development partners and non-stake actors will align their programme to the plan.
- The county has a draft county spatial plan for 10 years. That guides utilization of county land and resources.

Challenges

- The spatial plan does not address mixed use for example accessibility and mobility.
- Urban planning and urban settlement affect gender equality and women's empowerment, but the plan does not provide how the county plans to ameliorate the situation.
- Limited interventions have been made on improving services in the municipalities for example improved toilets and lighting streets to enhance security of women and girls.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
 - i. The county has to be more strategic in its gender mainstreaming plans by approving and operationalizing the gender policy.
 - ii. The county has to move further to develop a county Gender Action Plan that would provide to county gender priority interventions to ensure full integration of gender into the development agenda of all the county sectors.
 - iii. Advocate for gender responsive budgeting to ensure all sectors get resources to mainstream gender interventions to avoid the gender department overrelying on support from the partners on matters gender.

Budget Allocations

- Finance Bill needs to be reviewed to take care of tax regime that is favourable to women and other marginalized groups.
- The county should invest in financial and digital literacy for the female traders.
- Women should be trained to engage more with SACCOs and micro finance institutions willing to support startups and also helping grow already existing entrepreneurship especially those owned by women.

II. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- i) There is a need to factor in the budget the school feeding programme for the ECDE pupils to ensure that those from marginalized communities get at least one meal a day.
- ii) Construct more ECDE classrooms and recruit more tutors, majority who will be female.
- iii) Designate disability friendly ECDE and provide them with resources and teachers.

ii) VTC

- i) The County has good desire to undertake gender mainstreaming. However, the proposed strategies have not been supported by gender planning, implementation and evaluation gender tools. These include have an approved gender policy, women empowerment and implementation guide for all the other departments.
- ii) The County need to popularize the VTC education to learners, parents and guardians and, provide scholarships for those unable to pay.
- iii) Girls must be empowered to undertake the non-female traditional courses that are beneficial to men and women and not only female related courses.
- iv) Undertake advocacy and public education on the importance of education and to condemn and publish cultural practices that predispose girls to early marriage and premature sex leading to high cases of teenage pregnancy.

III. Agriculture

- i) The county to consider enhancing agricultural credit facilities for women to increase available resources to improve production. Women should be trained and given capacity to access the special loans.
- ii) A lot more capacity is required and to enhance irrigation schemes since a lot of farming in Kilifi is linked to rain fed agriculture. Further, the county ought to introduce gender friendly farming mechanism to sustain profit.
- iii) The county should consider and invest in data disaggregation based on gender to enable better and gender focused planning in agriculture.
- iv) Further, the county to invest in community dialogues on importance of women owning land.
- v) Women and youth to be given capacity in the gender effects of climate change. Capacity is necessary to facilitate better timing of planting.
- vi) Women farmers to be educated on the effects of climate change and to receive knowledge on how to identify early warning signs.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- i. The County needs to invest more in water exploration and supply to the households.
- ii. It will be useful to engage in investing in sinking more boreholes near settlement areas to get the water closer to the people for domestic purposes.
- iii. The county may consider investing in women groups through Saccos to provide about 10,000 liters water tanks to every home to assist women access to improved water including tapping rain water to supplement other sources.
- iv. The county will need to expand its water infrastructure. Women and girls need to be released from the burden of domestic search for water.

- v. The county should grow its gender mainstreaming strategies with clear indicators on percentage of men and women accessing improved and clean water.

V. Health

- i. The county has a strong gender mainstreaming strategy integrated in other health sector policies. However, the budget targeted to health should be increased comfortably and integrate gender in all health interventions.
- ii. The county to consider greater investment in capacity building for improved in gender disaggregated statistics and sex disaggregated data and seek to work closely with KNBS gender unit to develop strong indicators to monitor health interventions with a gender lens, to enable it to re-design the implementation priorities.
- iii. The county to consider hiring Community Health Workers (CHWs) and put them on the county payroll as a great investment in health to promote public education on well-being of the community including improved service delivery including availing family planning services.

VI. Urban Planning

- i. The County Government of Kilifi must undertake implementation of the spatial plan in a way that creates walk

paths for citizens including women, children and PWDs to walk freely, access employment, and engage in trade that is safe i.e. provision of street lighting to facilitate late night trade and access to utilities.

- ii. The County government should consider its preparedness to address gender responsive urban planning at the institutional, political, rural and cultural level.
- iii. The Gender Department must seize the moment and develop capacity building training programme for engineers to understand why gender and empowerment of women and girls is important for planning and execution respecting the gender differences.

G. Best Practice: Kilifi New Born Unit

Kilifi county in partnership with Safaricom Foundation partnered to construct a New Born Unit at the Kilifi Referral Hospital to provide quality maternal health care services. It is a 60-bed capacity with modern equipment in new born management. The facility has seen decrease in neonatal and maternal deaths and many mothers preferring facility deliveries. It has put a lot of confidence in the mothers who utilize the facility since the mothers no longer have to share beds nor sleep on the floor.



3.6. LAMU COUNTY

Lamu County is in the Northern Coast of Kenya and covers 6,200km. The County covers a strip of north-eastern coastal mainland and the Lamu archipelago, which consists of around 65 islands, which extend about 100 km south from the Somalia border. The most well-known of the islands is Lamu Island with history dating as far back as the 14th Century. The county has a population of 143,920 (M= 76,103, F=67,183, Intersex=4) with an average household size of 3.7 and a population density of 23 people per Km². In 2009, the total population was 101,539 (M= 53,045 and F=48,494), Female reproductive age group (15-49 years): The number of women in this female reproductive group (15-49 years) in 2012 stood at 25,253 constituting 22.5 percent of the county population. The population density was 16 People per KM².

Lamu County is the least populated with a share of 0.3 per cent of the total population. There are two constituencies, namely Lamu West and Lamu East and 10 wards in the County: Witu, Bahari, Hongwe, Mkunumbi, Hindi, Basuba, Shella-Manda, Amu, Faza and Kiunga. Lamu indigenous communities are highly patriarchal

and traditional and although women's status and role may vary according to age; most indigenous women enjoy few rights as many traditional customs discriminate directly against the girl child and women in general. A case example is in the coxswain industry, women have shied away from the boat coxswain business, leaving it all to the men. Out of the more than 5,000 boat operators in the county, there is not a single woman in the vast water transport industry. Between 2019 and 2020, there were only two women whose stint did not last long as they quickly dropped out one after the other owing to gender norms.

Indigenous women in these communities have many chores that are physically demanding despite often having many children and being responsible for obtaining food for all household members, while also working outside their homes. In most of these communities, the girl child is often denied the right to education, and thus illiteracy is prevalent among indigenous women. Most indigenous women have little access to healthcare and their mortality rate is high. Furthermore, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), usually related to early marriages.²¹

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	0	0
Deputy Governor	1	0	0
Elected MCA	10	0	-
Nominated MCA	0	10	19
CECMs	6	3	5
Chief Officers	10	3	0

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- The county does not have a gender policy. However, it adopted some gender related strategies, for example the county established a women empowerment fund and promotes credit for women enterprises, supports girls with sanitary pads and further supports women formation of women groups and saccos.
- The County has an education scholarship programme, an initiative to promote girls' education and subsequently their empowerment once through with school. Through the programme the county offers full scholarship for all the learners who score 300 marks and above. The county also sponsors students pursuing degree courses in universities with Ksh 20,000, while those pursuing diploma courses will get Ksh 15,000. Those pursuing certificate courses will get Ksh 10,000.

- The Gender Sector working group is in place to ensure multi sector coordination of gender equality and women empowerment initiatives.

Identified Gender/Women issues.

- Lamu County has a population distribution of more male (52.9%) than female (47.1%). The Kenya Health Information System (KHIS, 2020) reported 516 cases of teenage pregnancies between January and May 2020. While this was a drop from 587 cases compared to a similar period in 2019. These are associated with high rates of school dropouts, stigma, increased mental health concerns, postpartum depression, and suicidal ideation.
- It was noted that women, though forming 48% of the population suffered inequality by not owning land and other properties, not being involved in decision-making and 30%

²¹ CURP: Lamu County Spatial Plan; Volume I (2016 – 2026)

affirmative action not achieved. Despite these challenges, women make significant contribution to the county development. Through the 421 registered women groups, they have taken advantage of existing financial facilities provided by women fund, poverty fund and loan facilities from Kenya Women Finance Trust (KWFT).

- The review affirms the gender and women issues which lead to low participation of women in decision-making.

Strategies of empowering women and girls in the development agenda

The 1st Lamu CIDP, 2013-2017 acknowledged that gender inequality is one of the cross-cutting issues that affects the county's development. The CIDP obliged the county to take deliberate efforts to overcome the inequality challenge and establish a women's affairs department within the County to reduce gender inequality gaps. The CIDP denoted three gender-based disadvantage dimensions namely: reproductive, empowerment and labour market.

Lamu County also identified that women in the reproductive age group (15-49 years) required access to specific services such as maternity and family planning. The women, most of whom constitute the rural population, also form the backbone of the Agricultural and Trade Sector. They face the full brunt of the triple burden in their role of production, reproduction and performing community work. The challenge was therefore to ensure that women in the reproductive age group are given ample opportunities to play their roles.

Gender equality and empowerment of women are one of the areas under implementation at the County level. The county outlined the creation of social halls and GBV trainings offered to men, women, and children. Thus, to ensure gender inclusiveness, the Lamu County government envisaged to achieve 30% female representation in senior management positions by 2018, and 30% government contracts shared between women, youth, and people with disabilities. It also acknowledged the need to enforce affirmative action programmes as per the provisions of the Kenya Constitution. The CIDP, therefore, set the foundation for an effective framework for gender mainstreaming in the County in line with the provisions of the Constitution, 2010 and other gender related policies in Kenya. They prioritized various programmes promoting social protection and empowerment of special interest groups including women, youth and persons with disabilities.

The programmes were to address the following:

- Establishment of gender-based violence working groups.
- Use cooperatives to spur growth such as promotion of Women, Youth and General Traders Sacco.
- Construction of Jua kali shades in every ward.
- Sensitize youth on HIV and STIs.
- Conduct campaigns on responsible sexual behavior, contraceptives, teenage pregnancy among others.

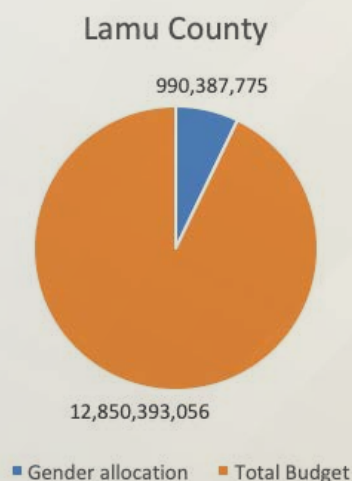
- Investment Clinics for Women Entrepreneurs and economic empowerment of women, youth and persons with disabilities.
- Increase credit for women, youth and PWDs.
- Target groups are organized and assisted to access the national Devolved Funds and appropriate share of government contracts

The second CIDP, 2017-2022 considered the following:

- Gender mainstreaming as a strategy to integrate gender.
- Socio-economic empowerment of women, youth, PWDs, marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- Elimination of discrimination and Gender Based Violence and awareness creation among the local community to change perception against a girl child education.
- Nurturing and development of talents of youth.
- Promotion and conservation of culture and heritage.
- Promotion of social cohesion and integration among the residents of Lamu County.
- Construction of social halls to create employment for women and youth as well as enhancing social cohesion.
- Socio-economic empowerment through issuance of grants will improve income levels among women, PWDs and VMGs.

Revenue Collection and Budget

During the period July 2013 to June 2014, the County received Kshs. 1.5 billion as the national equitable share, raised Kshs.35.6 million from local sources, and had Kshs.125 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13. There are no estimates available on how much was allocated to gender interventions. Lamu County is allocated the least amount of money compared to all the other 47 counties. This has been the case even after the revision of the formular by the Commission for Revenue Allocation. The allocated amounts have steadily increased from Ksh 138,852,590 (FY 2012/13) to Ksh 2,476,400,000 (FY 2017/18). Over the INITIAL 5-year period that devolution has been in place, Lamu county Government has had a cumulative total budget of Ksh. 12,850,393,056.



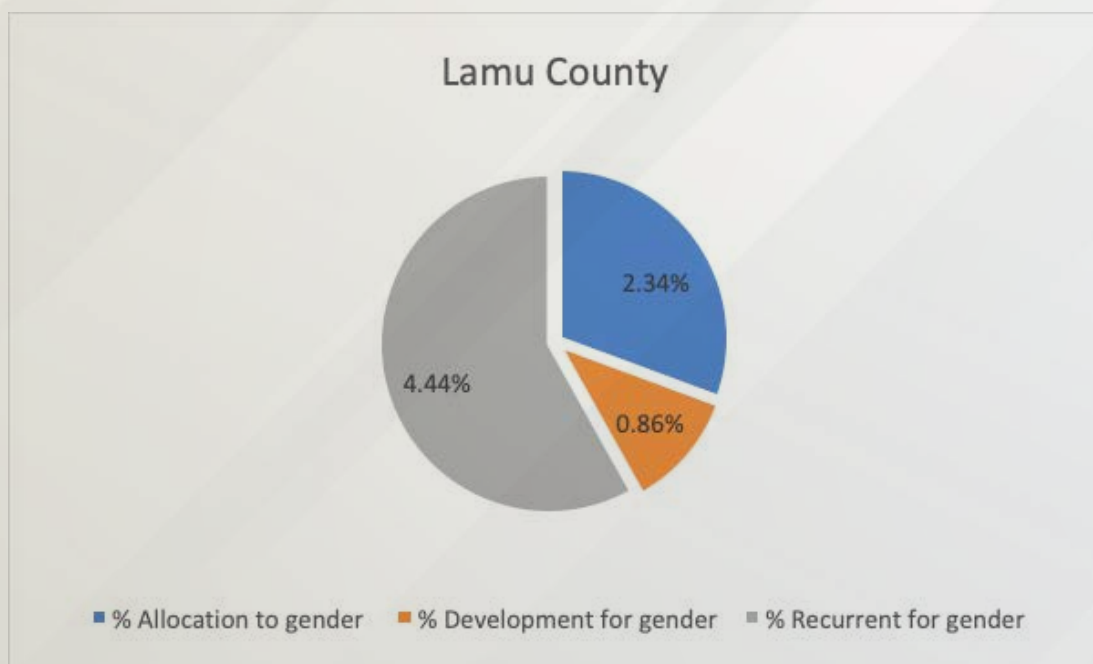
5-year aggregate allocation to the department responsible for gender

Youth, Gender & Sports Children Education has consistently received the lowest share from Ksh 108,928,148 (Recurrent=72,428,148, Development=36,500,000) to Ksh 218,536,322 (Recurrent=134,755,881, Development=83,780,441). The total allocation for the 5 years is Ksh 990,387,775 which is 7.7 % of the total budget.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.2.6 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.591.48 million as

conditional grants, raised Kshs.108.43 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.1.14 billion from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.4.44 billion.

The county allocated Ksh 110.11m (Recurrent=23.76, Development=86.35) to the department responsible for Gender -Education, Gender, Sports, Youth, Culture & Social Services, a 2.34% share. This was 10.87% of the total entire budget.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender

Achievements

- The County has in place a department responsible for gender, with a County Executive Committee Member in charge of Education, Technology, Youth Affairs, Sports, Gender, and Social Services with 5 Gender officers.
- It continued to promote implementation of Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) programme. However, data was not readily available.
- Training of at least 210 Youths, Women and Persons living with Disability groups who benefitted from a Ksh 15 million Enterprise Fund grant aimed at enabling them to start small scale businesses. The grant range is from Ksh 50,000 to Ksh 100,000 has been a hit among youth and women groups in Lamu with hundreds of groups continuously applying.
- The Lamu County Enterprise Fund has been anchored in law through the County Assemblies Act of 2018, with an aim of promoting a business economy in Lamu.
- Training women, youth, and persons with disabilities on 30% Government Tender Rule and monitoring and ensuring that all county departments adhere to Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) for women, youths and PWDs. 675 groups across the county have been trained on eligibility, business idea, record keeping and business management. The aim is to promote small businesses access to AGPO Women Empowerment Fund, Youth Development Fund and Disability Fund and loans for women, youth, and persons with disabilities.
- Establishing of 6 GBV Working Groups.

- Investment Clinics for special groups with 100 women trained cost of Ksh 8 million.
- Establishment of low-cost Centres for PWDs for Ksh 2.5 million
- Development and Rehabilitation of Sports stadia at Ksh 12.7million
- Purchase of sports equipment in all 10 wards
- Construction of integrated recreational social halls at Ksh 17.4million
- Talent search through conduction of annual tournaments
- The County is in the process of setting up a GBV Centre which will have four sections —one for rescuing and hosting abused women, a boarding school for sexually abused girls, an ICT centre and a general section set towards improving education, economic and trade standards in the region.
- There are 9,649 registered groups in Lamu County: 4,770 self-help groups, 2,966 women groups, 67 groups for persons with disabilities, 1,692 youth groups and 154 Community Based Organizations (CBOs). At inception of devolution there were There are 1,345 self-help groups, 421 women groups and 373 youth groups.
- With Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) having expressed concern that the art of dhow- and boatbuilding in Lamu and the Coast region might become extinct in the future if proper measures are not put in place to sustain it. Lamu County has introduced an initiative to enroll women in boatbuilding to increase their livelihoods.
- Lamu has continued to provide women with employable skills through fully county-sponsored courses in local VTCs (Technical and vocational education and training) and with 14 new branches to ensure equal access for all.

Challenges

- Lack of local ownership for most of the CIDP projects undertaken by the county. This is likely stemming from the lack of stakeholder/citizen participation in the project's life cycle.
- The county has no effective framework for the gender responsive monitoring and evaluation of Projects.
- Resource constrains in terms of Insufficient Budgetary allocation and delays in remittances from the National Government.
- Insecurity situation in some parts of the county e.g., Basuba, Ishakani, Witu has affected implementation of various CIDP programs in those areas.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

The county started off with 42 health facilities, of which, 24 were government owned, 3 Faith Based Organization and 14 are privately owned facilities. There were 3 level 5 health facilities, 5 health centres, 1 nursing home and 33 dispensaries. The bed capacity

in the health facilities was at 172 with 145 beds in public facilities, 14 in mission/NGOs and 13 beds in private health facilities. In the county, there were 4 doctors, 94 nurses, 24 clinical officers, 17 public health officer, five pharmacists and about 30 technical personnel. The doctor/population ratio in the county is 1:28062 and nurse/population ratio stands at 1:1,194. The average distance to the nearest health facility stands at 5 Km and this indicates a constrained access to both preventive and curative health service. Lamu County had one of the highest maternal mortality rates of 676 per 100,000 live births and a high female mortality rate of 1000. This is attributable to cultural practices of giving birth at home as well as accessibility to health facilities. Most maternal deaths in Lamu County occur due to failure of most mothers to reach health facilities during child birth. It is reported that although most pregnant women, in Lamu County, attend prenatal clinics, over 45 per cent of the women prefer home deliveries assisted by traditional birth attendants. The Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS) 2014 estimated a fully immunized coverage of 64%. The declining trend has been occasioned by frequent breakdown of cold chain equipment coupled with insecurity and industrial actions by health care workers which disrupt service delivery.

The number of women of reproductive age using modern family planning methods is 40% (KDHS 2014). This is very low when compared to the national average of 53%. The use of long-term methods of family planning is also low and efforts to increase acceptance are required. The county total fertility rate is 4.3 against the national average of 3.9. Access to antenatal care is 96% in Lamu which is at par with the national average. However, only 62% of pregnant women attend the recommended four antenatal clinic visits. The national coverage is 58 % (KDHS 2014) reflecting low utilization of the services. Deliveries by skilled birth attendants' coverage stands at 47% against a national average of 62 % (KDHS 2014). The maternal mortality ratio is estimated at 676 per 100,000 live births (KNBS 2009). The county is listed amongst fifteen counties that contribute to 60% of maternal deaths in Kenya. The infant mortality rate (IMR) is reported as 76/1000 live births (KNBS 2009).

Achievements

- There are currently 18 medical doctors making a doctor population ratio of 1:7000, 48 clinical officers, clinical officer population ratio of 1:2800 and 158 nurses translating to a nurse population ratio of 1:800.
- Lamu as of February 2022 hired 11 more doctors (F=9, M=2) to bridge the gap, increasing the number of medical personnel in Lamu County by 30%.
- There has been an increased equipment and facilities in health centres and dispensaries by 20%.
- Lamu County Hospital has been elevated to a level 5 ministry of health facility. The hospital offers specialized services, limited to diagnostic, outpatient, daycare and consultancy services, more comprehensive set of services

together with internship services for medical staff, research and serves as training centres for paramedical staff. The women attributed the benefit of this elevation to the availability of a gynaecologist and a supporting health reproduction officer.

- Equipping of all health facilities in the County with 236million worth of equipment.
- Provision of 157million worth of Pharmaceuticals and Non-pharmaceuticals to all public facilities.
- Great improvement in partenal and child health outcomes including rate of child immunization.
- Training of 13 medical personnel.
- Construction of maternity unit at Faza District Hospital.
- Renovation and fencing of 16 Health facilities.
- Upgrading Witu health center to Sub- County Hospital.
- Renovation and Expansion of Faza Hospital, Mpeketoni hospital and Mokowe Health Centre.
- Improvement of laboratory and imaging services in Lamu, Faza, Mpeketoni, Kizingitini and Witu.
- Purchased 3 road ambulance and 3 boat ambulance.
- Construction of 10 new primary healthcare facilities.

Challenges

- The sparse distribution of the population poses a challenge for service provision in Lamu. Whereas a dispensary should serve a population of 5,000, some islands have less than 1,000 people, most of whom have no means to go to other islands.
- It was pointed out that there was lack of some drugs and commodities in the County hospitals. This caused a strain on the patients.

B. Education and Vocational Training

The county's population with ability to read stands at 69.8 per cent, with 69.85 per cent having the ability to write. The population with the ability to both read and write is 67.3 per cent. A total of 54% of Lamu County residents have a primary level of education only. Lamu West constituency has the highest share of residents with a primary level of education only at 55%. This is 7 percentage points above Lamu East constituency, which has the lowest share of residents with a primary level of education only.

i) ECDE

Achievements

- The county started with 150 Early Childhood and Development (ECD) Centers, namely 132 in Lamu West and 18 in Lamu East. There are currently 203 Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres/

classes in Lamu County, 63 of which were constructed by the County Government of Lamu in the first 5 years.

- There are also 3 special needs pre-schools namely: Tchundwa Special Unit for Mentally Handicapped; Mokowe Arid Zone for Hearing Impairment; and Mokowe Special School for the Mentally Handicapped.
- So far, there are about 13,000 pupils enrolled in all the ECDE centres.
- There are 478 teachers giving a teacher to pupil ratio of 1:27 (1 teacher: 27 pupils). The transition rate from pre-school to primary is very high (98%). The completion and retention rate stands at 99%.
- The average enrollment age for children in Lamu County is 4 years which is better than the national average of 5 years.²²
- A total of 28 ECDEs have so far been built in the last four financial years, and 7 more will be built this financial year.
- The County has employed over 112 ECDE teachers, with 80% of them already promoted to the next job group.
- There are over 4,000 chairs and 1300 tables, as well as Ksh 5 million worth of learning resources sent to each of the ECDEs.
- Introduction of school feeding programme in all ECDE centers and provision of free ECDE education for all children
- The ECDE pupils' transit to the approximately 105 public primary schools and 23 private primary schools in both Lamu West and East Constituencies. Of this, there are two low-cost boarding primary schools which cater for the nomadic communities and vulnerable children.
- There are plans to establish more boarding schools in Moa, Swabaha, Mkunumbi, Naghele and Manda.
- The County in collaboration with the Aga Khan Foundation has been undertaking a professional learning program for ECDE leaders and teachers.
- While undertaking investments at ECDE level the County has also prioritized investment preschool children to transition to the higher levels of schooling. The county also supports interlinkages across the sector. Lamu has the largest education fund since devolution began, with Ksh. 250 million in scholarships and bursaries distributed across the county every financial year, up from Ksh. 40 million in 2017. Lamu's Education Scholarship & Bursaries Fund has so far assisted over 7,000 worthy students in completing high school, colleges, and universities with 80 % being girls.
- Provision of Sanitary Towels in Schools (all KCPE candidates).

The health facilities are good However whenever drugs are prescribed, they were followed with a directive to proceed to the pharmacy where an apology is issued that the prescribed medication was currently unavailable at the hospital pharmacy and that you had to buy it outside(chemists).

FGD discussant

²² Status of Equality and Inclusion in Kenya, NGEI, 2016

Challenges

- Despite limited Lamu county government funding, parent's demand for early learning opportunities is strong; for example, the growth in private preschools has surged in the county.
- There is need for regulation of private ECDE centres to ensure quality assurance and address uneven supply across the county.
- Despite improved infrastructure of ECDE, there are few equipments supplied due to budget constraints.

ii) VTC

There are six VTCs in Lamu county comprising the ones in Lamu, Mpeketoni, Witu, Kizingitini, Mokowe and Kiunga. There are also 9 mobile polytechnics.

Achievements

- Equipping of Vocational Training Institutes (Witu, Mpeketoni, Amu and Kizingitini).
- The total enrolment for both male and female learners has grown to stands at 745.
- The total number of instructors is 30 out of these 12 have been employed by the county Government of Lamu and the rest by BOM.
- There are diverse across courses offered in the institution which include: Carpentry, masonry, fashion & design, Beauty therapy Hotel & hospitality, Plumbing, Electrical Engineering, welding, motor vehicle & mechanics, Agribusiness, and Entrepreneurship.

Challenges

- Inadequate modern tools & equipments.
- Negative perception as institutions for failures and dropouts by the society hence low enrolment.
- Inadequately trained and remunerated instructors.
- Inappropriate and obsolete skills imparted to trainees amongst others o Inadequate funding, o Inadequate infrastructure.
- Mismatch between training skills and labour market

C. Water and Sanitation

the County has a serious challenge as far as fresh water is concerned and because of its sandy and limestone terrain, most households depend on hand-dug shallow wells which mostly do not produce fresh water because of the high salinity levels in the water quality. Lake Kenyatta and its overflow reservoir, Lake Amu which is mostly dry, and Lake Moa in Witu are the only two main fresh water lakes in the County. The extension of farmlands and uncontrolled pastoralism around key wetlands and lakes in the County have resulted to continuous depletion of these resources. Lamu residents rely on shallow wells, water pans and boreholes to harvest groundwater. Until recently, the groundwater was regularly recharged by seasonal rainfall. But a dry spell has left the area water stressed, as wells and boreholes run low, and any water left becomes too salty to drink. Hence women and girls dedicate

more of their time searching for water. The women walk for over 20 kilometres to buy water at hefty prices. A 20-litre jerrican of water is sold for between Sh50 and Sh100, and a further Sh200 for the motorbike ferrying the water to the home.

In the urban centre, Lamu Water and Sewerage Company (Lawasco) which depends on Shella sand dunes and wells to supply water across the county has been forced to undertake water rationing. Latrine/toilet coverage in Lamu County is still low, it stands at about 65%.

Achievements

- There have been concerted efforts through water projects being undertaken in Ndau, Kizingitini, Kiunga and Mokowe.
- The county increased its budget gradually by 8.8% for water and sanitation to increase coverage.
- The county has conserved 7 water sources: Shella Sandunes, Chomo, Belebele, Lake Kenyatta Witu, Vumbe and Mangai.
- The county has set up 8 water supply schemes: Lamu, Mokowe, Hindi, Mpeketoni, Witu, Faza, Kiwayuu, Milimani, and Kizingitini.
- The county has 3 desalination plants: Kizingitini, Siyu and Kiunga.
- The average distance to piped water has improved to 5 km with the distance to water pans being 40 km and 120 km to the nearest river.

Challenges

- The County does not have sewerage system hence management of solid and liquid wastes is a big challenge.
- The county is yet to reap the dividends of desalination technology for enhanced water supply to increase water supply at domestic and institutional level for benefit of women and men.
- Poor access to water and sanitation disproportionately affect woman and girls, in terms of requirement for decent sanitation.
- High breakages of water pumps are experienced and budget not available for maintenance.
- Women still travel long distances in search for water to domestic use.

D. Agriculture

Lamu County is between the Tropical Monsoon and Arid Steppe Hot climate (Peel et al. 2007). This Climate is conditioned by biannual movement of the inter-tropical convergence zone and two monsoons, namely North Eastern ("Kaskazi") and the South-Eastern ("Kusi"). The County lies within the 600 to 2300mm isohyets annually and is characterized by a bimodal rainfall distribution and a mean temperature of 28°C. The rainfall pattern is greatly influenced by the Monsoon winds with the long rains falling between late March and early June with May being the wettest month. Light showers fall in July and decreasing from August. The

short rains come in November and December decreasing rapidly to a minimum in January and February. The degree of reliability of the short rains decreases from South to North.

The County is made of two broad economic zones covering the mainland for agriculture and livestock keeping, conservation and freshwater fishing and Islands for marine activities. The different agro-ecological zones are highly influenced by the rainfall variability patterns experience throughout the County and somehow define the natural potential of Lamu County.

It is estimated that 62.8% of the land is public land, 35.5% is private land and only 1.7% is community land. This gives the County Government an upper hand in the management of resources where most fall under public land which they and the National Land Commission have mandate over. The size of arable land in the county is 5,517 Km² and non-arable land is 649.7 Km² and 308 Km² is under water mass. A sizeable number of people living in the peri-urban areas of the county practice subsistence small scale farming and livestock keeping.

Land ownership for agricultural and livestock remains a thorny issue in the county as most of the farmers do not legally own the lands they cultivate. The number of the households who have title deeds stand at 13,000. This therefore means that 42 percent of the entire households in the county have titles. Majority of the households in the county have no title deeds. A large portion of land in the county remains unregistered. These include areas in Kiunga, Faza, parts of Hindi, Manda Island, Witu and Bahari. Most of these areas are ancestral land and the government is hastening the process of resettlement whose aim is to also conserve the Swahili villages in the county.

In Lamu, 80% of livelihoods are in fisheries. The Gender Assessment Study Report for the Oil and Gas Sector in Kenya revealed 119 gears are owned by men, women practice sea product harvesting at the beaches, and have an active administrative and commercial role in Beach Management Units (BMU) and Village Community Banks (VICOBAS) or Village savings and loan associations and they participate in decision making process, particularly adult women.

The main livestock species reared are Cattle, Sheep, Donkeys, Goat and Poultry. Cattle and goats are reared in 2 rearing systems: Pastoralism mainly practiced in Hindi (Kibokoni, Kilimani and Bargoni), Mkunumbi (Ndambwe, Mkunumbi, Koreni), Bahari Ward (Mlei, Lake Amu) Hongwe war Lumshi A&B, Pangani) Witu ward (Moa, Chalaluma, Didewaride, Nagele, Kitumbini, Nairobi area).

There are 20 ranches/grazing reserves in the county are in four Status i.e., operational ranches which are four (Witu Nyongoro DAC Ranch, Witu Livestock Cooperative Ranch, Amu Cooperative Ranch and Mokowe Kibokoni Cooperative Ranch)

Crops' farming produce about 314,000 tons of both food and cash crops annually from 69,025 ha. The county is Kenya's largest producer of cotton, simsim and bixa, producing approximately 40% of cotton, 50% of simsim and 40% of bixa grown in the country, Kenya. This has significant implications on income generation, food security and poverty reduction efforts in the county. Crop production in the county for the last 5 years has remained rain-fed. About 80% of crops are planted during long rains and the remaining 20% during short rains.

Achievements

- The county has in place a County Spatial Plan which advances various land use regulation guidelines that the County and other responsible authorities may use and consider in the dispensation of their mandate over land and land use. The plan identifies opportunities for women to support conservation of the mangrove forests, noting that about 61 per cent of Kenya's entire mangrove forest cover lies in Lamu. The initiative aims at reforestation of the more 32,000 acres of mangroves in Lamu have been lost due to irresponsible harvesting. Currently through the Pate, Faza and Ndau women organizations, the women have been able to undertake the programme.
- Promotion of Mechanized Agriculture – 15 tractors, 3 trailers and 15 ploughs acquired
- Provision of agricultural extension service - 40,000 farmers were covered.
- Provision of certified seeds - 150 tons maize and 10 tons rice issued to farmers.
- Provision of subsidized fertilizer – 500,000kgs issued.
- Promotion of crop diversification - 250,000 cuttings of cassava and sweet potatoes, pineapple, water melon, passion fruit, bananas were issued, 50,000 coconut seedlings distributed, 360 tons of cotton seed issued to farmers.
- Purchase of extension services Motor vehicle and 10 motorbikes
- 10 Irrigation projects implemented.
- Excavation of 4 water pans with a capacity of 10,000M³
- Setting up of 3 cold storage facilities.
- Provision of modern fishing equipment worth 11million.
- Purchase of fishing crafts and engines worth 57million.
- Rehabilitation of landing sites in Shella and Kiunga
- Construction of two modern fishing markets in Faza and Kiunga.
- Establishment of fingerlings hatchery in Mpeketoni.
- Construction and rehabilitation of Fisheries boatyard.
- Operationalization of 2 surveillance boats.
- Capacity built BMUs, fisher cooperatives and fish farmers clusters
- Improvement of livestock infrastructure (dips, markets, and ranches) at 111million •
- Construction and rehabilitation of Veterinary/Livestock offices.

- Construction and rehabilitation of slaughter houses in Lamu and Kiunga.
- Livestock health improvement programme.
- Livestock breed improvement programme in Pate, Faza, Mpeketoni, Hindi, Amu and Witu.
- Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign programme.
- Vector Control Campaign.
- Livestock produce Marketing targeting livestock markets, auction ring and livestock products.
- Construction of honey processing center at Hindi.
- Fodder production in Witu and Vumbe.

Challenges

- The effectiveness of extension services has declined due to inadequate research-extension-farmer linkages, lack of demand-driven research, low staff: farmer ratio and low budgetary allocation to support extension service delivery to farmers to understand and apply the acquired knowledge.
- The existing agricultural institutions have not been fully utilized by farming community and stakeholders in the county to acquire knowledge to improve production and income.

E. Urban Planning

Lamu Town, which is the main urban centre in the county, had a projected population of 18,609 in 2012 which constituted 16% of the county population. Currently (2018) the population in Amu stands at 22,721 persons. It was anticipated that the population will grow to 24,154 and 25,701 by the years 2020 and 2022 respectively. The current population is now 25,385 (M=12,900, F=12,484, Intersex=1)²³. This can be attributed to the fact that the town has relatively better infrastructural facilities in terms of banking facilities, accommodation and internet access and serves as the tourism centre. The rise of urban population has created additional demand for essential social services and urban infrastructure. This calls for prior planning of available resources and expansion of social and economic facilities in the urban areas to accommodate the expanding population. This increasing population has also led to increased demand for agricultural and industrial products, triggering increased investment in those sectors.

The Lamu County Spatial Plan (2016-2026) addresses the aforesaid challenges to improve the standards of living of the people through employment creation, reduction of poverty, and creation of wealth as well guide sustainable development. The plan also provides comprehensive strategies and policy guidelines to solve the problems of rural and urban development, industry, infrastructure and human settlement, ecotourism, and sustainable environmental management.

Achievements

- The county granted Lamu town Municipal Charter on 30th day of January 2018. Ther after the county has set up the Lamu municipal board.
- The listing of the 16-hectare Lamu Stone Town as a World Heritage Site was celebrated with the inaugural Lamu Cultural Festival, which brought all the islanders to Lamu Stone Town to showcase the rich heritage of the Swahili.
- The county has renovated two main markets, namely Lamu Town and Mpeketoni Central. Lamu Town is the main urban centre is famous for its rich cultural activities. Mpeketoni Central is famous for trading and agricultural activities.
- To decongest the town centre Lamu County has developed several other trading centres located along the road which include the following: Mokowe, Hindi, Hongwe, Bomani, Majembeni, Kiongwe, Baharini, Mapenya, Mkunumbi, Uziwa, Faza, Kizingitini, Pate, Siyu, Kiunga, Mkokoni, Mhamarani, Katsakairu, Witu and Moa.
- Development of the Lamu county spatial plan
- Regularization of Swahili Villages and settle schemes
- Planning of Mokowe (Lamu Metropolis Structure Plan)

Challenges

- The County Spatial plan has not been fully implemented owing to resource gaps.
- Poor maintenance of services for example street lighting.

F. Revenue Collection and Tax Administration

The county undertook a revenue analysis which identified a resource gap deficit for all dockets for the CIDP 2018-2022. This was attributed to the increased number of capital-intensive projects under youth & women empowerment, water, agriculture, and education.

The county earmarked to address the deficit through:

- Increased revenue collection enhanced by automated collection system.
- Funding Proposals based on transformative projects and specific sector projects that clearly depict expected outcomes submitted to development partners and PPP.
- Loans and grants applications.
- Inter-county development programmes.
- Use of innovative financing instruments such as Development Bond

However, the county has not undertaken a gender analysis on impact of revenue collection and tax administration measures.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
- ii. There is need for capacity building in development of 3rd generation CIDP, to ensure the County designs interventions to ensure poverty alleviation, prevention, and response to

²³ KNB2, 2019 KHPC

GBV, fight against radicalization, violent extremism, crime, drug and substance abuse and idleness, and fight against early pregnancies and early marriages.

- iii. A structured public participation framework should be considered and established to promote participation of women and other vulnerable groups.
- iv. The effective implementation of Gender Agenda in the county requires clear gender policy and set budgets and human resources to implement the same. The county to fast track adoption of the gender policy and set implementation framework.
- v. Consider adopting gender responsive budgeting policy to ensure all county interventions mainstream gender into their interventions.
- vi. Promote greater adherence of integrated programming and provision of gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex, age, disability and geographical among other variables to measure future impact.

II. Health

- Continued assistance in areas such as procurement, finalizing a business plan, obtaining the appropriate staff profile, and financial management to be of better service to the established health facilities.
- The county is experiencing a challenge in access to health care with residents travelling great distances to reach medical facilities hence spending more on transport than on healthcare. There is need for investment in standby water ambulances to improve on the referral linkages and maternal shelters in the County Referral Hospital.
- County requires to increase funding into the health sector to sustain the county pace of providing services that appears lower in comparison to the national average.

I. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- There is need for complimentary funding for Lamu's Education Scholarship & Bursaries Fund. In FY 2020/21 the fund was the second highest expenditure. However, the county needs to ringfence more budgets for ECDE education not to go into education scholarship and bursaries of secondary schools which is not a devolved function.
- Lamu should ensure that education services – regardless of whether they are publicly or privately delivered – are of high-quality, are affordable, and universally available, with additional resources and support going to those most at risk.
- The county should fast track adoption of ECDE scheme of service and engage more teachers.
- The county needs to invest more in having gender statistics and sex disaggregated data.

ii) VTC

- The county needs to scale up hiring of VTC instructors (male and female)
- The county should enhance partnerships with companies to secure an agile system and relevant learning for VTC (technological development, change in practices etc.) which will lead to market linkages.
- Deal with the issue of high drop out of girls from the institutions due to pregnancy or marriage.

II. Water and Sanitation

- To explore partnerships for fresh shallow well dependent on natural aquifers in the ground to extract clean water flowing from the highlands to the ocean. Separately to seek private partnership for establishment of desalination water plants.
- Designation and improvement of waste disposal sites in Mkomani and Shella
- Repair of drainage system in Amu town and other operations require more resource allocations.
- Invest in sinking more boreholes to increase access to water for domestic and institutional use.
- Focus more on operations and maintenance services for improved services.

III. Agriculture

- There is need for integrated approach to water management in Lamu. An integrated water resources management (IWRM) approach draws on an understanding of water use and management, equitable considerations, noting the same is linked to agriculture.
- Lamu to design an Investment Policy designed at incentivizing investors in the crop, livestock, and fisheries value chain.
- The county needs to increase budget in interventions that promote and increase availability of water for irrigation use for small holder farmers.

IV. Urban Planning

- The implementation of the Lamu County spatial plan will be a major milestone towards securing biodiversity hotspots, sustainable management of natural resources and improvement of the quality of life and wellbeing of the residents of Lamu County.
- There is growing need in Lamu to strengthen and adapt structured public participation to address the capacity gaps noted in involvement of the public in urban planning.
- There is need to deliberate efforts to enhance collaboration of all agencies in the municipality to ensure a seamless coordination of gazetted municipality services.

Best Practice

Lamu County has furnished and equip the King Fahad hospital with medical equipment. The County has, in partnership with the National government constructed a new hospital block at the King Fahad Hospital to host a theatre, dialysis and ICU services. The County also opened its first Medical Training College (MTC) to ensure an opportunity for access to labour for the hospital. There are scholarships for Lamu students interested in pursuing palliative care nursing, nephrology nursing, orthopaedic trauma medicine, enhanced enrolled community nursing, nursing anaesthesia, health systems management, health education and promotion among others.

The county in partnership with Safaricom Foundation invested KES 13million in the renovation and equipping of the the maternity wing unit. The hospital, which previously referred pregnant women who needed critical care services to Mombasa, now has a 10-bed capacity high dependency unit equipped with oxygen piping and patient-monitoring equipment in addition to renovated floors, walls and ceilings. This has enhanced benefits to the 4,000 women depending on the facility. Further the county receives specialists, from Kenyatta National Hospital and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, who serve in before they are redeployed. The complementarity of health care for women and girls is also addressed through maternal shelter in Witu and a newborn unit in Faza Island serving over 2,000 people, while Mpeketoni Hospital has maternal and child health unit. There are delivery rooms in all dispensaries where basic maternal services are offered. The centres only refer complicated cases to the King Fahad Referral Hospital. There is an eight-bed waiting maternal health kiosk in Lamu's King Fahd Hospital which aides in reducing the high mortality rates among pregnant women in the county.

3.7. MANDERA COUNTY

Mandera County is in the North Eastern part of Kenya and borders Ethiopia to the North, Somalia Republic to the East and Wajir County to the South. It is about 1,100km from the capital city of Nairobi by road. The county population has reduced from 1,025,756 (M=559,938, F= 465818) to 867457 (M=434,976, F=432444, Intersex=37). The county covers an area of 25,991.5 km². The average household size was 8.2 prior to devolution and has reduced to 6.9. The population density has also reduced from 39 to 33 people per Km².

The County Administratively is subdivided into six sub counties namely Mandera West, Mandera South, Banisa, Mandera North, Mandera East and Lafey and further has a total of 30 wards with each constituency having five wards. There are two ecological zones in the county namely, arid, and semi-arid. Up to 95% of the county is semi-arid with dense vegetation consisting mainly of thorny shrubs and mathenge bushes along foots of isolated hills and fallow land.

Despite the unfavourable climatic conditions, agriculture is the major source of livelihood, employing over 90% of the population. Livestock production is the predominant sub-sector, employing over 84% of the population, and contributing approximately 72% to household incomes. The absolute poverty level is 89.1% compared to the national average of 46%, making the county's residents among the poorest in the country. Poverty is highest in rural areas, where close to 100% of the population live below the poverty line (KIPPRA, 2013).

Prior to devolution, Mandera was literally disconnected from the rest of Kenya for close to 50 years and its economy was largely dependent on Somalia socio-economic ties of the population. The community has been further marginalized combined with inter clan conflicts, pockets of extremism, poor human development, cross border terrorism, which has trapped its people in poverty, misery, and desperation.

There have been acts violence pitting clans against rivals. Before devolution, inter-clan violence was fanned by foreign fighters who infiltrated clan militias. With mediation at the hands of wise elders and opinion leaders the County midwived dialogue and has resolved majority of day-to-day inter-clan disputes amicably.

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- i. The county has in place a Ministry of Youth, Gender and Social Services which is comprised of two departments: Gender and Social Services and Youth Affairs. The department of Gender and Social Services deals with women empowerment, persons with disability and children welfare while the department of Youth Affairs deals with all youth related affairs except sports. There is a designated Director in charge of Gender.
- ii. There are 3 women CECs out of 10 and 9 women out of the 25 County Chief Officers. There are 3 women Directors/ HODs out of a total of 27 and 3 Senior women executives of the total 17.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Department	Male	Female	Total
Gender	17	9	26
Agriculture	99	38	137
Education		160	470
Finance		61	288
Governor's Office		39	198
Health		275	1063
Lands		14	57
Publics Service		223	1259
Roads			1835
Trade		5	22
Water		20	211
County Public Service Road	12	6	18
Senior Officers (Job Group N and above)			429
Total			3934

In Mandera County Assembly there is no single female elected MCA, subsequently there are 15 nominated women MCAs. These interventions situated in the first County Integrated Development Plan ,2013-2017 have helped respond to some of the priorities identified at the onset of devolution:

- In the County, men and women differ in the timing of transitions, particularly to family roles such as marriage and raising children, and in how they sequence and combine such roles.
- Cultural norms like status of the women, FGM and child marriage makes it worse and have exacerbated inequities for girls and women.
- Women and girls are faced with gender norms where girls are expected to be virgins before marriage and the need to have many children are cited as major drivers of early marriage. As little girls, they undergo female genital mutilation (FGM), then as young women still tend to have children earlier and marry earlier than men. The stigma around women who are married after they turn 18 years is also believed to influence cases of early marriage.

“Culture not devolution has prevented our women being elected as leaders, our women are now well educated and working in offices and various institutions”

FGD discussant

Revenue Collection and Budget

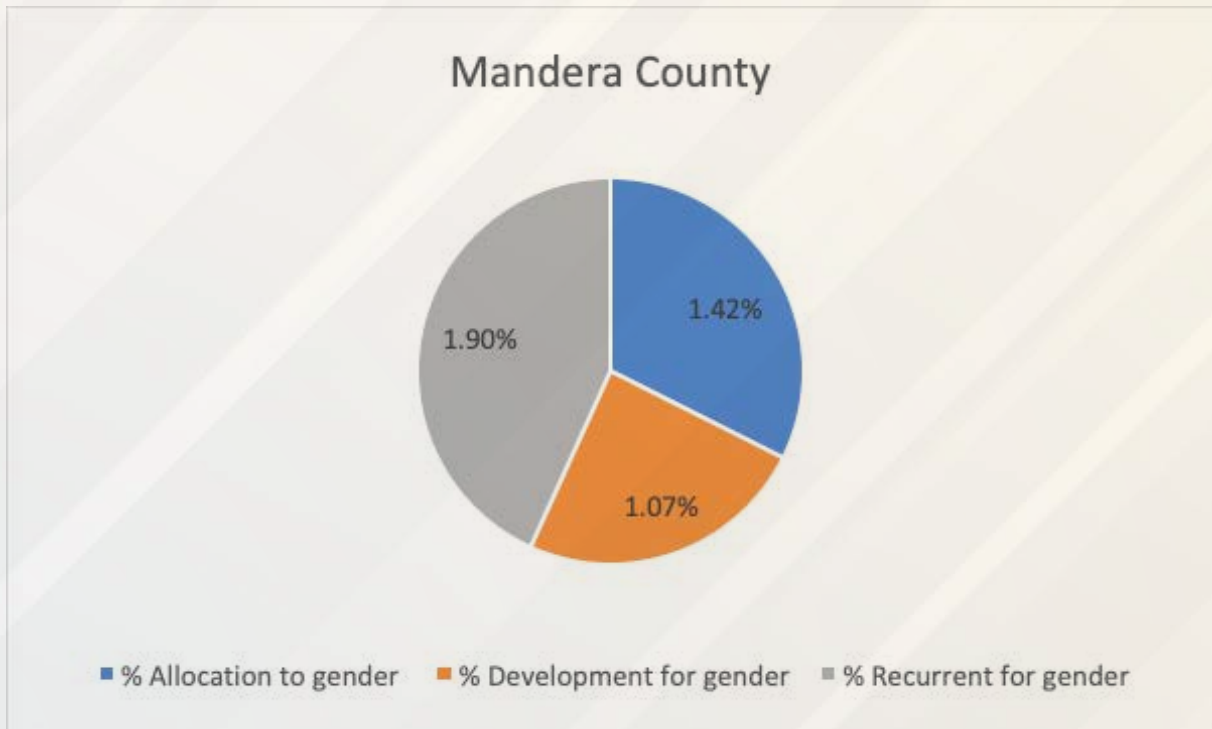
During the period July 2013 to June 2014, the County received Kshs.6.6 billion as the national equitable share, raised Kshs.90.1 million from local sources, and had Kshs.108 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13. There are no available estimates for allocation towards gender interventions.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.10.22 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.1.35 billion as conditional grants, raised Kshs.143.31million as own-source revenue, had a cash balance of Kshs. 883.76 million from FY 2019/20 and received Kshs.123.17 million for COVID-19 related expenditure. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.12.72 billion.

The County allocated Ksh 188.14 to the department responsible for Gender (Recurrent=Ksh 81.13, Development=124.01), which translates to 1.42% of the total budget.

Achievements

- 1300 women recruited to nurture trees within Mandera town as part of the beautification programme and towards achieving 10% forest cover. The women are paid monthly fee.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender Mandera County

- Established Mandera County Drugs and Substance Abuse Committee whose core role was to commission research into drugs and substance abuse problem and the recommendations that the committee made helped the ministry carry out necessary interventions into the menace.
- Constructed five social halls in five sub counties.
- Ksh 6 million grant to seven orphanage centres. . also support to orphans through construction of child friendly facilities like the renovation of a dormitory, entertainment room and four latrines at the Mandera Islamic Center Orphanage (Boystown) and Al-Sunna Orphanage. Further we also constructed Basic child Care facilities at Mandera East Children office.
- Ksh11 million grant disbursed to the Maendeleo Ya Wanawake organization as part of the county government programme to empower the women entrepreneurs in the county
- Most importantly during the financial year 2015/16 the ministry carried out baseline survey aimed at establishing the population of persons with disabilities in Mandera County. The main objective was to obtain and provide up-to-date information on PWDs within the county that will be useful in planning, monitoring, and evaluating the various activities, programmes and projects geared towards improving PWDs' wellbeing.
- Procured mobility kits for over 700 PWD's comprising of wheel chairs, tri-circle, blind sticks, and crutches for all the sub-counties due to the demand from the said group, making sure that these people continue to be productive in their area of work.
- To help in financing start-ups and to improve the capacities of existing businesses especially businesses run by the Youth, Women and Persons Living with Disabilities, we have set up two Funds (The Mandera County Trade Development Fund and the Mandera County Cooperative Development Fund) with a combined initial seed capital of KShs.115m. The fund is disbursed to the successful applicants. We have promoted the cooperatives sector by registering and capacity building 80 new cooperatives and revived 36 inactive ones. Membership of registered cooperatives grew from 1,524 to 3,564 (133.9% increase).
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SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

In Mandera girls will be married off when barely into their teens, forcing them to drop out of school, their immature bodies thrust into the world of childbearing. The prevalence of child marriage rate in Mandera stands at 40.0% with an FGM prevalence rate of 100%. There is a 62.35% proportion of women aged 20 – 49 years who got married and began childbearing when they were still children. As such Mandera started off the devolution journey with a maternal mortality ratio of 3,795 deaths per 100,000 live births that surpasses that of wartime Sierra Leone (2000 deaths per 100,000 live births) as well as the Kenya's national average (448 deaths per 100,000 live births).

The neonatal mortality rate and under-five mortality was 72 and 80 per 1,000 live births respectively. In addition, there is a low uptake (1.9%) of modern contraceptive methods, about 29 times lower than the national average (58%). These undesirable statistics were attributed to a myriad of reasons, that include low uptake of skilled birth attendance (28%), poor road transport to enhance referrals, few functional health facilities (53 existing but only 3 were functioning at 10%), inadequate health workforce (vacancy rate of 97%), inadequate commodities, supplies, equipment and medical devices, poor referral system, community related delay factors, lack of multi-sectorial approach, weak or lack of support supervision, quality assurance, clinical audits, operations research and procurement system.

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Achievements

- There were 33 facilities working at only 13% capacity due to under-staffing, very poor medical supplies, lack of modern equipment in addition to a myriad of other factors.

Specifically, there were 6 Level 4 facilities in the county, 9 level 3 facilities, 24 Level 2 facilities, six Nursing homes and 60 Private clinics. The doctor/population ratio is 1:114,000 while the nurse/population ratio is 1:25,000.

- The health facilities have been improved from 33 to 88, supplies are now timely and reliable through KEMSA, human resource numbers stand at 864 from 154, with five specialists offering services at the County Referral Hospital. The health facilities segregated are 1 referral hospital (level 5), 6 sub county hospitals (level 4), 81 primary health facilities such as health centres (level 3) and dispensaries (level 2). There are 15 community units (level 1) managed by community health assistants within the county. In addition, there are 24 nursing homes and 106 private health clinics. In total, there are 202 health facilities in the county.
- Further, increasing the number of healthcare staff has significantly improved service delivery and reduced the doctor and nurse to population ratio from 1:49,982 to 1:5,222.
- The reducing runaway MMR has reduced from 3795/100,000 live births to 588/100,000 live births.
- The vaccination coverage is 7.6 per cent in Mandera County for children aged 12 – 23 months (KIHBS 2005/06). The immunization, numbers have since increased by over 100%. In total 21, 519 children under one year were immunized in 2018 compared to only 8,376 in 2013.
- As of 2013, the number of skilled deliveries stood at just 4,947. But in 2018, at least 22,693 women delivered with the assistance of a professional.
- The number of caesarian sections increased from 147 to 404 in 2018, a sign more lives of expectant women were saved.
- During the same period, health facilities in Mandera recorded an increase of 15,185 new antenatal clinic visits from expectant women.
- While in 2013, only 1,942 expectant women managed to attend all the four recommended clinics, in 2018, 12,753 adhered to all the four clinic visits.
- It is also important to note that Mandera being a county with one of the highest fertility rates - about 5 children for every woman, down from 7 children in 2003. The total fertility in the county which is still higher than the country's 4.6.
- Only 4 per cent of married women use modern methods of family planning, the number increased from 3,236 in 2013 to 17,768 in 2018. 84% of the health facilities offer family planning services •
To enhance referral from all the sub counties, the County has in place 9 ambulances with ICU medevac capability. The ambulances get emergency maternal cases to the closest health facilities in Ramu, Takaba, Banisa, El-Wak and the Mandera Referral Hospital.
- The county has increased the number of health facilities that provide Basic Emergency Obstetric Care (BEMOC) from 18 to 70 all operating at 100% capacity

“Wakati ugatuzi umekuja, ndio kidogo tumeingia Kenya”

FGD discussant



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MANDERA COUNTY celebrates its first child delivery by caesarean section at Takaba district hospital.

1:44 PM · Oct 12, 2014 · TweetDeck

- The county has increased the number of skilled health workers from 150 to 833 including 34 medical officers.
- Increased the number of facilities that provide comprehensive emergency obstetric care (CEMOC) from 1 to 6. The County has also procured and distributed modern obstetric equipment to all health facilities.
- Increased antenatal care attendance from 30% to 75%.
- Increased the proportion of skilled birth attendance from 28% to 70%.
- Improved health care financing through allocation of over 21% of total county budgetary allocation to health.

Mandera is a perfect case example of whether Kenya's decision to devolve government, putting much more power in Counties is having an impact on the ground.

Challenges

- There is need to increase the number of health facilities offering basic maternal and child health, which will improve the number of women giving birth in a health facility.
- The county has faced the challenge of inability to attract and keep specialized cadre despite many attempts to recruit them, due to insecurity.
- The county requires to invest in holding half houses for pregnant women when almost due to minimize the high numbers of home deliveries that continue to be reported.

B. Education and Vocational Training

According to the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS) 2005/06, the county literacy rate stood at 24.8% compared to the national rate of 71.4%. 49.4 per cent of the population aged 6-17 years are illiterate. Only 22 per cent of women and 59% of men had received any education at all. The gross enrollment ratio was 71.5, 16.2 and 0.8 in primary, secondary and tertiary levels respectively for the county, compared to 116.9, 39.9 and 9.8 respectively for national rates.

i) ECDE

Achievements

- The county has 175 public ECDE centres with 16,324 children, with 94 trained and 115 untrained ECDE teachers. At the inception of devolution, only 4 ECDE teachers are employed by the former Mandera Town Council. The County did not have an ECDE public Tertiary learning institution, apart from an In-service ECDE Training Centre at Mandera Secondary School. The ECDE Net Enrollment Rate (NER) in 2009 was 6.3 per cent (6.2 per cent male and 6.3 per cent female) compared to the national rate of 41.8 per cent (41.3 per cent male and 42.3 per cent female).
- In 2019, the County launched the Mandera Girl Child Education Affirmative Action to send the top students to Turkey to study courses traditionally male dominated. This is to complement continued education and ensure linkage with the support the needy bright students which for the last five years has disbursed a total of Kenya Shillings Four Hundred and Forty Million (Kshs.440,000,000.00) and this is a continuous commitment from my administration to from Mandera County.

Challenges

- The county is yet to reach the optimal staffing level for ECDE teachers.
- The walking distances to school for pupils remains a challenge.

Both levels of government are yet to integrate ECDE Curriculum with CBC curriculum to enhance seamless transition to primary school level.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- Constructed 6 VTCs, which have been equipped with tools and Equipment and Instructional Materials for all Trades.
- Completion of Boys hostel at Mandera Vocational training centre

- Installation of Solar at Fino and Banisa.
- 20 toilets constructed for the VTCs.
- Insurance for trainees on attachments.
- Exhibition and trade shows for VTCs.
- Provision of Startup Kit for trainees who graduates from VTCs.

Challenges

- There are low retention rates for VTC instructors
- There is low uptake of VTCs courses

C. Water and Sanitation

- According to the KIHBS 2005/2006, 34.6% of population had access to safe drinking water as compared to the national figure which stands at 57%. For Mandera, a balance between adequate grazing/forage and water resources to match the dry and wet season grazing
- Mandera County is water scarce with sanitation poor located in an arid area.
- The County is prone to disasters such as recurrent drought, floods, conflicts, and famine.
- The county has 6 urban, 6 institutional and 94 rural water supply schemes. Mandera Urban Water Supply System, which is the worst performing urban scheme with a water supply coverage level of 26% (IMPACT-Issue No. 8, An Annual Performance Review of Kenya's Water Sector in the eyes of WASREB), is run by Mandera Water and Sewerage Company on behalf of Mandera County Government and serves Mandera Town and its environs.
- According to the Basic Report – KIHBS 2005/06, the main types of toilet facilities in the county are pit latrines (38.9%), uncovered pit latrines (34.8%), VIP latrines (19%), and covered pit latrines (4.1%). The other 3.2% have no access to toilet facilities.
- In terms of waste disposal methods, 82.2% of households burn their wastes while 12.2% use garbage pits, 3.9% use public garbage heap, 0.8% dispose by using private firms, 0.5% by local authorities while 0.4% by neighborhood community groups

Achievements

- The county has improved availability and spatial distribution of water in the county and dealt perennial shortages by increasing accessibility to clean and affordable water services for domestic, commercial and livestock uses by the County's populace up from 57% in 2013 to 72% by December 2016.
- Massive budgetary investments in water projects undertaken from a budget of KSh40 million per annum before devolution to about KSh800m.
- 70 new boreholes have been drilled and equipped them to address water scarcity.

- The county has developed water and sewerage systems for urban centres like Lafey, Takaba, Banisa and Rhamu.
- In water starved areas the county has complemented supply with water bowsers with an estimated 120 active water trucking sites. These are supported by underground water storage tanks ranging from 300,000 to 600,000 litres and these have come in handy during drought.
- Through hydrological surveys and appropriate technology, the county has harnessed water into pans with a capacity of 20,000 to 30,000 litres and rolled a major plan to expand them to between 60,000 litres to 100,000 litres in relation to demands.
- 80,000 people in Mandera County are due to benefit from improved water and sanitation services through the Tana Water Services Board (TWSB) sewage disposal system and a wastewater treatment plant in the town of Mandera. The wastewater treatment plant will have a capacity of 6,000 m³ per day.

Challenges

- The water levels at all water points and catchment areas have reduced or depleted due to prolonged droughts and environmental degradation such as deforestation.
- Provisions of sanitation services in Mandera County, mainly solid waste management, has been shifting from various departments since the inception of devolution from 2013.

D. Agriculture

Land is the most important resource in agricultural production. Mandera County has an area of 25,991.5 kms. Most of the land is rangeland supporting livestock production. In the context of agricultural production land suitability for crop production is limited to availability of water hence the concentration of crop production activities along river Daa and other places with laggas where water settles.

Under irrigation 4000ha is exploited but the potential area is 15,000-20,000ha whereas under rainfed agriculture the exploited area is very low considering that reliability of rainfall is below 30%. Livestock production plays an important socioeconomic role in Mandera County. Extensive livestock systems and pastoralist households in Mandera's rangelands were previously vulnerable to the effects of drought. Before devolution, huge losses to livestock populations from droughts occurred affecting Mandera communities without intervention or cushioning.

The county prioritized interventions that strengthen households' traditional coping mechanisms and improves their resilience to future shocks through provision of water and pasture.

Achievements

- Development of irrigation infrastructure along River Daa for irrigated crop production through construction and

rehabilitation of a total length of 7.129 kilometers of main concrete and lateral canals complete with all accessories in 6 irrigation schemes and other irrigation farms along River Daua.

- 2,145 acres of farmland was opened through bush clearing to create more arable land under cultivation
- 910 meters of gabion structures was constructed along the riverbank to protect irrigated farmlands from destruction of crops by floods.
- Purchase and distribution of water pump sets for crop production have been carried out to assist in abstraction of water from the river and shallow wells for irrigation: 6 2/3-piston diesel engine water pump sets provided for schemes, 94 1-piston diesel engine water pump sets supplied to group farms and 40 portable petrol water pumps supplied to group farm with shallow wells.
- 120 metric tons of assorted seeds and seedlings distributed to farmers countywide.
- 6 farm tractors, 6 ploughs, 2 harrows and 1 trailer procured for Agricultural Mechanization Services station
- Establishment Regional Livestock Markets.
- Established a Regional livestock Disease investigation and diagnostic centre and equipped the Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory in Mandera East.
- Purchased animal feeds making machines for Mandera East and North
- Revived the Demonstration farm, an Artificial Insemination Centre and a Zero-grazing unit and supplied in-calf dairy cattle (exotic breeds) for breed improvement
- Renovation of 4 slaughter houses.
- Constructed 10 strategic fodder stores.
- Constructed of 14 cattle crushes.
- Construction of 13 water troughs.
- Support to value addition of livestock products: sale of value-added products e.g., hides skins, bone products.
- Establishment fish value chain through construction of 8 fish ponds in the county to increase fisheries productivity, supplied and distributed fish feeds and fingerlings for the new fish ponds and trained 200 fish farmers.
- Constructed 3 underground water tanks for bee keeping groups and 120 honey harvesting kits.
- Established Mandera county hatchery at Bulla Hajji Farm in Neboi Ward
- Vaccinated over 600,000 animals
- Purchased and distributed 6981 kgs of grass seeds and 35,000 bales of hay

Challenges

- The arable land for agriculture is unutilized and agricultural production remains regrettably at subsistence levels with most of the vast land unutilized.
- The county is reliant on food supply from the neighbouring counties and countries.

E. Urban Planning

Mandera East that hosts the County headquarters at Mandera Town has been the most densely populated constituency with 72 persons per Km² in 2009 and 64 persons per Km² currently. The population distribution in the county affects infrastructure development and provision of social amenities. Hence led to the gazettelement of Mandera and Elwak.

Achievements

- The Mandera Municipality has carried out a digital topographical mapping for 2015-2035 and seeks to position Mandera Municipality as an inclusive and safe urban area considering dynamics for women in urban areas. The plan also safeguards its resources and promotes investments with adequate facilities for a prosperous population.
- Through the Sustainable Urban Economic Development Programme value chain actors in high potential industries are being supported to boost value addition. As a result, it's hoped that jobs will be created, and essential infrastructure developed.
- With SUEd's support the municipality has worked within the context of devolution to develop the urban economic plan that resonate with the residents of Mandera.
- As a good practice on the progress made in its mandate, the municipality hosted a peer learning opportunity for Rumuruti Municipality in February 2022.
- To enhance the implementation of the mandate of the municipalities, the County made grants to the municipalities of Mandera and Elwak of Ksh 401.51 million.
- To respond to the place of women who are majority traders the County has in place a Elwak market, a regional state of the art facility with over 216 ultra-modern stalls. Further there is Corner B Market (114 stalls), Mandera ESP market (86 stalls) Ashabito (24 stalls), Rhamu (58 stalls), Gither SME market (57 stalls) and Eymole (28 stalls).

Challenges

Women do not participate in allotment process, management of the markets even though they are directly involved in the running of their businesses.

F. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

Mandera County government inherited the revenue base as well as revenue collectors from the former Town and the county council of Mandera.

As a result, whereas there is huge revenue potential in the county, the performance of the collection has been dismal hovering at Ksh 40 million per year prior to devolution. The county government envisioned to:

- Take over revenue sources currently under the national government whose function has been devolved
- Acquire Revenue Collection System

- Set up a Comprehensive, Optimal and Sustainable Structure that Covers all Areas and Revenue Centers
- Provide staff with proper training and build their capacity and removing nonproductive staff
- Provide the staff with proper tools and equipment such as computers, vehicles, offices, stationeries etc. for them to effectively perform their duties
- Consider introducing an incentive program matched by high but achievable target setting to motivate and hold staff accountable
- Make a comprehensive review of the existing rates with view to adjusting it to a reasonable but sustainable level.
- Engaging Development Partners for funding/Support

Though the above measures have led to renewed revenue collection, a key component of gender analysis was missing. This exposes the revenue collection and tax administration to implicit gender biases which arise where tax structures appear to treat men and women equally but have an unequal impact because there exist differences in income or ownership patterns between men and women.

Since women in Mandera own less property, land, and other assets than men do (the gender wealth gap). This unequal control over resources entrenches power structures and increases inequality which needs to be considered in tax assessment and gender analysis as the Revenue strategy for the 3rd Generation CIDP, 2022-2027 is being developed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender and Governance Framework
 - i. Mandera has made significant gains in development of policies and strategies for gender equality and developed through a broad range of mechanisms. There is need to sustain the gains through an elaborate public participation model and linkage of ongoing initiatives with the 3rd Generation CID planning processes that must take in account the gains for women and girls.
 - ii. Continue to enhance women capacity building programmes to ensure that women are equitably represented and have access to decision-making at county levels and national level. Capacity building has been known to empower women and get them ready for leadership and decision making.
 - iii. The county requires to support establishment of a strong gender department with resources and tools to mainstream gender in all the county sector development programmes.
 - iv. The county to put more investments in social enterprise to facilitate women's access to income generating activities to ensure that they gain capacity to engage in county development agenda since social enterprise has a positive influence on access to other opportunities.
 - v. Women will need support to champion eradication of FGM as a retrogressive cultural practice that has served as a barrier to women taking up leadership. This will be achieved

through empowerment programmes including promoting girl child education.

II. Health

- i. There is need to sustain the partnership with other stakeholders and partners to scale it up health programming.
- ii. In addition to providing CHVs with the tools and resources necessary for more sophisticated behaviour change, there is need for additional training and supervision and to put CVHs on the county payroll. The County needs a CHV policy/strategy in place to enhance Financial and non-financial incentives to influence their behaviour and attitude.
- iii. Investment in promoting family planning services will be important to improve the contraceptives prevalence rate that has an impact on overall health and population rate of the county.

III Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- The County needs to adopt the ECDE scheme of services to enhance motivation of ECDE teachers.
- There is need for cross educational linkages to sustain and consolidate the gains in the ECDE and bursary programme.
- To enhance the skills of locals to support ECDE the county should seek out partnerships to establish ECDE Training Colleges with standardized equipment and facilities.
- The county should establish shared well-furnished learning resource centers with fully equipped ECDE teaching and learning play materials at ward level.

ii) VTC

- Partnership for instructor capacity is recommented.
- Creating of awareness of VTCs on courses offered with members of public and especially women and girls is crucial to increased enrolment of women to non-traditional female courses.
- Linkage to VTCs to private business enterprises using dual vocational training approach is necessary.
- He county ought to consider subsidized tuition fees for VTCs trainees to attract more learners especial those most vulnerable including women and PWDs.
- The county to establish bursary and scholarships for needy trainees to enroll in VTC.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- Provision of underground water storage tanks is a viable practice which can be further analyzed to inform scaling up to other drought prone counties.
- Provision of the necessary infrastructure including concrete canals, greenhouses, water pans, dams, boreholes, and shallow wells.
- Integrated water management and conservation programme with a focus on provision of owater for domestic use.

- Scale up implementation of the ground water assessment and countywide aquifer mapping study undertaken by the county.

V. Agriculture

- There is need to focus on increasing area under irrigation by developing irrigation infrastructure and exploiting groundwater sources. There is also need for sustainable land use practices and environmental conservation in the county.
- The county needs to promote agricultural extension services provision through extension advisory support services and programmes.
- There is need for support to gender responsive value addition programmes through mapping out and undertaking the processing of agricultural products at source to maximize returns to farmers.
- Set up of livestock cottage industries to value-add livestock products.
- Subsidize farm inputs to ensure increased yield and invest in rural infrastructure to facilitate access to markets.
- There is need for inter county linkages to benefit from the Garissa Abattoir while Mandera offers regional livestock Disease investigation and diagnostic centre being a cross border county.

VI. Urban Planning

- Develop a clear municipality revenue strategy. The strategy will aid in mapping of revenue streams, legal and regulatory support for implementation of the strategy which will address the lagging public-sector spending taking a toll on urban efficiency and local economic activity, creating a vicious cycle of budgetary shortfalls.
- Financial decentralization needs to be realized in the municipality. This is essential as it can help the municipality plan and finance the social and physical infrastructure programmes as suggested by citizens through the citizen fora.
- Fast track the delayed transfer of key functions by the responsible County Departments to the municipalities. For the municipality to succeed, they need autonomy, and this means that the county government must decentralize some of its activities to the municipality.

G. Best Practice-757 Unit Housing Project

Over a period of two years, and in partnership with the national government which injected Sh70 million, we have managed to put up 757 low-cost housing units in Rhamu area meant for internally displaced persons (IDPs) because of the inter-clan conflicts. The county has also installed water and power systems for the housing units for all IDPs.

The county further carries out monthly and routine distributions of relief foods to 3000 IDPs households who were unable to benefit from the housing scheme.

The displaced women have difficulties in realizing their right to adequate housing which impacted their employment and earnings as well as their overall empowerment and decision making. In the predominant Somali culture, it is women and girls who are primarily responsible for sustaining and maintaining the home, as well as all the care responsibilities that come with it.

The decent housing scheme has afforded women access to opportunities that have contributed to their empowerment. The scheme has also contributed to improved mental health by reducing the women's stress; increasing their self-esteem, satisfaction, and social well-being; allowing them to have more time to care of their family members, and for their own welfare and leisure.

In the long term the housing project is promoting cultural reform around land and property acquisition. The ownership has created public awareness with the men acknowledging the County targeted approach specifically for women allowed them to change the cultural norms.

3.8. MARSABIT COUNTY

Marsabit County is in the extreme part of northern Kenya and has a total area of 70,961.2 km² making it the second-largest county. Marsabit is approximately 530 kilometers north of Kenya's capital city, Nairobi. The county has an international boundary with Ethiopia to the north, borders Lake Turkana to the west, Samburu County to the south and Wajir and Isiolo counties to the east. The county is divided into four sub-counties, namely, Saku, Laisamis, North Horr and Moyale.

Marsabit County falls within arid and semi-arid area, and as such can be classified as a dryland county. The county lies in four main ecological zones, namely, sub-humid, semi-arid (mainly woodlands), arid (predominantly bushlands) and very arid (scrublands). This makes the county economy largely dependent on livestock keeping. Based on the 2009 National Population and Housing Census, recorded 291,166 people (F=168,619, M=122,547), the county's projected population was 316,206 people in 2012. This comprised 164,105 males and 152,101 females. In the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census, the county population was 459,785 People in 2019. This comprised of 243,548 Males 216,219 Females and 18 Intersex.

The county is further faced with territorial challenge in development since the county is vast and sparsely populated. This is further compounded by the efforts to ensure interconnectivity, the total road network in the county is approximately 5,000km. This consists of 312km tarmacked, 580km gravel surface and 4,108km earth surface. Most of the roads are however impassable during rainy seasons.

The majority ethnic groups are: El Molo, Rendille, Samburu, Turkana, Dassanatch, Gabra, Borana, Konso, Sakuye, Garee, Waata, Burji and Somali.



A group of Rendile men and women perform during the 11th Marsabit Lake Turkana Culture Festival in Loiyangalani near Lake Turkana, northern Kenya, on June 28, 2018. The event gives communities in the region an opportunity for cross-cultural interaction. (Photo: AFP)

The county faces challenges of retrogressive cultural practices and male chauvinism due to patriarchy. The county has prioritized dialogue and community sensitization to tackle those practices which include child marriage, beading, and female genital mutilation among others.

Marsabit experiences pockets of insecurity. To address the challenges of conflict and sustainable development in Marsabit County of Kenya and Borana Zone of Ethiopia, the UN Country Teams of Ethiopia and Kenya and IGAD, in partnership with the Governments of Ethiopia and Kenya, have initiated a cross-border and area-based development programme to strengthen social cohesion and bring sustainable peace and development in the region. The insecurity fueled by rustling impacts negatively on the efforts being made to foster gender equality in Marsabit County because women are reduced to heads of households whenever their husbands were killed during cattle raids. This is despite the right to dignity, opportunities, access to resources remaining elusive to them in the male dominated communities.

Marsabit County development agenda has also been defined by combating high poverty levels, the county absolute poverty level was at 63.7%, food poverty level at 55.6% Hardcore poverty level at 23.8%.²⁵ Overall Marsabit County poverty levels are estimated at 83.2% as compared with national level at 39% as of 2012.

At the onset of devolution, the county had prioritized women interventions noting that their representation in post-primary education, wage employment, enterprise ownership, and decision making is limited. They are adversely affected by such factors as traditional and social practices, as well as poverty and domestic violence, among other challenges. Improving women's profiles in all sectors and reducing gender disparities will not only benefit women but also men, children, the poor, and the rich. This will also enhance women's empowerment and contribute to sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty and social injustices.

²⁵ KIHBS 2015/16

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Below is current statistics for women representation in Marsabit County.

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Elected MCA	20	18	2
Nominated MCA	8	1	7
CECMs	10	7	3
Chief Officers	15	10	5
Directors	30	26	4

There are 4 Directorates headed by Female Directors, all of whom were appointed in the last four years. In total there are 9 women at the level of Assistant to full Directors. across the 10 County Departments.

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- Marsabit County has developed and adopted a Gender policy and Action plan as well as a social protection policy however lacks a workplace policy on GBV in line with the National Policy on prevention and Response to GBV 2014.
- In summary, the Counties' gender planning and implementation tools are as follows:

Tool	Yes	No
1. Gender Policy	X	
2. Gender Law		X
3. Gender Strategy	X	
4. Gender Action Plan	X	
5. Plans to promote gender equality (women empowerment programs)	BY THE NUMBERS	
6. Social protection policy	X	

91.7% population % of recored fgm cases in marsabit

60% percentage of girls who have dropped out of school due to early marriages

100 number of gbv cases reported in the last 3 years

- The department responsible for gender is designated as Tourism, Culture, Gender, and Social Services.
- The county has a gender sector working group headed by the county commissioner and comprises of a representative from the national government ministry of gender and social services, a member of the civil society and the county director in charge of gender.
- The County has a department responsible for gender with members of staff from the department assigned to every sub-county and therefore serve as gender sub-county officers.
- The department responsible for gender has also has previously trained other county departments on gender issues and assigned an officer to each sector to act as the gender focal persons within the county departments. The trained officers. These officers in turn train community

members on FGM and early marriages. The 1st phase of the training that entailed sensitization on child protection and community dialogue on ending FGM started in 2020 in North Horr.

The gender sector working group oversees the implementation of the county gender policy. The county has a gender focal person who oversees inter departmental linkages.

Identified Gender and Women Issues

In Marsabit County, gender inequality is acute and deep-rooted at family level and in the community at large. Women have low social status, low literacy levels, restricted roles in public life and restricted ownership of livestock (cattle and camels) the main store of wealth in pastoral economies. With a rigid gender division of labor, the exclusion of women from ownership of the main store of

wealth is central to gender disparity in pastoral communities. A few women generally own small stock like goats, sheep, and chicken. They also have rights over small plots of land, which they devote to the limited range of livestock, crops and to horticulture.

Women are also faced with exposure to early marriage and pregnancy and harmful traditional practices such as polygamy, FGM and the payment of “bride prices” which encourages them to be viewed as property.

Strategies for empowering women and girls

Some of the gender issues identified and prioritized by the Marsabit County Government in the past 8 years (2013-2021) include:

Gender Issue Prioritized	
1	Ending FGM in line with the Presidential Anti-FGM declaration
2	Child protection and Ending Early marriages
3	Empowering women economically, economically, and politically to ensure that women issues are heard and accepted by men who are considered the cultural gate keepers
4	Reducing HIV and increasing the uptake of Family planning
5	Support to People with disabilities (PWDs)
6	Support to Orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs)

At the onset of devolution, the County had prioritized women noting that their representation in post-primary education, wage employment, enterprise ownership, and decision making is limited. They are adversely affected by such factors as traditional and social practices, as well as poverty and domestic violence, among other challenges. Improving women’s profiles in all sectors and reducing gender disparities will not only benefit women but also men, children, the poor, and the rich. This will also enhance women’s empowerment and contribute to sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty and social injustices.

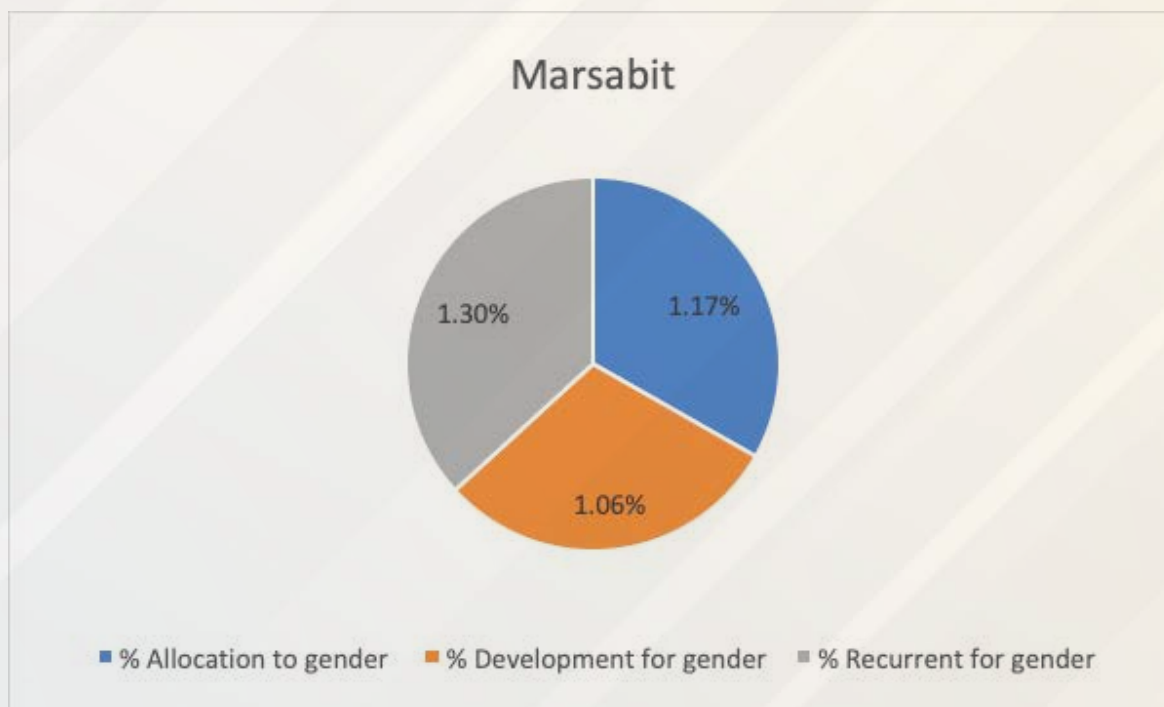
During the first tenure of devolution, the county government had set up a cash transfer program for the vulnerable members of the society. There were 750 beneficiaries in the FY 2015/2016 where Ksh 20 million was disbursed and another 20 million in FY 2016/2017 utilized. The programme posed a challenge due to lack of a policy for the coordination of the social protection system, it was also faced with duplication and less efficient processes in the identification of potential beneficiaries due to development partners already undertaking the same. Thus, the county opted for linkage between national social protection programmes.

The county also supported training for 310 women groups and 504 youth groups in the county. The groups are involved in socio-economic activities like goat-keeping, Beekeeping, poultry-rearing and small micro enterprises.

Revenue collection and Budget

In the FY 2013/14, the County received Kshs.3.8 billion as the national equitable share and raised Kshs.46 million from local revenue sources. The County’s approved budget for FY 2020/21 is Kshs.8.72 billion, comprising Kshs.4.56 billion (52.3 per cent) and Kshs.4.15 billion (47.7 per cent) allocation for development and recurrent programmes, respectively. To finance the budget, the County expected to receive Kshs.6.87 billion (78.8 per cent) as the equitable share of revenue raised nationally, Kshs.1.12 billion (12.8 per cent) as total conditional grants, generate Kshs.150 million (1.7 per cent) from own sources of revenue, and a cash balance of Kshs.578.81 million (6.6 per cent) from FY 2019/20.

The County allocated Ksh (Development=48.35, Recurrent=54.00) to Tourism, Culture and Social Services, the department responsible for Gender interventions. The absorption rate was 96.9% for recurrent and 84.6% for development. The County revised the 1st CIDP which involved undertaking a gender inequality analysis. The analysis identified retrogressive cultural beliefs, specifically gender-discriminating traditional practices, which have occasioned gender-based violence on women and girls in the form of early marriage (the girl child is viewed as a source of wealth) and sexual violence in the county. The plan set out to address the practices and minimize the same over the plan period.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender Marsabit County

The second CIDP (2017-2022) sought to:

- Develop improved infrastructure, markets, and source of revenue for women in beadwork through Ushanga Initiative
- Institutionalize gender responsive planning, budgeting, and evidence-based programming through a Gender policy
- Strengthening capacity of County officers on GEWE, informed by a Gender audit
- Increase awareness, engagement and advocacy and access to public procurement opportunities for women, youths and PWDs
- Implement the 30% access to government procurement for youth, women, and persons with disability
- Inclusion of women in the County Budget and Economic Forum (CBEF)
- Various programmes aimed at improving the welfare of women exist in the county. These include access to credit provided through WEDF and KWFT.
- There was also enforcement of affirmative action on women representation in the County Assembly and in development committees.
- The county embarked on civic education targeting women to take up political positions. Currently there are 310 registered women groups in the county of which 55 per cent are active.

Achievements

- Set up a recuse center at Loglogo and a rescue unit in Maikuna.
- Training women on leadership as well as promotion of girl child rights.
- Civil registrar facilitated to Hilaret to issue birth certificates to the children to ensure they can register for national examinations. More than 500 birth certificates were issued in 2 phases.
- Issuance of sanitary pads to girls.
- Developed the Marsabit County Gender Policy under the department of tourism, culture gender and social services to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment are integrated into sectoral policies, planning and policies.
- Developed a training package for women on health, sensitized women on the need to uptake NHIF, trained them on book-keeping for business as well as linked them to credit facilities to access loans.
- Sensitization on the need for Family Planning uptake and as well as ARVs.
- Provision of assistive technologies: 100 wheelchairs and 200 crutches issued.
- Food distribution on a need basis.
- Set up more than 10 OVC centers.
- Developed the Marsabit county social protection strategy.

Challenges

- The women and girls indicated that they did not participate in the development of the CIDPs, ADPs and the annual budgets.
- The department of gender encounters inadequate budgetary allocation.
- The women's empowerment programmes offered by the county governments leans towards traditionally construed roles of beadwork, and allocation of market spaces and support to women groups.
- Gender mainstreaming was not considered as an implementation strategy in the two CIDPs.
- The county programmes have not enabled women to get out of poverty.
- The county is yet to combat the high FGM prevalence rate, the high levels of teenage pregnancy, high dropout rates of girls, violence against women, low Family Planning uptake and high mortality rate.
- The county budget of about 2.792 billion over the first five years.
- The county now has 1 level V hospital, 3 level IV hospitals from 3 at 2014, 26 level III hospitals (Comprehensive -5, Basic 21) from 17, 101 level II Hospitals (76 GOK) & (25 Private) from 52, and 113 level 1 units from 8.
- The county opened a Sh150 million Mother and Child Complex, at Marsabit County Referral Hospital, which has a newborn unit, two major theatres and one minor theatre and 4 wards with a bed capacity of 50. The hospital records between 150 and 200 deliveries each month.
- The women benefitted from Free Maternity services.
- The county health personnel are approximately 1447. This is though below the required standard thus affecting service effectively. This translates to 0.62 doctors for every 10,000 persons against a norm of 3.0; for nurses there are 8.3 nurses per 10,000 persons against 9.6 nurses per 10,000 populations. Although the staffing norms have improved it is important to factor in the vastness of the county and ensure equitable distribution of staff.
- The referral services have been revived with the purchase of 16 ambulances that have been distributed to all wards in the county. With planned investment in County's referral hospital, the cases of referrals to other counties are expected to go down.
- The county has embarked on developing community level healthcare (community strategy).

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

Achievements

- The counties started off with 1 referral hospital and 3 hospitals, 58 dispensaries and 22 health centres spread across the four sub-counties of Moyale, Saku, Laisamis and North Horr. The county began identifying gaps in its key investment areas which included infrastructure, health management information system (HMIS), health workforce, commodity supplies, service delivery and governance.
- The county had 82 per cent of women in the county delivering at home, with only 26 per cent of deliveries assisted by a skilled professional compared to 62 per cent nationally. The antenatal care coverage at 43 per cent compared to national average of 58 per cent. As a result, the maternal mortality rate is 1,127 per 100,000 compared to 495 per 100,000 live births national average, and 11 per cent Family Planning and a fertility rate of 5.0 per cent.
- The county is envisioned to have an effective and efficient high-quality health care system that is accessible, acceptable, affordable and which can respond to the needs of Marsabit County population. The maternal mortality rate has declined from 1127/100,000 prior to devolution to 488/100,000, under 5 mortality rate which declined from 74 to 52/1,000, 43 per cent of average 4 ANC visit, 67 per cent immunization rate.
- The county has made tremendous achievements through the overall health sector budget allocation from 3% to 22%. The health sector has been allocated the largest share of the

We could not afford hospital deliveries, this is a real benefit, the beddings are clean, there is water and food are good. However, the free maternal services should include towels, nappies, and a few clothing for the babies.

The health management information system is quite developed in the department. Infrastructure like computers have been purchased and health information data from the county can be accessed through the District Health Information System (DHIS) from anywhere in the world. Health indicators are lower than

most parts of the country.

- The above has contributed to improved skilled deliveries (4846 out of 7994), ANC coverage (3921 out of 10039), immunization coverage from 67.5% (KDHS 2014) to 84%,

The health department over the last 5 years has prioritized and endeavored to end FGM by:

- Working with the local radio stations to sensitize the county residents on the dangers of FGM
- Employing CHVs to help report the cases of FGM early enough and ensure action is taken against the perpetrators
- Training of nurses on how to handle the GBV case

Achievements

Some of the gender-based success stories in health include:

- The county has been able to provide free ANC services to encourage expectant mothers to visit health facilities
- The department has been issuing Mama kits to mothers who deliver in public health facilities

- During the first tenure of devolution, the county government paid NHIF premiums for over 10,000 households
- The department has set up a community-based referral agency that refers and encourages mothers to deliver in health facilities. This has increased the delivery by skilled birth attendants greatly
- The county also provides free maternity services under the Linda Mama Program

Challenges

- The county lacks specific gender violence recovery clinics as well as trained personnel to handle GBV cases considering GBV cases require specialized training to handle them
- The lack of safe spaces and rescue centres to handle GBV victims within the community and health facilities
- Inadequate training of staff and health medical personnel to handle GBV cases considering GBV requires specialized training.
- Unavailability of resources to handle GBV cases hence too much reliance on development partners
- Very low reporting rates of GBV cases due to way ward cultural values
- Inadequate resources to incentivize community-based referral agency members
- Most of the times, the family planning commodities are out of stock in public health facilities within the county
- There is high expenditure on wages was attributed to the collective bargaining agreement that the County Government signed with the medical staff in the FY2019/20.

B. Education and Vocational Training

The county had high illiteracy levels 68%, the percentage of those with the ability to read is 27.7 per cent, while that of those who cannot read is 71.5 per cent. On the other hand, those who can write are rated at 22.9 per cent and 74.6 per cent for those who cannot write.

Achievements

i) ECDE

- There are 252 public ECDE centres and 64 private ones. The ECDE enrolments are estimated at 19,239 while the total number of ECDE teachers are 413. The teacher pupil

ratio in the pre-primary school is 1:29. The total enrolment in the public and private ECDEs is 16,005. The pre-primary retention rate is 99 percent with a drop-out rate of 0.2 per cent while the transition rate is 99 per cent.

- The county has introduced 4 Uni-Huts Mobile ECD Centres to address the nomadism challenges.
- In addition, several public primary schools in the county have, with the help of the county government, integrated a pre-primary unit in their systems.
- There are school feeding programs for all ECD centers
- Provision of ECDE learning and teaching materials/ outdoor and indoor play materials had been done to 141 centres
- 181 Teachers trained

Challenges

- Due to territorial distance the ECDE centres are not adequate and the mobile ECDE centres are only 4 in the county, owing to being capital intensive.
- The county is unable to sustain offering hot meals to the approximate 14,00 learners in the ECDE centres.
- The ECDE centres are still linked to primary schools that are under the national government, and investment in infrastructure occasionally causes conflicts with the primary school administrators.

ii) VTC

- All workshops & classrooms in the 5 VTCs have been completed & fully equipped
- All VTCs have boarding facilities open for learners (male and female)
- The department has initiated a program called Marsabit Youth Community Service Program (My-CSP) whereby the beneficiaries of county education services who graduate volunteer and offer services to the county for a year and earn a stipend.
- All VTCs have been equipped with single sex washrooms, have power, are accessible by PWDs. Some of the gender issues that have been identified, prioritized, and implemented by the department of education over the last 8 years include.

	Priority	Success story
1	Increase the number of girls attending primary school	Community sensitization that after FGM or delivery for girls, they could still go back to school and continue with their education
2	Increase the primary to secondary transition rate	Offered scholarships for girls who scored 250 marks and 300 marks for boys
3	Improve the transition rate to VTCs and post-secondary education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The county offered scholarships to deserving students to study in any university for designated courses selected by the county HR department • VTCs are free

Challenges

Some of the challenges by the education department include:

- Stalling and delayed completion of projects
- Absenteeism in schools due to insecurity.
- Early marriages and practice of FGM causes the pupils to drop out of school.
- Inadequate resources and late disbursement of funds by the county treasury to VTCs and ECD Centers causing delay of operations.
- 20 youth empowerment centres planned for are yet to be constructed
- There is mismatch between number of student and number of apprenticeships offered within the County



Boys and girl's mentorship session

C. Water and Sanitation

People and livestock in Marsabit County rely on surface or ground water since there are no permanent rivers. There are three water catchments in the county i.e., the upper horizon of mountains and hills, over 1,500m to the summits of Mt Marsabit and Mt Kulal where there are several springs. The second catchment is 1,200m to 1,500m, still on Mt. Marsabit are springs like Badassa, Songa and Balesa Bongole. The rest of the county, which generally lies between 400 and 460m, depends mostly on underground water (i.e., boreholes and shallow wells). In these areas, the ground water table varies greatly. Marsabit County is water insecure because it lacks reliable/permanent surface water sources like rivers and lakes. Hydrological status indicates that ground water is adequate in the lowlands, but quality is poor, with many places having concentration of salts above permissible levels for human and livestock consumptions.

50% of rural population and 60% of urban population accessing water from boreholes, shallow wells, pans, and lake. This is against increasing demand for water in Marsabit County, estimated at 6,750,000 litres per day against a daily production of 4,050,000 litre per day. The mean distance to the nearest water point is 25km. This distance is long and therefore a lot of time that could be used for other productive activities is wasted fetching water.

Achievements

- To find alternative sources of water, efforts have been directed to harvesting flood flows. Bakuli 3 Concrete Dam, with a capacity of about 60,000 cubic metres was constructed between 2008 and 2011 under GoK and Japan funding. It is operational and has brought some relief to the dire water situation in Marsabit town. The dam has a capacity to supply 543 cubic metres per day after good rain seasons. Further, Badassa/Songa Dam, part of vision 2030 flagship project – is under construction. The dam has an estimated capacity of about 6 million cubic metres and yields about 7,000 cubic metres a day. It is about 50 per cent built and is expected to be completed and operational as soon as funds are available.
- 77.6% of households have access to improved water sources, the water is however not safe with only 21% having access to safe water.
- 70 per cent of the water services facilities are functional and in use, while 63 per cent of point sources (excluding piped systems) were improved.
- As part of coping mechanisms, water is ferried to affected communities using motorized trucks, usually supported by the government.

Challenges

- The county is faced with conflicts fueled by competition for grazing land and water sources.
- Besides quality issues, many of the facilities do not have

sufficient water to satisfy demand and sources are seasonal hence adversely affected by drought.

- The current schemes are dilapidated and operate at less than 50 per cent of their design capacities.
- Water from many facilities is contaminated.
- Many water facilities especially in rural areas are managed by user committees that lack adequate management capacities and therefore water service provision is poor.

D. Agriculture

The county has arid climatic condition apart from the areas around Mt. Marsabit, Mt. Kulal, Hurri Hills and the Moyale-Sololo escarpment which represent typical semi-arid condition. The temperature ranges from a low of 15°C to a high of 26°C, with an annual average of 20.5°C (World Weather and Climate Information, 2015). It has a bi-modal rainfall pattern. The long rain season fall between April and May while the short rain season falls between November and December. Rainfall ranges between 200mm and 1,000mm per annum and its duration, amount and reliability increases with rise in altitude. North Horr (550m) has a mean annual rainfall of 150mm; Mt. Marsabit and Mt. Kulal experience 800mm while Moyale receives a mean annual rainfall of 700mm.

Some of the gender issues identified and prioritized by the agriculture department include:

- linked women led and PWD self-help groups to funding for their micro projects through the KCSAP project.
- endeavored to ensure that the department (facility) is accessible to PWDs who come to seek the services of the department.
- In partnership with the department of health agriculture department has also sensitized women on the need to plant and use highly nutritious food especially for expectant and breastfeeding mothers.
- supported the self-help groups with dryers to assist in food preservation e.g., the Stawi Women Group.

Achievements

- Improved agricultural crop production-3850 acres under crop production.
- Provision of 10MT of drought tolerant crop seeds, pesticides, herbicides and farm tools
- Construction of water pans & dams to support agriculture and livestock.
- 105.5 acres of rehabilitated Kalacha and Songa Irrigation schemes support to rehabilitated Walda-65 acres.
- Expanded Log logo-from 5 to 20 acres and Kinisa from 6 to 20 acres Irrigation projects.
- Rehabilitation and expansion of existing irrigations schemes and establishment of new irrigation schemes in areas with irrigation potential.
- Distributed farm inputs e.g., seedlings & fertilizers to the farmers to reduce food poverty

- Supporting fish production in Lake Turkana- Improved fish catch (2400MT Fresh fish and 4400MT Dry fish achieved).

Challenges

- Some communities do not eat some certain types of food, cultural barriers on access and control of land by women and youths.
- Climate change has also made it difficult to predict the weather patterns and women are vulnerable to climate change and lack proper information to adapt and mitigate.
- Women are the main labourers, but the benefits (cash) accrue to men.

E. Urban Planning

The gazetted Marsabit municipality is yet to be fully operationalized, the County needs to empower the municipality to function as envisaged by the Municipal Charter and the provisions of the Urban areas and cities act.

Achievements

- The municipality through donor support, mainly the Kenya Urban Support project has undertaken urban project focused on sewerage, drainage, street lighting, and solid waste management following concerted efforts to responded to increased urbanization.
- The lighting serves as a security measure to improve women movements at night especially for the traders within the town centres.

Challenges

- The municipality is grappling with overreliance on donor support and quality assurance of the projects.
- The municipality charter though in place is controlled by the relations between the County and municipality. The charter provides for the scope of local competences, but it keeps the unbalanced system of transferred responsibilities for the provision of services, without transferring the necessary decision- making powers relating to their provision, as well as provision of resources for their financing.
- There is no local legislation to legitimize own source of revenues generated within the municipality.

F. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

Gender analysis has not been undertaken in the planning process. Further, the fiscal policies and administration have not been formulated with a view to promoting gender equality and girls' and women's development.

The proportion of public expenditure dedicated to explicit gender equality objectives is unavailable since there are no dedicated budget lines for the same. Although the proportion of expenditures that can be seen as contributing to gender equality and girls and

women's advancement appears much because it encompasses spending across the assessed sectors.

The planning and budgeting process have an eye on meeting the timelines, as opposed to evaluating the needs of women and girls. There are also no consideration in Tax Administration in the county during the tabling County Finance Bills in the county assembly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Institutional Gender Government Framework

- The county government should prioritize allocation for the department responsible for Gender, in the medium term have a stand-alone gender department responsible for gender mainstreaming and implementing gender equality and empowerment programmes for women and girls and PWDs.
- The county should undertake capacity building to ensure implementation of the Gender Policy.
- Public participation: The county should establish a platform to have structured consultations with women and girls, to ensure they are adequately represented in all matters of concern and interest to them.
- The draft Marsabit M&E policy should be aligned to addresses the different priorities and needs of women and men, to ensure it assesses if the development programmes in the next 3rd generation CIDP (2022-2027) have impact on gender relations, and to determine the gender aspects that need to be integrated into county integrated monitoring and evaluation system (CIMES)

II. Health

- Access to health services is affected by long distances from facilities, socio-cultural-religious practices, un-availability of specialized services among others. There is therefore needed to construct more facilities, operationalize non-operational facilities, increase medical supplies and employ more medical personnel.
- Invest in establishing safe spaces and rescue holding centres for GBV survivors.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- There is need to construct more ECDE centres closer to the community for ease of access by the pupils
- There is need for intersectoral collaboration for sustainable food security and poor nutrition among under 5 years to sustain the school feeding programme.
- The county requires to invest in quality assurance in construction of ECDE centres to ensure availability of other related services for hygiene i.e, latrines, clean and safe water and fencing the centres for security purposes.

ii) VTC

- i. The county needs to scale up hiring of VTC instructors.
- ii. The county should enhance partnerships with companies to secure an agile system and relevant learning for VTC (technological development, change in practices etc.)

IV. Water and Sanitation

- The county government should undertake public private partnerships (PPPs) to increase access to water coverage and enhance sanitation delivery.
- The county should programme to have more water sources especially closer to the settlement areas to reduce the distances women and girls use to collect water.
- Women require more capacity to undertake the business model of selling water as vendors through established water kiosks.
- The women must be empowered through the purchase of water storage tanks that will help improve water storage for continuous domestic use.

V. Agriculture

- The county should prioritize rehabilitation and expansion of existing irrigation schemes and establishment of new irrigation schemes in areas with irrigation potential. This will reduce uncertainty from drought and reliance on livestock farming.
- Women as subsistent farmers require skills to advance their role in sustaining kitchen farms with vegetables and fruits to feed the family.
- Gender issues in climate change need to be identified and women offered capacity on mitigation and early warning signs reading.

VI. Urban Planning

- The municipal Integrated plan is newly operationalized and will need alignment with the new CIDP to prioritize gender issues with a focus on women and girls.
- The municipality needs to have a revenue strategy in place. Revenue planning is critical to achieve effective financial performance.
- Having a Revenue Strategy in place will grant the municipality the ability to render services to the citizens respecting gender and diversity.

VII. Tax Administration

- The county needs favorable tax administration policies to embrace inclusion in tax administration with a view of giving women access to resources.

G. Best Practice: Marsabit Water ATM Kiosks

Marsabit County in partnership with development partners has initiated a new technology for dispensing water through automated teller machines (ATM) which has made it easier for Marsabit Town

residents. The water ATMs are spread out in various locations to cater for a larger community.

The water ATM project is aimed at strengthening community resilience and is funded by the USAID through Food for the Hungry (FH).

Every household is issued with a card, which is then loaded with the amount they provide through a Safaricom prepaid line that is installed in the dispenser.

There are 2,000 households that are catered for by the dispenser in the town. Every household is allowed to fetch a maximum of 200 litres. Water in the region retails between Sh40 and Sh50 for a 20 litre container because the commodity is scarce and few people can afford to buy it from water truckers. Nevertheless, under the ATM water dispenser project, the locals access the same amount for only Ksh 5.

3.9. NAROK COUNTY

Narok County is situated along the Great Rift Valley in the Southern part of the Country where it borders the republic of Tanzania. It covers an area of 17933km² representing 3.1% of Kenya. Consequently, Narok County is the 11th largest county in Kenya. The County is administratively divided into 6 sub-counties and 30 wards. Further, the county has 16 divisions constituting the administrative sub-units of the National Government.

It borders the Republic of Tanzania to the South, Kisii, Migori, Nyamira and Bomet counties to the West, Nakuru County to the North and Kajiado County to the East. The county headquarters is at Narok Town. Administratively, Narok County is divided into six sub-counties namely, Transmara West, Transmara East, Narok North, Narok South, Narok West and Narok East. The sub-counties are further sub-divided into 16 divisions.

Politically, the county has six political constituencies and 30 electoral wards. The constituencies are Narok North, Narok South, Narok East, Narok West, Kilgoris and Emurua Dikirr.

According to the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHC), the population of Narok was 850,920 persons of whom 429,026 were male while 421,894 were female. This population increased to 1,157,873 (M=579,042, F= 578,805 and Intersex=26)²⁶

Narok is a cosmopolitan county with Maasai and Kalenjin being the dominant ethnic groups. The County is also home to marginalized communities such as the Ogiek and Oromo ethnic groups. The County is endowed with diverse natural resources most notably the world famous Maasai Mara National Reserve, Mau Forest, gold mining among others.

²⁶ KNBS, 2019

The first CIDP, 2013-2017 noted that there has been little progress on gender mainstreaming in the past as gender issues have been viewed as efforts to kill good old traditions and culture. Traditional practices and lack of appreciation of girl child education, children abuse, early and forced marriages, exclusion of women from leadership, property ownership and inheritance, inadequate technological flow, preference to educate the boy child as compared to the girl child, Female Genital Mutilation and rape, all impact negatively on the development of the county. In the county 65 per cent of agricultural labour is provided by women in the rural households, yet they only have access to 40 per cent of the

accruing benefits. On the side of reproductive health and rights, women have little say on the number of children a family should have. This leaves them vulnerable to having children nearly every year, leading to the weakening of their bodies yet they also provide labour on the farms and do all the house chores. Various attempts have been made specially to address female genital mutilation and girl child education through advocacy campaigns by organizations. However, more effort is needed to empower women by making them self-reliant, which in turn will enhance their self-confidence and become more productive in society.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	0
Deputy Governor	0	1
Elected MCA	30	0
Nominated MCA	1	16
CECMs	7	3
Chief Officers	13	5

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

In February 2022, Narok county launched a Gender Policy. The policy was drafted with the help of the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) and grassroots organizations with the help of the Centre for Rights Awareness and Education (CREAW-Kenya). The implementation of the policy will address Female Genital Mutilation, child marriages, and all the forms of sexual gender-based violence.

Identified gender/women Issues

In the first CIDP, 2013-2017 the County identified women in the female Reproductive Age Group (15-49 years) projected to increase from 211,877 in 2012 to 268,005 in 2017. This large number of women in their child-bearing age was considered to have a high fertility rate of 4.7 which is 2.6 higher than the 2.1 recommended to attain a stable population. With this rate of fertility and the population in this age-group, the county noted a high demand for maternal and child health facilities and services. It was envisaged that the county would undertake the provision of adequate health infrastructure, equipment, and personnel to ensure a healthy reproductive life for the women in this age bracket and good health for the new-born. There were plans to revamp family planning programmes in the county.

The county noted that women and youth groups continue to experience unemployment incidences as well as difficulties in accessing the loan capital from mainstream financial institutions

due to lack of collaterals. These groups of people also represent the poorest in the county. They are also scantily represented in top decision-making levels in the county.

Strategies of empowering women and girls

- The County has a unit in charge of Gender and Youth Affairs under a designate Chief Officer under the Department of Education, Sports, Culture and Social Services.
- The County has prioritized FGM awareness in aimed at reducing FGM prevalence and early child marriage and alternative livelihood approaches such as Ushanga initiative which aims at economic empowerment of women and youth doing beadworks.
- The county highlighted a need to boost youth and 34 women enterprise development funds that have contributed to the empowerment of these groups.
- The literacy level in the county was about 63 per cent. The women literacy level was 31 per cent compared to men at 69 per cent. To address this gap the county saw a need for advocacy on education and empowerment of the community through capacity building.
- The average distance to water point per household was 3 Km in wet season. In dry seasons the distance increases to 10km. This posed a great challenge particularly to women and girls who bear the responsibility of fetching water.

In the first CIDP, 2013-2017 the County focused on promoting gender equity through:

- improving women 's access to resource.
- promoting community-based projects that make use of local resources.
- promoting adult education programmes.
- encouraging and supporting women to set up and operate small enterprises and to engender decision-making at family level.
- providing support to organizations serving the community.
- educating the community on access to credit facilities, proper loan utilization and providing more support for the informal/Jua kali sector.
- providing quality education for girls through provision of bursaries.
- providing legal presentation to the female headed households.

In the second CIDP, 2017-2022 The county earmarked, Economic empowerment of women and youth doing beadworks (Ushanga Initiative), training of women and youth groups on income generating activities (IGAs) and empowering of women on their rights and protecting girl child against retrogressive cultural practices.

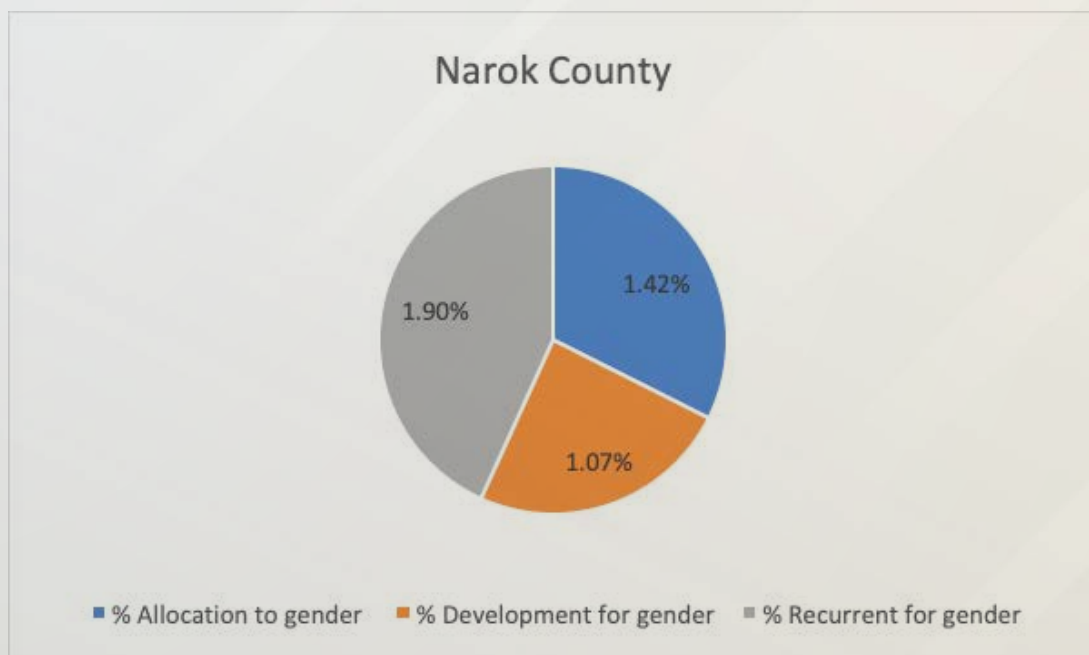
Revenue Collection and Budget

In the FY 2013/14, the County received Kshs.3.9 billion as the national equitable share, raised Kshs.1.5 billion from local sources, and had Kshs.15.7 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13.

In the first 5 years the county targeted Ksh 36,317.96 million and received Ksh 25,536.25 million. The department of Education, Youth, Sports, Culture & Social Services received Ksh 3,080.74 against a target of Ksh 3,519.08 million, this represents 12% of the total allocation. There are no specific estimates for the allocation to gender department.

The County's approved budget for FY 2020/21 is Kshs11.66 billion, comprising Kshs.3.62 billion (31.1 per cent) and Kshs.8.04 billion (68.9 per cent) allocation for development and recurrent programmes, respectively. To finance the budget, the County expected to receive Kshs.8.04 billion (68.9 per cent) as the equitable share of revenue raised nationally, Kshs.1.01 billion (8.7 per cent) as total conditional grants, generate Kshs.1.41 billion (12.1 per cent) from own sources of revenue, and a cash balance of Kshs.1.21 billion (10.3 per cent) from FY 2019/20.

The County allocated Ksh 1542.39 to the department responsible for Gender (Recurrent=Ksh 320.92, Development= 1221.47). The specific allocation to Gender and Youth Development was 16,318,089 with an absorption rate of 57%.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender Narok County

Achievements

- Between 2013 and 2017 considerable progress was made in ensuring devolution benefitted its citizens: The percentage of the population who can access health facility within a radius of less than one Kilometer (KM) increased from 5% to approximately 10%.
- The proportion of population travelling for more than 5 KM to access health facility reduced from 70% to 65%.
- Levels of literacy increased to 67% from 63%.
- ECDE enrolment increased from 52,384 to 69,030 because of recruitment of ECDE caregivers from 475 to 1387.
- There is improvement of teacher: pupil ratio from 1: 110 to 1:53 due to the recruitment of 912 ECDE caregivers.
- Rural water access notably increased by 30%.
- The increase in length of tarmacked roads to 300km up from 260km in 2013. The gravelling and grading of over 3000 km of roads during the same period and procurement and distribution a total of 19 milk coolers across the county.
- Specifically, for women and youth, the department trained 1,000 youth on Boda Boda riding safety.
- 6,040 Women have also been trained on Income Generating Activities (IGAS) which is critical in improving living standards.
- Distribution of Ksh 100 million annually through the Narok County joint Loan Board (Business Support Services)

Challenges

- Women and girls have not adequately participated in the development of the CIDPs, ADPs and the annual budgets.
- The empowerment funds and grants to women, youth and PWDs are not anchored in legislation.

SPECIFIC SECTOR FINDINGS

Health

The health priorities in the 2013-2017 CIDP are reduction of high HIV prevalence in the county, increase access and uptake of Family Planning (FP) commodities among the population, improve access to immunization among the children, increase skilled deliveries, reduction of all level's malnutrition, halt and reverse the rising burden of non-communicable diseases as well accelerate reduction of burden of communicable conditions.

Achievements

- There are 203 healthcare facilities, which include public and private. Out of these 203 facilities, 116 are owned and managed by the Narok County Government. There is 1 county referral hospital, 3 subcounty hospitals, 6 mission hospitals, 2 nursing homes, 36 health centers, 110 dispensaries and 47 clinics.
- The initial Narok County Health Sector Strategic and Investment Plan 2013-2018 was the pioneer roadmap, whose implementation has seen healthcare dividends through

construction of strategic health facilities.

- Over the last 9 years, Narok has put up facilities, staffed, and equipped 36 new health facilities.
- The total bed capacity in all health facilities in the county is 839, of which 300 is provided by NGOs/missions, 110 by the private sector while 429 are county health facilities. The average distance to a health facility is fifteen kilometres (km). In total there is more than 788 technical health personnel among them 36 medical doctors, 347 nurses and 105 clinical officers and 10 dentists. The doctor/ population ratio is 1:40000, nurse/population ratio is 1:15000.
- Maternal health services are available in all the health facilities in the county. Mothers attending first ANC clinic are at 95% (National 95.5%) while the mothers attending the fourth ANC clinic are 22% (National 57.6%). The attrition between first ANC and the Fourth ANC visits is attributed to delay in attending first ANC.
- To address the challenge of low ANC visits, the department of health and sanitation is working with other partners to establish and strengthen mother to mother initiatives.
- Deliveries conducted by a skilled birth attendant are at 32% (National level is 61.8%). This is far below the recommended where all the deliveries are to be conducted by skilled birth attendants. This is being addressed through offering of incentives to mothers who deliver in the health facilities under a skilled birth attendant, improving community-based referrals by the community health volunteers, improving skills of health workers to handle emergency maternal obstetric neonatal issues, holding maternity open days, incentivizing mother companions and re-orientation of traditional birth attendants.
- Several other initiatives have been put in place to enable mothers access the maternal health services. These are Linda Mama Initiative through NHIF and the Beyond Zero Campaign. Hospital based maternal mortality is 30/100,000 (National 362/100,000). To reduce maternal mortality the department is establishing and strengthening maternal, perinatal, neonatal death committees in all health facilities.
- Teenage pregnancies in Narok county stands at 40%. This figure is quite high. The county is putting up strategies to address teenage pregnancies which have impacted negatively on teenage health and education. These strategies include engagement with the stakeholders including the community in advocacy, establishment and strengthening of youth friendly services, reactivation and strengthening of department of health and department of education ASRH-RWG and carrying out integrated school health out-reach services (sexual health education, treatment of minor ailments and screening).
- Infant mortality rate stands at 39/1000 live births and children under five mortality rate is 52/1000 which are below the national average figure

- Immunization coverage in the county is relatively low with fully immunized children at 48%. There is a considerable drop from 58% in 2013. The drop-out rate between Penta 1 and 3 is relatively high as compared to acceptable level of below 10%, while the dropout rate between Penta 1 and measles is also on the rise. Family planning services are available in all hospitals, medical centres, and most dispensaries. However, the proportion of the population using contraceptives is relatively low as compared to the national (approximately 33% National 58.0%). Low uptake of FP services is attributed to low literacy levels, and negative cultural beliefs and practices.
- The HIV prevalence in Narok County is at 3.1% compared to National level of 5.6%. HIV counselling and testing stands at 58% (National 76%) and PMTCT coverage is 77% (National 69%). There is a remarkable gap when the figures are compared with the national figures. To address these gaps, several programs have been initiated within the county on HIV and AIDS.

Challenges

- The county has been faced with strikes by medical staff which has affected service delivery.
- Women and girls who make use of the clinics and dispensaries, complain that it is understaffed and understocked.

Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

In 2017 there were 695 ECDE centres distributed across sub-counties with an enrolment of 69,030 learners with 1,388 ECDE caregivers distributed across county. The ECDE centres have registered a transition rate of 89% and literacy rate of 67%.

The ECDE learners' transit to 664 primary schools including 19 special schools with an enrolment of 239,948 across the County. The transition rate from primary to secondary schools currently stands at 11%. At this level of education, the teacher pupil ratio stands at 1:53.

Achievements

- The county currently managed 941 ECDE centers.
- There are 1,328 ECDE Caregivers. The county government inherited a total of 475 teachers in 2013; since then, the county government has recruited another 857 trained and qualified ECDE teachers on contract terms. However, a total of 14 exited through various grounds including natural attrition leaving a total of 843 who have been confirmed on permanent and pensionable terms of service. Among them we have 17-degree holders in Early Childhood education; 294 Diploma holders and 532 holders of Certificate in Early

Childhood Education.

- There has been an improvement of teacher to pupil ratio from 1:110 to 1:53 following the recruitment of 857 teachers leading to effective teaching and learning.
- Enrolment has increased from 52,318 in 2016 to 74,257 in 2022, due to construction of more ECDE classrooms. Consequently, ECDE Literacy level increased from 63% to 81%.

Challenges

- The county is yet to reach the optimal staffing level for ECDE teachers, there is need to increase the number.
- The walking distances for pupils remain a challenge, there is need to increase the ECDE centres and avail mobile units for nomadic communities.
- Both levels of government are yet to integrate ECDE Curriculum with CBC curriculum to enhance seamless transition to primary school level.

ii) VTC

The philosophy of VTC training in Narok is "education for the work place" and focuses on providing skills that meet the needs of the work place and self-employment.

Achievements

- In total there are 9 youth polytechnics in the county: 2 in Narok north and south sub-counties, four in Transmara West and one in Transmara sub-county.
- The centres are manned by 99 instructors.
- The centres have enrolment of 600 trainees giving an instructor: student ratio of 1:6.

Challenges

- Inadequate modern tools & equipment.
- Negative perception as institutions for failures and dropouts by the society hence low enrolment.
- Inadequately trained and remunerated instructors.
- Inappropriate and obsolete skills imparted to trainees amongst others
- Inadequate funding,
- Inadequate infrastructure.
- Mismatch between training skills and labour market.

Water and Sanitation

- Narok County has the highest proportion of individuals (i.e., 80 percent of the population) lacking access to improved sources of water yet it is among the counties with the lowest poverty gap.
- There are an estimated 1,684 water sources in the county among them dams, rivers, water pans, springs and boreholes which are community and private owned. In the whole county only an estimated 8.6 % of households were benefitting from piped water (KNBS 2009). In 2017, about 1,600 households were estimated to have roof catchments systems for harvesting rain water. The average distance people travel in

search of water is approximately 2Km in wet seasons. The distance increases to 10 Km during the dry seasons. The areas with the longest distance to the water points are in rural areas where only 7,760 households accessed tap water mainly from protected springs and boreholes.

- Management of waste is not properly organized done making the urban centres dirty and posing health challenges. Waste products of about 10 per cent of the households are collected by the local authority, 2 per cent by private firms while 30 per cent of the households use garbage pit. In 2017, approximately 97,010 of the households in the county used latrines (covered and uncovered) for waste disposal while about 65,360 households relieved themselves in the bush, resulting to outbreaks of water borne diseases such as cholera and diarrhea especially during the rainy seasons.

Achievements

- The considerable change for women and girls in access to clean, safe, and affordable water is the reduction of time taken to fetch water and trekking distance. This has been achieved through several interventions, such as water supply connection in urban areas which stood at 3,800 in 2013 has increased to 6,085 after the construction of new water supply in urban areas and rehabilitation of existing water supplies.
- Significantly, rural water access has increased by 30% through increased water infrastructure improvement and development.
- The number of households with access to piped water has also increased from 11,642 to approximately 34,000. This impacted positively by increasing water coverage, thereby reducing trekking distances to water points.
- Notable water projects include Narok water and sewerage JICA project availing an additional 4000m³ of water per day, rehabilitation of old Narok water supply, which is availing an additional 1000m³ per day, extension of Nailogolugi Duka moja water project pipeline for 13 KM, extension of Suswa centre pipeline project for 14km, installation of new pipeline at Sosian water project, extension of Mulot water project pipeline for 5.5 KM.
- Other new projects include Lolgorian water Supply supplying 3000 residents with clean water, Abosi water project serving 300 residents with clean water, Kapweria Kiletien water project serving 3,000 residents among other projects.
- Construction of an additional 79 boreholes and 51 new water pans/dams since 2013.
- Ground water source is also a major contributor in water supply schemes, with the county having an estimated total number of boreholes at 207, both public and private, with an average yield of 6 M³ /hr. The water is supplied by Rift Valley Water Service Board through the local water service provider (Narok Water and Sewerage Company).
- Water tariffs by Narok Water Company is at Kshs 420 per

6,000 Litres (Minimum) as guided by WASREB through the Water Act 2002, mainly in urban areas, while in rural areas a 20 Litres jerry can of water costs averages at Kshs 10.00.

- Households in urban areas use pit latrines and septic tanks, which are emptied by by Narok Water and Sewerage Company exhauster and private owned exhausters. This has been necessitated by lack of a sewer system, which is a major sanitation problem.

Challenges

- The water levels at all water points and catchment areas have reduced or depleted due to prolonged droughts and environmental degradation such as deforestation.
- Provisions of sanitation services in urban and rural areas is inadequate.

Agriculture

The priorities for the sector included: transforming key institutions in the agricultural sector to promote agricultural growth; increasing productivity of crops, livestock, and fisheries; improvement of land use policies for better utilization of land resources; opening more land in drier zones for improved agricultural production and productivity; and improving market access for farm produce through better supply chain management.

Achievements

- Provision of subsidy farm inputs as a key intervention toward sustaining crop production and crop yields. Specifically, over 50,000 MT of subsidized fertilizer were provided, 200 Kg of Nerica rice, 4 MT of beans, 4 MT of sorghum, 100MT of potato seed, 200 Pyrethrum split, 1000 bamboo seedlings and over 3000 Fruit tree seedlings were provided.
- Over 750MT (15,000 bags of 50kg) of subsidized fertilizer have been provided.
- Additionally, 8,800 High value tree seedlings (3,500 TC banana, 3,200 Hass Avocado, 1,500 Macadamia) have been distributed to farmers through the NARIG Project.
- The county has enacted the County Environmental Act, and the Climate Change Act which incorporates the fund as well.
- On livestock production, the county government procured and distributed a total of procured and operationalized 19 milk coolers across the 30 Wards, an investment that has improved food and nutrition security, increased incomes, promoted social inclusion of youth and women in livestock enterprises through agribusiness. The Nairagie Enkare Farmers' Co-operative Society Milk Cooler serves over 400 households: with a holding capacity of 1,000 litres per day.
- On breed improvement, approximately 10 per cent of number of Artificial Insemination (AI) services targeted were achieved. More than 100,000 heads of cattle were inseminated, 1000 breeding bulls, 5000 breeding rams and 10,000 cockerels.
- To increase the availability of livestock feeds and resilience

of livestock farmers the county undertook pasture production and conservation projects as well as training of farmer groups in animal husbandry. In total, 7 tonnes of improved napier grass variety were procured and distributed to farmers. A range of pasture seeds were also distributed to farmers across the county.

- On promotion of apiculture and bee keeping as part of diversifying and promotion of alternative sources of livelihoods, 2 honey processing plants were established.
- On fish farming, out of a target of 300 fish ponds a total of 4 fish ponds were constructed and to increase extension services, one officer was employed.
- Towards prevention of diseases through routine vaccination, 30 per cent of targeted livestock population for vaccination were reached. This was made possible through procurement of vaccines and cold chain equipment. On the same note, 8 cattle dips and 20 cattle crushes were rehabilitated with an objective of reducing vector borne disease incidences.
- To improve trans-boundary disease control, 30% coverage of targeted livestock population was achieved.
- To strengthen the capacity of department of livestock in delivering services, 1 animal health officer, 3 livestock officers and 13 animal health technicians were recruited during the period. Currently there are 128 technical staff and 47 support staff in the department distributed across the various sub counties.
- The county has an operational Agricultural Mechanization Services station (AMS) and the Narok Pastoral Areas Training Centre (NPATC) institutions that provide specialized training to clients (farmers and extension personnel) and act as demonstration centers for improved technologies.
- The county as part of the Narok Kajiado Regional Economic Bloc is promoting participation in high-value product markets, such as, niche markets for livestock products (e.g., organic milk and meat). This will create value in several ways including: - farmers accessing premium process for the produce; rearrangement of the food chain to marketing structures that bypass exploitative middlemen; steady revenues for farmers; and increased economic incentives in adopting sustainable land management practices.

Challenges

- Cultural barriers exist which inhibit access and control of land by women and youths and control over community land.
- Climate change has also made it difficult to predict the weather patterns
- Women are the main labourers in various value chains, but the benefits (cash) accrue to men

Urban Planning

There are two urban centers in the county namely, Kilgoris town and Narok town. The two urban areas are highly cosmopolitan and

are fairly developed in terms of socio-economic infrastructure. As a result, population in the urban centers is high and is growing at a relatively higher rate as compared to the other areas in the county. Like many other urban centers in the country, Narok suffers from the inability to provide adequate and affordable urban housing for its residents. Kenya has a low level of urban home ownership (16%), and this pattern is repeated at Narok. There is a limited supply of rental housing in the town despite its rapid growth. Real estate developers have built hotels that offer accommodation to visitors who regularly tour the town on their way to Maasai Mara game reserve. There has been no new public housing development in Narok since 2000 to accommodate civil servants. The recent establishment of educational institutions in the area particularly the university is creating even more demand for housing that the market is not adequately providing.

The topography of the town makes it assume a basin-like formation, where floods drain through during the heavy rains. The main permanent river which passes through the town is Enkare Narok. The town has limited infrastructure such as roads, storm water drainage, water supply, sewerage system, solid waste management, power supply, telecommunication facilities, rail, and air transport.

Achievements

- Narok town has been gazetted as a municipality to offer an important local level democratic forum for communities residing there to deliberate and agree on matters affecting them and, on the nature, and quality of services or facilities provided by the County Government of Narok (CGN).
- Currently, the municipality provides the following services to its residents:
 - Control and regulation of businesses (licensing.)
 - Provision of markets for dry agricultural produce and livestock
 - Control and provision of motor vehicles parking
 - Social services (registration of women & youth groups, burial of the destitute, organization of national celebrations, sports, public playgrounds, social halls, recreational facilities, etc.).
 - Survey, land use planning and development control with technical assistance from the Departments of Survey and Physical Planning
 - Enforces compliance with basic public health requirements through provision of conservancy, emptying of cess pits and slaughterhouse services with technical assistance from the Ministries of Livestock Development and Public Health and Sanitation.
 - Opening and maintenance of access roads within the town with technical assistance from Ministries of Roads and Public Works.

Challenges

- The board is yet to implement gazetted and transferred functions
- Inadequate staffing for the Municipality
- Lack of a local legislation on revenue sharing
- Lack of training on resource mobilization
- Lack of a County legislation on revenue allocation framework.

Revenue Collection and Tax Administration

Gender analysis has not been undertaken in the planning process. Further, the fiscal policies and administration have not been formulated with a view to promoting gender equality and girls' and women's development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- Establish a strong gender department well resources (human and financial) to implement the proposed gender integration programmes on addressing FGM, child marriage and GBV.
- Support implementation of the adopted gender policy by voting for resources for dissemination of the policy and commencing its implementation.
- Adopt a gender responsive budgeting and promote gender mainstreaming in all sector based programmes.
- Advocate for abandonment of FGM that negatively impacts women and girls.
- Undertake community education to promote value of the girl's child and persuading the community to provide an opportunity to the girls to grow, get education and seek leadership and decision making positions.
- Promote public education on available opportunities for women and girls for example AGPO and designate officers to assist groups and individuals wishing to participate and further invest in programmes towards women economic empowerment.

II. Health

- The Community health volunteers should be motivated through an enabling Community Healthcare and outreach strategy.
- The county should deploy adequate staff to level 2 and 3 health facilities especially those in rural and far-to-reach areas.
- Special interest groups to be catered for in health service delivery must be clearly identified at lower-level health facilities; these include children, women, and persons with disability, adolescents and youth including teenage mothers, PLHIV, members of ethnic or linguistic minorities among others.
- Gender inequity and cultural practices such as lack of birth preparedness should be addressed through availing maternal shelters in level 2 and 3 health facilities in rural areas.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- There is need for cross educational linkages to sustain and consolidate the gains in the ECDE investment and bursary programme.
- The county needs to intensify efforts to increase enrolment by carrying out intensive community sensitization on the importance of education, campaigning against negative cultural practices, enforcing children's Act and mobilization of funds to improve schools' infrastructure, school feeding programmes, and WASH programmes.
- The county needs to work in partnership with the National Government to enhance complementarity in construction of classrooms for primary schools and secondary schools. This will ring fence funds meant for ECDE.

ii) VTC

- Scale up hiring of VTC instructors. (male and female).
- Enhance the VTC partnerships with businesses and enterprises to secure an agile system and relevant learning for VTC (technological development, change in practices etc.) which will lead to market linkages.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- Scale up implementation of water access through ground water assessment and countywide aquifer mapping study.
- Increase sources available for accessing water for domestic and institutional uses to reduce the distances travelled by women and girls in search of water.

V. Agriculture

- Focus on increasing area under irrigation by developing irrigation infrastructure and exploiting groundwater sources.
- Promote sustainable land use practices and environmental conservation in the county to combat climate change
- Promote agricultural extension services provision through extension advisory support services and programmes.
- Support to gender responsive value addition programmes through mapping out and undertaking the processing of agricultural products at source to maximize returns to farmers.
- Subsidize farm inputs to ensure increased yield and invest in rural infrastructure to facilitate access to markets.
- Explore county promotional experience sharing to benefit from the shared posterity within other counties for example within the Narok-Kajiado Regional Economic Bloc

VI. Urban Planning

- Review the gazetted functions and develop an implementation plan
- Secondment of additional staff for the municipality
- Appoint the municipality as the receiver/collector of revenue
- Capacity building on resource mobilization and proposal

writing

- Participation in the budget making process in every financial year for the municipality and a public participation model for women and girls
- Formulation of County legislation on revenue allocation framework



Best Practice: Narok Bus Terminus

The proposed Narok County Bus Terminus is an extension and renovation of the existing bus terminus aimed at enhancing convenience, revenue collection and decongestion through an integrated county transport system.

The project includes 45 designated routes with waiting sheds and matatu parking, separate routes for matatus on transit, 200 prefabricated ISO shipping container stalls for women youth and PWDs, public washrooms and county offices for ease of access of services.

3.10. SAMBURU COUNTY

Samburu is one of the 47 counties with an area Surface – 21,000 km sq. It is the 10th largest of Kenya's 47 counties in size. Its population is 224,100 people with about 17.3% who live in its urban setting. The largest towns and their estimated occupants are Maralal, the capital at 16,000. Baragoi at 8,000, Archers at 6000 and Warbaa at 6,000. Samburu County is home of majority Samburu People. Other significant communities that have settled in the county include Turkanas, Rendilles, Boranas and Pokots. The urban setting is mainly cosmopolitan.

Samburu is Kenya's bedrock of tourism with major parks and wildlife conservancies. The county has been under the governance on one Governor since introduction of the devolved system of Governance in 2013. The county current vision – is to be a county with high quality of life. Its mission is to provide quality and sustainable services to the residents equitably, efficiently and effectively in a secure and productive environment for improved living standards. The core values include integrity, accountability, transparency, team spirit, equality and fairness, professionalism. Innovations, and people centered. Samburu borders Ewaso Nyiro River on the South, Lake Turkana on the North, Great Rift Valley on the Western & Marsabit & Isiolo on The Eastern. The county is the house of national landscapes ranging from volcanoes and deserts i.e. Suguta valley.

The Samburu people engage in pastoralism mainly keeping goats, sheep, cattle and camels in more arid areas. Culturally Samburu's are related to Masaais. Women and worriers - the moran young fighters braid their hair and wear red dresses. Girls undergo Female Genital Cutting/Mutilation (FGM) as a cultural rite while still very young at ages of 8-12 years old.

Through its 1st and 2nd County Integrated Plans (CIDPs), the county has identified its people's economic activities that vary from urban and rural. These include livestock auctions, selling bead and cultural artifacts, normally done by women, engaging in wholesale and retail business, matatu transport services and bodaboda riding for men and especially young men.

Institutional Gender Mainstreaming structures

The county has established a gender department that is not well resourced to effectively undertake its mandate. The department is housed under the larger sector of Culture Social Services, Gender Sports and Youth. The gender department is staffed with 15 members led by the County Executive Members (CEC) responsible for the sector, the Gender director, 2 deputies, a chief officer and one deputy and support of 9 programme officers. This is an adequate team to integrate gender and women issues into the county programmes.

There is a draft gender policy that is pending approval. The gender department has not adopted a gender mainstreaming committee as required in the performance contracting government process to facilitate gender mainstreaming. The department of gender reported that they are underfunded and heavily rely of development partners funding and undertake adhoc activities. They have not been any gender mainstreaming institutional trainings to provide capacity to the department and to other departments. There is no gender-based violence policy to guide implementation targeting the high cases of GBV including FGM. The county continues to use national policy on prevention and response to gender based violence of 2014 to programme.

The county has made attempts to comply with the two third gender rule in representation of its human resources. The total human resource indicates that there is higher percentage of women recruited than men. However, majority of women are in lower positions, mainly EDCE teachers.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	0
Deputy Governor	0	1
Elected MCA	15	0
Nominated MCA	2	10
CECMs	6	3
Chief Officers	9	5
Directors	41	4

Women continue to remain invisible in the high-level decision-making positions in the county

Revenue Collection and Budget

In FY 2013/14 the County received Kshs.2.6 billion as the national equitable share, collected Kshs.201 million from local sources, and had Kshs.66.6 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13. In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.4.62 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.508.39 million as conditional grants, raised Kshs.70.38 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.351.71 million from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.5.55 billion.

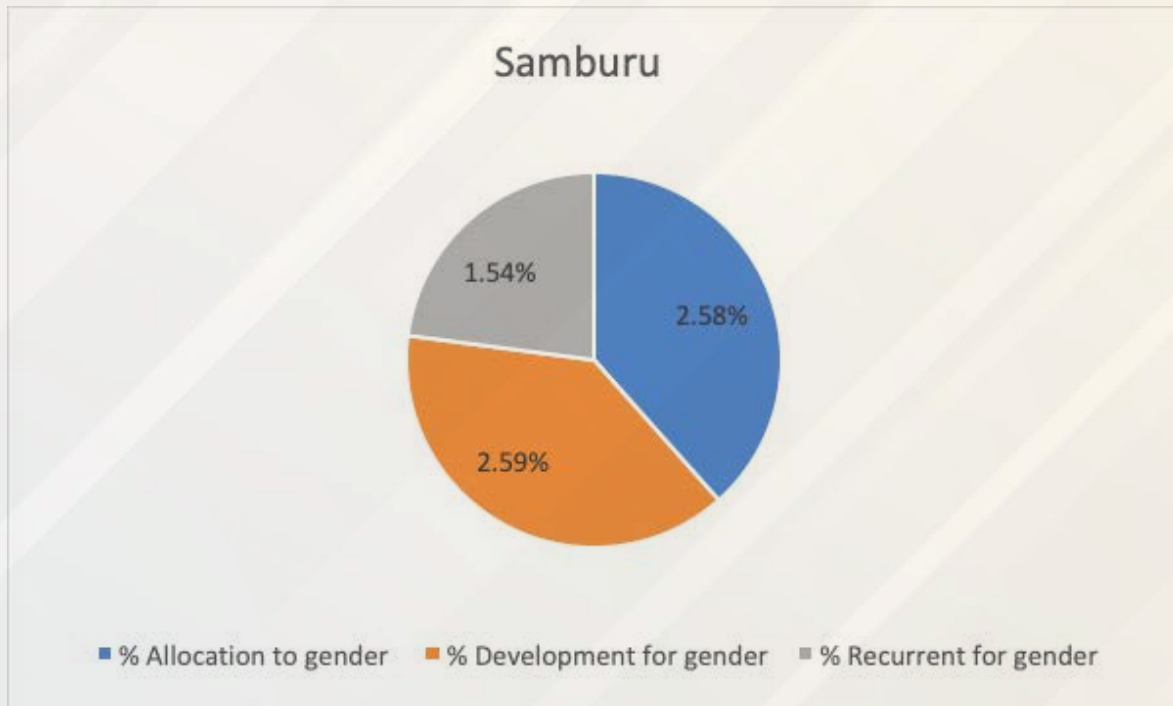
The department responsible for Gender received (Culture, Social Services, Gender, Sports & Youth Affairs) received Ksh 174.98 million (Recurrent=Ksh 109.50, Development= Ksh 65.48) representing 2.585 of the total budgets.

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

The county does not have any gender planning tools to promote gender responsiveness in its planning and implementation including budgeting. These include gender policy, gender law, gender strategy, gender action plan and any plans to promote gender equality or women's representation. The county has adopted its public service human resources manual and upholds the public service human resource manual whose essence accords equal opportunity in appointments, training and advancement of men and women, members of ethnic minorities and to persons with disabilities. However, the implementation of the human resource policy does not reveal the equality principle. It also negates the constitutional affirmative action for women and other marginalized communities.

Achievements

- Awareness creation sessions on women leadership needs.
- Capacity building for women leaders. Have established and trained women leaders in all the sub counties.



Best Practice: Narok Bus Terminus

- Establishing eligible women groups to benefit from women and youth empowerment programmes.
- Educated women on key international women days and held celebrations to mark the days.
- Undertaken exchange women learning programmes with Narok and Marsabit counties.
- Promoted provision of dignity kits (sanitary towels) in schools.
- Public education on zero tolerance of FGM.
- Championing affirmative action in all county appointments.
- Promoting social welfare of women and youth. Trade and Cooperatives department has empowered women through the following interventions, promoting trade.
- Economic empowerment of women and youth.
- Consumer protection.
- Local investments.
- Standardization.
- Enhancement of SMEs operations
- Mobilize saving to improve governance.
- Retail trade development.
- Construction of markets and market stalls. Have constructed 13 markets.
- Creation of Cooperatives.
- To this end in support of women the county has developed and grown 4 markets for women dealing in ushanga trade.

In total there are 15 cooperatives to support women in this initiative across the county.

- Women now empowered to make quality ushangaas. This has improved the beads market.
- Women have an opportunity to engage in improved business.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Agriculture

Livestock farming constitutes the larger percent of the county's economy with 60% of the population practicing pure pastoralism and 30% practicing agro pastoralism. The department of Agriculture is committed to creating a food secure environment through empowerment of local farmers to increase yields. The county has continued to invest in mega irrigation farm schemes and invested in equipment to facilitate farmers like purchase of tractors and farm inputs like seeds, greatly increasing the yields for example from 50,000 bags to 180,000 bags of maize. The other community responsive activities undertaken include construction of a cereal house to store the harvest, fencing of farming land to prevent wildlife/ human being conflict, investment in extension workers who offer training to the farmers. Livestock farmers have been empowered through provision of high yield cattle, goats and camel breeds. The county has also continued to step up livestock disease control. Several cooperatives have been established for milk and

other businesses. Some community members especially women have been facilitated to engage in poultry farming with increase in yields of eggs. Overall the county has continued to record improved food security.

Achievements

The County has engaged in the below specific gender responsive programs.

- Poultry –creating job opportunities especially for the youth.
- promoted growth of cooperatives i-Supported to groups of traders and women to start SACCOs.
- Increased small scale farming targeting mainly women which has increased foodstuff and improved food security.
- Construction of markets and allocated traders(mainly) women areas to sell and stores to keep their goods.
- Women have been provided with water tanks to cater for domestic use including kitchen gardening.
- Women and youth have been supported to engage in fish and bee keeping as farming ventures.
- Farmers provided with hay to feed animals.

Challenges

While most of the interventions in agriculture focus on men and women, there was no deliberate efforts made to establish and address the women's and girl's specific roles in agriculture. Despite the efforts put by the county to facilitate improved farming, the county officials and community members noted the following challenges

- Continues drought that has been severe in the past 2 years. Due to drought, goats and cows are dying, unable to cope with harsh environment
- Climate change is challenging, presenting harsh realities to communities that are ignorant.
- County has not invested to manage disasters.
- Farmers require more information on adaptation and mitigating climate change effects, especially women small scale farmers.
- Few farmers are trained due to constrain in resourcing the trainings.
- Farmers require more farm implements like seeds and more improved feeds for the animals.
- Community not well educated to end logging for purposes of burning charcoal and firewood.
- Not enough water for irrigation.
- Farmers require more education of farming and marketing.
- County group support to farmers has not been successful. Farmers provided with rotational goat's project have failed to enhance the interventions.
- Kitchen garden concept has not been successful due to limited water in home states. Kitchen gardens can be put near boreholes.

B. Education and Vocational Training

The sector of education and vocational training in Samburu has a vision to have a highly educated and empowered community that will effectively contribute to children and youth development. The mission is to promote and co-ordinate quality education and training and integrate science technology and innovation in sustainable socio -economic development process. The establishment of the sector is in response to the constitutional governance demarcation that put Pre-primary education, village polytechnics, homecraft centres and child care facilities into the control and management of the county governments.

i) Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE)

The County has put the education sector at the centre of its development agenda. The Early Childhood Development Education was lauded as a good practice by the county for the past years since 2013. Cumulatively the county reported the achievements below:

Achievements

- Infrastructure has been greatly improved and pupils no longer learn under trees.
- Constructed 350 ECDE within primary schools and other satellite centres.
- 160 sanitary blocks constructed. 280 Centres furnished.
- 192 ECDE centers were fitted with water tanks for enhance access to domestic and drinking water.
- 568 cooking appliances (sufurias and spoons) were purchased for use in schools.
- All ECDE implement the county feeding programme-Atleast one hot meal in school daily.
- CBC support programmes have been introduced. Learning equipment, though not adequate are provided to the pupils
- 50 ECDE centres offices and stores were constructed
- 50 ECDE centres were fenced fenced for security of learners.
- Every village has an ECDE constructed for ease of access by the learners. Overall good progress had been made to improve distances the leaners travel to access the facility.
- There are trained ECDE teachers who are now employed and deployed in all the established centres. Parents reported that the previous burden prior to 2013, when they were required to pay teachers has been lifted from them.
- ECDE pupils are provided with school uniforms once they report which is an incentive to get higher enrolment.
- Trained ECDE teachers are recruited in a transparency process. Available ECDE positions are always advertised and recruited competitively.

Challenges in ECDE Programming

- Inadequate sanitary blocks in ECDE centres. Toilets constructed are disability unfriendly.
- Kitchens not constructed and most cooking for the pupils happens in the open places.

- Limited supply of water due to scarcity in the entire county.
- No playing equipment's provided.
- Limited number of teachers in comparison to the pupils.
- Blackboards in classrooms are disability unfriendly especially for the people with short stature.
- Need structures constructed with ramps to make them disability friendly.
- Insecurity in Samburu contributes to temporary closure of some ECDE centres time to time making them inaccessible.

ii) Vocational training (VTC)

- Bursary /scholarships have been made available to needy cases (male and female).
- Great investments in Sporting activities and constructed high altitudes sports centres and learners have participated in various sporting competitions.
- Classrooms have been constructed and old buildings given a face lift.
- Upon completion learners are able to seek employment of get to be self employed

Challenges

- There are limited courses being offered by the one vocational training centre in Samburu.
- Community not sensitized on importance VTCs.
- Community has negative beliefs that vocational training is only for the school dropouts or failures and do not encourage enrolment.
- No hostels are constructed to cater for students travelling from a distance to participate in the trainings.
- Limited public education on the county-based bursaries for learners.

C. Water and Sanitation

Samburu county is classified as water deficit area. Currently it has established the sector of Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Energy. The county envisions provision of sustainable and wholesome water services, natural resources utilization for economic development and access to clean and secure environment. At inception the county estimated the average distance to nearest watering point to be 5 kilometers in rural areas and shorter in urban setting.

Sanitation was poor due to low latrine coverage and most people opting to open defecation due to cultural beliefs. The health department continues to offer public education on sanitation and water treatment. In all the interventions by the county, gender mainstreaming is not prioritized in the management of water and sanitation. Women and youth are not among key decision makers.

The prioritized activities for the sector included ground water exploration and utilization, construction and repair of water works and distribution, construction /distilling of dams and pans, provision

of water services through tracking and purchase of storage tanks, rainwater harvesting through official catchment and storage, storm water management in major towns.

Samburu is a dryland, with scarcity of water that is required for livestock and domestic use especially drinking and cooking. Water is central to the survival on animals and human beings. Mismanagement of water leads to slowed development. In Samburu, the demand of water is high than the supply. Most rivers are seasonal and have dried up due to the prolonged drought. Reliable water supply for the county has been boreholes, and shallow wells, but the water is not adequate. There is struggle and conflict to access water by wildlife, local communities for livestock and domestic use. The urban population is reported to be suffering. During the consultations with county officials, it was noted that due to environmental challenges, the county has suffered great water scarcity. Most sources of water have been fluctuating forcing some to close down. Some boreholes have dried up and closed down. The community engagement decried the poor water supply in the town setting. There was indication that the rural areas seemed to enjoy access to water than the urban setting. The Samburu Water and Sanitation Management Company (SAWASCO) has failed to ensure continuous supply of water to the residents. The town centres have continued to have dry water taps. Water is scarce and its supply was said to be discriminatory. The water vendors have increased the cost of water with one 20-liter jerrycan costing Kshs. 25 which is expensive for the poor especially women.

Achievements

- Construction and repair of water works and distribution.
- Construction and drilling of dams and water pans.
- Have identified 17 points suitable for adequate water for irrigation. This will increase land coverage for agricultural purposes.
- Identified three community irrigation schemes (Kurugu, Arsim and Lulu) to be used for production of vegetable, cereals and fruits. These are groups that women engage in farming.
- Rainwater harvesting and promoting artificial catchment storage.
- Potential water springs identified.
- Sinking and equipping more boreholes across the county.
- Constructing of storm water management drainage structure in Nyiro, Suguta Marmar and Nyiro.
- Development of Sewerage system and exhaustive services in most major towns.
- Storm water management in towns.

Challenges: -

- Most water and sanitation projects failed to involve women participation and the planning was gender blind.
- Many water projects are not funded compromising sustainability.

- Communities are not educated and empowered to manage the water points.
- High demands on water cannot be met with the available projection and sources.
- Waterpoints are not established near the homestead to facilitate access to water for domestic use.
- Competing interest of providing water for domestic use and livestock
- Poor water management by SAWASCO, causing challenges in programming for water to rural supply and urban supply.
- Ongoing road works in Maralal town have caused many pipes to burst disconnecting water services.
- Increased rationing of water and unpredictability on when to receive adequate flow, for example in urban setting, one part of the town can go a month without water for over three months without water.
- Poor maintenance of water points and solar panels.
- Water conflicts within communities.
- Poor designation of watering points for livestock that cause water contamination of water for human consumption.
- The water planning has not designated the water challenges for women and girls
- Attempts are made to have schools and institutions have continuous flow of water, but occasionally the taps dry up.
- Some of the maternal programs that incentivize women are like Linda mama Program, buying gifts for mothers and babies after facility delivery and engagement of CHVs who go around the communities sensitizing and educating women on the importance of facility delivery as opposed to home deliveries.
- The department has worked with the communities through the health management committees and undertaken many outreach programmes.
- For the first time since independence, the county has provisions for ICU and HDU units serving the community. There is increase of cesarean deliveries in the county facilities.

Challenges

The health department has experienced some challenges as below:

- Limited resources. Over 25% of the county budgets goes into health but it is still insufficient
- Poor infrastructure across the county.
- Poor environment forcing use of camels for transportation of pregnant women to facilities.
- Poor enrolment of communities to the NHIF cover.
- High levels of home deliveries.
- Continued practice of FGM despite the FGM abandonment law and policy at the national level with some severe consequences of bleeding and difficult deliveries.
- Limited public participation due to limited resources
- Young girls become mothers at young ages.
- Challenges in handling cases of Gender Based Violence due to limited numbers of health care providers.
- Family planning uptake is still very low with average family having 7 children.
- Limited ambulances.
- No sign language interpretation in health facilities, thus discriminating the deaf and dumb who seek treatment.
- Limited medication available in health facilities requiring the public to purchase the medicines.

D. Health

Samburu county has the department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, with the vision to be free from preventable diseases and ill health. The mission is to provide effective leadership and participation in the provision of quality health care services that is equitable, responsive, accessible and accountable. The department has among other things prioritized maternal, neonatal and child health. The women-based investments include construction of more dispensaries across the county that has increased access of women visits to the facilities for treatment, family planning and child care services. About 90% of the established facilities provide basic maternal health services and child care as well.

Achievements

- Community units have been identified as the new frontier for entrenching behavior change and enhancing services of community health workers.
- The county has passed Samburu CHVs Act, that will allow them to pay some stipend of Kshs. 3,000/ to community health volunteers (CHVs) monthly. Majority of CHVs were reported to be women.
- Maternity services have been increased with rising percentage of facility delivery put at 54% as opposed to 20% in 2013.
- The county has attracted partners including private actors like Safaricom Mpesa Foundation who have helped investment in health. Red Cross have also partnered with the county and provided ambulances on standby.

E. Urban Planning

The County has the Urban planning department within the larger sector of Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development. The vision is excellence in land management for sustainable development for the benefit of the community. It has adopted its spatial plan that sets out the general direction of spatial development and organization.

The key county activity in urban planning has been the development of the Samburu County Spatial plan and implementation of the cadastral Survey for Maralal Town, development of Integrated Urban Development Plans for Wamba and Archers post and Kisima that are complete. Those for Suguta Marmar and Baragoi towns are ongoing.

Achievements

- Promoting equitable and planned development and conservation of environment.
- Development of sub county plans and sectoral policies.
- Lighting on streets is ongoing.
- Improved transportation and infrastructure.
- Demarcation of land has been done.
- Maralal market has toilets managed by women as an enterprise.

Challenges

- Informal settlements in Marlala and Archers presents insecurity and inadequate access to other services like water, health and education.
- Street lights are often not repaired.
- Poor sewage management.
- Poor handling of medical disposal.
- No sewer system in the county.
- CBD in Maralal does not have required facilities i.e. sewere line and storm water drainange.
- Poor information and communication
- No dumpsite. The temporary dumpsite is on riparian land.
- **Green spaces are not taken care of.**
- **Social amenities need to be provided for.**
- **No walking paths. Dangerous with increased accidents from motorbikes.**
- **No public toilets in town.**
- **Market toilets are not disability friendly.**
- **Stadium has very dirty toilets, closed and not disability friendly.**
- **Story building with no lifts are unfriendly for PWDs.**
- **Poor road network to access towns.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Institutional Gender Govrnance Framework

- Commence the development of its gender policy and other supporting tools for gender mainstreaming.
- Establish a strong gender department and provide necessary resources (human and financial) to undertake gender mainstreaming within the county programmes.
- Promote the adoption of gender responsive budgeting across the sectors.
- Set aside funds to emppwerment of women and girls through a revolving fund and create systems for support in access, implementation and monitoring its prudence.
- Public education within the communities on the AGPO programme for the benefit of women, youth and PWDS.
- Continue to enhance women ctivities within trade that include:
 - o Livestock (sell of goats to cow's milk)
 - o Retail & Grocery
 - o Ushangaa (bead making)

- o Poultry
- o Vegetables and fruits
- o Local vegetables.
- o Sell milk at family level.

II. Agriculture

- Most of interventions were planned for men and women without due consideration to roles and responsibilities ascribed by the community. There is need to adopt a gender policy in agriculture to plan adequately.
- Women domestic roles were not considered in the process of sinking boreholes for ease of access to water including water to grow kitchen gardens to enhance household food supply.
- The county to invest in extension agriculture officers who should facilitate trainings for farmers including women farmers. The agriculture extension officers need to establish women led interventions in agriculture and to design appropriate interventions.
- Seek to enhance participation of women in county agriculture policy and programmes to enhance small scale farming.
- Provide capacity building and train women and girls on the vulnerability of climate change and how to mitigate and adapt to the growing dangers affecting the unty.
- There is urgent need to invest in gender responsive data to identify how agriculture impacts on men and women, boys and girls. The data must be gender sensitive and and sex disaggregated to be used for policy making in agriculture.

I. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- Consruct and equip more ECDE centres to increase enrolement (boys and girls).
- Construct kitchen to facilitate more hygiene in cooking the pupils's food.
- Increase funding to continue the feeding programme in all centres as an incentive for pupils (girls and boys).
- Recruit more ECDE officers for quality assurance respecting the two third gender rule.
- Need of a scheme of service for the treachers.
- Facilitate training of more teachers (female and male.).

ii) VTC

- Sensitize youth and parents/guardians on importance of tertiary education and promote girl empowerment within the communities to increase their participation
- Offer employment in the county after skills development as a marketing strategy promote the courses offered.
- Support the students who complete to start up own businessby making capital available.
- Create awareness about the trainings and skills offered and relevance to society and call for more women to enroll.
- Increase the courses offered to provide a pool of relevant courses for both male and female.

- Sensitize the community to promote women and men taking up any of the courses offered to avoid promoting women engaging in traditional known course for females that limits their ability to engage
- Motivate pupils with disabilities more to take up special category slots for men and women with disabilities and offer themselves for training.
- construct hostels at the vocational centres to allow those travelling from a far to access the trainings as boarders.

II. Water and Sanitation

- The county requires to re-think its plans on how to securely manage water as a scarce resource for sustainability. It will be necessary to have a gender lens consideration that will seek to increase the domestic supply of water to meet the family needs that touch women and girls who need the water for family chores and for their grooming especially menstrual hygiene.
- The county will require to put more programmes in place to conserve forests to address the long-term impacts of rainfall water. Further there is urgency to create community awareness on the use of water as a scarce resource and other coping mechanisms.
- The county has to invest more to increase water supply and monitor water yields and abstraction and training communities of usage with a gender lens.
- For successful investment in water, the county should consider empowering women to participate in policy making and implementation process that will promote consideration of domestic water supply that will free women's time to consider other investments, improve sanitation and hygiene for women and girls and improve family health.

III. Health

- Need to increase accessibility to reach the final mile in SRH services.

- Address issue of male involvement since they are key decision makers and control resources in families.
- Elders (men) need to get involved in uptake of family planning services.
- Increase family planning to 38% from 18% mostly by urban settlers.
- Increase community education by creating awareness on health seeking behaviours of both men and women.
- Engage communities to embrace alternative rite of passage and stop practice of FGM.
- Increase investment in public education to increase knowledge and create awareness among communities on importance of promoting healthy behaviours to promote health facility deliveries and discourage home deliveries.

IV. Urban Planning

- Enhance resources to improve urban services in all the major towns, with a focus on women and girl's needs.
- Increase and maintain street lights to increase security for traders especially women.
- Increase water resources points in institutions and market places for improved hygiene.
- Allocate the municipal toilets to more women groups to manage and make sanitation a priority in public areas of the county. This is especially important for women and girls who use the toilet facilities for menstrual hygiene and constant washing of hands.
- Fast track development of county affordable housing in major towns.
- Invest in well managed and improved urban area settlement with greater focus on women services like water and clean toilets and walking paths for children and adults as well.

F. The Best Practice; Promoting Ushangaa Trade

Trade and cooperative identified the support to women beading works (Ushangaa initiative). This was visited and documented.



3.11. TANA RIVER COUNTY

Tana River County is one of the six Counties in the Coast region, made up of three (3) constituencies Bura, Galole and Garsen. The county is divided into three sub counties namely: Tana Delta sub county, Tana River sub county, and Tana North sub county. The County borders Kitui County to the West, Garissa County to the North East, Isiolo County to the North, Lamu County to the South East and Kilifi County to the South. Tana River is a rich County with a lot of potential in the Agricultural, Livestock, Fisheries and Tourism sectors. For many years the inhabitants have been faced with starvation, inadequate health facilities, disempowerment, insecurity and lack of information dissemination. The Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey of 2015/16 indicated that Tana River County has an overall poverty level of 62.2 percent, an indication that majority of the population is unable to afford basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter.

Based on the population census of the year 2019, Tana River County has a projected population of 315,943 with 157,391 being female and 158,550 being male (KNBS, 2020). The dominant ethnic groups are the Pokomo, many of whom are farmers, and the Orma and Wardey, who are predominantly nomadic. Other tribes include the Waata

and Boni who are culturally Hunters and gatherers, the Wailwana /Malakote and the Bajuni. The County also accommodates other Kenyan ethnic groups such as: Luos, Kambas, Taitas, Giriomas, Kisii and Kikuyus and Somali immigrants among others.

Gender disparity in education in the county is glaring, associated with retrogressive cultural behaviours. Tana River County being home to ethnic groups that still carry out the most extreme type of female circumcision, it is one of the counties that, for years, has been associated with female genital mutilation (FGM). This notwithstanding, the County also boasts of being home to the Watta community, a small ethnic group, on the brink of extinction that has managed to completely do away with this age-old tradition. Women and youth in Tana River County still face many land-related challenges, despite provisions for equal rights and non-discrimination in access to land, by policy and legal frameworks. The unequal treatment between men and women in land governance systems is linked to specific roles and relationships that are regulated by sociocultural norms. This results in fewer options for women, especially the rural poor, to participate in land governance and natural resource management; consequently, increases their vulnerability and limits their capacity to access, use, and own land.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Senator	1	1	0
Elected MCA	23	15	5
Nominated MCA			
CECMs	7	5	2
Chief Officers	4	2	2

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

The County is yet to develop its Gender policy and gender law; however, it has reviewed the following tools, the Gender Action Plan, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Action Plan, Social Protection action plan and People Living with Disabilities (PWDs) Act.

Other gender planning and implementation tools in place include the Gender Strategy and plans to promote gender equality. The workplace policy on Gender Based Violence (GBV) is yet to be reviewed in line with The National Policy on prevention and Response to Gender Based Violence 2014.

Identified Gender/Women issues.

The gender issues identified by the County Government in the past 8 years (2013-2021) include:

- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) which is rampant among the pastoralist community in the County
- Increased cases of domestic violence and Gender based violence, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic period
- Cultural practices which do not allow women to own property
- Inadequate devices/ support aid for People Living with Disabilities (PWDs)
- National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) for the vulnerable population
- Infrastructure to support the young adolescent girls i.e. sanitary towels provision
- Support parents of needy girls to engage in socio economic activities
- Rescue young adolescent girls from early marriages, especially to older men.

Strategies of empowering women and girls.

The Department of Education, Youth, Sports, Gender, and Social Services has put in place elaborate strategies whose intentions are to educate, train and empower the youth who play a critical role in the development of the county. In the first CIDP, Gender mainstreaming was considered a cross cutting issue; and efforts were made to mainstream the issues of gender, in their various program activities by:

- involving the interest groups in agricultural, livestock and fisheries development projects and programmes as well as promoting their participation in decision making.
- Provision of credit to women and youth through the Women and Youth Funds
- Promotion of labour intensive projects/programmes as a strategy to provide employment to the youth. In addition to encouraging investments in cyber cafes and promotion of the digital villages' concept as well as support ICT programme in learning institutions
- Provision of water- Implementation of water, irrigation and mining projects provides employment for a wide spectrum of the community more so the youth and women
- incorporate gender, HIV/AIDS and environmental issues into the education curriculum, as well as enhance enrolment of the girl child through the free primary and secondary education.
- educating the populace on the importance of involving women, youth and other marginalized groups in decision making, so as to secure parity in various sectors of the economy.

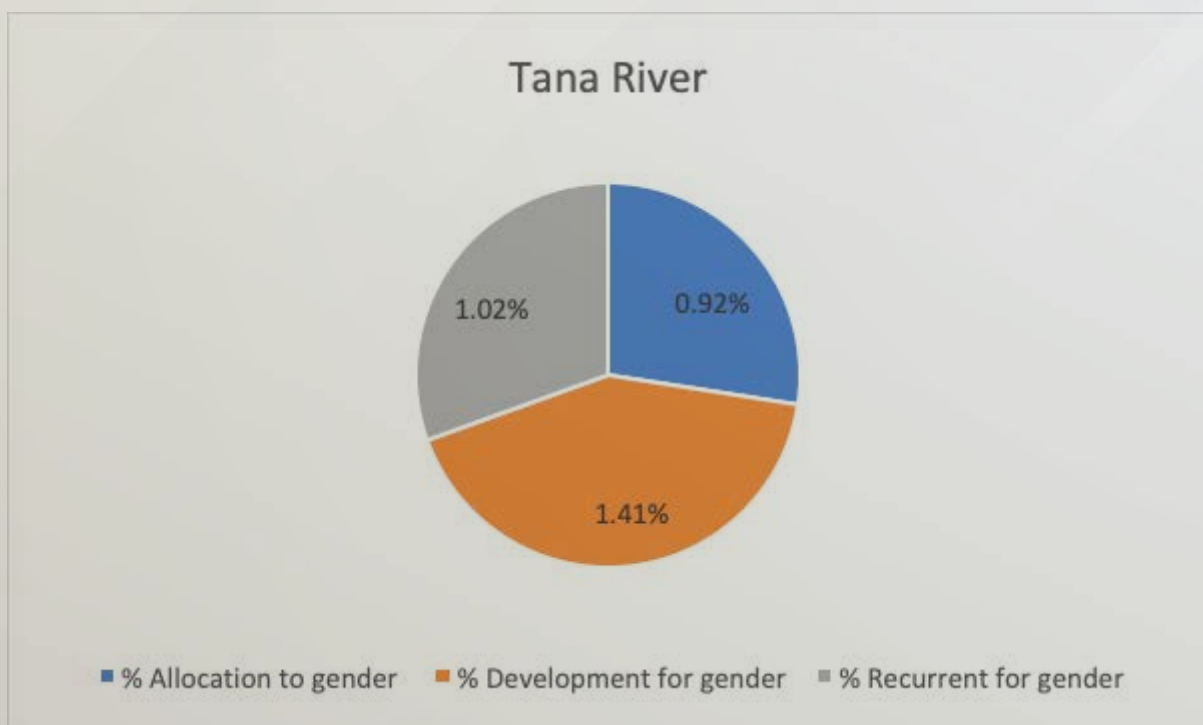
Revenue collection and Budget

Tana River County Government in the plan period 2013 - 2017 had an estimated budget of about Ksh. 25 billion. The analysis of average absorption rate under the development budget by sectors shows that Gender, Culture and Social Services averaged 59.8% absorption rate.

The total expenditure for the FY 2013/14 amounted to Kshs.1.32 billion which was 48 per cent of the funds released. The County spent Kshs.1.3 billion (98 per cent) on recurrent activities and Kshs.32 million (2 per cent) on development activities.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.5.86 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.721.67 million as conditional grants, raised Kshs.83.08 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.1.43 billion from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.8.09 billion.

The department responsible for Gender received Ksh 74.88 million (Recurrent=Ksh 48.20 m, Development=Ksh 26.69 m) this was 0.92% of the total budget and the lowest in the County.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender Tana River County

Achievements

- The involvement of PWDs, including women and girls in sports activities
- The African Girl Child empowerment programs led to an increase in the level at which girl's issues were addressed
- Supported by UNDP, County Government and Grouts Kenya, 100 women were capacitated on Human rights, entrepreneurship, Social and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), citizen leadership, socio-economic empowerment and conflict resolution
- Enhanced community sensitization programs on issues relating to GBV, Covid-19, Sexual Health and Reproductive rights (SHRR), human health violation among PLHIV, among others through partnership programs with Community Based Organizations
- The County government enhanced the counties social protection system that is increasingly supporting the elderly, including women, PWDs, orphans and other vulnerable households
- Establishment of the Youth recovery center at the County referral hospital, as well as a focal point, gender desk and a child protection unit at the police station
- Launch of the GBV Action Plan
- Allocation of funds for children in need to grow and learn in a safe, healthy environment

Challenges

- Low stakeholder involvement in the development of the CIDPs, ADPs and the annual budgets.
- A few select stakeholders were engaged in public participation meetings, however the issues raised in relation to women empowerment were not included in the two CIDPs and Annual Development Plans (ADPs)
- Minimal coordination between the different sectors and the Gender unit. Sectors have independently incorporated gender issues into sector programs to align with donor requirement and project designs
- Retrogressive cultural practices, such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), early marriages, leading to high poverty levels, as well as high drop-out levels for girls from schools, high levels of teenage pregnancy, violence against women
- A minimal proportion (only 9%) of the County budget goes towards gender mainstreaming, attributed to lack of gender policy framework and/or understanding of the importance of gender mainstreaming and its impact on the society.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

The Health sector is the largest devolved department in Tana River County. The County has 71 health facilities and two level 4 public hospitals located in Hola and Ngao. There is one sub-county

hospital in Bura, 5 public health centres, 40 dispensaries and 20 private clinics, 2 mission dispensaries and one private health centre. Tana River is one of the counties with the highest burden of teenage pregnancy, with the adolescent fertility rate being higher than the national average.

Achievements

- The health facility provides gender responsive services such as: Immunization, Reproductive health care, Nutrition services, and Maternal and child Health, in addition to HIV / AIDS programs. Family planning services are also provided for women and girls.
- Involvement of women in education, training and counselling programs to end harmful cultural practices such as early marriages and FGM; as well in nutrition and health trainings
- The Health sector adopted a successful system for PWDs examination increasing the chances of increased registration as a pre cursor to be officially recognized for social protection support.
- Establishment of a gender-based violence rescue center within the health facility provides adolescent friendly health services.
- Improved allocation of public funds to promote accessibility to health care, education and other services
- Tana River County put in place measures to cushion the vulnerable populations from shocks of the Covid-19, and implemented medical insurance, National Health Insurance Fund Coverage (NHIF) for the elderly and widows, as well as programs for people living with HIV/AIDs

Challenges

- County has low numbers of healthcare providers owing to difficulties in attracting and retaining them.
- Increased cases of domestic violence exacerbated by poverty and the restrictions due to Covid 19 pandemic that saw an upsurge in unwanted pregnancies including teenage pregnancies.
- Retrogressive cultural practices such as FGM have contributed to the spread of HIV/AIDs, with women bearing the brunt.
- Low motivation among health care providers with resultant high in job apathy.
- Drought that negatively impacts on farming and consequently food and nutrition security. Women are involved in subsistent farming of vegetables, maize and fruits.

B. Education and Vocational Training

The county focus on education and vocation training is geared toward improved and increasd sercice delivry in Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) and in Vocational Trainings.

i) ECDE

The enrollment to ECDE is 26,000, with a teacher: pupil ratio of 1:68. The enrollment rates in primary, secondary and tertiary education is generally lower than expected, with a record low enrollment for the girl child.

Achievements

Among its achievements the county has:

- Intrasture development -Construction of ECDE centers in existing primary schools and stablished stand-alone centres.
- Hired more ECDE teachers, including absorbing all qualified all ECDE teachers to permanent and pensionable terms for quality and affordable education.
- Improved and equipped existing centers, aimed to enhance efforts on access to ECDE.
- Put up model centers, introducing school feeding programs
- Issued common syllabus and resource materials to all ECDEs.

Challenges

- Some areas have ECDE centre is far areas making learners to walk long distances.
- Limited resources to do all envisaged infrastructure.
- Stalled food feeding programme in some parts of the county.
- Some ECDE centres lack learning equipment and furniture.
- Limited teachers
- ECDE/CBC materials required not adequately provided.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- Increased investment in the youth to participate in county and national development through vocational training programs.
- The county government gives every VTC trainee tuition fees (bursary) amounting to Sh15, 000 annually.
- The establishment of Tana River Center for Innovation and youth Empowerment, based at the Hola VTC.
- The County government improved facilities in the youth training centres through an elaborate instructure programme.
- The training programs are designed in a way to balance courses that will motivate both and girls, and put emphasis on mainstreaming girls into the male dominated courses, such as building and motor vehicle.
- The education and training sector run a program that provides tools, with focus on tools that can be used favorably by the girls, for example in the metal workshop.
- The unit is making deliberate efforts to engage female experts as role models to train the male dominated courses, aimed to mobilize more girls to enroll in the VTCs.
- The department is working with other relevant departments in conducting sensitization programs to ensure the girls are protected from dropping from training due to early marriages, provision of labour and GBV.
- The county in partnership with, Red cross and Pastoralists

Girl Child sponsor girls' education through the Girl Child support programs.

- Provision of starter kits to help girls start their work after graduation from VTCs.

Challenges

- The enrollment rates in primary, secondary and tertiary education is generally lower than expected, with a record low enrollment for the girl child.
- Generally, the transition from primary to secondary school is low, with girls' population being much lower due the high drop-out rate arising from early marriages and pregnancies
- inconsistent financing for implementation of projects e.g. the innovation center
- Early pregnancies, child labour, and retrogressive cultural practices that contribute to high levels of girls' drop outs.

C. Water and Sanitation

The most striking topographical feature in the county is River Tana in addition to several seasonal rivers draining into River Tana and eventually into the Indian Ocean. The river beds, due to their high ability to retain water, support livestock as well as wildlife during the dry season. According to the county plans all the major towns in the county have access to piped water while most of the villages have boreholes.

Achievements

- Improvement in the economic status, hence livelihoods for 300 women engaged in contracts for water management service provision e.g. in soil water management, watering of tree nurseries.
- Enhanced access to clean safe water and supply through purchase of water bowsers that has increased domestic water provision.
- Improved sanitation in urban areas.
- Increased harvest of rain water and improved storage through supply of water tanks to women on behalf of their families.
- Increased and improved in supply and access of piped water to the urban areas and access to the rural areas that has led to reduced distance of travel to the water point especially for domestic use.
- Investment in water supplies that is efficient, affordable, reliable and sustainable i.e. sincling boreholes. Constructed and completed several water pans and continue to service existing boreholes.
- Provided the community with effective water management through billing system by Coast Water Services Board.
- Construction of water dams.
- Mapping out of opotential water sources.
- Improved sanitation programmes in place a cross the county

Challenges

- Climate change challenges. Recurrent draught in the county has hindered operation of several planned interventions. In 2017/2018, the county experienced severe floods. The erratic weather has hampered progress.
- Although households are connected to piped water, clean water is a rare commodity in both rural and urban settings.
- Less than 50% of the population use safely managed sanitation services but with limited flow of water.
- Financial challenges have been a major bottleneck in implementation of these projects, especially when funds are not released in time as budgeted.
- High demand for contracts by women groups, more than the project can provide. This results to some women offering volunteer services, with a hope of being contracted.
- Poor usage of toilet. Open defecation rate is still high due to cultural beliefs.
- There are few public toilets in the urban centres. Many are hampered with scarcity of water.

D. Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services

Tana River is a rich county with a lot of potential in the Agricultural, Livestock, Fisheries and Tourism sectors. Agriculture and livestock production are the main sources of livelihood contributing about 80% of household incomes, and more than 80% of employment. While pastoral livestock production is mostly practiced in the hinterlands, crops are grown mainly along the River Tana flood basin. The potential of land in Tana river county has not been productively exploited, and this besides the effects of climate variability and change affects agricultural production. As a result, approximately 62.1% of the county's population is food-insecure.

Achievements

- Increased yield and productivity through provision of agricultural technologies, for example the farm input program which targeted women as first priority in input supply.
- Trained community, in particular women and youth in bee keeping, through the nature-based enterprise programs.
- Improved access to inputs, extension services and market for agriculture products
- Skill enhancement in agro forestry for a total of six (6) groups in the county to improve the ability of communities to adapt while mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- Enhanced community engagement and accountability in local advocacy to ensure farmers are part of decision making in agroforestry programs and policies
- Engaged women to participate in international days, aimed to create awareness on importance of biodiversity conservation and protection of forest.
- Training for one hundred (100) youth in hydroponics, agribusiness and innovation, as well as accessing financial services through county programs.

- Continuous capacity building of farmers.
- The County government in partnership with the Kenya climate smart agriculture project, has empowered 392 farmer groups, majority (75%) being women groups.
- Improved productivity in the beef, rice and poultry value chains, in addition to household food security and sustainable land management practices, through enhancement of both mitigation and adaptation initiatives to climate change.
- Put in place 30 stores for cereals and pulses to cushion women engaged in this business
- Established linkages with research institutions to develop improved crop varieties eg for soya beans

Challenges

- Low capacities for women in making decisions at household and community levels.
- Unavailability of farmers for extension services, especially among the Cushite community.
- Cultural practices which limit free interaction of men and women in extension forums, and limit women to speak
- Inadequate extension officer to educate farmers especially women.

E. Urban Planning

Tana River County has a total area of 38,000 km². In the County, private land (owned by individuals) constitute of 5%, public land (set aside for public utilities) constitutes of 70% while community, which is owned by a group of people or community with common goals land constitutes of for 25%.

The Land Sector is divided into 3 departments - Physical planning, Survey and mapping, and Adjudication.

Achievements

- Prepared the pilot "Eco-Village" clusters physical and land use plan to settle the vulnerable, including widows.
- Provided safety and security to affordable housing through the Eco-Villages" cluster program - moved families from flooded areas to settle them in the hinterland.
- Engaged youth as enumerators in assessing beneficiary families.
- The county has a fully equipped GIS laboratory.
- Increased demand for land and physical planning services, resulting from sensitization on land rights, especially among widows.
- Increased access to tenure and new infrastructure investment.

Challenges

- Culture of marginalization of women on access to land, especially among the pastoralists and farming communities.
- Perceived injustice in urban planning, with a risk of some

widows being displaced from their matrimonial homes.

- Poor and uncoordinated physical planning within the central business district.

F. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

Finance and Planning plays a key role in the coordination of development planning, mobilization of public resources and in ensuring effective accountability for use of the resources for benefit of the County. Prioritization of resource allocation to programs is guided partly by the county treasury and partly the departments. By engaging both the subject matter specialists and the public (with good representation of men, women and youth), the Finance and Planning department ensures that interests of all departments/sectors are taken care of in terms budgeting and financing

Achievements

- The County has policies that provides for formation of gender sensitive committees.
- The county through matching financing has put measures in place to empower women and girls, in partnership with other donor organizations.
- Enabled access to digital financial services by women, through financial inclusion initiatives such as the women Enterprise Fund (WEF), Women Rep fund and Inuka (through County government).

Challenges

- Minimal consideration is given to gender mainstreaming in budget allocations. County Budget is not gender responsive.
- The county tax regime does not recognize any gender consideration or women promotions or exemptions in trade fees.
- Capacity of gender unit limited by inadequate funding, attributed to a disconnect between the department's area of focus and the county treasury's priorities
- Budget allocation influenced by competing issues that require to be mainstreamed ie demands by different interest groups such as, the women, elderly, PWDs or Youth.
- The County cannot be depended upon to pay for services rendered, especially by women and youth groups

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
 - i) To invest in a broad based strong gender department with capacity (human and financial) to undertake gender mainstreaming as a priority to the development agenda.
 - ii) To prioritize capacity building of the gender department, and to empower the department to coordinate the county gender agenda across sectors.
 - iii) To strengthen stakeholder engagement, including enhanced women and girl's participation at all levels of policy

- iv) Introduce gender responsive budget in resource allocation. There is urgent need for equity and transparency, especially in resource allocation, including staffing and deployment to effectively for gender mainstreaming at the county level.
- v) Enhance community participation inclusive of women, youth and PWDs integration into county programs to improve the impact of devolution at the grass root level, and help community recognize efforts made by county government, which go unnoticed.

II. Health

- i) The sector to put in place programs which promote innovative county-specific interventions to curb teenage pregnancy
- ii) Enhance partnership programs to promote food and nutrition security opportunities and also exploit the potential for VTCs to conduct health and nutrition training.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- Invest more in provision of adequate learning materials and facilities for ECDE centers
- Enhance recruitment of ECDE teachers and agree and adopt a scheme of service,
- Promote school feeding programs in all centers as a means of improving nutrition and retention of the young learners in school.
- Fence the centres for security of learners.

ii) VTC

- 1) Timely disbursement of project funds to avoid delays.
- 2) Increase awareness creation on the importance of girl-child education through mentoring and awareness creation.
- 3) Establish a working framework involving all stakeholders to address the high number of girls' school dropout and poor performance.
- 4) Engage community members and support NGOs and CBOs to eliminate retrogressive cultures that affect girls' education.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- i. County needs to invest more in water and sanitation especially directed to domestic and institution use.
- ii. The county to complete implementation of its proposed plans to connect urban and rural dwellers to safe managed drinking water from protected sources.
- iii. Mobilize partnerships for funding of more projects aimed to promote sustainable agriculture and forestry.
- iv. Enhance the capacity of women to engage in management of water resources.

V. Agriculture

- i) A need for producer organizations to link value chains smallholders, who are majorly women to markets through aggregation of commodities and bulk selling.
- ii) Encourage value addition of crops that are produced within the county by women. This include integrating women and youth in processing, packaging and branding commodities.
- iii) Enhance linkages with research institutions to develop improved crop varieties.
- iv) Expansion of irrigated land from 6,000 acres to 10,000 acres.
- v) Increase investment in agriculture, and recruitment of more extension staff.

VI. Urban Planning

- i. Improve urban planning services to eliminate fear and uncertainties, especially among widows and vulnerable members of the society.
- ii. Increase investment in farming groups or cooperatives to improve women's access to credit and land.
- iii. Effectively implement the physical and land use plans.

VII. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

- i) The county should prioritize gender mainstreaming in allocation of funding that goes to every sector.
- ii) The county to respond to the indicators set up within the performance contracting process and provide the required data to the State Department of Gender and the National Gender and Equality Commission.
- iii) The county needs to design tools to capture gender disaggregated data during activities, store and analyzing to inform decisions based on the desired perspective
- iv) The County to consider measuring departments' performance and enhance funding for the essential projects.

- v) County to improve resource allocation and management, while ensuring ease of access by stakeholders with affirmative action resources set aside for women and other vulnerable groups.

G. Best Practice: Tana River Center for Innovation and Youth Empowerment

The Tana River Centre for Innovation and Youth Empowerment, based at the Hola VTC is the first of its kind in the region. At the time of the visit, preparations were on for its launch.

The centre sitting on 1000 acres of land, is still its inception stage, and is projected to be an academic and talent centre, which will create opportunity for all to learn and sharpen their skills in various arts, sports, music, and science. The centre is designed to host 1,000 students in its boarding section, who will be drawn from the entire coastal region and also from the Northern frontier. In addition, it will accommodate 125 tutors its staff quarters.

To provide opportunities for women and girls, the centre will have a 500-bed hotel capacity aimed to provide practical skills in hospitality management, promote food processing, and boost the catering sector. Other facilities to promote youth participation will include: media facility, hydroponic farms, fish ponds, and a fully equipped ICT Hub that will support technological innovations In linking youth and women to international markets, the centre is planned to have a fruit processing section, where the youth and women will be empowered on value addition for the international market. The partners who have shown interest in this project include: The United Nations Development Programme to establish a hydroponic farm; Huawei, which will equip the IT centre; Kenya School of Government, which will offer various courses.



Entrance to The Centre of Innovation and Youth Empowerment



Centre based at the Hola VTC



One of the latest infrastructures constructed



Ongoing handwork by youth at the centre

3.12. TURKANA COUNTY

Turkana is the second largest in size of the 47 counties in Kenya. Administratively, the county is divided into 7 sub-counties, 30 wards and 56 locations and 156 sub-locations. Turkana county borders West Pokot and Baringo to the South, Samburu County to the South East and Marsabit County to the East. Internationally it borders South Sudan, Uganda to the West and North and Ethiopia to the North East. The surface area of the county is a total area of 77,000 km². The county has lake Turkana and as a world heritage and Rivers Tarach, Kerio, Kalapata, Malimalite and Turkwel as a resource that can be used for irrigation. Lake Turkana is saline and deposits salt in the soil. Turkana has the 7 Sub-Counties namely; Turkana South, Turkana East, Turkana North, Turkana West, Turkana Central, Loima and Kibish. Turkana West is the most populated because of the refugee camp in Kakuma. Turkana East has the least population due to insecurity along the border of West Pokot. Women make up about 50% of Turkana Population.

Turkana is a patriarchal society with women undertaking domestic chores and taking care of the families, in terms of finding food. The county is made up of Turkana people who are Nilotes and live from pastoralism with focus on nomadic cattle herding, Pokot, Tugen, Samburu and Biran communities inhabit areas of the county, mainly along the borderlines. The KDHS in 2016 indicated that 79.4% of the population in the county lived below the poverty

line compared to National coverage of 31.6% (KDHS & SID, 2013). Poverty, food insecurity and difficulties in making their livelihoods from pastoralism has seen many adapt to alternatives for example farming, fishing, charcoal production, making beads and hand crafts.

The forest cover in the County is held in trust by the local government where communities utilize all-natural resources without many restrictions. Turkana is arid, semi-arid, and characterized by warm and hot climate. Temperatures range between 20° and 41° with a mean of 30.5°C. The rainfall pattern is erratic and unreliable. Only 30% of the soil in the County is moderately suitable for agricultural production. Turkana Youth (male and female) now aspire to make a change from pastoralists herders and now prefer to receive education and find jobs. In improving demographic dividend, the County planned to strategically invest in education and health of the youth. Turkana County has a high inequality index of 0.65, higher than national government average. Women carry the majority of labour in the County including childcare, farming, cooking, collecting firewood, collection of water. Women and girls also actively participate in crop production and farming. Many women and girls face discrimination based on gender roles and responsibilities. The notable challenges are low access to education, forced marriages, drop out of school due to pregnancy and marriage and low representation in decision making. Most decisions are made by women who are heads of the family.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governors	1	1	0
Deputy Governors	1	1	0
Elected MCA	30	29	1
Nominated MCA	17	1	16
Chief Officers	15	11	4
Senator	1	1	0
Elected MPs	6	6	0

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

The county does not have a gender policy. At inception of devolution, gender was merged with the Department of Gender, Children and Social Services. Currently it is in the department of Trade and Gender. The county has not passed any policy to govern promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women, nor adopted any gender mainstreaming strategies or tools.

Identified Gender / Women issues

The county identified gender inequalities that disproportionately affect women and has set to have programmes to empower women, girls' youth and persons with disabilities.

- Low uptake of family planning.
- Poor health seeking habits.
- Low girls' enrolment in schools.
- high illiteracy level among women and girls.
- poor transition of girls from primary to secondary and colleges including university
- inadequate water resources. Women have to walk between 5-10 kms to access water.
- lower women representation in leadership politically, economically and socially
- women face the burden of undertaking domestic chores like fetching water, firewood and child care
- Women face the burden of feeding families.
- During famine ratios, women constitute a higher percent of those who collect relief food
- Women also suffer the consequences of negative cultural practices for example early and child marriage
- Previously, women were not included in leadership. Women have borne the brunt of disaster i.e. floods and drought
- HIV has caused many child and women headed households. This is low participation of the prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT)
- There is limited participation of women in politics and decision making. There is high rate of poverty among women
- High infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rates with low health facility deliverables.

Strategies of empowering women and girls

The County identified and included gender in the sector of Education, Gender, Human Resource Development, Social and Cultural Services. The first CIDP prioritized the strategies below: -

- Enhancement of participation in early childhood development education. (ECDE).
- Expanding access and enhance equity in primary and secondary school through support of girls through bursaries.
- Addressing gender issues in education.
- Promoting inclusive learning.
- Programmes reducing illiteracy level.
- Promoting school meals program.
- Provision of safe and clean water for better hygiene in learning institutions.
- Promoting social protection programme.

The second CIDP restructured the institutional framework and the unit of gender is operational under department of Trade, Gender and Youth Affairs. The County took cognizance of the SDG 5 in achieving gender equality and empowerment of women and girls in order to achieve Agenda 2030. The CIDP 1 and 2 appreciated the importance of mainstreaming gender in its development initiatives by firstly noting the reluctance among its people to address the gender dimensions of its pastoral lives, since people viewed it as interfering with the cultural status quo where men dominate.

Turkana County is the focal county for the UN joint programme and the current Governor serving his second term was the first to sign HeForShe Campaign committing to advance gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. To this end the county has established an office of gender advisor through partnership with UN Women and also established local funds (Youth and Women Empowerment Fund and Biashara Fund for Economic Stimulation) aimed at promoting gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. At its design level, the county was ready for audit of the devolved funds to be undertaken to determine the impact on gender equality and women's empowerment and for improved management and utilization.

Women in Turkana play a key role in family survival especially in dry season. They engage in domestic chores, thus the reproductive roles and also in community role as subsistent farmers. The empowerment process has seen women now able to engage in diversified income generating activities across the county. Available data shows that due to HIV and AIDs deaths, there is an increase in female-headed households that are very low in decision making increasing their poverty levels. The context of appreciating the progress made by the county in improving gender relations and empowering women will start with understanding challenges faced by the Turkana women and girls. Women and girls. Are discriminated in the following terms: -

- They cannot own livestock unless they have a son or employ a herder.
- Female-headed households are vulnerable to food insecurity.
- Low participation in public forums.
- Low participation in politics.
- Traditionally, women are not considered as decision makers thus their voice is restricted.
- Work on farms in crop production but they do not own the land at 80%.
- Decisions mainly made by men impact on lives of women negatively.
- Girls culturally do not own any assets when they transition to womanhood such as land, livestock, farms, fishing needs.
- Harmful cultural practices are an obstacle to development. These are forced marriage and Gender Based Violence.

Achievements

The county government has 56% of total workforce being female but only 10% are in senior management roles. Less than 5% engage in business through AGPO. The county Theory of Change in addressing the identified gender inequalities is to create an enabling environment that is conducive to women to thrive. That when women get educated and have formal employment, and engage in small enterprises or run their own business, they achieve recognition and greater knowledge over the use of their income and effectively contribute to the county development agenda. The second CIDP proposed the following gender mainstreaming strategies to promote gender in all its development agenda.

- Development capabilities and system for mandatory gender-disaggregated reporting, monitoring and evaluation.
- Implementation of gender-responsive budgeting and establish local persons in each department.
- Monitor allocation of funds to beneficiary to avoid duplication.
- The Biashara Fund and Women Enterprise Fund run separately with a deliberate target to women and youth owned businesses.
- Audit all new legislation for gender sensitivity before presentation to the executive.
- Enhancement of strong oversight capacity and support to ensure gender equity across government.
- Enable public participation to be inclusive of women and youth and PWDs.

Revenue Collection and Budget

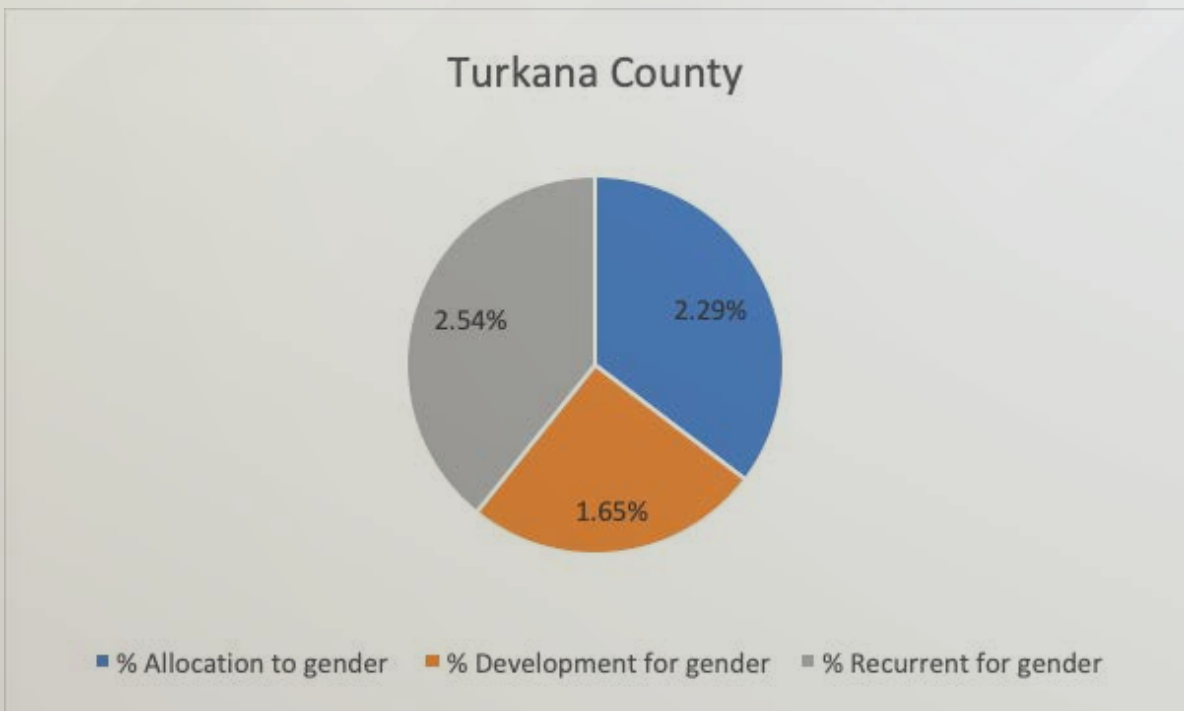
During the 1st CIDP implementation, 2013-2017, the County Government received an estimate of KSh39 billion from various sources to finance its planned projects. Equitable Funds from the National Treasury was the main contributor of revenue, raising an estimated KSh38 billion. The county received conditional grants during the period amounting to KSh1 billion, however the whole amount was not realized, due to the conditions linked to the conditional grants. Locally collected revenue recorded an estimated amount of KSh576 million between the 2013/2014 fiscal year and the 2016/2017 fiscal year. Donors and development partners contributed a cumulative KSh286 million to the revenue basket.

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.10.54 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.1.17 billion as conditional grants, raised Kshs.209.83 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.1.7 billion from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.13.48 billion. The department responsible for Gender (Trade, Gender and Youth Affairs) received Ksh 350.42 million (Recurrent=Ksh 152.9 million, Development= Ksh 197.52 million)

Achievements

The Gender department has since inception not been directly allocated any resources for its activities but manages resources from other departments targeting women and girls.

- Women engage in trade activities and have been very successful in selling general merchandize and fish.



- Able to educate their children in high schools from proceeds of their hard work.
- There is huge investment in women by the development partners who ran numerous interventions all geared towards empowerment of the women and girls.
- The number of women in decision-making has continued to grow.
- Women have been empowered to engage in various trade activities for example farming, bee keeping, cereals and in improving the Ushanga Market
- Participation and involvement of women in planning and design of icounty development nterventions.
- Significant efforts have been made by the county to include different categories of women for example women with disabilities and the youth.

Challenges

- Patriarchy that contributes to marginalization of women at the family and community level at large.
- High levels of uneducated women unable to get in decision making positions.
- Public participation is carried out at the community level. The timing of the meetings does not always favour women who often are engaged in other reproductive roles.
- Single women are frowned upon whenever they seek decision-making roles within the community.
- The county did not have their AGPO statistics to demonstrate the extent to which women, youth and PWDs have benefited
- High illiteracy levels among women and girls.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

Health is established within the sector of Health and Sanitation with vision to have a healthy and productive county. The challenges noted at inception of devolution in the county included low access to safe water, many open defecation places in the villages that mainly affected hygiene of women and children who stay in homesteads. Other notable constrains were shortage of health care providers, insufficient commodities, lack of sector wide approach to address malnutrition, low levels of circumcised men and stigma attached to it in the fight to reduce new HIV transmission rates, negative cultural practices like child marriages, low funding, poor infrastructure, especially lack of adequate ambulances. The flagship projects designed included upgrading Lodwar Referral Hospital to Level 5, developing a critical pool of health care providers, improve access to health care fund, reduce maternal mortality rates, promote and improve nutrition status for all, prevent transmission of communicable diseases, reduce HIV prevalence, improved community access to basic health services, develop policies, regulations and strategies to promote good leadership and improve health financing systems.

Achievements

The study finds that great enormous investment has been made in the delivery mode to improve service delivery and huge investments has gone into improvement of health infrastructure by the county and its partners as below: -

- Health facilities are constructed in every sub-county and there is a maternity wing in every facility.
- Upgrading and equipping 7 sub-county hospitals.
- Upgrading and equipping dispensaries and constructing staff houses in the completed health facilities to guarantee accessibility.
- Connecting the health facilities with safe drinking water.
- Purchase of 14 ambulances and deal mainly with maternity with one in every sub-county.
- Recruitment of about 1117 health workers. Recruitment has a balance of male and female. There are more female nurses. The county has one female Gynecologist.
- Increased skilled deliveries and family planning services.
- Increased health and nutrition status of pregnant and lactating women and children below 5 years.
- Reduced numbers of HIV infections and prevalence rate and Aids related deaths.
- Five operating theatres have been constructed for maternal care in LCRH, Kangatotha, Makuton, Kerio and Lowareng'ak.
- Improved reporting tools with updated data and information used for evidence-based decision-making.
- Health care providers have received training on management of sexual Gender Based Violence.
- Mobile clinics are in operation to get services closer to people and most beneficial to women.
- Health care workers have been trained on Kangaroo motherhood to help survival of premature babies.
- Linda Mama programme has been successful.
- The county has an incentive provision of mother/baby bag after delivery to encourage more women to deliver in hospitals.
- Maternity shelters near/or inside facilities. These house mothers who are almost due to avoid many home deliveries.
- Pregnant women are provided with mosquito nets to prevent malaria.
- Women and youth serve as members of the Health Management Committees.
- Public education and sensitization of communities to shun cultural practices that are harmful to women.
- Health Finance Bill draft is introduced and pending debate in the assembly.
- CHVs have been recruited and trained to attend to mothers required Anti Natal Clinic Services.
- Traditional birth attendants are now educated to make referrals.
- In cases where the circumstances force them to assist in deliveries, they have been supplied with condoms. They trained to immediately after delivery, decide to escort the mother and baby to the nearest facility.

Challenges

- Limited capacity to formulate policies and legislation to aid implementation.
- Limited and lack of qualified health personnel due to budget constraints.
- Inadequate funding for health care programmes.
- The county is vast and women and girls have to walk long distances (over 5 or 10 kilometers) to get to the nearest facilities
- Inadequate skills in human resource.
- CHVs do a lot of work but they are not remunerated well. They are paid a small token and not on the county payroll. Majority CHVs are women.
- Due to scarcity of water, women are encouraged to come to delivery facility with a 20-liter jerrycan of water.

B. Agriculture

The primary objective of the Agriculture sector is to increase productivity, improve food security and improve household income from the marketing of the agricultural products. Turkana county is food insecure. Most of the food supply in the county is from Trans Nzoia County.

The crop production in the county is mainly from irrigation and rainfall. The agro-pastoralists mostly grow maize, beans, green grains, sorghum, millet, mangoes, paw paws, watermelon and vegetable. Other crops grown include guavas, grapes, lemons, oranges, dates, coconuts and aloe vera. Majority of the crops are grown at subsistence level. Statistics in 2012 showed that the Turkana farming was 5500 for rainfall, 2458 (ha) from irrigation and 950 from water harvest.

The county receives both short and long rains. Soils are not well developed due to acidity and constant soil erosion by water and wind. Turkana has a youthful population indicating need for urgent investment in education, nutrition, water and health. The most fertile soil is in the central plains of Lorengippi, Upper Loiman and the lowland of the Turkwel, Nakaton and Kawaltheand along the lake at Lower Kalokol, Turkana and Kerio rivers and a portion of the Lorin Plateaus. In past few years, the County has suffered climate changes that has registered failure of rains and floods. Honey production, sale of goods and being casual laborers.

The planned interventions aimed at promoting sustainable land use and increase agricultural productivity and outputs. The set interventions though not targeting women and girls directly, aimed to address issues of accessibility and affordability of farm inputs that would improve the lives of women and girls, men and boys. Turkana women engage in subsistence farming for family consumption and marketing. The interventions included promoting market access and product development, enhancing accessibility and affordability of inputs and credit, enhancing institutional

efficiency and effectiveness in implementation and service delivery by mainstreaming gender issues to improve access to information through ICT-based tools and to create an enabling environment for Agriculture development.

The priorities in agriculture identified in 1st and 2nd CIDPS are: -

- Establishing county food reserve through promoting surplus from farmers.
 - Provision of seeds, tools and equipment.
 - Capacity building the communities on agriculture as alternative livelihoods.
 - Providing produce markets.
 - Promotion of fast maturing and drought and pest resistant crops i.e. new banana tissues, AFRICA Rice among others.
 - Recruitment of extension agricultural officers.
 - Promotion of greenhouse technology.
 - Formation of farmers training centre.
 - Mechanization of agriculture.
 - Establishment of irrigation schemes.
 - Invested in tractors that offer free ploughing services.
- Provision of seed subsidies.

Achievements

- Improved service delivery in agricultural market access and linkages especially for women engaged in farming of fruits and vegetables.
- Male and female farmers were trained by the agricultural extension officers recruited by the county. Women farmers were full of praises about the new knowledge received and support from the county officers.
- Horticultural, crop diversification and promotion of has increased yield in crops mainly cultivated by women i.e. vegetables, trees and vegetables.
- Women farmers have benefited from provision of farms subsidies and use of county tractors supplied in every ward for ploughing.
- Great investment happened in poultry which is a preserve for Turkana women.
- While women do not do fishing, they benefited from great county support by purchase of fishing equipment, enhance fish preservation and storage and support of fishing extension services and management in the role of being fish mongers.
- The county has constructed and designated fish markets in every sub county and women are engaged in serious marketing of the fish, smoked and unsmoked locally and in other counties.
- Women are among the 2600 farmers trained through Agriculture Markets Access programme, among the 80,000 farmers reached and trained by agricultural extension officers and 150,000 households supported with farm inputs.
- Land under crop production increased in 2018 from 5500 Ha (3500 acres) to 8500 Ha (21 250) acres.

Challenges

- The major challenge in agriculture in the county is insufficient water. The irrigation scheme availed by the county is not sufficient to as well.
- Culture that considered men as decision makers while physically women did the farming.
- Men own majority of the land in the county, compromising sustainability of women interventions on land.
- Limited participation of women in extension services and getting farming techniques.
- Women work on farms but do not own land and are not able to make some key land use decisions without authority of their spouses for the married ones.
- Inadequate knowledge of farming by women.
- Impacts of climate change yet women had little information on the gendered approach of intervening.
- Degradation of water catchment area made farming challenging.
- Lack of gender responsive county policies in agriculture.
- There appear to be competing interests since agriculture is predominantly a woman activity as men engage more in livestock farming.

C. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

The department of education prioritized interventions in expanding and scaling up infrastructure in both ECDE and Vocational training as mandates of the county. Under the ECDE, larger budget went into development of ECDE centers and provision of nutrition rich foods for example fortified flour, milk, lentils, green grams and rice. The county has invested in recruitment of ECDE teachers and vocational training tutors. It has established and continued to support scholarship programmes for both boys and girls. The assessment found achievements and challenges below.

Achievements

- The county has continued to run a successful feeding programme for ECDE pupils in all centres and 30 mobile schools. This has improved and enhanced nutritional status of the children.
- Constructed more than 10 ECDE centres per every ward creating a child friendly environment.
- Recruited and deployed over 400 ECDE teachers and 200 primary and 50 secondary school teachers.
- Increased enrolment of ECDE centres and schools promoting access to education.
- Have awarded scholarships to over 150 trainees.
- Established one public library.
- Promoted sports and talents including promoting disability sports.

Challenges

- Inadequate number of teachers recruited due to budget constraints.
- Some ECDE centres are managed by volunteers who are untrained teachers.
- Some areas have no infrastructure and classes are still run under trees.
- County unable to supply all required learning materials.
- Most teachers are not trained on CBC programme.
- Turkana County is food insecure and sometimes the county is unable to provide food to the learners.
- Some primary school, under the national government have no infrastructure and head teachers convert ECDE classroom for use by the upper primary pupils.
- Mobile ECDE are challenging to manage due to prolonged drought and nature of pastoralist's family that have to move in search for pasture for animals.
- Most ECDE have no water and parents are requested to bring some water in school for use by the young learners.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- Refurbished 2 vocational training centres.
- Constructed five new vocational training centres.
- Constructed additional infrastructure in existing training institutions i.e. Lodwar Youth Polytechnic.
- County has equipped the vocational training.
- Provided with Bursary funds for students.

Challenges

- Though the county has made success in constructing the centres, few learners have enrolled., with negative attitudes towards the training alluded to be courses for school failures.
- Most girls drop out of school to get married.
- High teenage pregnancy keeps girls out of trainings.
- Girls attending the centres, mainly enroll into traditional known on female courses and do not venture in what is considered as male courses.
- Youth prefer enrolling to Kenya Youth Empowerment Programme rather than the Vocational Training because of the stipend paid to the Youth Empowerment Programme.
- Youth prefer short courses and find alternatives. i.e. a partner IRC has constructed a short-term institution in Lodwar offering short courses in hairdressing, baking, tailoring that is popular with girls.

D. Water and Sanitation

Turkana county has noted that water is a limiting factor to many development agendas in the county during the inception period of devolution. In the first CIDP, the priority agenda was to develop water sources for examples water aquifers, boreholes and surface water harvesting. Turkana has faced both physical and economic water scarcity interchangeably during and between seasons.

Efforts have been focused on water infrastructure. A lot more focus has been made to supply water to human population rather than livestock. The sector planned to increase quantity and quality of safe water.

The identified priorities:

- Provision of safe drinking water.
- Sinking at least one borehole per every ward.
- Harnessing of water aquifer.
- Establishing water management systems.
- Desalinate and treat harvested water from Lake Turkana to provide clean and safe water using appropriate technology.
- Utilizing the available resources to cater for water for both livestock and human consumption.
- Development of technical human resources.
- Ground water and surface the water harvesting boreholes.

Achievements

- Drilling and equipping boreholes with hand pumps and solar has increased accessibility of water to the communities and at household level.
- Boreholes increased access to safe and clean drinking water especially for domestic use and for irrigation for subsistence farming.
- Increased the number of people accessing clean water in institutions and in both urban and rural areas.
- Improved access to safe water in urban and rural setting.
- Scaled up latrine coverage for improved sanitation.
- More water pans approved for construction.
- Improved water supplies that has increased urban access to water, majority in Kakuma, Kalokol, Napuu, Lokichar, Lorungum and Katilu.
- Closer collaboration with other partners working to promote access to water.
- Framed contract with Davies and Shirtliff to improve repair of water pans equipping them with solar.
- Increased capacity of county staff on management of water services.

Challenges

- Low rainfall due to climate change.
- Inadequate water for domestic and livestock use.
- Poor quality water.
- Salinity of water sources.
- Management of water resources lacked skills.
- Lack of enough equipment for water storage.
- Low knowledge provided to the community for management especially women who often make good managers in water management.
- Lack of resources for operation and maintenance of infrastructure.

- Low community and women involvement in decision making in water management.
- Low ground water potential.
- Lack of adequate legal framework promoting gender responsiveness in water usage and management.
- High cost of drilling water limits the number of boreholes to be drilled.
- The community was of the view that the Turkana Management Company lacks capacity to provide the county with required clean water.
- The county heavily relies on water developed managed by partners that is sustainable, for example, the catholic missions have continuous flow of water in their institutions.
- Women and girls still bear the burden of having to walk long distances in search of water for domestic use.

E. Urban Development

The outcome indicators of improved urban and rural planning included spatial buildings, issuing title deeds and allotment letters, towns waste management infrastructure in place, construct recreational facilities in towns, fix street lights and set aside burial sites (cemeteries).

The county noted the following barriers towards uncontrolled urban development.

- Lack of awareness of importance of urban growth.
- Lack of human resources for example qualified surveyors and planners.
- Slow implementation of spatial plans.
- Lack of policies to guide land use.
- Lack of spatial framework.

Achievements

- Streetlights have been constructed and fixed in major towns. This has increased security affording women trader's opportunity to engage in evening trading activities.
- Market areas have been identified and developed and occupied by female traders.
- There are designated areas to dump the waste in the town centres.
- The spatial plans have re-designed the towns centres.
- Security has been enhanced in the town centres.
- Road network is greatly improved with town roads tarmacked.

Challenges

- Most land is still communally owned and title deeds and allotments can only follow adjudication. Most urban centres await issuance of titles.
- Streetlights are always vandalized and not replaced immediately.

- Land is predominantly registered in the names of men.
- The towns do not have a sewer system.
- There are livelihood of dirty water getting mixed with clean water.
- The electricity bill is too high to use on streetlights. The county to consider shifting to solar lighting as an alternative.
- There is growing number of street boys that pose a threat to women movement especially the women traders who have to move out in the streets late at night or early mornings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
 - i) County to invest in development and adoption of gender tools i.e. gender policy and develop gender responsive strategies to integrate gender the county plans.
 - ii) To enhance its gender machineries towards reporting requirement under the performance contracting as designated by the State department of gender and NGECC.
 - iii) To generate Institutional gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex, disability, age, urban and rural to measure progress made at different level. The county needs to build its capacity to ensure its institutional data is disaggregated to facilitate gender responsive monitoring and reporting.
 - iv) The county must invest in capacity to adopt Gender Responsive Budgeting as a policy of budget allocations.
 - v) The county to plan and undertake a gender audit of the its gender and women empowerment to measure in place to measure its progress and impact.
- II. Health
 - i. The county needs to undertake public wide education on the importance of every family taking charge of their personal hygiene to improve health seeking behaviours.
 - ii. Need for public education for women and girls, men and boys to understand the need for use of safe contraception to space child birth.
 - iii. In order to bring down HIV prevalence, educate men on importance of male circumcision and the need to use condoms.
 - iv. Construct more holding centres for pregnant mothers to reduce high deliveries still happening at home because of long distances they spent travelling to health facilities.
 - v. Disaggregate its budget to get an estimate of allocations that go for gender and empowerment of women.
- III. Agriculture
 - i) The county relies mainly on rain fed agriculture. Because of long persistent drought and rain failure, the county needs to invest more in water through irrigation. Women require more capacity to understand the rainfall patterns and

other climate change related challenges and seek further knowledge to mitigate and adapt to climate change with gender sensitivity.

- ii) The county to increase investment in agriculture for women as a sure means of enhancing food security for the county and encourage youth to be self-employed and create jobs in the agricultural labour and market.
 - iii) The county to address the challenges identified by the assessment and remove the barriers women face in agriculture by ensuring gender is fully mainstreamed in agriculture with clear monitoring indicators and reporting tools that provide disaggregated statistics by sex, age, disability among others.
 - iv) Access to general agriculture education should be directed to both female and male farmers with measures taken to increase the level of land owned by women in the county.
 - v) The county to entice and promote like-minded partners including private actors interested in working with women to address female specific needs in agriculture including support in capacity building, skills development especially in crop variety and marketing their agricultural products. The agriculture department works with numerous partners to support male and female farmers to improve the yields.
- i) **ECDE**
 - i. Invest in training and recruiting more ECDE teachers and consider developing a scheme of service for them.
 - ii. Train the ECDE teachers on the CBC programme.
 - iii. Construct more ECDE classrooms and equip them with facilities and make provisions for water and sanitation.
 - iv. Increase budget towards the food programme for sustainability.
 - ii) **VCT**
 - i) The county ought to invest in public education to sensitize the youth and especially women to enroll in the vocational training centres and take advantage of the bursaries offered to access market-oriented courses to improve their livelihood.
 - ii) The infrastructure of the vocational trainings should introduce mother baby care rooms to provide child care services to young mothers who get pregnant from early and unwanted pregnancies to access trainings while the babies are taken care of.
 - iii) The county requires to include entrepreneur courses on all programmes offered and strive to link the learners to the ready market including access to Biashara fund, women and youth enterprise funds and the access government services through the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) that every county has to set aside 30 percent of the procurables to benefit women, youth and PWDS.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- Develop the capacity of women and increase their skills in water management in the county.
- Provide women water storage tanks at family levels to boost water storage for domestic use.
- Work towards decreasing the hours spent by women in collecting clean water for domestic use.
- Programme to increase access of clean drinking water to the urban setting to attract more investors and entrepreneurial wishing to do business in the county.
- Ensure greater investments in clean water by drilling boreholes in all institutions, i.e. schools, health facilities and urban settings.
- Increase the amount of water set aside for subsistence farming and educate female farmers how to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Review land policies and management and facilitate more women to own land.

V. Urban Planning

- The spatial plans must be developed to respond to the needs of men and women, with special attention to the vulnerability of women.
- Need to invest in solar lighting than the being on the Kenya power grid that is very expensive for street lighting.

F. Best Practice: Boosting Women Trade through Designated Market Construction

The county chose the successful story of investment in a fresh fish women market and how the fish market in Lodwar has transformed lives of Turkana women. Through the trade department, the county has designated and constructed several markets. The Best practice was a fish market in Lodwar town. It has management structures and well-designed space. It is fitted with piped water and clean toilets to improve the hygiene in the market that requires lots of water to clean the fresh fish.

The market is designed to accommodate more than women 200 traders and the beneficiaries had a lot of praise to the county government for the support and empowerment of women as fish mongers in the county. It has enhanced fish trade within and without the county.

3.13. WAJIR COUNTY

Wajir County, the 3rd largest in Kenya is in the former North Eastern region of Kenya and covers an area of 56,685.9 Km². It borders Somalia to the East, Ethiopia to the North, Mandera County to the Northeast, Isiolo County to the South West, Marsabit County to the West and Garissa County to the South. The county comprises

of eight sub-counties namely Wajir East, Tarbaj, Wajir West, Eldas, Wajir North, Buna, Habaswein and Wajir South. Projections from the Kenya 2009 Population and Housing census indicate that the county had a total population of 661,941 with Males comprising 55 per cent of the population whereas female population accounted for 45 per cent. In 2019 Population and Housing census, Wajir had a population of 781,263 (M=415,374, F=365,840 and Intersex=49). The increased population has been 119,293. The average household size is 6.1 and the population density is 14. This makes Wajir County the 30th largest in Kenya population wise representing 1.64 per cent of the national population.

In 2016, the overall poverty rate of the county was 63.0 per cent with 10.5 per cent of the population living in extreme poverty, which is higher than the overall national rates of 36.1 and 8.6 per cent, respectively. With devolution Wajir faced with territorial challenge, characterized by rapid expansion of urban agglomerations in headquarter level and conflict over land and natural resources in rural areas. This created an urgent need for policy support for better planning and management for economic development to realize the benefits of devolution.

The northern Kenya populations including the people of Wajir County are classified as marginalized communities by the Constitution of Kenya Article 260 which defines a 'marginalized community' inter alia as – "pastoral persons and communities whether they are (i) nomadic; or (ii) a settled community that, because of its relative geographic isolation, has experienced only marginal participation in the integrated social and economic life of Kenya as a whole" In Wajir, young women and adolescent girls are among the most vulnerable group in Kenya. They are particularly vulnerable to poverty especially at the household and community level. Access to economic resources varies by marital status; households headed by single or divorced mothers have fewer economic resources, land, and capital. Women do not enjoy equal rights to inheritance of assets like land and thus denied economic power such as use of land as collateral for bank loans.

There is division of labour by gender where men water and protect big stock such as camels and cattle, while women milk, clean and wash, fetch water for domestic use, build traditional huts and take care of children and small stock including goats and sheep. Most of the women in a normal set-up are taken as housewives while the men provide for the family. At community level they are mainly engaged in selling groceries and food kiosks. This is exacerbated by gender-based violence, harmful cultural attitudes, and beliefs. The practice of FGM is common in Wajir County with prevalence of over 80 percent with infibulation and excision being the commonest forms practiced. Despite the concerted efforts that have been made by various stakeholders to discourage the practice, it persists among the community. The practice persists partly because of the false belief that it maintains the sexual purity of a girl by containing her sexual desires until marriage. These

persistent harmful gender norms and structural barriers hinder their participation in the electoral process and are locked out from entering and participating into leadership spaces.

The patriarchal nature of majority of Wajir clans gives power to sultans who continue to promote negotiated democracy as the preferred method of electing political leaders. This is a power-sharing agreement where political positions are distributed ahead of the elections, mainly to men, allegedly to prevent election-related conflicts.

The space of women in the CSOs is underrated, a case example is the value of women's contribution to peace and conflict management processes towards achieving sustainable peace where women spearheaded the Wajir peace process. This has been showcased globally as a best practice of a community-led peace initiative. In

1993, Dekha Ibrahim founded the Wajir Women Association for Peace (WWAP) to create a safer market for all the women from tribes in Wajir County, Kenya following the outbreak of violence. The violence was precipitated by a drought in the Wajir region, which started in 1991 leading to mass starvation for livestock. This affected people in neighbouring Ethiopia and Somalia who then became refugees in Kenya to escape the violence that the drought brought to their home areas. The refugees helped to further harm relationships between the local tribes as it changed a shift in power, especially seen following the elections of 1992 in Kenya.

The women are also in the fore front of grass root organization. The county has a total of 70 Self Help groups, 50 Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and 700 women groups. The 900 youth groups and 146 Farmers groups have majority women members. Most of these groups are engaged in income generating activities.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Elected MCA	30	30	0
Nominated MCA			
CECMs	10	7	3
Chief Officers			

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

- The County has in place a department in charge of Gender designated as Education, Youth, Culture, Gender, and Social Services.
- The County gender planning and implementation tools are as follows:

Tool	Yes	No
1. Gender Policy	X	X
2. Gender Law	X	X
3. Gender Based Violence Law	X	X
4. Gender Strategy	X	X
5. Gender Action Plan		X
6. Plans to promote gender equality (women empowerment programs)	X	X
7. Social protection policy		X

The 2013-2017 was very ambitious and hence about 40 per cent of the proposed projects were implemented. For the five years the revenue streams amounted to Ksh 34, 771,792,093 against budgeted amount of Ksh 35,447,166,972. The following were the cross-cutting interventions towards gender equality and women empowerment:

- ensuring women participation in school management committees among other managerial roles
- sensitizing communities on issues of good governance, advocacy and rights of women and children
- providing access to credit by women will be enhanced through incentives such as friendly loan terms for women without collateral
- ensuring youth and women participation in trade by providing information on available opportunities for investment
- establishment of County Enterprise fund for the women to provide affordable micro credit and grants
- involvement of Women and Youth in leadership positions of committees manning water projects

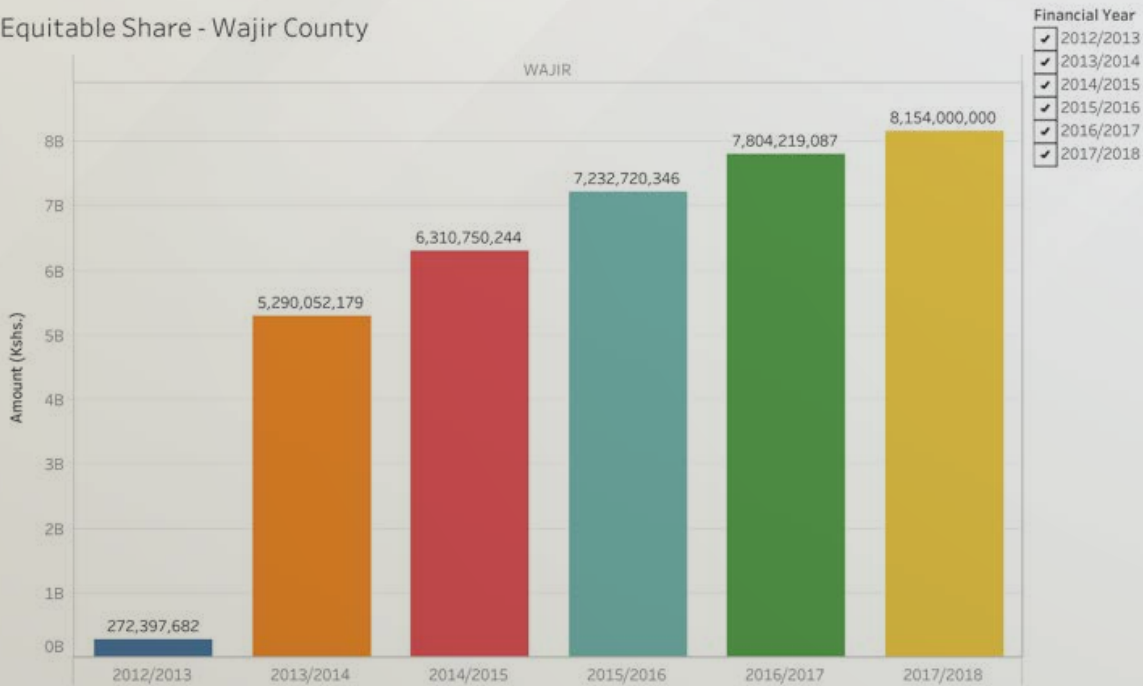
The county sought to monitor change through tracking the positions held by women at Ward level (County representatives) and enhanced representation in senior management roles in County Public Service. This has not changed, the unspoken rule is that women cannot represent their clans and tribes in Wajir County politics among the main Somali clans residing in Wajir which are the Ogaden, the Ajuran and the Dagodia. Among the 30 elected Members of the County Assembly and the six Members of Parliament, except for the Women Representative, none is a woman.

Revenue Collection and Budget

The support for territorial planning to address the impacts of unplanned population growth and widening rural-urban inequality was a primary intervention as the county undertook planning and budgeting.

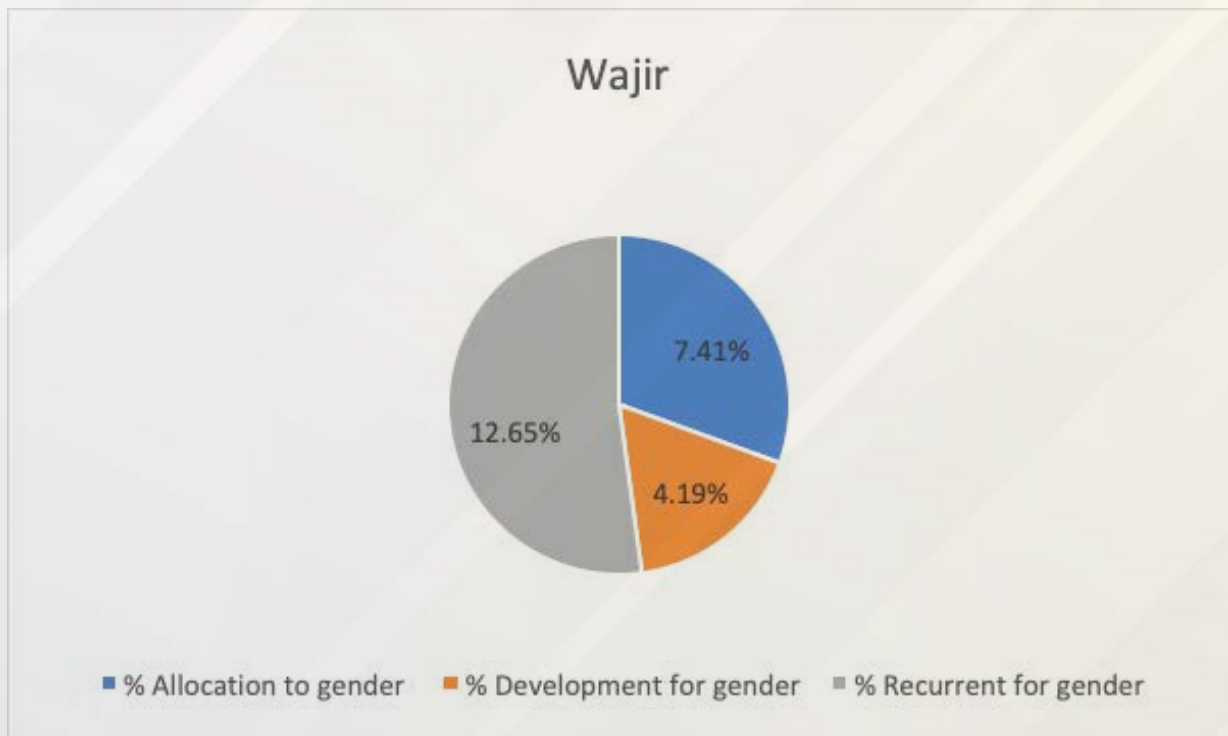
In 2013/14, the County had an approved budget of Kshs.5.4 billion, funds released during the period amounted to Kshs.4.8 billion of which Kshs.1.9 billion (38.8 per cent) was for recurrent expenditure and Kshs.2.9 billion (61.2 per cent) was for development expenditure. The total expenditure for the FY 2013/14 amounted to Kshs.4.4 billion and was 92 per cent of the total funds released.

Equitable Share - Wajir County



In FY 2020/21, the County's approved budget was Kshs.10.94 billion. The County received Kshs.8.55 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.1.03 billion as conditional grants, raised Kshs.73.96 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.445.10 million from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.10.10 billion, thus a gap of Ksh 0.84 billion.

The County allocated to the department for Education, Youth, Gender, and Social Services Ksh 810.94 (Recurrent= Ksh 526.54 and Development= Ksh 284.40). Specifically, the budget allocation to gender, was of Ksh 68,955,152 with actual payment of Ksh 30,198,451, translating to 43.8%.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender Wajir County

In the second CIDP, 2017-2022. The following were identified:

- Promote gender responsive planning and budget.
- Implement County Gender policy.
- Establish a gender-based violence recovery centres as well as gender desk.
- Strengthening Gender technical working groups across sectors.
- Sensitize community on retrogressive cultural practices & importance of education.
- Support women and men's access to information, skills for improved livelihood and financial capital.
- Develop and operationalize County Gender Based Violence policy.
- Establish rescue centres for girls running away from retrogressive cultural practices.

Achievements

- Wajir has in place a Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Act with Wajir County Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Board managing funds to support victims of sexual and gender-based violence, and to develop recovery centres for survivors.
- The county has put in place a gender violence hotline, intended to ease reporting, and expedite the investigation and prosecution of crimes including rape, pedophilia, abuse, and sexual harassment. The line is in use after being publicized through the local Wajir community radio and on billboards.
- 20 Child Protection Volunteers to help improve child protection services
- The county has in place a functional gender technical working committee

Challenges

- There is a shift from exacerbated cases of FGM/C but not abandonment of the practice altogether.
- The effectiveness of public participation in Wajir has faced numerous challenges, among them:- lack of information on the functions and responsibilities of county governments; low public awareness arising from many citizens with low levels of education; social and cultural norms and practices such patriarchy which limits participation by women and clannism which diminish the role of some sections of the society; nomadic pastoralism which limit engagement by the pastoralists who constantly move in search of pasture and water; and insecurity which drives communities apart.

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

At the onset of devolution family planning and contraceptive prevalence was very low with only 2 per cent of married women using modern methods of family planning. The low uptake was attributed to cultural beliefs and practices in the community. This led to high population growth and increase in poverty due to unplanned families which put a strain on the local resources. Total fertility rate stood at 7.8 per cent, the highest in the country with the national average standing at 3.9 per cent. It is observable that the high fertility rates are associated with high dependence rates, which is the highest in Kenya at 139.8 percent.

The county made efforts to encourage uptake of family planning services in line with the national goal for population growth control.

According to the 2005/2006 KIHBS 95.9 per cent of the population must cover more than 5 Km to access a health facility and only 4.1per cent access a health facility within less than 1Km. The HIV prevalence rate is 0.9 per cent which is lower than the national one at 6.7 per cent.

Achievements

- There are 115 public health facilities, 27 private facilities and 2 facilities run by NGO/missions. The county has 10 level IV hospitals, 26 level III health centers, 46 level II health centers, 79 dispensaries and 24 clinics.
- The health sector achieved reduced doctor/patient ratio from 1: 132,000 to 1: 123,694. An increased operational ambulance from 4 to 10 improved county emergency, rescue, and evacuation services.
- The county is served by one Medical Consultant, One Dentist, 28 Doctors, eight Pharmacists, 93 Registered Clinical Officers, 327 Nurses, 60 Lab Technologists, 57 Public Health Officers, 10 Pharm Techs, 62 Community Health Assistants and 55 Nutritionists.
- There are 7 specialists at Wajir County Referral Hospital (2 General Surgeons, 2 Pediatricians, 1 Radiologist, 1 Oncologist

and 1 Orthopedic Surgeon). There are 3 Urologists expected to complete their training.

- Partnership has been key for the County with Mediheal Group of Hospitals supporting the Renal Dialysis Unit. This partnership led to the transfer of nephrological knowledge at the Dialysis Unit and provision of consultant services. Since Mediheal sent a nephrologist (kidney specialist), several patients benefitted from access to renal transplant services. So far 4 patients from Wajir have had a successful transplant.
- Wajir County has a 10-bed capacity recovery centre for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors at the Wajir Referral Hospital. The centre established at cost of Ksh 7 million has a counselling centre, a testing laboratory and consultation room.

Challenges

- In the duration of the assessment the Wajir County Referral Hospital experienced water shortage and lack of electricity which endangered the lives of mothers and infants. The County resolved this through purchasing and installing a New 500 KVA Generator installed; servicing the old 150 KVA Generator to serve as a substitute to the new Generator; drilling a new borehole; paying the pending bills with KEMSA; competitively employed 8 new doctors and promoted over 150 health care workers.
- The county has been experiencing oxygen shortages. A case was reported where a health worker in Wajir County who contracted Covid-19 waited for hours to access oxygen before his death. The oxygen plant at the Wajir Referral Hospital has since been made fully operational and can now produce up to 350 litres per minute.
- Most Wajir residents live in rural areas and mostly rely on community health volunteers and health facilities that are staffed by nurses who provide primary health care services, the referral is made through ambulances. The CHVs are not on the county payroll.

B. Education and Vocational Training

The County had literacy level of 23.8 per cent with only 22 per cent of women and 59 per cent of men having received any education .67.6% of women cannot read at all compared to men at 47.9%. This is attributed to early marriages, female genital mutilation, and exploitation of women among other negative vices. This called for action to be taken to fully address both socio-economic and cultural factors affecting education with special interest in girl-child education.

At the basic education level, big gender disparities exist with 68 per cent of primary school children being boys while only 32 per cent girls. At secondary level, 74 per cent are boys while 26 per cent are girls. Dropout rates show girls as most disadvantaged with a dropout rate of four per cent against three per cent for boys at

secondary level. Same scenario is reflected in basic adult education with 10.9 per cent of men dropping out as compared to 12.6 per cent for women

i) ECDE

Achievements

- There are 296 ECDE centres up from 264 ECDE centers with a total enrolment of 19,237 (8752 girls) pupils up from 15,075. The teacher/pupil ratio is 1:25 and transition rate of 90 per cent. 218 primary schools with a total enrolment of 63,912 pupils of which 38,584 are boys and 25,328 are girls. The primary school retention and transition rates are 51 per cent and 94 per cent respectively. There are 41 secondary schools with 7,780 boys against 4,408 girls. The completion and retention rates are 90 per cent and 87 per cent.
- The ECDE pupil teacher ratio has significantly improved from 1.92 to 1:25 (national, 1:31), primary pupil teacher ratio was 1:56 (national 1:40) and secondary pupil teacher ratio was 1:29 (national, 1:32). The improved ration is an indicator of improved quality of education at the county
- Gross ECDE enrolment rate increased from 12.3 per cent in 2014 to 37.1 per cent in 2018 while net enrolment rate (NER) increased from 5.1 per cent to 8.5 per cent during the same period
- Supported the free sanitary pad program for an estimated 24,000 school going girls, both in primary and secondary schools. This addresses the challenges are attributed to poor economic status and inadequate knowledge on menstruation. The distribution of undergarments and sanitary towels to girls helps them attend school uninterrupted.
- In partnership with development partners the county benefits from school meals programme (covering 129,000 children in early childhood development centres in the county).
- Education bursaries for students in institutions of levels that are higher than primary schools have been disbursed through the Ksh 100 million Wajir County Bursary fund

Challenges

- Within the duration of the assessment the ECDE teachers issued a strike notice. The County had an engagement through the department of Education and committed to provide ECDE learning materials for both the learners and ECDE Teachers, adhere to the set-out scheme of service, support CBC and capacity building trainings for teachers.
- Teachers are not trained on CBC programme.
- More ECDE centres are required but there is limitation on budget.
- The feeding programme is not sustainable due to lower funding.

ii) VTC

Achievements

- The county has 8 vocational training centres with 29 tutors and 197 enrolled learners (128 female and 69 male learners). The VTC have a 10:1 learner to equipment ratio and recorded a 90 per cent completion rate.
- The VTCs have been equipped to offer diverse courses at craft and artisan level: carpentry and joinery, motor vehicle mechanics, masonry, fashion design and garment making. Others are metal processing technology, electrical courses, and beauty therapy.
- Through complementary donor support the county offers VTC graduates with startup kits, recently 600 sewing machines, 600 baking equipment, 300 market umbrellas, 50 rolls of garment making material has been given out.

Challenges

- Stalling and delayed completion of projects
- Absenteeism in schools due to insecurity
- High college drop out due to varying reasons including girls getting married and lack of tuition fees.

C. Water and Sanitation

The main source of water is the seasonal Ewaso Nyiro River. Other sources of water include boreholes, shallow wells, pans and dams for human and livestock consumption. Lake Yahud, which is an underground and permanent lake, situated on the periphery of Wajir town provides water for wildlife and quarry activities although the water is saline and not safe for drinking. Only 965 households in the county have roof catchment representing 1 per cent of the households.

The region has experienced successive depressed rains, thus the need for urgent interventions. While access to these points is normally open to all, the water yield reduces significantly (over 50% decrease) during a severe drought, and during this time the owners of the shallow well have priority usage; others have access only if water remains after owners' needs are met. The number of people and animals travelling to access these water points increases significantly, with queuing up to 20 hours to access water.

Only 1.2 per cent of garbage generated is collected by the local authority while 0.6 per cent is disposed in a garbage pit, 8.3 per cent in public garbage heap and 89.9 per cent is burned. At least 13.6 per cent of the households have no place for human waste disposal with latrine accounting for 46%.

Achievements

- The county has 272 boreholes, 15 mega pans, and 260 water pans. There is need to carry out comprehensive geological surveys to identify areas with high ground water potential. There are 14,360 shallow wells, 206 water pans and 98 bore holes. The major users of water are livestock at 53% and

domestic use at 30%. Boreholes typically located on the outskirts of a village / town (1-3 kilometres from the village centre) are the most preferred water source. In most cases they have storage tanks, water troughs for animals, and pipeline distribution systems which deliver water to water kiosks in the village centre. In some places, village dwellers fetch water from the water kiosks in the town (connected via pipeline); in others, there is a kiosk with taps at the borehole.

- All equipped water sources are managed by a Water User Association (WUA) who sets tariffs, controls access and oversees operation and maintenance. There is balanced gender representation the WUA committees.
- The proportion of households with access to piped water is 1.4 per cent of the county 's population. Griftu, Eldas, Habaswein, Masalale are some of the centers with water supply systems serving consumers mainly through water kiosks. A few homesteads and the institutions in these centers are connected to the system.
- Water bowsers are used for trucking water across sub-counties in response to prevailing drought and address the perennial water scarcity in the county.
- Wajir County is one of 10 counties benefitting from the \$1 billion World Bank-funded North and North Eastern Development Initiative (NEDI), which aims to reduce development gaps in the region. A key project is the Tawakal Water Pan constructed in 2019 with a water harvesting capacity of nearly 45000 m³ at a total cost of about \$170,000 to ensure water availability for domestic and livestock use especially during the dry seasons. The pan serves more than 1,000 direct beneficiaries, of which 50% are female, who now have water within close reach for themselves and an estimated 9,500 livestock.
- There is ongoing development of water treatment site at Habaswein. A site (17.71Ha) has been set aside for the development of a water storage, pumping and treatment off Wajir-Mandera road. In addition to pumping stations for the water, the proposed water reticulation was set to be linked to the sewer reticulation for drainage purposes.

Challenges

- The average distance to the nearest water point is 30 Km aggravated by sparse population and persistent droughts. This negatively impacts on women and girls who get water for domestic use.
- The county has challenges responding to climate change conditions that contribute to inadequate water resources.

D. Agriculture

Wajir County is a semi-arid area falling in the ecological zone V-VI. Zone V receives rainfall between 300-600mm annually, has low trees, grass, and shrubs. On the other hand, zone VI receives an annual rainfall of 200-400mm. Overall, the county receives an average of 240 mm of rainfall per year which is erratic and

short making it unfavourable for vegetation growth and rain fed agriculture. There are two rainy seasons' i.e., short, and long rains. The short rains are expected between October to December and the long rains from March to May each year. Crop activity is carried out in the Lorain swamp and along the drainage lines in Bute. The main crops grown in the area are sorghum, beans, fruits, and vegetables.

The county experiences average temperature of 27.9 °C. The county is prone to seasonal flooding during the rainy seasons which makes roads impassable affecting accessibility to vital services. It has seasonal swamps which together with drainage lines serve as grazing zones during dry season and for cultivation during the rainy seasons. The seasonal swamps are in Lagboghoh area and in the western and southern part of Habaswein area. The county is generally covered with young sedimentary rocks with loamy soils in the north bordering the Ethiopian highlands.

Wajir is one of the major sources of beef, and small stock sold in Nairobi and Mombasa. It has a vibrant goats and sheep market that trades daily while cattle and camels are traded during weekly market days. However, agricultural productivity is vulnerable to weather shocks resulting in unpredictable economic growth trends. The county set out to establish an abattoir. In 2013 estimated annual revenue from livestock was 120 million. Wajir In 2014, the county will launch and fully operationalize an ultra-modern abattoir that will raise industry's worth to 4.5 billion.

The 2019 animal census shows that there are about 1.2 million camels, 0.9 million cattle, 2.1 million sheep, 3.1 million goats, donkeys, and chicken. An estimated 58 per cent of the Gross County Product (GCP)¹ of Wajir is derived from agriculture (mainly livestock keeping) while services sub-sectors accounted for 37 per cent and industries accounted for 9 per cent of GCP as of 2017.

Achievements

- Livestock production activities are practiced county wide. Poultry keeping is more pronounced in Wajir town & Habaswein and it is an activity undertaken by women.
- There is limited value addition of agricultural and livestock products. There is slight progress in value addition of milk & camel meat (Nyiri nyiri). The County is in the process of establishing export standard abattoir in Wajir town and tannery in Buna. The Potential for the value addition water melon, milk and meat remains unexploited.
- In the agricultural sector, area under irrigation increased from 100 acres in 2013 to 1500 acres in 2017. 28 kilometers of Wajir Town roads were tarmacked which has led to improved environment for business and transport within the town.
- The county targeted a vaccination exercise in 2021 which covered over 1.2 million animals. Camels, cows, goats, and sheep were vaccinated against Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), sheep

and goat pox (SGP) and Rift Valley Fever (RVF).

- To curb diseases affecting sheep and goats, a county-wide Participatory Epidemiological (PE) study was carried out in Wajir County between November 2017 and April 2018 with the aim of mapping and combating livestock diseases.

Challenges

- Efforts have been put towards increasing crops productivity in the county, but over reliance on relief food has been a major hindrance in achieving food & nutrition security.
- Livestock population density in the county is low due to the low land-carrying capacity of the rangeland.
- Droughts, livestock diseases and pests adversely affect livestock development in the county.)
- inadequate funding for the sector
- inadequate technical support (extension) due to expansiveness
- inaccessibility of markets especially by farmers. The county has a total of 28KM of tarmac roads, 440 Km graveled roads, out of 5,280 Km Road network. The rest of the roads are earthen and unclassified.
- costly farm inputs
- Unreliable rain

E. Urban Planning

Wajir Town is situated in Wajir East constituency, it hosts the County headquarters and is the most densely populated with a population density of 31 people per square kilometer. This can be attributed to vibrant economy in the town because of the large businesses, employment opportunities and informal sector income generating activities are concentrated.

There are 12,000 shallow wells within the Urban Centre. 10% of those are dry and 8% are drying up. In some cases, it is taking up to 10 minutes to fill a 5 litre jerrican and currently shallow wells are going up to 50 metres. There are several probable options for sources of water for Wajir Town like the Merti Aquifer and Butte Dam.

Wajir sewerage project is under construction to help improve the sanitation conditions of the town. Approximately 60,000 live in Wajir town. In 2009 it was noted that about 5% of the population depends on septic tank, 75% on open defecation (Cat style) and about 20% who mainly reside in the Central Business District (Township) depend on bucket latrine.”

Achievements

Wajir town is the only town with a spatial plan. The implementation of the plan is carried out through ten sectors and several programmes. The total budget for the plan is projected at Kshs 112.4 billion.

The county endeavoured to implement several transformative projects in urban planning space which include:

- Preparation of county spatial plan.
- Construction of Retail and Wholesale Hub.
- Construction of an industrial Park.
- Compacted Gravelling of sub-county roads; Tarmacking of county roads.
- Water and sanitation systems for Wajir town and sub-county headquarters and
- Rain water harvesting structures

Challenges

- Due to a high-water table, Wajir is one of few towns in the world which uses a bucket toilet system for sanitation. The area's high-water table causes frequent flooding, making construction of pit latrines or piped sewerage system infeasible. For sewerage, large quantities of water are needed for a wastewater treatment.
- The municipal waste collection system is inconsistent, forcing families to empty their own bucket toilets in unauthorized areas. The quantity of solid waste generated in Wajir town is increasing due to the population increase. Solid waste production is estimated at 44.5 tons per day and, currently, only 28% of the waste produced is collected and transported to the dum.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
 - The county needs to engage community leaders' level to raise awareness of GBV, its consequences and existing protective legislation as it pertains to GBV and related punishment for crime, this will reduce the backing of the alternative maslaha system (alternative dispute resolution at community level).
 - The county needs to put in place a structured public participation model to incorporate the public participation of women, girls, PWDs and other marginalized groups.
- II. Health
 - Through the MES project each county acquired different sets of medical equipment to bring services closer home and lift the financial burden. Just like Wajir, most counties lacked specialists to ensure the equipment benefited patients, hence with all counties signing a partnership agreement there is need for collaboration with private sector to ensure accrued benefits.
 - There is need to equip the sub-county hospitals to provide more services by employing more medical doctors.
 - Undertake public education towards eradicating the practice of FGM and child marriages.
 - Create awareness among men in the community to support the Family planning programme and encourage women to seek the service.
 - The county to deal with sstockouts that include family planning commodities through gender responsive budgeting and availing the services as a priority.

III. Education and Vocational Training

i) ECDE

- The County ought to put in place a long-term framework to address the plight of ECDE teachers so as to stabilize early learning and set a strong base for the education.
- Allocate more resources to constructing more ECDE centres.
- Recruit more teachers.
- Buy CBC equipments for the centres that are lacking

ii) VTC

- The county should scale up budgetary allocation for VTC programmes.
- The county should adopt schemes of service for VTC instructors

IV. Water and Sanitation

- The county should prioritize high impact projects to reduce reliance on water bowsers and reduce walking distances.
- Consider sinking more boreholes to serve domestic and institutional use.
- Operation and maintenance of boreholes should be supported making use of existing expertise, service providers and other market actors. This can be done by establishing a service agreement for boreholes between the Agency and a service provider or training of mechanics within the service agreement and linking that training service to vocational training centres.

V. Agriculture

- There is need for reduce reliance on development partners for support to Agricultural interventions focused on women.
- The county should enhance strategic treatment and vaccination of identified priority diseases and setting aside of a budget by the County to support PDS especially at the identified disease hot spot areas.
- The veterinary staff and extension officers should receive continuous professional training to improve their diagnostic capacity.
- Enhanced partnership for access to Index Based Livestock Insurance (IBLI), believed to be the first livestock insurance product designed and targeted at nomadic pastoralists in Africa.

VI. Urban Planning

- There is need to fast track the implementation of the municipality plan which addresses the increased urban sprawl within the municipality has resulted in various challenges identified.
- Due to water and sanitation challenges, the County should undertake an assessment of the potential of groundwater, surface water, rainwater, and other sources to provide adequate and quantity and quality water to the town.
- The municipality should invest in hygienic buckets/

containers, vehicles for waste transport, personal protective equipment, and a fecal sludge treatment facility.

VII. Access to finance and Revenue collection/Tax Administration

The county's own source revenue increased from Ksh 61 million in 2013/14 to Ksh 107.7 million in 2014/15, declined to Ksh 67. 6 million in 2017/18 and stood at Kshs.73.96 million as own source in FY 2020/21. The current amount represented a decrease of 44.1 per cent compared to Kshs.132.27 million realized during a similar period in FY 2019/20 and was 49.3 per cent of the annual target.

To improve the share of its own source revenue, the county should strengthen measures for tax collection and management. To finance its budget Wajir depends on almost 80% in equitable share and 10% conditional grants, with own source revenue accounting for a measly 1%. The county planning and budgeting process is not Gender Sensitive. There are gaps in the Tax Administration that does not consider affirmative action for women, girls and PWDs.

3.14. WEST POKOT COUNTY

West Pokot County is one of the 14 Counties in the Rift Valley region, referred to as "The land of hidden treasures". It is a home of vibrant culture, immense natural resources with vast untapped investment opportunities. Despite its potential for economic development, efforts for local growth are constrained by adverse climatic conditions, inappropriate rangeland utilization systems, limited infrastructure, and sporadic conflicts²⁸ West Pokot county has four constituencies, namely Kapenguria, Kacheliba, Pokot South and Sigor constituencies; and 4 sub counties, 20 wards, 65 locations and 224 sub locations. According to the Kenya Population and housing Census, 2019, West Pokot has an estimated population of 621,241, with a total of 307,013 males (49.4%), against 314,213 females (50.6%). The County has a high poverty index of 57.3 percent, 34 percent of the county population are employed, while 37 per cent (153,648 persons) are economically inactive.²⁹

The County is mainly inhabited by the majority Pokot and minority Sengwer Community. However, other ethnic communities exist, particularly in the areas surrounding Kapenguria in the highland areas.

The County is known for its rich cultural heritage, agriculture and livestock. The strong cultural beliefs are often expressed through retrogressive practices such as Female genital mutilation (FGM) and early marriages. The dominant Pokot and Sengwer communities are a highly patriarchal community, that largely accounts for the relatively lower access to education for girls. Agriculture and livestock sector are known to be the backbone of the county's economy with more than 80% of the population engaging in farming and related activities. The high-altitude areas have high agricultural potential while medium altitude areas which receive low rainfall are predominantly pastoral land.

²⁸ Global Health Reports, Kenya (2021): Resilience for Sustainable Livelihoods [Ustahimilivu] Program in West Pokot, October, 2015. <https://chasp.co.ke/resilience-for-sustainable-livelihoods-ustahimilivu-program-in-west-pokot/>

²⁹ West Pokot County Integrated Development Plan (2018)

To improve livelihoods of its people, the county government's priorities include: (i) improving and providing quality education to ensure that every child gets an equal chance to secure their future; (ii) boosting the county's economy; and (iii) achieving a more inclusive society for all.

Statistics on Women Representation in various County Institutions

Position	Total No.	No. of Male	No. of Female
Governor	1	1	0
Deputy Governor	1	1	0
Elected Female MCA	0	-	0
Nominated MCA	13	3	10
CECMs	10	7	3
Chief Officers	15	11	4

Institutional Gender Governance Framework

The county gender focal point is housed under the Ministry of Tourism, Sports, Culture & Social Development, however Gender unit is not well defined. The County has no clear structure on gender mainstreaming, and consequently, an insignificant proportion (0.01%) of total budget is allocated for the County gender agenda. Generally, gender is considered as an aspect of culture, and the gender unit is situated within the division of Culture, with limited capacity. The unit collaborates with other stakeholders in the county to implement the gender agenda; with a focus on training women on financial literacy, as well as fight against gender-based violence (GBV) and FGM, among others.

The county is yet to develop gender mainstreaming tools such as: Gender training manual, checkouts, and gender mainstreaming guidelines, but primarily rely on the tools developed at the national level. Plans are on course to develop the County gender mainstreaming policy in line with the National Gender and Development Policy 2019.

Identified Gender/Women issues

The key gender issues identified in the County include: high rates of school drop outs due to early teenage pregnancies and early marriages, GBV, FGM, most women are confined to domestic chores and have limited voices in household and policy decision-making, high levels of poverty, especially among women, there is poor parity in gender enrolment to schools, and consequently high unemployment rates. Others are the Gender unequal norms on women's land title ownership, and the girl child has limited access to resources and financial services.

Strategies of empowering women and girls

Strategies employed by county government to empower women include:

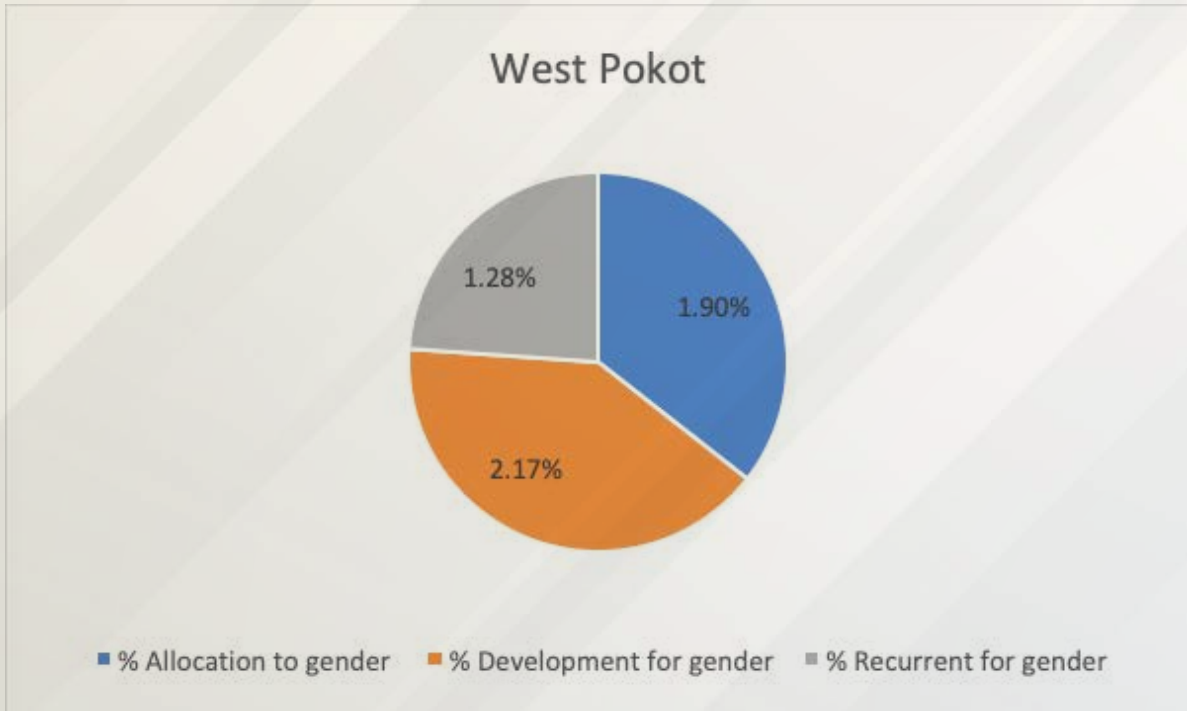
- Emphasis made on education for all, with girls prioritized for scholarships
- Girl mentorship programs led by the County first lady to empower girls to take up competitive courses and careers
- Poverty graduation programs targeting the vulnerable members of the community, including women
- Provision of tool kits, especially to girls and women after graduation from VTCs
- Input supplies to all households, with majority of recipients being women

Revenue collection and Budget

During the period July 2013 to June 2014, the County received Kshs.3.2 billion as the national equitable share, raised Kshs.58.9 million from local sources, and had Kshs.8.7 million as balance brought forward from FY 2012/13.

The total expenditure for the FY2013/14 to FY2016/2017 amounted to Ksh.16.23Billion. This comprises of Kshs. 10.32 Billion recurrent Expenditure and Kshs.5.8 Billion development expenditure representing 98.10 % and 80.91% absorption rates respectively and an overall absorption rate of 91.20 % of the total budget allocation. Tourism, Culture, Sports, Youth and Gender Development was allocated Ksh 462.84 (2.83%) with Recurrent of Ksh 164.01 (1.56%) and Development of Ksh 298.83 (4.1%). The department had an expenditure of Ksh 395.6 million (2.75%) with Recurrent of Ksh 159.04 (1.5%) and Development of Ksh 236.56(4.0%)

In FY 2020/21, the County received Kshs.5.00 billion as the equitable share of the revenue raised nationally, Kshs.501.12 million as conditional grants, raised Kshs.110.83 million as own-source revenue, and had a cash balance of Kshs.1.16 billion from FY 2019/20. The total funds available for budget implementation during the period amounted to Kshs.6.77 billion.



Proportional allocation to the department responsible for gender West Pokot County

Achievements

- County government has partnered with NGOs, CBOs and other donor organizations to mainstream gender through their sector programs
- Conducted gender empowerment programs through the office of the first lady
- The county prioritized education and put in place measures to ensure access to education for all
- Improved school enrolment, especially for the girl child through mentorship and also education bursary program
- Supported women entrepreneurs through the county cooperative fund
- Enhanced opportunities for adult education and improved the literacy levels, especially for women through collaboration with National government
- Improved ensuring maternal health and child care through construction of health dispensaries in every ward, and improving access to theatre services
- Supported training for women groups and facilitated registration of some Common interest groups into cooperatives.

Challenges

- Inadequate policy and legal frameworks to support gender mainstreaming

- Minimal participation of stakeholders, including women in the development of the CIDPs, ADPs and the annual budgets. When involved, suggestions made are not included
- Stakeholders, especially at the grassroots are not adequately equipped on how to access government services such as Women Enterprise Fund (WEF), Uwezo fund and 30% procurement preference scheme - AGPO services
- Inadequate access to credit and other financial services due to cultural background and lack of security for women/ girls ie land title deeds
- Effects of the covid-19 pandemic challenged the school system, and triggered resumption of cultural practices such as early marriages and FGM that encourage school drop-out, especially for the girl child
- Rights violations - some women leaders are victimized for being active to criticize the lack of affirmative action in implementation of some policies and regulations
- Minimal fund allocation for gender mainstreaming at the county level
- Minimal interaction between the county gender unit and stakeholders in gender mainstreaming activities
- Inadequate capacity of the County gender focal point
- High levels of poverty, exacerbated by feminization of poverty
- Low participation of women in decision making at household and

SECTOR SPECIFIC FINDINGS

A. Health

The Health sector in West Pokot County is re-positioning itself to fulfill the expectations of Kenyans, as outlined in the Kenyan Constitution, through improved health infrastructure Countywide, service delivery systems and promoting access to universal health care. This is achieved through the following sub sectors: Curative and Rehabilitative Health Services, and Preventive and Promotive Health Services.

Achievements

- The County has improved access to health, in particular, maternal health care by increasing health facilities and providing theatre services within reach
- Construction of girls' rescue centers in some of the health facilities.
- In partnership with NGOs, women groups and donor organizations, the county has conducted campaigns against FGM, GBV, early marriages; as well as sensitization on HIV/AIDS, as well as covid-19 pandemic
- Three (3) Level 4 health facilities were equipped with X-Ray services to provide specialized curative diagnostic interventions
- The County inaugurated new dialysis services at the Renal Unit in Kapenguria County Referral Hospital (KCRH)
- Reduced County Nurses to Population Ratio by recruitment of new nurses
- Improved sanitation and hygiene by increasing latrine coverage through Community led total sanitation activities in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programmes
- Enhanced Hand washing activities at household level through distribution of Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) commodities
- Improved Family planning and Maternal Health and Child care services
- The County took stringent measures to respond and prevent the spread of Covid 19
- The department prepared County Facility Improvement Fund Act to increase investments in health

Challenges

- Inadequate funding and transport for supportive supervision, both at the facilities and community level
- Limitations to utilization of the health care services due to cultural beliefs in some communities
- Cases of under nutrition in the county.
- Closure of health facilities during the doctors and nurse' strikes.
- Inadequate staff across all cadres
- Inadequate drugs supply, and/or inaccessible health facilities while delivering drugs

B. Education and Technical Vocational Training

This department provides, promotes, and coordinates pre-primary education and vocational training, while embracing technology to mold individuals into competent and responsible citizen. It has three Divisions: (i) Early childhood Development Education, (ii) Vocational Education and Training, and (iii) Administration (County Bursaries, and Adult and Continuing education). Among the County's flagship projects is the establish 6 Border Peace Schools, of which 3 are ongoing; in addition to establishment of a constituent public university college, currently operational under Kisii university.

The County bursary, infrastructure and development fund is a key success story. The program aims to promote education access, retention and transition rates by supporting students from needy and vulnerable backgrounds in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions. Special scholarships are also provided to students taking courses that will fill the gap needed in the county such as geology, among others. To ensure affirmative action, the gender rule applies in provision of scholarships and bursaries.

Single mothers are also supported to cater for their children's education so as to minimize the sale of their livelihood assets for purpose of enhancing the child's education. The County has adopted a strategy for proposal writing to mobilize resources from development partners through sharing their success stories.

i) Early childhood Development Education

The division of Early Childhood Education is mandated to manage academic, infrastructure and ECDE human resource in all ECDE centers across the County. The County has a total of 1,141 ECDE centers, with each center having 7 committee members. The total ECDE enrollment is 73,475; with 51.6% of the population being boys, and 48.4% girls. The Teacher: child ratio is 1:44 against standard of 1:25 and over 60% of the teachers are women.

Achievements

- Surpassed targets in construction of ECDE infrastructure (centers, classrooms and toilets) by using community/ labor-based methods rather than contracting. This method maximized the resources and allowed money circulation within the community
- Introduced school feeding program to all public ECDE centers by providing composite fortified porridge flour
- Infrastructure development and introduction of school feeding program led to increased number of operational ECDE centers and hence increased enrolment rates
- Facilitated competence-based curriculum (CBC) by provision of instructional materials, new curriculum designs for both pre-primary one (1) and two (2); in addition to course books for both learners and teachers to 1057 ECDE centers
- Trained all ECDE teachers, ward and sub-County ECDE coordinators on CBC

Challenges

- Mushrooming ECDE centers without proper coordination, resulting from school feeding program.
- Poor infrastructure development and quality of education at some of the emerging ECDE centres, especially those not approved by County government.
- Limited budget allocation to effectively coordinate all ECDEs centres.
- County has only 20 coordinators to supervise the activities of about 1600 ECDE centres.

ii) Technical, Vocational Education and Training

VTC education designed to help people to join or rejoin the workforce, move into new career or gain additional skills in their existing career, focuses on providing skills for work. Some skills attained at VTCs have been applicable for the Ushanga initiative

Achievements

The department increased enrollment rates by:

- Construction of 6 model Vocational and Training Centres.
- Expansion and rehabilitation of existing 9 VTCs.
- Equipping and supplied all the 15 VTCs with modern training, tools, and equipment.
- Trained and recruited new VTCs' instructors and staff.
- Mainstreamed ICT in VTCs training programmes.
- Increased the enrolment of locals to 40%; a ratio of 50/50 for girls/boys.
- Sensitized women and girls to enroll in male dominated courses such as in carpentry, masonry, motor vehicle, and construction.
- County government support for excellent performance, through a graduate incubation program by providing start-up kits and linking graduates to village enterprises.
- Initiated training of riders and drivers in VTCs.
- Arrangements made to train the vulnerable within their localities, and Two hundred beneficiaries accessible to trainers and training tools are scheduled to sit for exams, through a collaborative venture between the county government and NITA.
- Provided boarding facilities for women learners who have run away from GBV and FGM
- Empowered women and girls - graduates are generating income by making school uniforms for their local community, and some are engaged in Civic education

Challenges

- The poor enrolment to VTCs.
- Vulnerable background of the locals.
- High level of drop outs due to retrogressive cultural practices, such as FGM and GBV.
- Lack of policy framework to mainstream gender at the VTCs. The developed act is awaiting approval approximately two years after its formulation

C. Water and Sanitation

The sector seeks to promote good governance in the protection, conservation and development of environment, water and natural resources for equitable and sustainable development. To achieve this, the department ensures that all the residents in the 20 wards of the county have access to clean and safe water.

Achievements

- Improved availability and access to clean water resources by drilling of boreholes and water pans; upgraded to solar power and rehabilitated some existing boreholes; in addition to managed springs, sand dams and surface water
- County government has aligned to requirements of the community Water Resources Users' Association (WRUA), to promote affirmative action and encourage participation of women at the decision-making level of the association
- The forest section established seedlings in Kamatira and Kapkoris County Forests; and also raised distributed seedlings to schools and farmers
- Conducted community trainings on climate change and conservation of forest and tree resources
- The department established an Orchards in communities and schools to reclaim degraded lands, bare lands and flood prone areas into vibrant economic development area

Challenges

- Limited funds to sustain water projects due to lack of revenue collection.
- Water committees have failed to effectively contribute to the projects due to political interference.
- Only 300 out of the 620 existing boreholes are functional due to poor management, resulting from communities' over reliance on county government to maintain water sources.
- Prevalence of water shortages, land degradation and water pollution.
- Poor sanitation due to poor toilet facilities and inadequate treatment system - 70% of the water sources in the county are contaminated by E. coli .
- Inadequate qualified personnel in the department .

D. Agriculture

West Pokot County is endowed with high agricultural potential for crops. The Pastoral Economy, Agriculture and Livestock department mandated to promote, regulate and facilitate livestock and fisheries technologies for socio-economic development and food security, accounts for 84 per cent of the county's economy. The sector further accounts for 60 per cent of the country's total employment making it a fundamental pillar for sustainable development. The sector's priorities and needs are addressed through establishment of irrigation infrastructure, promotion of traditional high value crops, post-harvest management (cold stores for onions and sensitization campaigns), fertilizer and seed subsidy, pest and disease surveillance and control

Achievements

Gender mainstreaming is considered as a cross cutting issue in all donor funded agricultural programs. The following achievements were made:

- Scaled up poverty graduation, and approved the county poverty graduation policy.
- Improved access to farm inputs, and consequently increased production by distributing certified maize seeds to all households through the Agricultural Inputs Access Project.
- The County, facilitated access to affordable and quality fertilizer through the Fertilizer Subsidy Programme.
- Procured land preparation equipment through the National Agricultural Mechanization Project, and provided subsidized services to needy farmers through the County Tractor Hire services.
- Promoted production of traditional high value crops and increased cash crops development (pyrethrum, coffee, cotton and tea) by supplying inputs and extension services to farmers.
- Production of horticultural crops (tissue culture Bananas, Mangoes, and Avocados) was enhanced by subsidizing seedling prices.
- Established plant clinics to tackle production problems ie pests and diseases.
- Constructed two irrigation schemes, rehabilitated one irrigation canal, and a number of furrow irrigation's; and in addition, trained farmers on application of irrigation.
- Reduced post-harvest losses through construction of Irish potato and onion cold storage facilities.

Challenges

- Inadequate resource allocation and delayed disbursement of allocated funds leading to late implementation of projects.
- Over reliance on rain fed agriculture, a critical issue in the wake of climate change.
- Unreliable markets and regular price fluctuations.
- Agricultural extension services have limited reach due to low level of extension agent to farmer ratio.
- Animal disease outbreaks, and dormant and underutilized livestock holding grounds.
- Inadequate mapping tools to map actual program beneficiaries.
- The county has failed to prioritize data management.
- Low adoption of technology.
- Inadequate credit facilities for farmers.
- Low recruitment of extension staff due to budget constraints.
- Post-harvest losses and high rate of environmental degradation.

E. Urban Planning

This sector maintains high standard of County development by developing appropriate planning tools, systems, and providing

support with accurate information on the County land ownership. It also seeks to facilitate efficient land administration and management, access to adequate and affordable housing, social and physical infrastructure for national development.

Achievements

- Empowerment of women by creation of job opportunities and prioritizing women for tenders, through partnership of county government and the world bank.
- improved the urban road network by opening up new access roads e.g. tarmac road in Ortum and Chepareria towns.
- constructed public pit latrines in different towns in the county.
- Implement provisions of the project donor on the need to incorporate women in provision of contracts, employment and in decision making committees eg out of the 15-member committee to register community land, 5 are women.
- Developed plans to enable proper and organized construction of buildings in towns.
- Improved access to local registration and issuance of land title deeds, especially in the West and South Pokot sub-counties.
- improved sanitation through procurement of garbage collection tracks/ bins.
- improved dump sites and sewerage systems. (60% complete in Chepararia).
- The County in partnership with the European Union-and FAO in partnership with County government, mapped natural resources and public utilities, and created maps for certain areas.
- Sensitized community on the provisions of the Community Land Act 2016.
- Established container market stall with 70 shops which is a source of employment and revenue to the county.
- Enhanced lighting and security in the county, through partnership with Kenya Power and Lighting Company to install street lights.
- 10 Year County Spatial Plan is being finalized.

Challenges

- Political interference on projects - incitement of communities to reject projects, especially within Kapenguria area.
- Lack of policy framework on succession has played a key part in violation of women's rights
- Increasing cases of land conflicts especially in areas like Pokot North and Central
- inadequate resources from the county to match the funding for some donor projects
- Poor mobility for staff
- inadequate staff in the physical planning unit ie few officers in survey section and no Geographical Information System (GIS) officer to roll out the county land system

F. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

The department of Finance and Economic Planning provides overall leadership and policy direction in resource mobilization, management and accountability for quality service delivery to all county citizens. Key to its core values is equity and equality, and the department has therefore adopted gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) as a strategy for promoting gender equality and inclusion. The department, in collaboration with sectoral working groups has developed guidelines for GRB, which are outlined in the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), Annual Development Plan (ADP) and sectoral reports. However, minimal funds are allocated to gender unit for to implement the gender agenda.

Achievements

- County government supported specific gender programs through matching funds
- Supported some gender responsive programs such as: County bursary fund; mentorship programme and the skill improvement programme under the office of the first lady,
- Improved enrolment of girls in schools through mentorship programme. Emphasis is made on importance of education, entrepreneurship and innovation,
- Through on social media, County government increased awareness creation on detrimental effects of alcoholism and drug abuse, FGM and child early and forced marriages.
- County government promoted and empowered vulnerable women within the county by distribution of sewing machines. This aimed to enhance uptake of vocational skills as well as increase enrolment to polytechnics.
- In empowering PWDs, the county partnered with Kijabe Hospital to provide assistive devices and support for corrective surgery especially for palate cleft.
- County created wealth and employment, and enhanced a saving culture by supporting different sectoral programs such as: distribution of certified maize seeds and seedlings for cash crop production; distribution of galla goats and Sahiwal bulls; poverty graduation programme; tree nurseries establishment; ushanga initiative and support for cooperative societies
- Implemented “Ondoa Nyazi Programme” to promote iron sheet roofed housing.

Challenges

- Limited resources and untimely disbursement of approved funds
- inadequate women representation in county budgeting and public participation forums
- Poor engagement of the public at ward level for public participation, especially during the covid-19 period.
- Lack of political good will and inadequate legal framework to support gender mainstreaming
- Retrogressive culture, such as FGM, early marriages and

GBV that lead to increased school drop-out for girls.

- Poor coordination between the County Executive Committee members (CECs) and technical staff impacting negatively on priority setting and budget allocation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I. Institutional Gender Governance Framework
 - i. County to conduct civic education to increase awareness on gender mainstreaming.
 - ii. Enforce existing institutional structures and target both women and men in the fight against retrogressive cultural practices such as FGM, GBV and early marriages.
 - iii. Enhance women’s visibility through empowerment programs and women rights sanitization meetings.
 - iv. Increase investment in the county cooperative fund, to support more women groups
 - v. Improve engagement of women and girls in county plans, policy making and in decision making.
 - vi. Enhance sensitization on government services such as Women Enterprise Fund (WEF), Uwezo fund and 30% procurement preference scheme - AGPO services.
 - vii. De-associate women empowerment programs from politics.
 - viii. County government to prioritize gender in their programs, not only when aligning to donor requirements on program implementation.
- II. Health
 - i) Improve community participation, reduce social cultural barriers and mitigate
 - ii) Need to improve access to quality health services in the County by expanding outreach
 - iii) Increase funding and recruit more staff.
- III. Education and Vocational Training
 - i) **ECDE**
 - i) County government should put more investment in ECDE centres, both financial and human resources.
 - ii) Embrace digital technology, especially in data management.
 - ii) **VTCs**
 - i) County to seek partnerships to supplement the education budget, and retain the vulnerable girls in the training centres
 - ii) Consider expansion of boarding facilities beyond GBV and FGM victims to cover all needy learners
 - iii) There is need to train county executives on Policy for resource allocation
 - iv) County government to mobilize more locals to enroll to VTCs, considering the increasing need for artisans and technicians in the county, especially with the up-coming industrial hub in Cheparari.

IV. Water and Sanitation

- i. County government should conduct civic education and sensitize the community to own community project eg management of community water sources.
- ii. Increase resource allocation to the sector, including human resources.
- iii. County to enhance its innovativeness in harnessing water resources.

V. Agriculture

- i) The County government to timely invest in agriculture to ensure sustainability
- ii) Consider and implement training of trainer's programs for lead young farmers
- iii) Investment in data management systems
- iv) Reduction of women farmers work load to create time for other recreational activities
- v) Investment in farmer-led research and value addition
- vi) The County to explore new markets for agricultural products

VI. Urban Planning

- i) Increase resources to the department, including recruitment of competent staff.
- ii) County to provide civic education and sensitization on land issues.
- iii) Politicians to disassociate politics from development issues.
- iv) The county should formulate relevant policy and legal frameworks, and finalize/ approve pending ones.

VII. Access to Finance and Revenue Collection / Tax Administration

- i) County government to conduct training and sanitization meetings to increase awareness, and implement the developed guidelines on gender responsive budgeting
- ii) Build capacity of CECs by engaging institutions such as ESAMI and Kenya School of Government (KSG)
- iii) County should adopt innovative ways to target women participation in public and decision-making forums.

H. Best Practice: The Ushanga Project

Ushanga Kenya initiative is a five-year project, being implemented in seven counties: Narok, Kajiado, Samburu, West Pokot, Turkana, Marsabit and Baringo. But West Pokot County. In particular, the Kiletat cooperative society took the lead in receiving the training;

and to them, the Ushanga initiative is the best evidence of investment towards empowerment of women and girls.

Generally, bead making is a cultural practice for women and girls in West Pokot County, however through the Ushanga initiative women were able to improve their skills from making traditional beads to modernize them, so as to attract international markets.

Investment in training and provision of tools through the county government in partnership with the national government played a critical role in improving the quality and quantity of products produced. After their initial training, members of the Kiletat cooperative society trained other members of their group as well as other women groups, who in turn have trained others, hence empowered majority of women and girls in the community. The value-added products are now gaining access to international markets easily; yielding good returns that will make the industry an economic powerhouse. The initiative has practically improved the livelihoods of families in the pastoralist communities. The women are now economically empowered, increased their visibility and can now secure their rightful place in the society

Despite not receiving all the modern tools and equipment like other groups, the Kiletat cooperative society, formerly just a women group is producing variety of bead products for international market. At the time of the visit, some of the members of the group were preparing to travel for the Dubai expo to show case and market the products. The women appreciate the efforts made by the county government in collaboration with national government to sponsor 4 women to the Dubai expo. More groups have benefited from tools and equipment provided through the county government for modern beads making, and have been linked to markets both locally and internationally.

The Kiletat, through County cooperative office qualified for the County Cooperative Development Fund Loans, to support the members' business. Only 30 members out of over 600 members of the group benefited from the Kenya Shillings one million loan. Investing more in the women will enhance their entrepreneurship hence livelihoods. The Kiletat cooperative society has grown from a small women group initiated in the late 1960s, and officially registered in 1970s to empower women and girls, and fight against vices such as early marriages, FGM and GBV. It has grown to over 600 members, drawn from all areas in the county, and was recently registered as a cooperative under the Cooperatives act.



Figure 7: Kilifi new born Unit

4.0. DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS AND TERMINOLOGIES IN THE REPORT

Access to and control over resources: Access to resources implies that women and men **are able to use and benefit** from specific resources (money, assets such as land, equipment, credit, information, time etc.). Control over resources implies that both men and women can **obtain access to a resource and also make decisions about the use of that resource**. For example, control over land means that women can access land (use it), own land (can be the legal titleholders) and make decisions about whether to sell or rent the land.

Baseline - It is a preparation exposure condition for the set of indicators that is used to access achievement of the outcomes and impact expressed in the programme's framework. It gives the entry level when compared to implementation (either mid-level or final level evaluation). The baseline forms the basis for a before and after assessment or 'a change over time' assessment. Without baseline data, it is difficult to measure the change that has occurred.

Gender mainstreaming: Gender mainstreaming has become the **Internationally acknowledged strategy to achieve gender equality** since the Fourth United Nations (UN) World Conference on Women that was held in 1995 in Beijing.³⁰

The **Council of Europe** describes gender mainstreaming as: "the (re)organisation, improvement, development and evaluation of policy processes so that a gender equality perspective is incorporated in all policies at all levels and at all stages by the actors normally involved in policymaking" (Council of Europe, 1998).

Another widely used definition of gender mainstreaming is by UN ECOSOC:

"Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of **assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action**, including legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels. It is a strategy for **making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension** of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality" (ECOSOC, 1997).

Gender sensitive approach: This is an approach that considers specificities of women's and men's experiences and needs. It requires paying attention to the different roles and responsibilities of women and girls, men and boys that are present in specific social, cultural, economic and political contexts. The approach is required if women are to be guaranteed universal human rights and to be free from discrimination.³¹

Gender blind approach: This is a contrast of the gender sensitive approach. It is the failure to recognize that the roles and responsibilities of women and girls, men and boys are assigned

to them. In a world where disadvantage or privilege is attached, a gender blind approach will not achieve substantive equality.³²

Indicator - It is an instrument that will give information on the numbers or what extent or size as a way of measurement.

Triple gender roles: The triple gender roles concept distinguishes between **productive, reproductive and community roles**. The **reproductive role** of women includes the care and maintenance of the actual and future workforce of the family (childbearing responsibilities and domestic tasks). The **productive role** relates to work performed by women and men for pay in cash or kind (market production, informal production, home production, subsistence production).

The **community-managing** role of women includes work mostly related to care and unpaid work, and provision of collective resources as water, healthcare, etc. The community-managing role of men is more often related to local politics. In most societies, women undertake all three roles, while men primarily undertake productive and community politics activities, which usually generate payment, status or power.³³

Practical needs and strategic interests of women and men

The **practical gender needs** (PGNs) of women (or men) are the needs that women (or men) identify in their socially accepted roles in society. **Practical gender needs do not change**, although they arise from, the **gender division of labour and women's subordinate position in society**. These needs are a response to immediate perceived necessity, identified within a specific context. They are practical in nature and often stem from inadequacies in living conditions such as energy provision, childcare facilities, healthcare and employment.³⁴

Strategic gender needs (SGNs)

It represents what women or men require in order to improve their position or status in regards to each other. They place people in greater control of themselves, instead of limiting them to the restrictions imposed by socially defined roles. They are long-term (i.e. they aim to improve positions). They also intend to remove restrictions and are less visible as they seek to change attitudes. Examples of addressing SGNs include actions such as giving rights to land, inheritance, credit and financial services, increasing participation of women in decision-making, creating equal opportunities to employment (equal pay for equal work) and improving social systems.

Gender Indicators - Are indicators that give information on gender issues. Are used primarily for purposes of monitoring implementation and to evaluate gender issues.

³⁰ The Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action available at https://www.un.org/en/events/pdf/Beijing_declaration_and_Platform_for_Action.pdf

³¹ Training Manual for Judges and Prosecutors on ensuring Women's access to justice, September 2017 by Partnership for Good Governance European Union available www.rm.coe.int/training-women-access-to-justice/16808d78c5

³² Ibid

³³ Adopted from <http://eige.europa.eu/rdc/thesaurus/terms/1442>

³⁴ Adopted from: <http://eige.europa.eu/rdc/thesaurus/terms/1323>; Strategic gender needs are often called strategic gender interests.

Gender Sensitive Indicators - Are indicators – focuses on other issues of relationship between men and women. It includes gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex. Gender sensitive indicators do not specifically address gender issues per se but are written in a way that does not invisibilize women.

Gender equality and equity: Gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for women and men, girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that the women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on their sex. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality also means that women and men are of equal worth and are equally protected in law and practice. Gender equality is not a woman's issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women.

Quantitative Indicators - Are defined as measures of quantity such as the number of women involved in any of the development activities, number of women trained or accessing services in comparison to men.

Qualitative Data - Is quoted as being objective and quantify experiences as compared to quantitative.

Qualitative Indicators - Are defined as people's judgements and perceptions on a subject such as improvement, confidence, better situations, increased access to services and opportunities. Quantitative Data are said to be more subjective. Qualitative data normally seeks to uncover the context, perceptions and quality of, as well as opinion about a particular experience or condition as its beneficiaries view it. It specially measures the impact of any program, policy etc.



Figure 8: Vegetables inside a coolant in the newly constructed Wajir Market



Figure 9: Water project by the County Government of Marsabit

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Figure 9: Interview session in one of the resettlement projects in Mandera



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