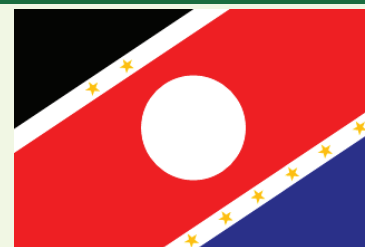


## Children, Youth and Women Sensitive Planning and Budgeting in Kenya: Kiambu County Brief, 2014/15-2017/18



County Government of Kiambu

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BRIEF

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

- a) **An estimated 40 per cent of the Gross County Product (GCP)<sup>1</sup> of Kiambu, which was the third largest (5.5% contribution to GDP) of all the 47 counties in Kenya, came from the services sector.** The county should continue creating an enabling business environment to attract more investments in the services, manufacturing, industry and agricultural sectors, and invest in enhancing of farmers' capacities in modern agricultural methods, extension services, agribusiness and research.
- b) **The county's own source revenue increased from Ksh 2.1 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.5 billion in 2015/16 before declining to 1.7 billion in 2017/18 while the equitable share transfer increased from Ksh 6.6 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 9.7 billion in 2017/18.** However, as a share of total revenue, the county's own source revenue declined from 23.8 per cent in 2014/15 to 12.5 per cent in 2017/18. To improve the share of its own source revenue, the county should strengthen measures for tax collection and management.
- c) **Maternal and child health outcomes improved, with most of the indicators surpassing the national averages.** For instance, the number of women who had access to skilled delivery increased from 98.8 per cent in 2014 to 122.1 per cent in 2018. This is largely because of introduction of free maternity services in 2013. Moreover, the share of fully immunized children in the county improved from 92.9 per cent in 2014 to 109.3 per cent in 2018. The county is encouraged to continue investing in child and maternal health care for sustained positive health outcomes.
- d) **The budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased from Ksh 0.8 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 1.5 billion in 2017/18.** Partly because of increased spending on ECDE, gross ECDE enrolment rate in the county went up from 71.2 per cent in 2014 to 92.9 per cent in 2018. Looking forward, the challenge for the county is to ensure equitable distribution and effective utilization of available resources. In addition, the county should ring-fence ECDE resources<sup>2</sup> so that they are not used for other purposes, such as for secondary and higher education bursaries.
- e) **Total spending in water and sanitation improved from Ksh 0.3 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.43 billion in 2017/18.** Non-revenue water improved by 6 per cent, implying a significant reduction in water losses while sewerage coverage improved by 12 per cent. However, the county needs to invest more in the sector's infrastructure to gain from the water utility revenue that will enhance water service delivery and in meeting operations and maintenance costs.
- f) **The county's child protection, youth and women budget allocation as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period averaged 2.7 per cent. Spending on the sector was, on average, Ksh 0.3 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, with no allocations made in 2017/18.** This was an under-investment given that this segment of the population is the most vulnerable and hence the need to prioritize the sector in future allocations.
- g) **The county spending on nutrition (direct nutrition interventions) in nominal terms increased from Ksh 26 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 126 million in 2017/18.** The nutrition indicators were generally better than national averages, according to 2014 data. The proportion of stunted children was estimated at 16 per cent, wasted children proportion at 2 per cent and underweight children share at 5 per cent against the national averages of 26 per cent,

4 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively. There is need for the county to continue financing the nutrition budget and establish a specific budget line for nutrition support initiatives.

- h) The budget execution rate for the nutrition sector were relatively low compared to other sectors. On average, the absorption rate was 50 per cent for the review period compared to water and sanitation, health and ECDE, which had a 100 per cent in 2017/18.** The low budget execution rate was partly because approved budgets were not released in time by the National Treasury, and weak procurement and cash flow planning by the county. To improve budget utilization rates, there is need for the National Treasury to adhere to disbursement schedules by releasing resources on time. On its part, the county should strengthen procurement systems and improve cash flow forecasting.
- i) Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditure reports, it was not possible to establish how much of the county government budget was spent on crucial social services such as child protection, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming.** By having standalone budget lines on the above, the county is better placed to effectively deliver the above-mentioned services, especially to women and girls. On child protection, for example, the county recorded an increase in number of reported cases of child emotional abuse from 4 in 2014 to 13 cases in 2018, yet there is no specific budget line for this.

## 1. COUNTY OVERVIEW

**Kiambu** occupies a land area of approximately 2,544 km<sup>2</sup> and is divided into 12 sub-counties and 60 wards. The county's population was 2,417,735 in 2019, which is 4.2 per cent of the national population. The total county population constituted of 1.19 million males, 1.23 million females and 135 intersex persons.

**In 2015/16, the overall poverty rate of the county was 23.0 per cent with 3.1 per cent living in extreme poverty, which was better than the overall national rates of 36.1 and 8.6 per cent, respectively.** Among children, about one in every three children were affected by monetary poverty or lack of financial means<sup>3</sup>. 21.2 per cent of youth and 14.0 per cent of women were also affected by monetary poverty. In addition, 9.4 per cent of children were living in multidimensional poverty that is, being deprived in multiple dimensions including, nutrition, health care, education, housing and drinking water,<sup>4</sup> while youth and women recorded 15.5 per cent and 18.9 per cent, respectively. Levels of monetary and multidimensional poverty remained lower than national averages for children, youth and women. The county, therefore, has an opportunity to tap into the productive and innovative potential of its future workforce, the young people, by targeting planning and budgeting processes. By targeting the group, more so children, the county will thus initiate a fast and sustainable growth trajectory (Table 1).

## 2. STATE OF COUNTY ECONOMY

**Table 1: Kiambu county administrative, poverty and demographic profile**

Administrative Profile							Latest Available
Area (km <sup>2</sup> )							2,544
Number of sub-counties							12
Number of wards							60
Overall poverty (%)							23.0
Extreme poverty (%)							3.1
Population (2019)							2,417,735
Group	Children	National Children	Youths	National Youths	Wo/men	National Wo/men	
Monetary Poor							
Male (%)	26.9	42.1	23.6	29.1	18.0	30.5	
Female (%)	30.9	41.0	19.0	28.8	14.0	34.1	
Total (%)	28.8	41.6	21.2	28.9	16.0	32.4	
Population	700,067	20,742,290	628,104	13,443,268	414,451	7,847,350	
Multidimensionally Poor							
Male (%)	9.3	49.3	12.4	44.7	20.2	51.0	
Female (%)	9.6	47.1	18.4	49.4	17.5	60.8	
Total (%)	9.4	48.2	15.5	47.1	18.9	56.1	
Population	700,067	20,742,290	628,104	13,443,268	414,451	7,847,350	

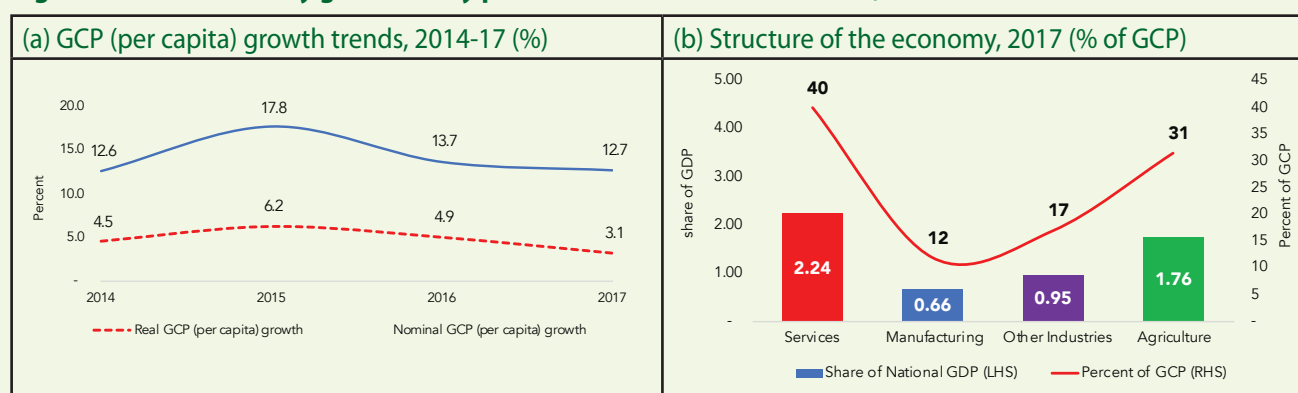
Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2018)

## 2.1 Gross County Product Growth

**Kiambu county accounted for 5.5 per cent of the national GDP in 2017.** The Gross County Product (GCP) per capita was 4.5 per cent in 2014 and rose to 6.2 per cent in 2015, before declining to 4.9 per cent in 2016 and further declining to 3.1 per cent in 2017 (Figure 1a). The most significant downturn was largely due to the prolonged electioneering period.

**The economy remained reliant on the services sector that accounted for 40 per cent of the GCP and 2.2 per cent of the national GDP.** This was followed by agriculture that accounted for 31 per cent of GCP and 1.8 per cent of the national GDP. Other industries including agro-based industries (including mining and quarrying, electricity supply, water supply and waste collection), and manufacturing sub-sectors contributed 17 per cent and 12 per cent to the GCP, respectively. These sub-sectors are important drivers of job creation for young workers and women. This, therefore, calls for the need to improve the performance of manufacturing, services and other industries, and the agriculture sectors within the county. To increase agricultural productivity and the participation of women and youth within the sector, the county should put in place mechanisms to reduce the cost of farming, enhance the marketing of agricultural produce and promote value chains. This can be done through developing infrastructure and enhancing farmers' capacities in modern agricultural methods, extension services, agribusiness and research. The county should also seek to attract more investment in the manufacturing and industry sector, for a balanced economy. This can be done through collaboration with different sub-sectors, especially the private sector.

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

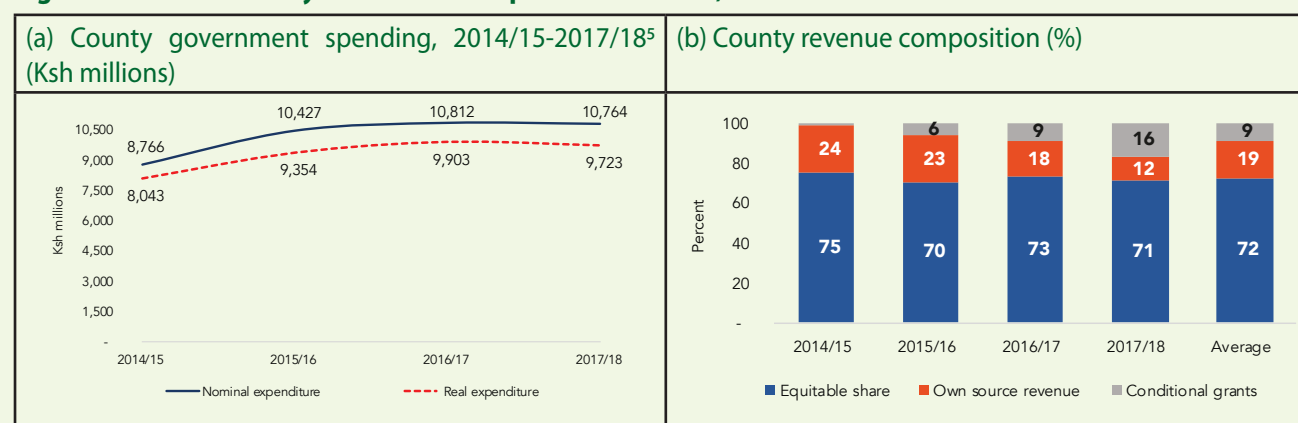


Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019), Economic Survey

## 2.2 Overall Budget Performance

The county government annual spending in real terms grew from Ksh 8.04 billion to Ksh 9.9 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, before a moderate cut of Ksh 0.2 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 2a). The spending was heavily dependent on national government transfers that accounted for 72.3 per cent. In nominal terms, own source revenue increased from Ksh 2.1 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.5 billion in 2015/16 before declining to 1.7 billion in 2017/18 while the equitable share transfer increased from Ksh 6.6 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 9.7 billion in 2017/18. The burden of the drop in the county government spending predominantly affects social sector spending, which is recurrent in nature. The contribution of own source revenue and conditional grants was, on average, 27.7 per cent (Figure 2b). There is need for enhanced fiscal efforts to accelerate revenue mobilization from both local revenue and conditional grants.

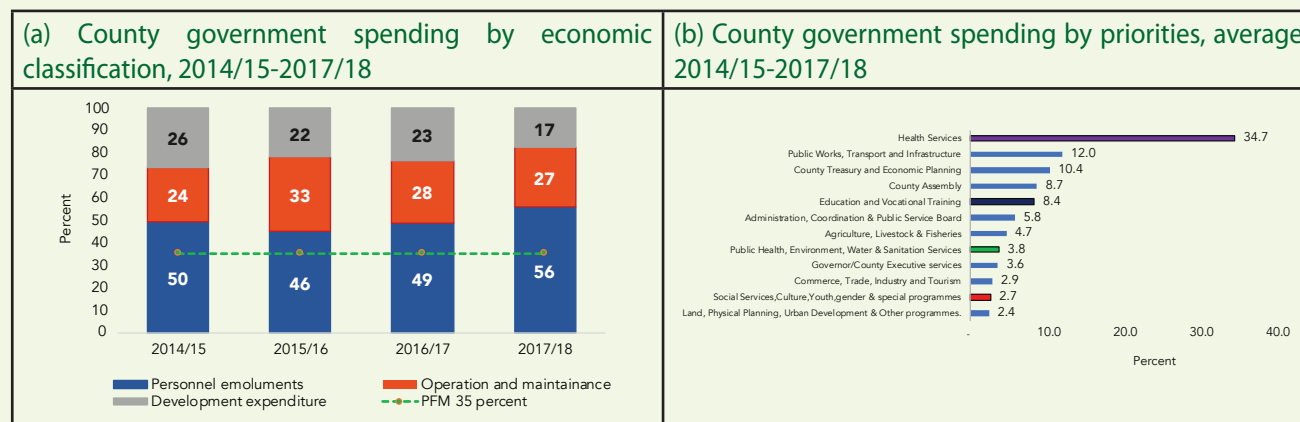
**Figure 2: Kiambu County revenue and expenditure trends, 2014-2017**



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

The share of actual development budget declined from 26 per cent in 2014/15 to 17 per cent in 2017/18. The recurrent expenditure, constituting of personnel emoluments and operation and maintenance costs, accounted for about 78 per cent of the county government spending throughout the period. Wages alone accounted for about 50 per cent of all the county government spending (Figure 3a).

**Figure 3: Kiambu County spending priorities by economic and administrative classification, 2014-17**



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

This indicates that the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act 2012 provision that ceils development spending at a minimum of 30 per cent of the total budget, and the Regulations 2015 which require that not more than 35 per cent of the county's total revenue should go to payment of wages and salaries was not met.

The county spent over 54.7 per cent of the total expenditure during the period under review on health, education, agriculture, nutrition, social protection, youth, gender, water and sanitation (Figure 3b). These sectors are regarded as being more sensitive to the needs of children, youth and women. The effect of this expenditure on the various programmes and activities varies across sectors.

### 3. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL SECTOR SPENDING

#### 3.1 Health

##### 3.1.1 Health sector priorities

During the period under review, the county outlined key priorities that targeted children, youth, women and persons with disability. During this period, the sector's priorities included: construction of level 4 hospitals in every sub-county; upgrading of existing dispensaries into level 3 hospitals; reducing by half neonatal and maternal deaths; reducing by 25 per

**Table 2: Kiambu county selected health sector performance indicators**

Selected Health Indicators	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	County	National	County	National	County	National	County	National	County	National
U5MR (death per 1,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	58.0	79.0	-	-	-	-
MMR (death per 100,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	230.0	495.0	-	-	-	-
Skilled birth attendant coverage (%) (source: DHIS2)	98.8	53.5	86.0	56.9	105.4	59.3	104.3	53.0	122.1	64.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least one ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	107.4	76.4	92.1	75.4	108.7	76.9	116.1	73.7	129.0	81.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least four ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	64.3	35.9	56.6	39.7	59.5	39.8	55.1	32.6	77.5	48.7
Proportion of children under one year who are fully immunized (%) (Source: DHIS2)	92.9	70.2	85.4	75.7	95.2	72.4	102.0	65.9	109.3	77.0
DPT/Hep+HiB3 dropout rate (%) (Source: DHIS2)	6.9	6.8	5.2	7.2	4.7	6.6	5.8	10.1	5.4	4.0
Still Birth Rate (Source : DHIS2)	18.3	29.3	16.4	22.6	16.9	21.5	16.8	22.6	17.9	20.4

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

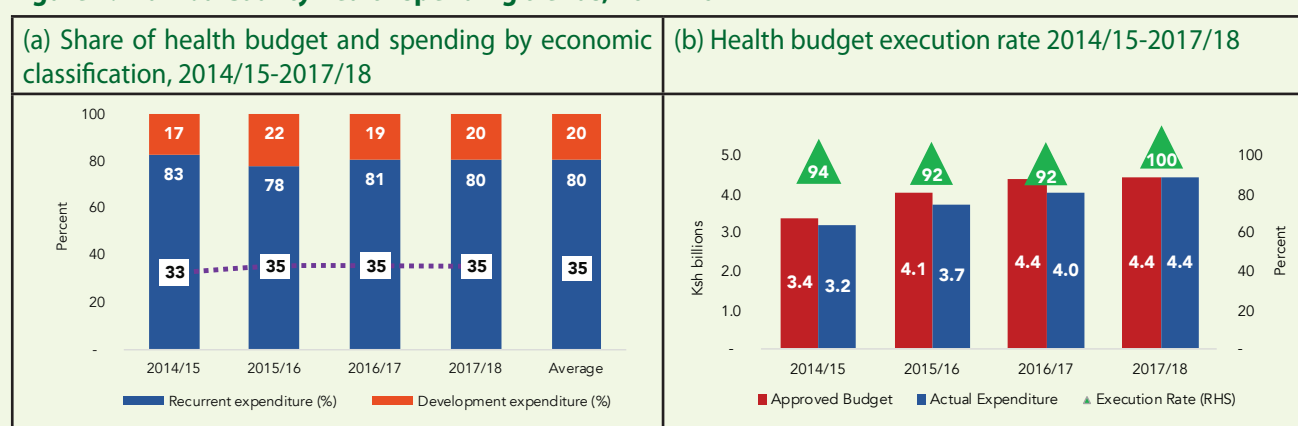
cent the time spent by persons in ill health; improve by 50 per cent the levels of client satisfaction with services; improving the quality of health services in existing facilities through equipping; and improvement of human resource base.

The number of women who had access to skilled delivery increased from 98.8 per cent in 2014 to 122.1 per cent in 2018 due to introduction of free maternity services in 2013. The proportion of children who were fully immunized improved during the review period, surpassing the national average. The share of fully immunized children in the county improved from 92.9 per cent in 2014 to 109.3 per cent in 2018. Infant mortality and under 5 mortality rates were estimated at 58 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016, being better than the national average of 79 deaths per 1,000 live births.

### 3.1.2 Health Budget and Expenditure

**The share of the health budget in the total county budget allocation was, on average, 35 per cent over the review period.** Health actual expenditure expanded from about Ksh 3.2 billion to Ksh 4.4 billion. Spending on health comprised of, on average, 80 per cent recurrent expenditure and 20 per cent development expenditure (Figure 4a). The absorption rates decreased from 94 per cent in 2014/15 to 92 per cent in 2015/16 and 2016/17 before improving to 100 per cent in 2017/18.

**Figure 4: Kiambu County health spending trends, 2014-2017**



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

### 3.1.3 Health sector medium term expectations

The county aims to continue investing in health, especially in child and maternal health by prioritizing quality health infrastructure and human resources in all sub-counties. The county also aims to prioritize investments in reproductive health information especially for the youth and undertake awareness campaigns on the importance of reproductive health practices. It also aims to continue investing in provision of quality health services by employing more health service providers, constructing more health facilities and equipping them.

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

## 3.2 Education and Vocational Training

### 3.2.1 Education sector priorities

**County governments are responsible for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) and youth polytechnics, which are part of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as per Schedule IV of the Constitution of Kenya.** During the plan period 2013-2017, the focus of the county education sector was to enhance quality and access to ECDE, youth polytechnics and the bursary award programme for secondary, TVET and tertiary education.

**Gross ECDE enrolment rate increased from 71.2 per cent in 2014 to 92.9 per cent in 2018 while net enrolment rate (NER) increased from 71.2 per cent to 72.5 per cent during the same period.** GER was slightly lower than the national average of 94.4 per cent while NER was above the national average of 63.5 per cent, indicating that more children joined ECDE than before, with the implementation of devolution. More girls enrolled in ECDE than boys in Kiambu County in 2014.

**Gross primary and secondary enrolment rates were 109.2 per cent and 75.3 per cent in 2018, respectively. Net enrolment rate (NER) decreased from 99.7 per cent to 91.3 per cent for primary school and decreased from 69.3 per cent to 60.5 per cent for secondary school during the same period.** There was inequality in access to education between

male and female school-going children in favour of girls at primary school level of education and vice versa at secondary school level as shown in Table 3. In 2017, there were 32 accredited vocational centres in the county, enrolling 4,040 learners.

### 3.2.2 Basic Education budget and expenditure

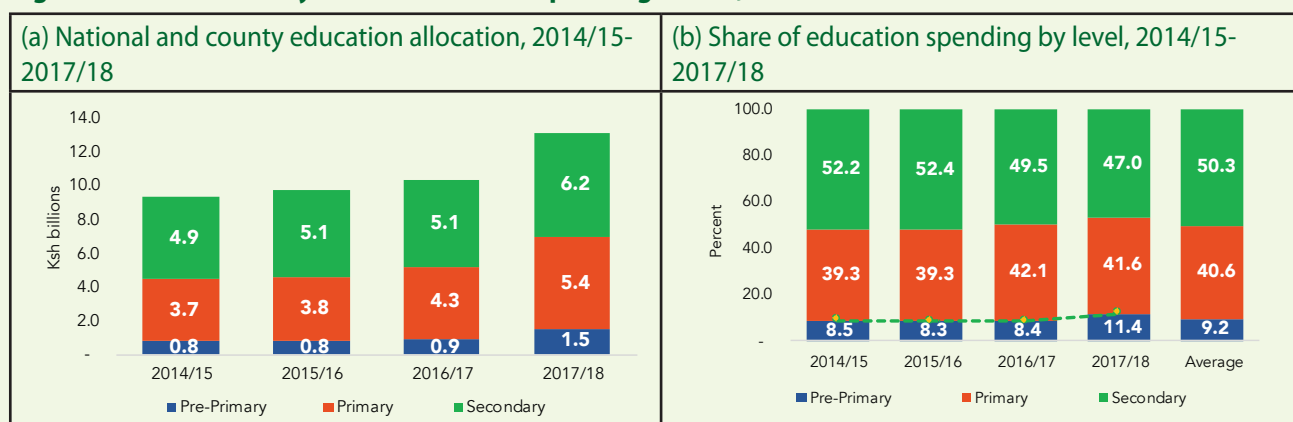
**Table 3: Kiambu County selected education sector performance indicators**

Pre-primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	71.2	73.6	92.9	94.4
Net enrolment ratio (%)	71.2	71.8	72.5	63.5
Male (%)	70.2	73.4	79.2	62.5
Female (%)	72.2	70.2	63.5	65.0
School size (Public) (Pupils) (Average)	65.0	75.0	57.0	85.0
Gender parity index (value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (Public)	19.8	31.0	24.0	31.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	62.7	31.5	65.0	33.0
Primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	109.6	104.0	109.2	107.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	99.7	88.0	91.3	82.4
Male (%)	96.0	86.0	88.6	81.7
Female (%)	103.4	90.0	94.4	83.0
School size (Public) Average No. of pupils	345.0	338.0	482.0	375.0
Gender parity index (Value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.)	38.0	42.0	34.0	40.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	31.0	16.0	29.0	16.0
Secondary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	86.4	58.7	75.3	66.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	69.3	47.4	60.5	37.5
Male (%)	75.6	49.6	62.5	35.4
Female (%)	63.0	45.2	58.7	39.8
School size (Public)	-	-	465.2	392.0
Gender parity index (value)	1.0	0.9	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC)	25.0	30.0	25.0	32.0
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC and BOM)	20.5	20.2	20.0	20.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	19.7	30.7	8.2	5.8

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

The ECDE budget allocation increased from Ksh 0.8 billion in 2014/15 and 2015/16 to Ksh 1.5 billion in 2017/18. Allocations to primary school education increased from Ksh 3.7 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 5.4 billion in 2017/18 while allocations to secondary school increased from Ksh 4.9 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 6.2 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 5a). Allocation to ECDE as a share of total spending on basic education decreased from 8.5 per cent in 2014/15 to 8.3 per cent in 2015/16 before increasing to 11.4 per cent in 2017/18 (Figure 5b).

**Figure 5: Kiambu County overall education spending trends, 2014/15-2017/18**

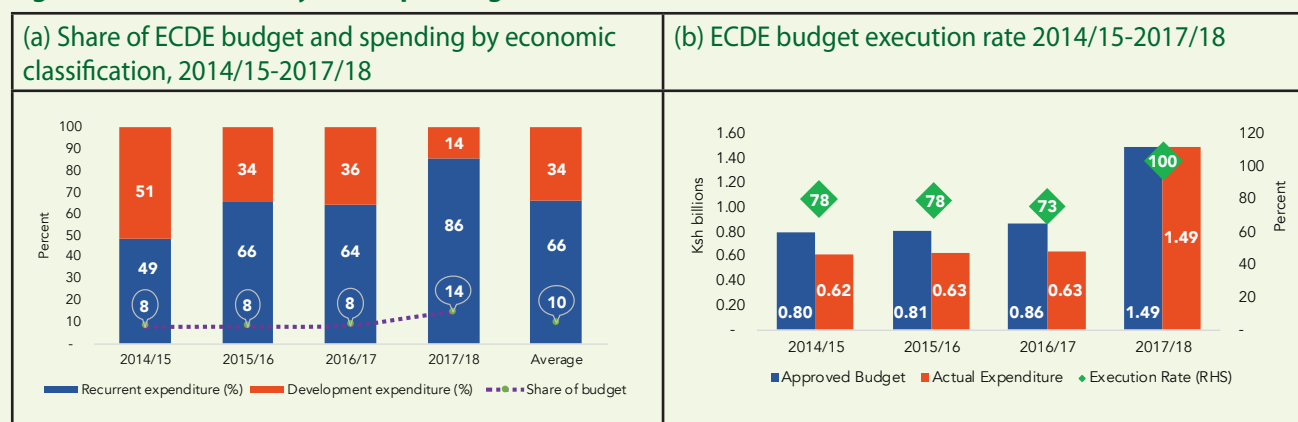


Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS

The share of ECDE budget in the total county budget allocation increased from 8 per cent in 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 before increasing to 14 per cent in 2017/18. Total spending on ECDE increased from Ksh 0.62 billion in 2014/15

to Ksh 1.49 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 6b). Spending comprised of, on average, 34 per cent development expenditure and 66 per cent recurrent expenditure during the period (Figure 6a). The absorption rates decreased from 78 per cent in 2014/15 and 2015/16 to 73 per cent in 2016/17 before increasing to 100 per cent in 2017/18.

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



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

### 3.2.3 Education sector medium term expectations

The county government with support from stakeholders aims to continue investing in early childhood development and vocational learning through learning infrastructural development; employment of ECDE teachers and vocational instructors; provision of sanitation facilities; subsidizing vocational learning; provision of instructional/training materials to vocational centres and ECDE centres; increasing bursary allocation; and enhanced school feeding programme for ECDE and primary school level. To achieve these objectives, the county will need to partner with the national government, development partners and the private sector to enhance ECDE and vocational training through infrastructural development, and equipping both ECDE and vocational training centres.

## 3.3 Water and Sanitation

### 3.3.1 Water and sanitation priorities

**The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) outlined key priorities for both the water and sanitation sub-sectors.** The sector prioritized to: improve access to clean and safe water for domestic use by 40 per cent; develop and protect springs and wells; train residents on water harvesting technologies and management; improvement of disposal of waste in urban centres through the development of a sewerage system; construction of mega water projects in the county; and harmonization of water resources and services.

**Access to improved water and sanitation was 93 per cent and 90 per cent in 2018, respectively.** The population within the service area of a water utility (company) increased by 1 per between 2014 and 2018 while sewerage coverage improved by 12 per cent in the same period. The proportion of population covered or served by the utility improved from 55 per cent in 2014 to 77 per cent in 2018. The sector experienced the problem of non-revenue water,<sup>6</sup> which was about 31 per cent in 2018, an improvement from 37 per cent in 2014. High non-revenue water denies the water utility revenue to enhance water service delivery and in meeting water operations and maintenance costs.

**Table 4: Kiambu County selected WASH sector performance indicators**

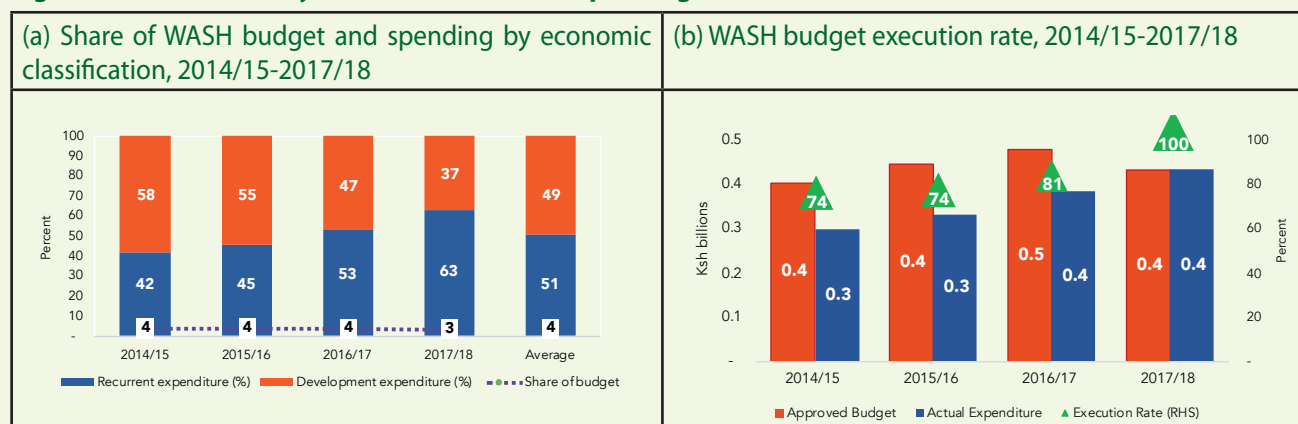
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
County population within service areas of WSPs (%)	82	*	83	*
Water coverage by utilities (%)	55	53	77	*
Non-revenue water (NRW) (%)	37	42	31	*
Sanitation coverage within utility area (%)	83	69	-	*
Sewerage coverage (%)	4	*	16	*
Access to improved water (%)	93	*	93	*
Access to improved sanitation (%)	90	*	90	59
No toilet facility – Potential open defecation county-wide (%)	0	*	0	8

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

### 3.3.2 Water and sanitation budget and expenditure

**Water and sanitation received about Ksh 0.44 billion, which translates to an average 4 per cent of the total county budget.** The actual spending increased from Ksh 0.3 billion to Ksh 0.43 billion in 2017/18. The spending comprised of 49 per cent development and 51 per cent recurrent spending (Figure 7a). While the approved budget increased from Ksh 0.4 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.48 billion in 2016/17 before declining to 0.43 in 2017/18, the absorption rate increased from 74 per cent in 2014/15 to 100 per cent in 2017/18, respectively.

**Figure 7: Kiambu County water and sanitation spending trends, 2014-17**



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

### 3.3.3 Water and sanitation medium term expectations

In the plan period of 2018-2022 the county aims to; realize universal access to adequate, affordable, safe water and sanitation services in the county; restore catchment areas and water sources through Integrated Water Resource Management; development of a water policy and management; and improve water supply infrastructure.

## 3.4 Child Protection, Youth and Women

### 3.4.1 Child protection, youth and women priorities

**The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2013-2017 highlighted key priorities for the sector.** For women, the county would provide the Women Enterprise Fund to benefit women groups and to provide cash transfers to women aged 65 and above. For the special groups, the county prioritized to improve care and support for special groups by upscaling cash transfer programmes to orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) and persons with disabilities (PWDs); establishing special schools; enhancing PWDs' access to buildings, and ensuring proper representation of special groups in leadership and policy making. Moreover, the county aimed to reduce unemployment levels among the youths by developing the youth capacity on entrepreneurship, leadership and management; providing credit to the youth; constructing youth resource and recreational facilities; introducing drugs and substance abuse programmes in school's curriculum; and rehabilitating drug addicts.

**Table 5: Kiambu County selected child protection performance indicators**

Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Child Neglect and Abandonment	66	767	-	73245
Child Sexual Abuse	41	636	-	172
Child Trafficking, Abduction and Kidnapping	2	32	-	1022
Child Labour	8	168	-	378
Child Emotional Abuse	4	58	13	853
Child Physical Abuse	45	583	-	2031
Female Genital Mutilation	-	9	-	40

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

**Specifically, on child protection, the county recorded 66 reported cases of child neglect and abandonment in 2014. However, there were no records in 2018.** Similarly, child sexual abuse recorded 41 cases while 45 cases of child physical abuse were reported in 2014. Cases of child emotional abuse increased from 4 to 13 between 2014 and 2018.

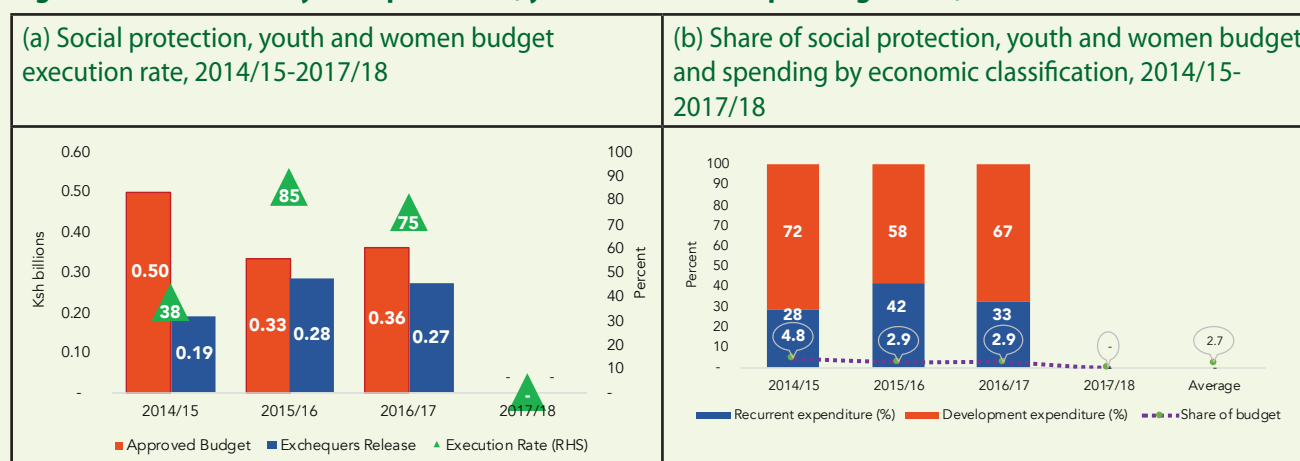


**The county had no records for cases of FGM.** The non-reporting of female genital mutilation (FGM) to government institutions can be attributed to either the intensive campaigns and initiatives to protect the girl child, or fear by the population to report such cases, and a culture that approves such practices.

### 3.4.2 Child protection, youth and women budget and expenditure

**The sector's budget allocation as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period averaged 2.7 per cent.** Spending on the sector was, on average, Ksh 0.3 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, with no allocations made in 2017/18, and constituted 34 per cent recurrent and 66 per cent development expenditure. The share of recurrent expenditure was highest in 2015/16, representing 42 per cent of total expenditure and lowest in 2014/15, accounting for 28 per cent of total expenditure (Figure 8b). The absorption rates increased from 38 per cent in 2014/15 to 85 per cent in 2015/16 before declining to 75 per cent in 2016/17 (Figure 8a).

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



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

### 3.4.3 Child protection, youth and women medium term expectations

Between the plan period 2018 and 2022, the county aims to provide assistive devices and donations to persons with disability (PWDs) and train them in skills; develop capacity building programmes for women/youth/PWDs, community leaders, and marginalized groups; reduce cases of gender violence by setting up a gender-based violence (GBV) empowerment fund, construct and equip GBV rescue centres, and hold GBV sensitization forums; enhance the empowerment of women, youth and PWDs by assisting them access government procurement opportunities; develop culture gender and social development bill and sex gender-based violence bill; promote Kenyan music and dance; revamp film and art as a source of economic development; develop a sector plan; and set up a social welfare fund.

## 3.5 Nutrition

### 3.5.1 Nutrition priorities

**The CIDP 2013-2017 outlined key areas of focus in the nutrition sector.** The county sought to undertake promotion of nutrition education and improve nutritional status of households to eliminate malnutrition cases.

**For children, county nutrition indicators were generally better than national averages, according to 2014 data.** Stunting stood at 16 per cent of the population while wasting and underweight children stood at 2 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively (Table 6). Furthermore, while the proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt in the county attained the target proportion of 100 per cent, Vitamin A supplementation among children aged 6 to 59 months is very low when compared to the target proportion of 80 per cent and one per cent below the national coverage of 24 per cent in 2014.

**The proportion of overweight or obese women in the county was 46 per cent, higher than the national average of 28.9 per cent.** The average Body Mass Index (BMI) of women in the county was 25.

### 3.5.2 Nutrition budget and expenditure

**The county spending on nutrition (direct nutrition interventions) in nominal terms was Ksh 26million in 2014/15, and by 2017/18, the allocation increased to Ksh 126 million.** The absorption rate was 50 per cent across the review period.

**Table 6: Selected nutrition performance indicators**

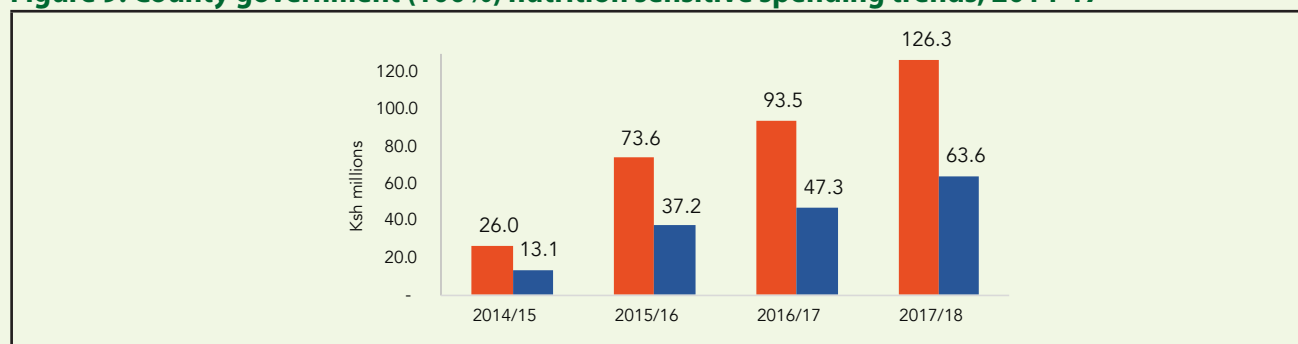
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National
Stunted children (%)	15.7	26.0
Wasted children (%)	2.3	4.0
Underweight children (%)	5.1	11.0
Vitamin A supplements coverage	23.3	24.0
Proportion of children aged 6 to 59 months- Received Vitamin A supplement	81.3	71.4
Proportion of children consuming adequately iodized salt.	100.0	99.1
Proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt.	100.0	99.2
" Household salt iodization (50 – 80 mg/Kg KIO3) (% samples) "	54.0	57.0
Number of Women (BMI)	25.4	23.2
Overweight or obesity among women aged 15 to 49 years.	45.7	28.9

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

### 3.5.3 Nutrition medium term expectations

In the period 2018-2022, the county plans to improve nutritional services by accelerating service delivery and equipping 535 health facilities; conduct 20 nutritional outreaches; improve the nutritional status of children under five years by attaining targets of 1.3 per cent of wasted, 2.6 per cent stunted, 1.5 per cent of underweight, and 80 per cent weighed children by 2022; and attain 92 per cent of children supplied with supplements. To realize the objective, the county will be required to increase the absorption rate of nutrition sensitive spending, which has been constant.

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



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

### 3.6 Other Initiatives for Special Interest Groups

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

**a) AGPO**

The county promotes the implementation of Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) programme by undertaking trainings for women groups on AGPO by sector.

**b) Children**

The county carried out advocacy on breast feeding; food and nutrition; personal hygiene; and children rights. Moreover, the county employed 1200 ECDE caregivers; procured and distributed teaching and learning materials for ECDE centres; constructed and renovated ECDE centres; and introduced free school feeding programme for ECDE children, thus improving their health.

**c) Youth**

The county made efforts to improve vocational training by recruiting and absorbing 64 instructors and 14 new ones; procured and distributed tools and equipment for VTCs; constructed workshops/classrooms for VTCs; and disbursed bursaries worth Ksh 267,129 to 132,204 students. Besides, the county also procured and distributed sanitary towels to 3,377 pupils in 53 primary schools; 3,502 students in 38 secondary schools and 2346 trainees in 31 VTCs; and provided *Jijenge fund* for the youth.

**d) Women**

The county established the Kiambu Biashara Fund that targeted not only PWDs and youth but also women and benefitted 100 individual farmers. Moreover, women groups were among the beneficiaries of the 160 water tanks distributed by the county.

**e) PWDs**

The county mainstreamed disability issues in the county governance structure and established special needs centres, procured and distributed assistive devices worth Ksh 4 million, and the county won the gender and disability award for four years in a row.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY

There are areas for policy intervention which would improve child, youth, and women sensitive planning, budgeting and service delivery in Kiambu County:

- Economic restructuring towards a balanced economy for agriculture, manufacturing and services. This will ensure that opportunities are spread across all areas of specialization.
- Increase share of development expenditure through rationalization of recurrent expenditure. Improve on own source revenue and enhance absorption of budget.
- Increase and sustain budget allocation for children, youth and women. Higher productivity is achievable through economic dividends that accrue when these categories of the population are empowered while reducing the dependency burden.
- The allocation and absorption levels for health, education, nutrition, social protection, water and sanitation should be increased, integrated and clearly demarcated. This will ensure that the county attains economic growth accompanied with social inclusion. A summary of implications for policy and responsible actors is presented in Table 7.

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**Table 7: Recommendations and responsible actors**

Sector	Finding	Recommendation	Responsibility
Gross County Product	An estimated 40 per cent of the Gross County Product (GCP) of Kiambu, which was the third largest (5.5% contribution to GDP) of all the 47 counties in Kenya, came from the service sector as of 2017.	The county should continue creating an enabling business environment to attract more investments in the services, manufacturing, industry and agricultural sectors, and investing in enhancing farmers' capacities in modern agricultural methods, extension services, agribusiness and research.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Executive/Department of Trade and Industry Department of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries
Revenue	The county's own source revenue increased from Ksh 2.1 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 2.5 billion in 2015/16 before declining to Ksh 1.7 billion in 2017/18 while the equitable share transfer increased from Ksh 6.6 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 9.7 billion in 2017/18.	To improve the share of its own source revenue, the county should strengthen measures for tax collection and management.	County Treasury and Planning/ Directorate of Revenue
Expenditures	The budget execution rates for the nutrition sector were relatively low compared to other sectors. On average, the absorption rate was at 50 per cent for the review period compared to water and sanitation, health and ECDE that had a 100% in 2017/18.	To improve budget utilization rates, there is need for the National Treasury to adhere to disbursement schedules by releasing resources on time. On its part, the county should strengthen procurement systems and improve cash flow forecasting.	All sectors/County Treasury and Planning/County Executive
Health	Maternal and child health outcomes improved, with most of the indicators surpassing the national averages.	The county is encouraged to continue investing in child and maternal health care for sustained positive health outcomes.	County Treasury and Planning / County Department of Health
Education	The budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased from Ksh 0.8 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 1.5 billion in 2017/18.  There is inequality in access of education among boys at ECDE and primary school level and for girls at secondary school level of education.	Looking forward, the challenge for the county is to ensure equitable distribution and effective utilization of available resources. In addition, the county should ring-fence ECDE resources so that they are not used for other purposes, such as for secondary and higher education bursaries.  There is need to do more advocacy on child education and retention at all levels of education.  Campaigns are needed to ensure equality in education access.	County Treasury and Planning/County Department of Education/Children's department
WASH	Total spending in water and sanitation improved from Ksh 0.3 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.43 billion in 2017/18.  There is 31 per cent of non-revenue water.	The county needs to invest more in the sector's infrastructure to gain from the water utility revenue that will enhance water service delivery and in meeting operations and maintenance costs.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Water and Sanitation/ Kiambu Water and Sewerage Company Ltd (KWCL)
Nutrition	The county spending on nutrition (direct nutrition interventions) in nominal terms increased from Ksh 26 million in 2014/15 to Ksh 126 million in 2017/18. There was a high number of overweight/obese women aged 15 to 49 years.	There is need for the county to continue financing the nutrition budget and establish a specific budget line for nutrition support initiatives.  Need to correct the situation more so focusing on lifestyle issues among women.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Health and all other sectors, namely: education, agriculture, social protection and WASH

Child Protection, Youth and Women	The county's child protection, youth and women budget allocation as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period averaged 2.7 per cent. Spending on the sectors was, on average, Ksh 0.3 billion between 2014/15 and 2016/17, with no allocations made in 2017/18.  There is significant duplication of social services, youth, gender and culture services between the two levels of government.	Prioritize the sector in future allocations.  Align the county government social services programmes with national government programmes to avoid duplication of activities, while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the relevant beneficiaries.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Culture and Social Services
Budget Execution	The budget execution rates for the nutrition sector were relatively low compared to other sectors. On average, the absorption rate was at 50 per cent for the review period compared to water and sanitation, health and ECDE that had a 100 per cent in 2017/18.	To improve budget utilization rates, there is need for the National Treasury to adhere to disbursement schedules by releasing resources on time. On its part, the county should strengthen procurement systems and improve cash flow forecasting.	County Treasury and Planning, All County departments; National Treasury
Disaggregation of Data	Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditure reports, it was not possible to establish how much of the county government budget was spent on crucial social services such as child protection, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming.	By having standalone budget lines on the above, the county is better placed to effectively deliver the above-mentioned services, especially to women and girls.	County Planning, Statistics and M&E unit, and Social/Gender Departments

## (Endnotes)

- <sup>1</sup> *Gross county product* is conceptually equivalent to the county share of GDP. *Gross domestic product* is a measure of newly created value through production by resident economic agents (in this case individuals, households, businesses, establishments, and enterprises resident in Kenya).
- <sup>2</sup> See, for example, UNICEF (2017) *Early Moments Matter*, New York: UNICEF.
- <sup>3</sup> *Monetary poverty* measures the lack of financial means of households to provide its members with basic goods and services deemed necessary for their survival and development. Extreme poverty refers to an income below the food poverty line. Households whose adult equivalent food consumption expenditure per person per month fell below Ksh 1,954 in rural areas and Ksh 2,551 in urban areas were deemed to be food poor. Similarly, households whose overall consumption expenditure fell below Ksh 3,252 in rural areas and Ksh 5,995 in urban areas, per person per month were considered to be overall poor.
- <sup>4</sup> *Multidimensional poverty*, unlike monetary poverty, captures different deprivations experienced by an individual. In measuring child poverty in Kenya, these dimensions included: health care, nutrition/adequate food, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, education, knowledge of health and nutrition, housing and standard of living, and access to information. In the analysis, dimensions are measured as binary variables with "1" denoting deprived and "0" non-deprived.
- <sup>5</sup> Base year 2013.
- <sup>6</sup> *Non-revenue water (NRW)* is water that has been produced and is "lost" before it reaches the customer. Losses can be real losses (through leaks, sometimes also referred to as physical losses) or apparent losses (for example through theft or metering inaccuracies).

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For more information, contact

**Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis**  
**Bishops Road, Bishops Garden Towers**  
**P.O. Box 56445-00200, Nairobi**  
**Tel: 2719933/4 ; Cell: 0736712724, 0724256078**  
**Email: admin@kippra.or.ke**  
**Website: <http://www.kippra.org>**  
**Twitter: @kipprakenya**

