

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



County Government of Machakos

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BRIEF

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

- a) **An estimated 43 per cent of the Gross County Product (GCP) of Machakos, which is the fifth largest (3.2 percent contribution to GDP) of all the 47 counties in Kenya, comes from services sector.** Agriculture is the second largest sector whose productivity is vulnerable to weather shocks resulting in unpredictable economic growth trends. Moving forward, the county should put measures in place to mitigate weather shocks, while at the same time promoting manufacturing through agro-processing, and enhancing access to agriculture markets, including through collaboration with private sector.
- b) **The county's own source revenue declined marginally from Ksh 1.3 billion to Ksh 1.1 billion between 2014/15 and 2017/18.** However, as a share of total revenue, the county's own source revenue declined from 18.2 per cent in 2014/15 to 10.8 percent in 2017/18. Overall, total equitable share revenue increased from Ksh 6.1 Billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 7.4 billion in 2017/18 mainly because of equitable share transfers from the national government. To improve the share of its own source revenue, the county should strengthen measures for tax collection and management.
- c) **The budget for the health sector increased from Ksh 2.3 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 6.6 billion in 2017/18 with maternal and child health outcomes generally improving during the period.** The number of women who had access to a skilled birth attendant during delivery increased from 48.2 per cent in 2014 to 79 per cent in 2018. This is largely because of the introduction of free maternity services in 2013. The share of fully immunized children in the county declined from 78.7 per cent in 2014 to 77.6 per cent in 2017 but improved to 88.2 per cent in 2018. To further improve this trend, the county should prioritize investments maternal health services.
- d) **The budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased from Ksh 0.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.8 billion in 2017/18.** Partly because of increased spending on ECDE, the gross ECDE enrolment rate in the county went up from 53 per cent in 2014 to 71 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 ..
- e) **The county allocation for water and sanitation remained constant at 0.3 billion which was 3 per cent of the county total budget over the review period.** This was an under-investment given that about 68 per cent of the population having no access to improved water sources. The county needs to increase allocation for WASH.
- f) **The county child protection, youth and women budget allocation as a share of the total county budget allocation during the review period averaged 2.5 percent. Spending on the sector was on average Ksh 0.305 billion.** This was an under-investment given that this segment of the population are the most vulnerable.
- g) **The county has been reducing its commitments to nutrition interventions since 2015/16 which directly contribute to boosting child nutrition, at a time when nearly a third (27 per cent) of the children are stunted.** The county should ensure that direct nutrition interventions, across several sectors such agriculture, education and health

are budgeted for, with visible budget lines. Moreover, nutrition should be well articulated in the County Integrated Development Plans.

- h) The budget execution rate for most social sector budgets, especially health, water and sanitation, was low. For instance, budget execution rates for water and sanitation declined from 53 per cent in 2014/15 to 45 per cent in 2017/18.** The low budget execution rate was partly because approved budgets were not released in time by the national treasury as well as 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 spent on crucial social services such as child protection, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming overtime.** 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 the number of reported cases of child neglect and abandonment from 12 in 2014 to 2038 cases in 2018, yet there is no specific budget line for this. The same also applies to gender-based violence which has increased in recent years.

1. COUNTY OVERVIEW

Machakos county occupies a land area of approximately 6,208 km² and is divided into 8 sub-counties and 40 wards. The county's population was 1.4 million in 2019, which was 2.9 per cent of the national population. This constituted of 0.710 million males, 0.711 million females and 34 intersex persons.

In 2015/16, the overall poverty rate of the county was 23.3 percent with 3.5 percent living in extreme poverty, which is slightly better than the overall national rates of 36.1 per cent and 8.6 percent, respectively. Among children, more than one in four were affected by monetary poverty or lack of financial means. Additionally 19.6 percent of youth and 23.5 percent of women are affected by monetary poverty. moreover, 27.6 percent of children were living in multidimensional poverty, that is deprived in multiple dimensions including nutrition, health care, education, housing and drinking water. with youth and women recording 35.4 and 46.6 percent, respectively. The overall high rates of poverty, especially among younger populations, means that planning and budgeting processes should better consider human capital sectors so that the county can maximize the productive and innovative potential of its future workforce and initiate a fast and sustainable growth trajectory (Table 1).

Table 1: Machakos county administrative, poverty and demographic profile (2015/16)

Administrative Profile							Latest Available
Area (km ²)							6,208
Number of sub-counties							8
Number of wards							40
Overall poverty (%)							23
Extreme poverty (%)							3.5
Population (2019)							1,421,932
Group	Children	National Children	Youths	National Youths	Wo/men	National Wo/men	
Monetary Poor							
Male (%)	24.5	42.1	20.6	29.1	26.1	30.5	
Female (%)	23.1	41.0	18.5	28.8	23.2	34.1	
Total (%)	23.8	41.6	19.6	28.9	23.5	32.4	
Population	526,413	20,742,290	345,913	13,443,268	225,627	7,847,350	
Multidimensionally Poor							
Male (%)	28.4	49.3	35.0	44.7	47.3	51.0	
Female (%)	26.8	47.1	35.8	49.4	46.7	60.8	
Total (%)	27.6	48.2	35.4	47.1	46.6	56.1	
Population	526,413	20,742,290	345,913	13,443,268	225,627	7,847,350	

Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2018)

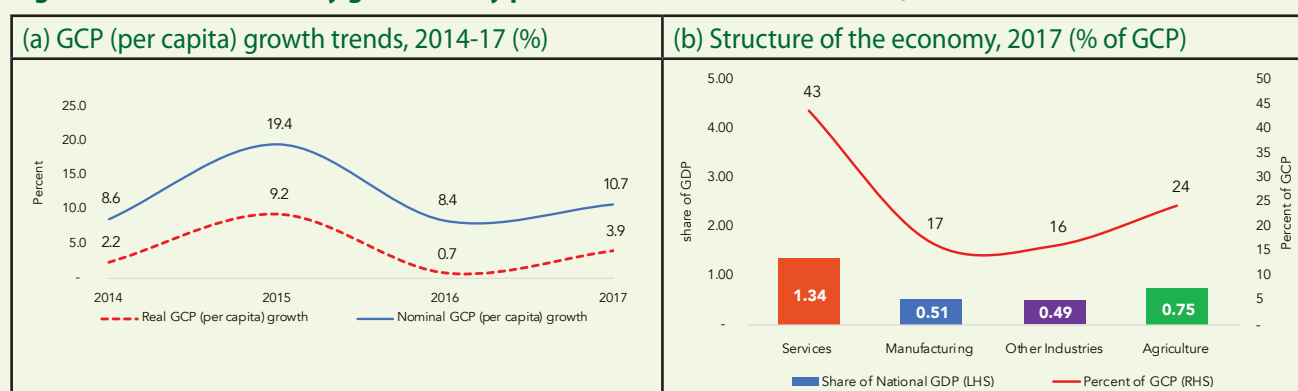
2. STATE OF COUNTY ECONOMY

2.1 Gross County Product Growth

Machakos county accounted for 3.2 percent of the national GDP in 2017. Its gross county product (GCP) per capita growth rate fluctuated between a minimum of 0.7 percent in 2014 to a growth rate of 9.2 percent in 2015 (Figure 1a). The slow growth in 2016 and 2017 was largely due to the prolonged drought.

The economy relies heavily on the performance of the services sector, which accounted for 43 per cent of the GCP in 2017. Agriculture accounted for 0.75 per cent, manufacturing accounted for 0.51 per cent and other industries accounted for 0.49 percent of the GCP. The services, agriculture and manufacturing sectors, in particular, are important drivers of job creation for young workers. As of 2017, Machakos county accounts for 3.2 percent of the national GDP.

Figure 1: Machakos County gross county product and economic structure, 2014-17

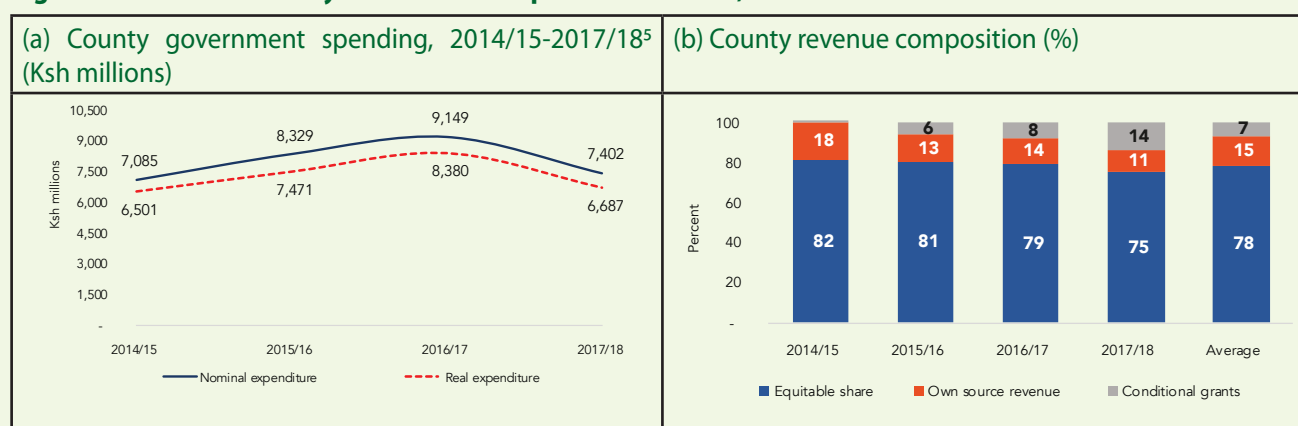


Source: KNBS (2019) Statistics

2.2 Overall Budget Performance

The county government annual spending grew from Ksh 7.0 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 8.3 billion and Ksh 9.149 billion before drastically dropping to Ksh 7.402 billion in 2017/18 (Figure 2(a)). The effects of inflation accounted for an average Ksh 0.4 billion in loss of purchasing power during the period. This spending is heavily dependent on national government transfers accounting for on average 79 per cent between 2014/15 and 2017/18. The burden of the drop in the county government spending predominantly affects social sector spending which are recurrent in nature. In nominal terms, own source revenue decreased from Ksh. 1.356 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh. 1.063 billion in 2017/18 while the equitable share transfer increased from Ksh. 6.090 billion to Ksh. 7.399 billion during the same period. The contribution of own source revenue and conditional grants was on average 22 per cent (Figure 2b).

Figure 2: Machakos county revenue and expenditure trends, 2014/15-2017/18

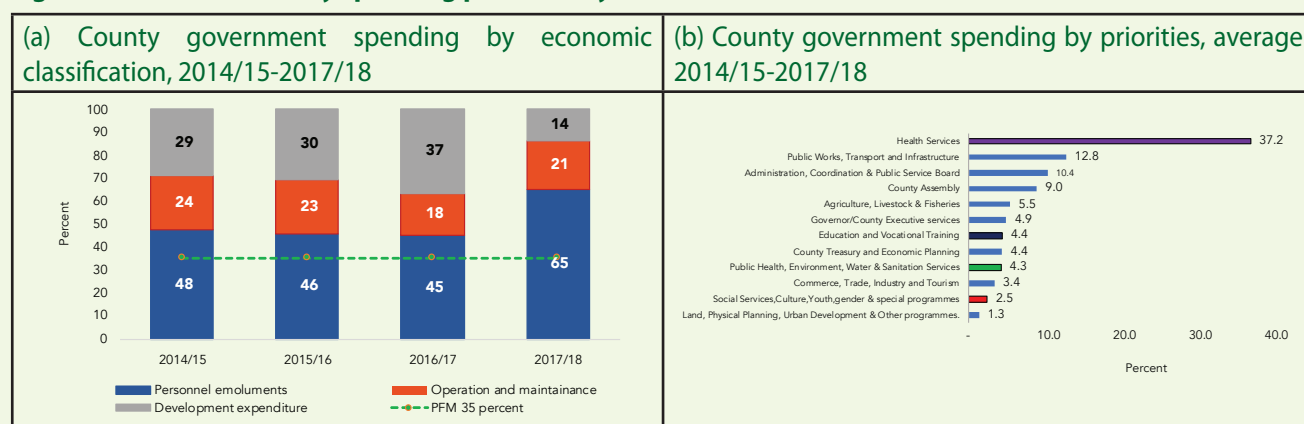


Source: Office of the Controller of Budget (Various) reports, 2014-2018

The share of actual development budget increased from 29 per cent in 2014/15 to 37 per cent in 2016/17 then declined to 14 per cent in 2017/18. The recurrent expenditure constituting of wage and operation and maintenance accounted for 65 per cent and 21 per cent of the total spending in 2017/18. This leaves only 14 per cent of the county income available for development, which compromises the county long-term objectives including infrastructure development (Figure 3a). This reflects low compliance to the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act 2012 provision that caps development spending

at a minimum of 30 per cent of total budget and the 2015 regulation which requires that not more than 35 per cent of the county's total revenue should go to payment of wages and salaries were not met

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



Source: Controller of Budget reports, 2014-2018

The county spent over 53.9 per cent of total expenditure during the period on health, education, agriculture, nutrition, social protection, youth, gender, water and sanitation. Health services spending accounts for the largest share of the total spending at 37.2 per cent or more than a third of the total spend for the last five years. Public works transport and infrastructure accounted for 12.8 per cent. Administration, coordination and public service board is third accounting for 10.4 per cent. Education sector (ECD and VTCs) account for 4.4 per cent of the total spend with social services, culture, youth, gender and special accounting for 2.5 (Figure 3b).

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 and women. The sector's priorities included; elimination of communicable diseases; halting and reversing the burden of non-communicable conditions that was rising; minimizing the exposure of health risk factors and provision of health services; improving the quality of health services in existing and new facilities through equipping; improving response against emergencies and improvement of human resource base.

Table 2: Machakos 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	-	-	-	-	56.0	79.0	-	-	-	-
MMR (death per 100,000 live births) 2016 Estimate	-	-	-	-	425.0	495.0	-	-	-	-
Skilled birth attendant coverage (%) (source: DHIS2)	48.2	53.5	57.2	56.9	56.8	59.3	52.6	53.0	79.0	64.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least one ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	58.2	76.4	63.6	75.4	67.6	76.9	75.0	73.7	101.0	81.9
Proportion of pregnant women who attended at least four ANC visit during pregnancy (%) (Source: DHIS2)	29.6	35.9	33.5	39.7	33.2	39.8	32.9	32.6	64.5	48.7
Proportion of children under one year who are fully immunized (%) (Source: DHIS2)	78.7	70.2	72.6	75.7	76.1	72.4	77.6	65.9	88.2	77.0
DPT/Hep+HiB3 dropout rate (%) (Source: DHIS2)	4.3	6.8	4.7	7.2	2.6	6.6	1.5	10.1	2.8	4.0
Still Birth Rate (Source : DHIS2)	25.7	29.3	19.7	22.6	15.1	21.5	14.7	22.6	18.4	20.4

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

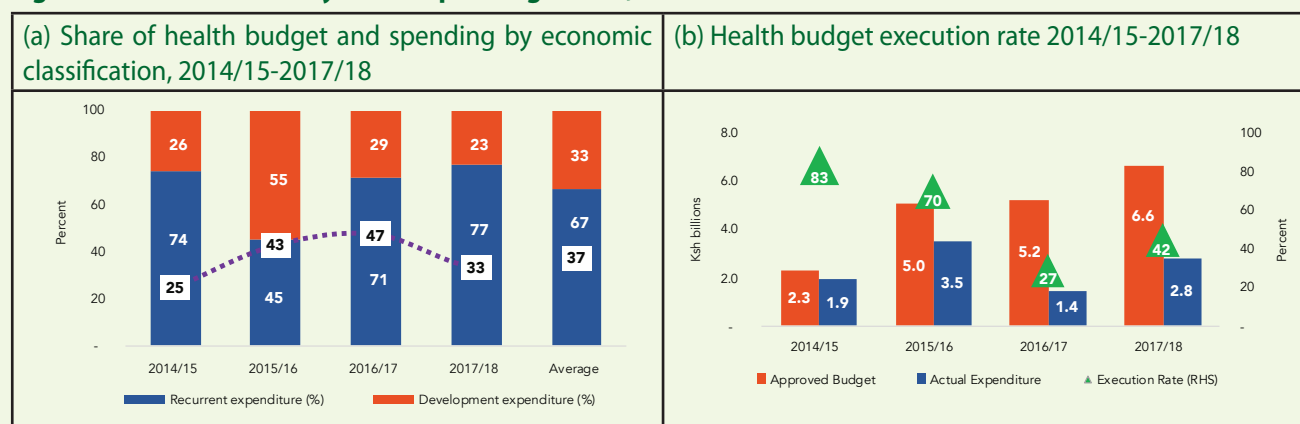
The number of women who had access to skilled delivery improved from 48.2 per cent in 2014 to 79 per cent in 2018 against national averages of 53.5 per cent and 64.9 per cent, during the same period. This is despite the introduction of free maternity services in 2013. This indicates that there is better access to health services in the county. Furthermore, the rate of recorded still births in the county remained below the national averages throughout the review period.

The health indicators for children in the county remained below the national averages over the review period. The share of fully immunized children in the county declined from 78.7 per cent in 2014 to 77.6 per cent in 2017 but improved to 88.2 per cent in 2018. Under five mortality rate was estimated to be 56 deaths per 1000 live births against the national average of 79 deaths per 1000 live births in 2016.

3.1.2 Health budget and expenditure

The share of health budget in the total county budget allocation increased from 25 per cent in 2014/15 to 47 per cent in 2016/17 before decreasing to 33 per cent in 2017/18, which translated to an average of 37 per cent of the total budget over the review period. Health actual expenditure expanded from about Ksh 1.9 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 3.5 billion in 2015/16, declined to Ksh 1.4 billion in 2016/17 but improved to Ksh 2.8 billion in 2017/18. Spending on health comprised of 67 per cent recurrent and 33 per cent development (Figure 4a). The absorption rate declined from 83 per cent in 2014/15 to 27 per cent in 2016/17, before rising to 42 per cent in 2017/18. This is attributable to failure by the exchequer to release the full amount approved in the health budget.

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



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

3.1.3 Health medium term expectations

The county aims to continue investing in health, especially in child and maternal health by prioritizing quality health infrastructure and human resources in all sub-counties. The county also aims to strengthen preventative and promotive health services through: malaria control; expanded programmes on immunization; integrated management of childhood illness; and control and prevention of environmentally communicated diseases.

To realize these new milestones, the county will need to address various challenges including: limited funds relative to health needs for the County, including those for children and mothers; long procurement processes; delays by the treasury in releasing funding to the sector and pending bills affecting the overall sector absorption rate. Other challenges that should be addressed include long procurement processes; delays by the treasury in releasing funding to the sector and pending bills affecting the overall sector absorption rate. The county will also need to promote women's empowerment through income generating initiatives and affirmative action programmes for better health outcomes for women and children. Continued investment and partnerships in awareness raising initiatives towards ending violence against women and girls will promote social inclusion, leading to transformative development for the county.

3.2 Education and Vocational Training

3.2.1 Education sector priorities

The county governments are responsible for early childhood development and education (ECDE) and youth polytechnics which are part of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVETs) as per schedule IV of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. During the plan period 2013-2017, the county education sector focus was to enhance the quality, access, retention and transition rates of ECDE in the county. Some of the strategies outlined to this end include feeding programme in ECDE sections, ECDE capitation grants, capacity building of ECDE teachers and staff, and establishment of

ECDE teachers college. For basic education, the county sought to increase primary and secondary enrolment rates. For TVETs, the main objective of strategies outlined was to fill the gap in training of middle level and technical employees through improved construction of new centres and incorporation of modern infrastructure.

Gross ECDE enrolment rate increased from 53 per cent in 2014 to 71 per cent in 2018 while net enrolment rate (NER) increased from 50.7 per cent to 61.3 per cent during the same period. This was generally lower than the national averages of 78.4 per cent for GER and 77.2 per cent for NER, although more children joined ECDE in the county following devolution of ECDE. Generally, the county reported higher enrolment rates of girls than boys for pre-primary and secondary school enrolments but realized a gender parity of 1 in primary school enrolment.

Gross primary and secondary enrolment rates stood at 121.1 per cent and 81.1 per cent in 2018, respectively. Net enrolment rate (NER) decreased from 96.7 per cent to 95.3 per cent for primary school, and from 79.4 per cent to 49.6 per cent for secondary school during the review period. In addition, in 2018, more girls than boys enrolled in secondary level of education. In 2018, there were 62 accredited vocational centres in the county, enrolling 3,033 learners.

Table 3: Machakos county selected education sector performance indicators

Pre-primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	53.0	73.6	71.0	94.4
Net enrolment ratio (%)	50.7	71.8	61.3	63.5
Male (%)	51.7	73.4	58.6	62.5
Female (%)	48.3	70.2	64.9	65.0
School size (Public) (Pupils) (Average)	41.0	75.0	37.0	85.0
Gender parity index (value)	0.9	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (Public)	27.0	31.0	23.0	31.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	25.5	31.5	33.0	33.0
Primary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	116.9	104.0	121.1	107.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	96.7	88.0	95.3	82.4
Male (%)	51.1	86.0	95.3	81.7
Female (%)	48.9	90.0	95.3	83.0
School size (Public) Average No. of pupils	393.0	338.0	295.0	375.0
Gender parity index (Value)	1.0	1.0	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.)	50.0	42.0	32.0	40.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	9.0	16.0	12.0	16.0
Secondary School	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Gross enrolment ratio (%)	94.4	58.7	81.1	66.2
Net enrolment ratio (%)	79.4	47.4	49.6	37.5
Male (%)	78.4	49.6	41.3	35.4
Female (%)	80.4	45.2	58.2	39.8
School size (Public)	263.0	-	317.2	392.0
Gender parity index (value)	1.0	0.9	-	-
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC)	51.0	30.0	30.0	32.0
Pupil-teacher ratio (No.) (TSC and BOM)	20.4	20.2	20.0	20.0
Proportion of enrolment in private schools (%)	31.6	30.7	7.7	5.8

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

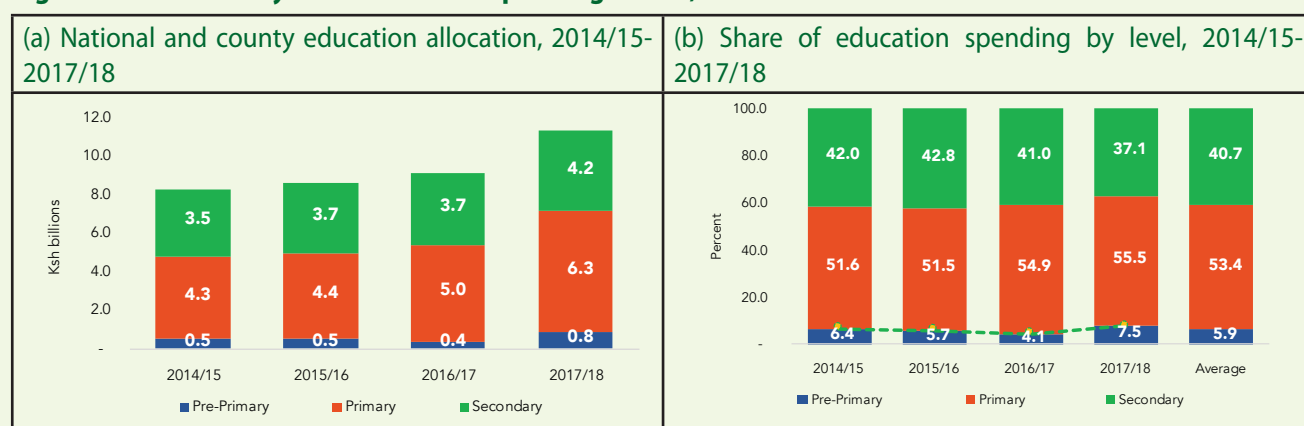
3.2.2 Education budget and expenditure

The share of ECDE spending in the county increased from Ksh 0.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.8 billion in 2017/18.

The share of ECDE spending as a proportion of total education spending was on average 5.9 percent during the period. Spending on primary and secondary education increased from Ksh 4.3 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 6.3 billion in 2017/18 and Ksh 3.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 4.2 billion in 2017/18 respectively (Figure 5(a))

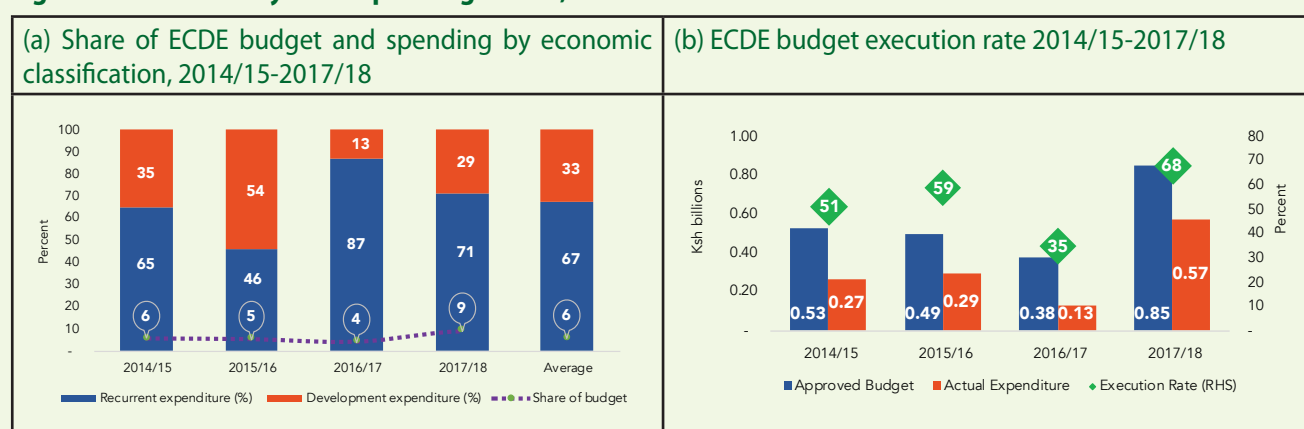
The share of ECDE budget in the total County budget allocation averaged 6 per cent over the review period, comprising of 33 per cent development and 67 per cent recurrent (Figure 6a). The absorption rate declined from an average 59 per cent in 2015/16 to 35 per cent in 2017/18 (Figure 6b). On average the execution rate of the education spending was 53.25 per cent with a low of 35 per cent and a high of 68 per cent in 2017/18.

Figure 5: Embu county basic education spending trends, 2014-18



Source: National Treasury (Various), IFMIS

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



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

3.2.3 Education medium term expectations

The county government with support from stakeholders aims to continue to invest in early childhood development with a focus on construction of ECDE centres and special needs education facilities in ECDE centres, development of skills and policies on ECDE, and improvement of work environment and quality of education through infrastructure development.

In line with enhancement of Vocational and Technical Training the county seeks to develop policy frameworks and enhancing provision of rehabilitative services for youths with relevant skills. They further aim to conduct regular audits of the sector and increase national government-county government collaboration.

3.3 Water and Sanitation

3.3.1 Water and sanitation priorities

The County integrated development plan (CIDP) 2013-2017 outlined investment in the expansion of water and sanitation infrastructure as the main sector priority. The county aimed at reducing average distance to the nearest water source from 6 kilometers to 1 kilometer. The county aimed at declaring Machakos County an open defecation free County hence introduced the "Free Wananchi Toilet" in public places including bus parks and markets. Additionally, the sector prioritized awareness creation on importance of hand washing facilities and management of human waste disposal in rural and informal settlements in the county urban setups.

Access to improved water and sanitation was estimated at 68 per cent and 84 per cent of the population against the national average of 72.6 per cent and 59 per cent, respectively. County population within service area of a water service provider expanded from 48 per cent to 75 per cent over the period under review. Water coverage by the utilities increased from 46 per cent to 54 per cent between 2014 and 2018. Although the county realized a decline in non-revenue water from 45 per cent to 35 per cent, the losses remain high denying the water utility revenue to enhance water service delivery and in meeting operations and maintenance costs. Access to improved sanitation was estimated at 84 per cent of the population above the national average of 59 per cent. The potential of open defecation county-wide was estimated at 1 per cent below the national average of 8 per cent.

Table 4: Machakos county selected WASH sector performance indicators

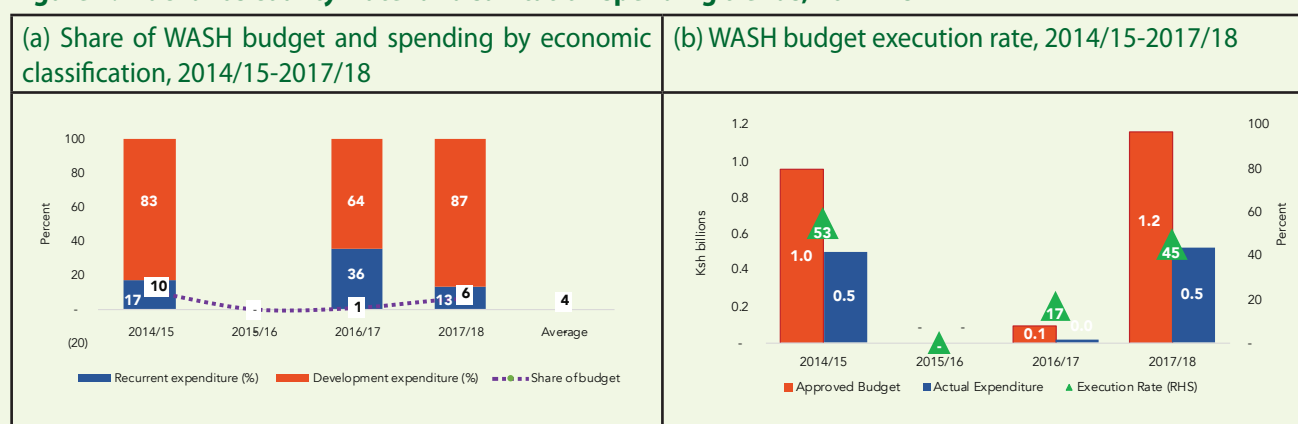
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
County population within service areas of WSPs (%)	48	*	75	*
Water coverage by utilities (%)	46	53	54	*
Non-revenue water (NRW) (%)	45	42	35	*
Sanitation coverage within utility area (%)	60	69	-	*
Sewerage coverage (%)	13	*	19	*
Access to improved water (%)	68	*	68	*
Access to improved sanitation (%)	84	*	84	59
No toilet facility – Potential open defecation county-wide (%)	1	*	1	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

The total budget allocation to the sector as a share of the county budget allocation during the review period was on average 4.3 per cent. Total spending on the sector was Ksh 0.5 billion in 2014/15 which was also reported in 2017/18. Which consisted 22 percent recurrent and 78 percent development. The absorption rate decreased from 53 percent in 2014/15 to 45 percent in 2017/18. The delay in the release of the equitable share release contributes to the low execution rates.

Figure 7: Machakos county water and sanitation spending trends, 2014-18



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

3.3.3 Water and Sanitation Medium Term Expectations

Access to safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene by girls and women is a greater catalyst for improved economic well-being and decreased poverty rates. In the CIDP (2018-2022) the county aims to continue with the provision of clean water and solid waste management as well as increasing access to decent sanitation. The county aims at expanding the water and sanitation infrastructure, increase the no of connections to the existing water and sewer infrastructure, increase number of public toilets in market centres and promote water harvesting mechanisms. There is need for the county to improve the execution of its WASH budgets to facilitate the increase population under water utility and sewer coverage.

3.4 Child Protection, Youth and women

3.4.1 child protection, youth and women Priorities

The County integrated development plan (2013-2017) highlighted coordinating and development of communities through social welfare; empowerment of youth through training; management of sports activities; enhancing; promotion and regulation of responsible gaming; promotion of cultural development activities and coordination of gender mainstreaming as key areas of focus for the social services, youth, gender and culture department.

Specifically, on social child protection, the County recorded a high number of reported cases of child neglect and abandonment rising from 12 cases in 2014 to 2,038 cases in 2018. Similarly, the child trafficking, abduction and kidnapping increase from 1 in 2014 to 16 in 2018 while child labour increased from 3 cases to 6 cases in 2018. However, cases of child sexual abuse declined significantly. During the period child physical and emotional abuse increased (table 5).

The county reported zero cases of female genital mutilation FGM in 2018. The low/non reporting of the 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 culture that approves such practices.

Table 5: Machakos county selected social protection performance indicators

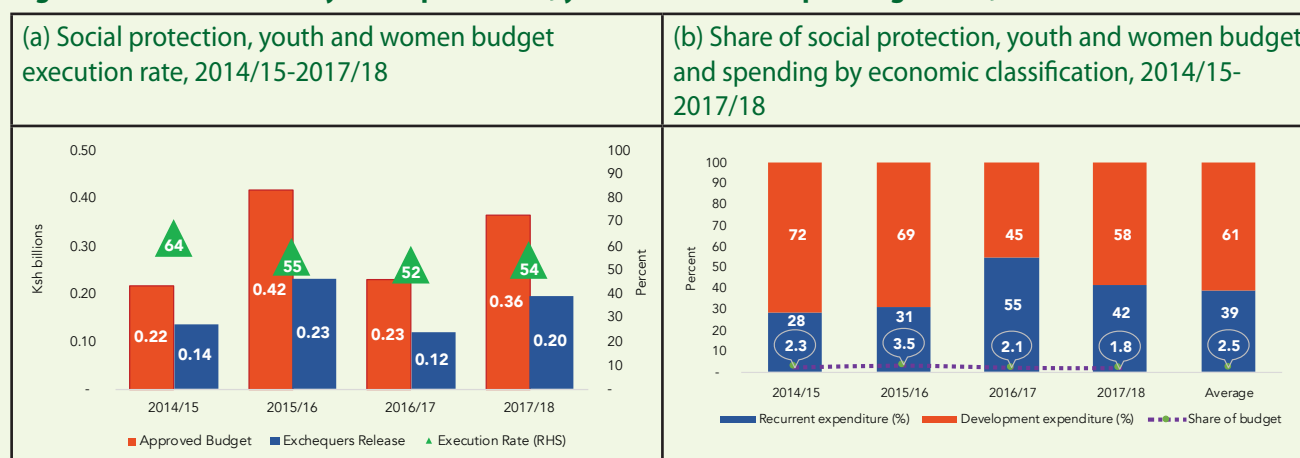
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National	2018-County	2018-National
Child Neglect and Abandonment	12	767	2,038	73245
Child Sexual Abuse	17	636	8	172
Child Trafficking, Abduction and Kidnapping	1	32	16	1022
Child Labour	3	168	6	378
Child Emotional Abuse	1	58	13	853
Child Physical Abuse	11	583	56	2031
Female Genital Mutilation	-	9	-	40

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

3.4.2 Child protection, youth and women budget and expenditure

The sector's budget allocation as a share of the total county budget allocation during the review period averaged 2.5 percent. Spending on the sector was on average Ksh 0.305 billion and constituted of 39 per cent recurrent and 61 per cent development expenditure. The share The absorption rate declined from 64 per cent in 2014/15 to 52 per cent in 2016/17 after which it slightly improved to 54 per cent in 2017/18 due to prolonged drought and county exchequer failure to release the entire approved budget amount.

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



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

3.4.3 Child protection youth and women Medium Term Expectations

the county CIDP (2018 - 2022) aims to provide care, support and build capacities of individuals, vulnerable groups and communities for equity and self-reliance. The county aims at doubling the social protection programs to reach 60 per cent of the OVCs by 2022 from a baseline of 31 per cent. The county aims at supporting 2000 women self-help groups and 500 people with disabilities (PWDs) with table banking. The county seeks to establish 4 care and protection centres of PWDs, 4 youth/child rehabilitation centres and 8 gender based violence rescue centres. With increasing demand for social protection in program such cash transfers there is need to align the county government social protection programs with national government to avoid duplication of the activities while ensuring that the available resources are focused to the relevant beneficiaries.

3.5 Nutrition

3.5.1 Nutrition Priorities

The CIDP 2013-2017 outlined key areas of focus in the nutrition sector. the county aimed to promote nutrition education and Improve nutritional status of households in order to eliminate malnutrition cases..

The county nutrition indicators remained relatively low according to the year 2014 data. Stunting stood at 27 per cent of the population while wasting and underweight children stood at 7 per cent and 8 per cent, respectively (Table 6). Furthermore, while the proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt in the County was lower than the

national figure, the proportion remained lower than the target proportion of 100 per cent. Vitamin A supplementation among children aged 6 to 59 months high when compared to the target proportion of 80 per cent and far above the national coverages of 24 per cent in 2014.

The proportion of overweight or obese women in the county stood at 29 per cent, higher than the national average of 29 per cent. The average Body Mass Index (BMI) of women in the county was 24.

Table 6: Selected nutrition performance indicators

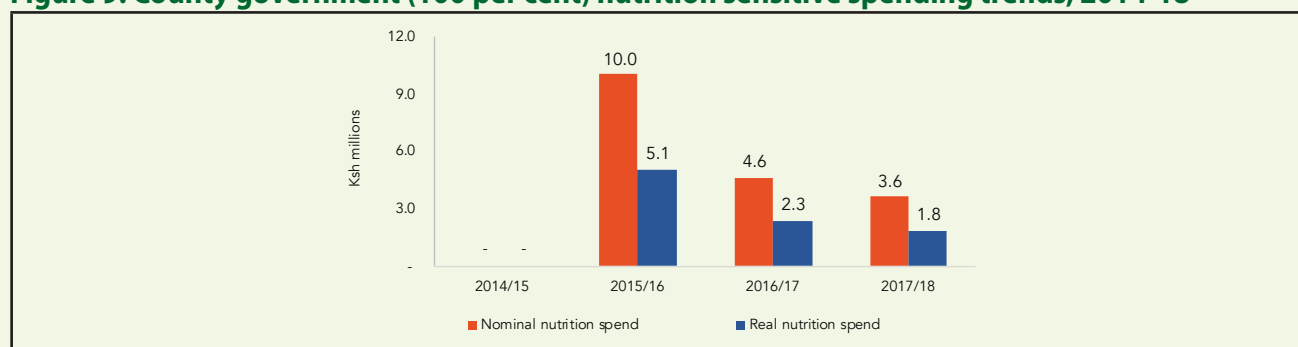
Indicators	2014-County	2014-National
Stunted children (%)	26.5	26.0
Wasted children (%)	6.5	4.0
Underweight children (%)	8.1	11.0
Vitamin A supplements coverage	21.6	24.0
Proportion of children aged 6 to 59 months- Received Vitamin A supplement	71.6	71.4
Proportion of children consuming adequately iodized salt.	99.0	99.1
Proportion of households consuming adequately iodized salt.	99.1	99.2
" Household salt iodization (50 – 80 mg/Kg KIO3) (% samples) "	50.0	57.0
Number of Women (BMI)	23.6	23.2
Overweight or obesity among women aged 15 to 49 years.	29.4	28.9

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

3.5.2 Nutrition budget and expenditure

The county spending on nutrition (direct nutrition interventions) decreased over time since 2015/16. In 2015/16 the allocation was Ksh 10.0 million compared to Ksh 3.6 million in 2017/18. There was no clear budgetary allocation for nutrition for the period 2014/15. This could be attributed to lack of a proper nutrition plans in the county.

Figure 9: County government (100 per cent) nutrition sensitive spending trends, 2014-18



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

3.5.3 Nutrition medium term expectations

The CIDP 2018 to 2022 outlined key areas of focus in the nutrition sector aims to promote nutrition education and strengthen the Community Units to offer broad based services in order to eliminate malnutrition cases. The county aims are reducing the prevalence of all forms of malnutrition among children under the age of 5 from the baseline of 24 per cent to 16 per cent by 2022 and expand the percentage of children screening for malnutrition from 18 per cent to 40 per cent. The county seeks to increase the number of nutrition staff from 30 in 2018 to 300 by 2022. To realize the objective, the county will be required to increase the share of nutrition sensitive spending which has been inconsistent.

3.6 OTHER INITIATIVES FOR THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

a) AGPO

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

b) Children

The county constructed 140 ECDE classes, employed 1080 teachers, trained 3200 ECDE teachers, provided funding for ECD students and distributed 1080 water tanks to schools. The county undertook 8 sensitization programmes to increase awareness on early childhood. The distributed 799 sanitary towels to needy primary school girls and soap for boys in 14 schools, repatriated 7 street children back to their families, and supported 30 registered children homes. The county undertook community level nutrition issue sensitization and demonstrated 140 kitchen gardens for nutritional security which in the long term would contribute to improving the children health status.

c) Youth

The county established 4 youth empowerment centres, 1 youth innovation center and a sports academy to support in developing youths sporting, entrepreneurial and leadership skills. The county increased enrolment in VTCs from 2600 to 4200 across 40 VTCs employed 86 instructors and provided bursaries to post- secondary education students. The county conducted 201 trainings to out-of-school youth on vegetable farming; 2 residential trainings on value addition in the agricultural value chains; and 146 trainings on poultry and small stock rearing hence developing the youths entrepreneurial skills..

d) Women

The county undertook capacity building for 2039 women sensitizing them on self-help group formation; group management; micro-financing; gender; and civic matters. The county provided tax waiver for grocery operators empowering the women to scale up their businesses. The county distributed blankets to 500 and needy elderly women, marked the international Women's day, established 8 GBV technical working groups in the sub counties, and

e) PWDs

The county distributed 610 assistive devices, undertook capacity building on 580 PWD group members, and conducted 2 festivals to show case PWDs talents.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY

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

Table 7: Recommendations and responsible actors

Sector	Finding	Recommendation	Responsibility
Gross County Product	An estimated 43 per cent of the GCP comes from the services sector, and agriculture is the second largest sector whose productivity is vulnerable to weather shocks resulting in unpredictable economic trends.	The county should put in place measures to mitigate weather shocks, while at the same time promoting manufacturing through agro-processing and enhancing access to agriculture markets, including collaboration with the private sector.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Executive/Department of Trade and Industry
Revenue	Own source revenue share of the county spending declined during the review period.	To improve the share of own source revenue, the county should strengthen measures for tax collection and management.	County Treasury and Planning/ Directorate of Revenue
Expenditures	Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditures, it is not possible to establish how much of county budgets was spent on crucial social services.	Ensure that the resources are effectively allocated and efficiently used to improve service delivery to the citizens.	All sectors/County Treasury and Planning/ County Executive
Health	The budget for the health sector increased from Ksh 2.3 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 6.6 billion in 2017/18, with maternal and child health outcomes generally improving during the period.	Treasuries, both National and County need to release all health budget on time. Align health procurement plan to cash flow projection. Improve the predictability in financing the nutrition budget in the county.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Health
Education	The budget for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) increased from Ksh 0.5 billion in 2014/15 to Ksh 0.8 billion in 2017/18.	Equitable distribution and effective utilization of available resources in the education sector.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Education
WASH	The county allocation for water and sanitation remained constant at Ksh 0.3 billion, which was 3 per cent of the county total budget over the review period.	The county needs to increase allocation for WASH.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Water and Sanitation

Child Protection, Youth and Women	The county child protection, youth and women budget allocation as a share of total county budget allocation during the review period averaged 2.5 per cent. Spending on the sector was on average Ksh 0.305 billion.	This was an under-investment given that this segment of the population are the most vulnerable.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Culture and Social Services
Nutrition	The county has been reducing its commitments to nutrition interventions since 2015/16, which directly contribute to boosting child nutrition, at a time when nearly a third (27%) of the children are stunted.	The county should ensure that direct nutrition interventions, across several sectors such as agriculture, education and health are budgeted for, with visible budget lines. Moreover, nutrition should be well articulated in the County Integrated Development Plans.	County Treasury and Planning/ County Department of Health; and all other sectors, namely: Education, Agriculture, Social Protection and WASH.
Budget Execution	The budget execution rate for most social sector budgets, especially health, water and sanitation, was low.	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
Disaggregated Data	Due to limited disaggregation of data in expenditure reports, it was not possible to establish how much of the county government budget was spent on crucial social services such as child protection, youth development, disability and gender mainstreaming.	By having standalone budget lines on the above, the county would be 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)

- 1 Gross county product is conceptually equivalent to the county share of GDP. Gross domestic product is a measure of newly created value through production by resident economic agents (in this case individuals, households, businesses, establishments, and enterprises resident in Kenya).
- 2 See, for example, UNICEF (2017) *Early Moments Matter*, New York: UNICEF.
- 3 Monetary poor people are considered at risk of monetary poverty when their equalized disposable income (after social transfers) is below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 per cent of the national median value.
- 4 Multidimensional poverty captures different deprivations experienced by poor people in their daily lives, such as lack of access to basic education, health or WASH services, inadequate nutritional intake, experiencing physical or emotional violence or abuse, among others.
- 5 Base year 2013
- 6 Body Mass Index (BMI) is a value derived from the mass (weight) and height of a person. It is expressed in units of Kg/M². Broadly, a person is categorized as underweight if BMI is below 18.5 Kg/M²; normal weight: between 18.5 Kg/M² and 25 Kg/M²; and overweight: 25 Kg/M² to 30 Kg/M² and obese: over 30 Kg/M².

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The preparation of this County Budget Brief was funded and supported by UNICEF (KCO) in collaboration with UN Women (KCO) and UNDP (KCO). The brief was prepared under the leadership of The National Treasury. The entire process of preparing the brief was guided by Dr. Rose Ngugi (Executive Director, KIPPRA). The KIPPRA technical team consisted of Dr. Eldah Onsomu, Victor Mose, Boaz Munga, Samantha Luseno, Lawrence Kinuthia, Stella Mutuku, Teresa Bosibori, Phares Mugo, Rose Ngara-Muraya and James Ochieng.

The contribution from the following government institutions notably; Council of Governors (CoG), County governments, Controller of Budget (CoB), Commission for Revenue allocation (CRA), National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), Ministry of Health (MoH)-Division of Nutrition and Dietetics, Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MoWI), Ministry of Public Service Youth and Gender (MPSYG), Kenya School of Government (KSG) was instrumental in the production of this brief.

We are most grateful to Maniza Zaman (UNICEF KCO Representative) for the overall leadership and enabling coordination with UN-Women and UNDP. The UNICEF core team comprised of Ousmane Niang, Dr. Robert Simiyu, Godfrey Ndeng'e, Sicily Matu, Nancy Angwenyi, Patrick Chege (UNICEF KCO). The process also benefited immensely from Matthew Cummins and Bob Muchabaiwa (UNICEF ESARO) for providing technical guidance.

We are also grateful to the UN Women team comprising of Lucy Mathenge, Angela Gichohi, Sebastian Gatimu, Joshua Musyimi and Maureen Gitonga (UN Women KCO) and the UNDP team of Mary Njoroge, Faith Ogola and Tim Colby for their technical contribution.

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

