

**Report on level of resource allocation in Kitui  
County for gender, youth and PLWD's for the  
year 2019/2020**

**1/1/2020  
County Government of Kitui**

## **1.0 Background Information**

Kitui County is one of the three Kenyan Counties inhabited by the majority Kamba community. The Kamba people were historically long - distance traders. With its headquarters at Kitui town, The County is resource rich with commercially viable coal reserves in Mui Basin. Other mineral resource includes limestone, iron ore and sand. Forty-six (46) percent of the Tsavo East National Park is in Kitui County and has a great heritage with great untapped tourism potential. Proximity to Nairobi and the Standard Gauge Railway offers great opportunities for economic transformation. Permanent rivers, namely, Tana and Athi flow through the County.

The level of absolute poverty is estimated at 47.5 percent compared to the national average of 36.1 percent in 2016. About 522,000 persons or 3.2 percent of the Kenyan poor live in the County. About fifty percent of the population does not have access to improved water sources and 57.6 percent of households spent thirty minutes or more to fetch drinking water.

Administratively, the County is divided into eight (8) sub-counties namely; Kitui Central, Kitui West, Kitui East, Kitui South, Kitui Rural, Mwingi North, Mwingi Central and Mwingi West. It is further subdivided into forty (40) wards. There are 247 County villages established through the Kitui County Villages Act, 2015

Most parts of the County have an arid and semi-arid climate with erratic and unreliable rainfall. The lowest annual average temperature is 14<sup>0</sup>C and the highest annual average temperature is 32<sup>0</sup>C.

The County's population was 1,012,236 in 2009, according to the population and household census report of 2009. The youth represent 23% of Kitui's population (271,026). Also, Kitui County had a proportion of 4.6 percent of persons with disabilities (22,994).

## **2.0 Overview**

This assessment report looks at the projects which supported gender, youth and PLWD's issues in 2019/2020 Financial year budget by the County government of Kitui. The assessment took place within the month of January 2020. It involved the consultants, county government officials and experts on gender and youth. The Council of Governors facilitated the process through provision of both technical and financial assistance from Ford Foundation. The report looks at the background information, methodology applied, who took part in the assessment, summary of

findings, recommendations for each category, achievements of the county, challenges and conclusions

### **3.0 Methodology of assessment**

The assessment was done using the following methodologies:

#### **3.1.1 Desk review**

The consultants evaluated several documents from the County government of Kitui including the draft county fiscal strategy paper 2019, the Kitui county annual development plans for 2018/2019 and 2019-2020, Kitui County, Kitui county budget for 2019-2020, and the county budget implementation reports for quarter 1 and draft quarter 2 of 2019-2020.

The results of the budgeted items for gender and youth were tabulated and aggregated to give the total amount of resources allocated for the two categories being considered. Consultations were then carried out with different county staff, especially those in the department of economic planning and budgeting for clarification and conformity.

#### **3.1.2 Interviews and consultation**

Interview and consultation were undertaken with County staff from the following departments; Economic planning and budgeting, Public Participation and Civic Engagement, Department of Youth, Culture, Gender and Sports, different Civil Society Organisations working with the target population among others.

### **4.0 Who participated in the process?**

The consultants engaged different staff from the County government of Kitui including the Director of economic planning and budgeting and several other staffs from the same department who directly deal with the planning and budgeting. Staff of the department of public participation and civic engagement. Lastly we appreciate the valuable inputs from the deputy director, department of culture gender and social services

Some members of the civil society and experts on social change and community development were also involved in the process.

## 5.0 Summary of findings

### 5.1 Gender issues

After analyzing data from the budget of Kitui County financial allocations for 2019/2020 financial year, the results are tabulated in table 1 below

Table 1: Kitui County, lists of projects addressing women, including PWDs issues in 2019/2020 financial year

No.	Budgeted projects	Amount allocated in Kenya Shillings
1	Other civil works (Development of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre)	5,000,000
2	Other Infrastructure and Civil Works (Development of Cultural Sites - Kavea Rock, Mulango Mission Houses, Ikutha Heritage Site and Ngomeni Caves)	1,955,195
3	Support of community Children charitable institutions	1,000,000
4	Prefeasibility (Support Initiatives towards socioeconomic development of Marginalised members of the society( Support, capacity building and	5,000,000
5	(building ECDE classes, Access roads, Tanks and Water pans) Other Infrastructure and Civil Works-CLIDP	651,490,427
6	Certified Crop Seeds	64,812,135
7	Empowerment of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups Research, Feasibility Studies (Distribution of Seeds)	3,000,000
8	Certified Crop Seed & Range development (Pasture seeds, Range rehabilitation, & semen and Hormones for AI)	3,490,000
9	Purchase of Vaccines and Sera	5,921,665
10	Water supply infrastructure Other Infrastructure and Civil Works (Repairs & Rehabilitations)	44,000,000

11	Registration and training Expenses of societies - other (Strategy 247 -1 cooperative per village - Mobilisation and Formation of Cooperatives-capacity building, record keeping and formation	20,000,000
12	Various Training on Entrepreneurship Development - value chain	4,000,000
13	Various Training on Entrepreneurship Development	4,000,000
14	Promotion of modern technology productions kilns and briquetting technology in Charcoal hot	848,552
14	Other Infrastructure and Civil Works(Installation of solar street lights and solar pumping systems)	56,280,089
15	Water resource management. Other Infrastructure and Civil Works (Construction of water structures)	481,440,851
16	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,343,238,914</b>

From the above table, gender component got resources amounting to kshs1,352,238,914( One Billion, three fifty two million, two hundred and thirty eight thousand, nine hundred and fourteen Kenya shillings) representing approximately 11.8% of the total county budget.

From the literature review, interviews and consultations with different stakeholders including county government staff, it was established that there is work in progress around developing a County Gender Policy with a draft policy in place. The draft policy addresses how public views are captured during planning and are incorporated to the budgeting process, the implementation of the views, feedback including challenges faced, remedies available for solving them and lastly coordination of gender work across the county government ministries. The policy provides for a gender person in each ministry who is the central point person for coordination of gender work in the County.

The county is in the process of setting up a women fund through a legal notice to be published and a gender mainstreaming bill which is at formative stage.

### Identified Gender Gaps

- Kitui County has not conducted a gender analysis to inform gender differentials in activities

surrounding access and control over resources such as income, time, technologies and services. Thus, no data is available on who between men and women has greater access to opportunities and resources such as land, livestock, financial services, health and education, employment, information and communication, and benefits.

- There are no existing institution(s) in Kitui County to address issues of equality for Girls and boys or women and men, but mechanisms are in place to ensure a gender responsive budget during the budgeting cycle through public participation and affirmative action spear headed by the County Ministry of Culture, Gender and Sports.
- There exist no coherent strategy of engendering planning and budgeting within different ministries of the Kitui County government. Each ministry has been doing their own planning and budgeting, implementation of programmes on gender issues.
- Kitui County has not conducted needs or interest assessment study for women and men to show barriers faced by women and men in seeking to meet their practical and strategic gender needs and identify opportunities for greater equality and empowerment of women.
- There is minimal relevant data collected on gender issues that may ensure a systematic planning in the county

## **Recommendations**

- Conduct a comprehensive gender analysis study covering the whole county to identify gender gaps and dynamics', uncover gender roles and power relations in connection with access and control of resources
- Conducted needs or interest assessment study of women and men, to identify economic and social barriers faced by women and men and others interrelated factors hindering their development.
- Establish a contact person for coordinating gender related issues within the county government, who will work in collaboration with a point person on gender issues in each ministry
- The County to continuously conduct capacity building trainings for county staff to build capacity to identify, monitor trends and document gender dynamics in Kitui to inform planning, resource allocation and implementation of development programmes.
- Establish institutions in Kitui County to address issues of equality for women and men

which to help ensure gender equality and gender responsive planning and budgeting

### Youth issues

The table below shows tabulated results of projects supporting youth issues from Kitui County 2019/2020 financial year budget

Table 2: Kitui County, lists of projects addressing youth issues in the financial year 2019/2020

No.	Budgeted projects	Amount allocated in Kenya Shillings
1	Training Fees (NITA Membership)	4,000,000
2	To increase the rate of access, transition and retention of learners from financially disadvantaged backgrounds through school fees bursary support (paying of school fees)	62,501,855.60
3	Construction of non-residential buildings - Development of youth Polytechnics-Pending bills	20,089,476
4	Construction of non-residential buildings -Kitui central Technical training college in partnership with TVET,NG-CDF	10,000,000
5	Construction of non-residential buildings (Development of youth Polytechnics) - Conditional	72,882,525
6	Materials and equipment for making bricks, culverts, cabros, concrete posts- Pending bills	3,886,600
7	Training Expenses - Youths skills training in Garment making- Pending bills	33,100,000
8	Training Expenses- Training of BodaBoda riders (financial literacy, linkage to insurance and license companies, linkage to financial institutions)- Pending bills	3,150,200
9	Training Expenses - Other (Jua Kali Nguvu)	1,000,000

10	Research Allowance (Miss Kitui County Tourism & Marketing Programme)	1,000,000
11	Research Allowance (Kitui County Marathon)	1,000,000
	Research Allowance- Promote talent through partnership with Federations	1,300,000
12	Other Infrastructure and Civil Works - Kitui Stadium (Construction of Ultra-Modern stadia complex)	1,892,682
13	Other Infrastructure and Civil Works (Support Development of sports facilities/ playgrounds)	54,920,927
14	Research, Feasibility Studies (Support cultural programmes for community performing groups, performing and visual artists and schools)	650,000
15	Other Infrastructure and Civil Work - Equipping of Mwingi and Mwitika Resource Center	688,651
<b>16</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>268,062,916.6</b>

The Kitui county government allocated a total of KES 268, 062,916.6 (two hundred sixty eight million sixty two thousands nine hundred sixteen shillings and six cents) for youth development during 2019/2020 financial year. This represents 2.36% of the total county budget.

The county depends on the National planning matrix and Youth Enterprise Fund developed by the national government to undertake any issues of youth which require data.

The national government works with the youth in the county through administration of the National Government Affirmative action funds, Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) established in 2006 and The National Industrial Training Authority (NITA). The county has been training the youth on group formation, financial literacy, implementing of successful income generating activities and supporting international youth days and awareness forums

### **Identified Gaps in Youth sector development**

- From literature review and discussions or interviews with different stakeholders it was



established that, Kitui County lacks a comprehensive youth policy.

- No surveys have been carried out, either rapid assessments, comprehensive countywide needs assessment or other social surveys which can inform any planning or budgeting in the County.
- There are no institutions in place to advance the empowerment and capacity building of youth in more practical methods to help them secure employment and or start earning some income apart from the already established TVET's.
- There are no strategies or policies in place to tap the talents and or resources from the youth in the County. In particular a more practical and pro-active measures which can prepare youth for employment or entrepreneurship

### **Recommendations**

- Kitui County has a high youthful population at 23% and should strive to increase the resource allocation from the current 2.5% to around 5% if it wishes to develop this group as a key driver of development in the next 10 years.
- Develop a County youth policy to guide the process of planning, management and budgeting of youth affairs in the county. This will help youths in the county to participate in the development of the county through contributing positively economically and socially.
- Kitui County should carry out a comprehensive countywide needs assessment and other social surveys such as power relations, access and control of resources among others
- Establish institutions in Kitui County to champion youth issues such as youth forums, Youth Council within the county to promote the inclusion of youths in decision-making bodies, boards, agencies and other public institutions and organizations among other issues
- Promote and facilitate research, collation and analysis of data on youth issues
- Promote and facilitate the development of facilities such as sports stadia's, sports academy, high performance training facilities for those with talents among other facilities
- Promote and develop strategies and or policies to tap the talents and resources from the youth in the county such as activities which help in identification of youth talents such as organizing sports competition, Miss Kitui competition, music competition, swimming among others.

- The County government of Kitui should promote the culture of research based planning and budgeting.
- Promote and facilitate the inclusion of youths in decision-making bodies, boards, agencies and other public institutions and organizations across the county through affirmative action.

### Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

Table 2: Kitui County, lists of projects addressing PWD's issues in the financial year 2019/2020

No.	Budgeted projects	Amount allocated
1	Support of community Children charitable institutions	1,000,000
2	Prefeasibility (Support Initiatives towards socioeconomic development of Marginalized members of the society( Support and capacity building)	5,000,000
3	Empowerment of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups Research, Feasibility Studies (Distribution of Seeds)	3,000,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,000,000</b>

During the 2019/2020 financial year budget, Kitui County Government allocated only Kshs 9,000,000 which represents a paltry 0.08% of the total allocation of county budget.

Most of the work around PLWD's is carried out by National government such as carrying out needs assessment, issuance of disability identification cards, cash transfer for the severely disabled members and grants to PLWD's Community Based Organizations (CBO's) and Self Help Groups (SHG's). The national government does not deal with the social aspects of the PLWD's, which are addressed by the county governments through trainings on group formation, financial literacy, special trainings on PLWD's special needs, facilitating and assisting them to access devices which help them cope with their special needs situations.

## **Gaps identified**

- Disability' still remains overwhelmingly marginalized at mainstream developmental research, institutional, policy and programme levels and Kitui County does not have data on the basic minimum facilities requirements of the PWD's within the county to effectively have a plan on how to address them
- The county has not conducted a needs assessment study on PWD's which would inform planning and budgeting for PWDs interventions
- There are social and economic discrimination, architectural, transportation, institutional and policy barriers which continue to prevent disabled people from accessing any opportunities in the county
- There are inadequate institutions and facilities to enable PWD's live a dignified life or promote their socio-economic activities in the County

## **Recommendations**

- The County government should develop a policy on PWD's, to comprehensively deal with PWD's issues
- The County should promote and support research, collation and analysis of data on PWD's to inform planning and budgeting as disability statistics can provide a wealth of information on the full lived experience of persons with disabilities ranging from impairments, difficulties in undertaking and participating in activities, and barriers they face in their lives. Information can be extended from an individual to the whole population – to determine prevalence of domains of disability, for example – and further developed by adding demographic or other population features, such as age, sex, race, and socio-economic status.
- Carry out comprehensive needs assessment on Persons with Disabilities to isolate their basic needs and plan on what the County will undertake to address them urgently
- Promote and support construction of facilities which enable PWD's live a life with dignity starting with special schools, training facilities for both skills development and sports.
- The County should strengthen linkages with the National Council of Persons with Disabilities for purposes of creating awareness and helping PWDs access these funds.

- Establish and support a complementary fund to support PWD's in their social-economic development endeavors, taking into account the National Government funds for PWD's

## **7.0 Achievements by County Government of Kitui from the Assessment Process**

- Good access to information.

Majority of the data on the projects were easily accessible on request from the different Kitui County departments. The cooperation accorded the consultants made the assessment easy and friendly, thus ensuring most of the hurdles are addressed as quickly as possible, saving very valuable time. However, there is still room for improvement through uploading all the budget information online in good time for easier access.

- Draft County Gender Policy: The County is in the process of preparing a county gender policy which will help in planning and budgeting.
- Training of youth, women and PLWD's groups across the county in group dynamics, financial literacy, implementing of income generating activities.
- Supporting the and facilitating establishment of Income Generating Activities' (IGA's), tents chickens, goats, water pumps seeds and capacity building.
- Facilitating linkages between youth, women and PLWD's groups with CSO's, National government.
- Supporting social audits being undertaken across the County by different stakeholders.
- Working with county assembly to promote gender, youth and PLWD's issues

## **General Constraints experienced in ensuring gender, youth and PWD's issues are addressed in Kitui County**

- Financial: Gender, youth and PWD's work is not allocated adequate funds in the budget, mainly because it deals mostly with software issues as opposed to hardware projects such as construction and road which are preferred by politicians who influence budget allocation at all levels.
- Administrative overlaps: Gender, youth and PWD's issues funds are in every ministry and no specific point person is mandated to coordinate with the ministry in charge of gender to document and shape gender mainstreaming activities.

- Skills: Skills within the ministries to address gender issues: most of officers in all ministries have very little knowledge on gender issues with majority referencing gender work as women issues.
- Mechanisms: No proper mechanisms of tapping into emerging knowledge's and technology in the community such as working with Smartphone's, tablets, social media, Google and other apps to enhance the capacity and development of women, youth and PWD's
- Lack of gender, youth and PWD's lenses while undertaking planning and budgeting in the County Government.

### **7.1.2 Challenges encountered during the assessment**

- The County Government of Kitui's budget for 2019/2020 financial year development / enactment process delayed due to disagreements between the executive and the county assembly, occasioning the passing of the county budget in December, 2019. This caused delay of the assessment exercise as the main document of reference was not ready as per expectations.
- The budget information is not all uploaded online and thus need for improvement in catching up with information technology as it evolves.

### **Conclusion**

The County government of Kitui has made steps to allocate resources for Gender, youth and PLWD's within all ministries but there is inadequate coordination from a central point to document and help planners and implementers on emerging issues and short comings. Inadequate availability of statistical data remains one of the biggest constraint during identification, planning and budgeting for Gender, Youth and PLWD's.

Lack of policy and proper mechanisms of identifying needs of Gender, youth and PLWD's, guide planning and budgeting should be addressed immediately. Though, Gender policy is in a draft stage, the youth and PLWD's sector should follow suit.

The County should ensure more efforts are done to support establishment of facilities supporting socio-economic efforts for Gender, youth and PLWD's activities