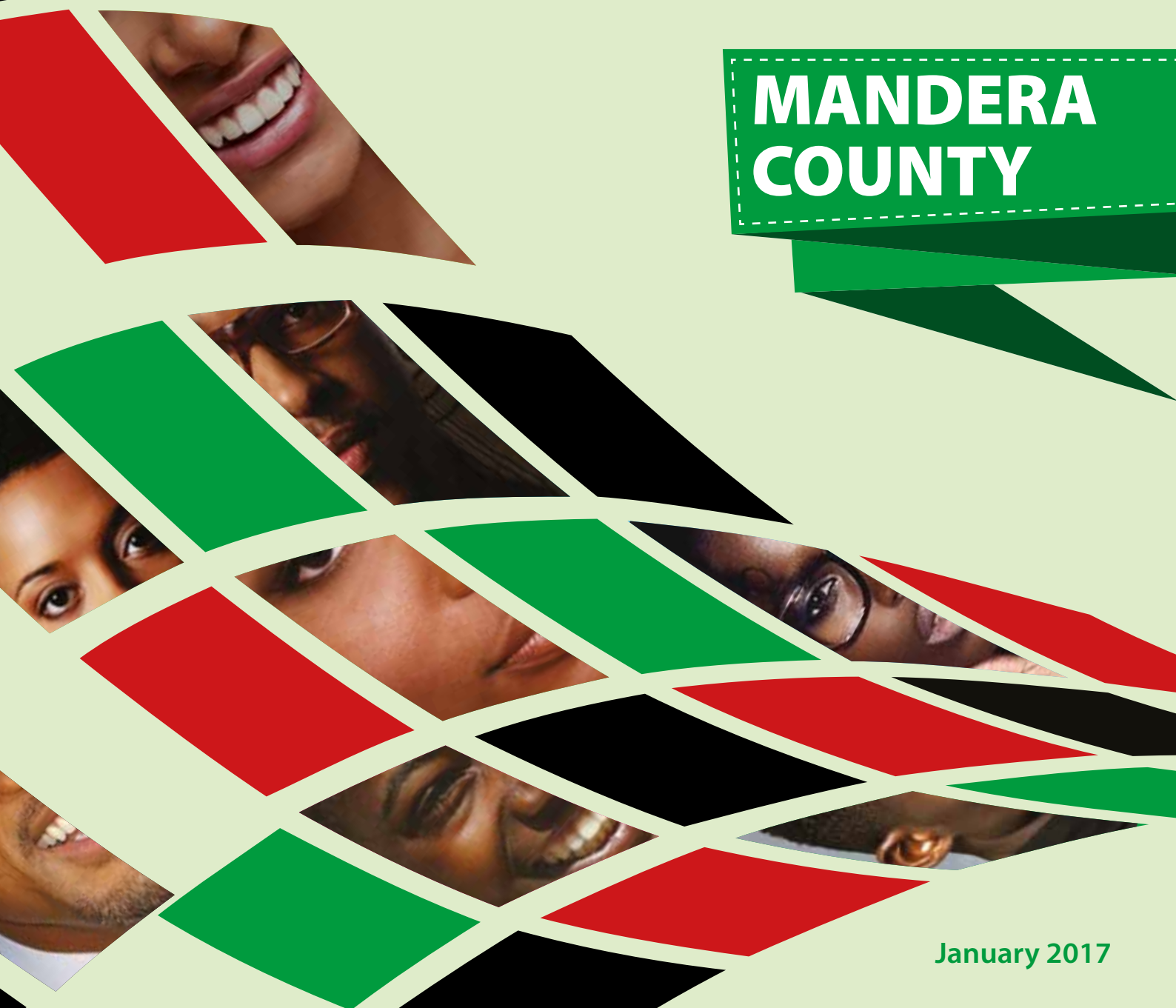




2015 KENYA NATIONAL **ADOLESCENT AND YOUTH** SURVEY (NAYS)

**MANDERA COUNTY**



January 2017



Citation:

National Council for Population and Development (NCPD). 2017.  
*2015 Kenya National Adolescents And Youth Survey (NAYS)*. Nairobi, Kenya: NCPD.

Published by the National Council for Population and Development  
Supported by the Government of Kenya, UNFPA and AFIDEP

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This study was carried out with the main funding support provided by the Government of Kenya. The United Nations Population Fund under the auspices of the UNFPA Country Programme and the African Institute for Development Policy collaborated in providing some support. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Government of Kenya, the United Nations Population Fund or the African Institute for Development Policy.

2015 KENYA NATIONAL  
ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH SURVEY  
(NAYS)

**MANDERA COUNTY**

January 2017



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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFIDEP	African Institute for Development Policy	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome	NASSEPV	National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme
AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities	NAYS	National Adolescents and Youth Survey
CBO	Community Based Organisation	NER	Net Enrolment Rate
CDF	Constituency Development Fund	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CPC	County Population Coordinators	NYS	National Youth Service
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate	PADIS	Population, Administration, and Decision Information System International
DemDiv	Demographic Dividend	PWDs	Persons With Disabilities
DSA	Drug and Substance Abuse	SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
FGD	Focus Group Discussion	SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
FHOK	Family Health Option Kenya	TFR	Total Fertility Rates
FP	Family Planning	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
FPE	Free Primary Education	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
GER	Gross Enrolment Rate	WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
HDI	Human Development Index	YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund
HIV	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus	YFS	Youth Friendly Services
ICT	Information and Communication Technology		
IDI	In-Depth Interview		
KDHS	Kenya Demographic and Health Survey		
KII	Key Informant Interview		
KIPPRA	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research & Analysis		
KKV	Kazi Kwa Vijana		
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics		

## Glossary of Terms

Demographic Dividend	The accelerated economic growth that is achieved through a reduction in the population growth rate coupled with strategic investments in the health, education, and economic opportunities for the population.
Demographic Window	Period when the proportion of a country's population aged below 15 years falls below 30 percent of the total population while at the same time the proportion of those aged 65 years and above is still below 15 percent of the total population.
Gross Enrolment Rate (GER)	This rate identifies the number of children newly admitted to the first year of school, regardless of age as a percentage of children who are entitled to admission.
Human Development Index	The Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite statistic of life expectancy, education, and income per capita indicators, which are used to rank countries into four tiers of human development. A country scores higher HDI when the life expectancy at birth is longer, the education period is longer, and the income per capita is higher.
Mwongozo	Code of governance for state corporations in Kenya.
Net Enrolment Rate (NER)	Age-specific corresponds to the legal admission age. Ratio of children of official school-age who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding school age.
Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Security model that encompasses groups of 10 houses with the aim of enhancing security.
Transition Rate	The proportion of children admitted, relative to the number of those who were, the year before, in the final school-year of the preceding level.

# MANDERA COUNTY

POPULATION  
**1,025,756**  
in 2009





## Foreword

**K**enya has a large population of young people below the age of 35 years. Three in every four Kenyans are young people. This population segment presents both a challenge and opportunity to the country's development agenda. The main challenge brought about by this population is the ever growing need for social services such as health, education, and other social amenities. Each year, an increasing number of these young people graduate from educational institutions thereby necessitating an increase in the creation of employment and income opportunities to meet the demands of this group. On the other hand, if Kenya can meet the social and economic needs of this population, then the socio-economic development of the country will be greatly enhanced. In this case the large population of young people will become an asset to the country. It is in recognition of this that the Government of Kenya has put in place several initiatives aimed at improving the socio-economic opportunities and well-being of young people.

The demographic dividend concept advocates for strategic investments in health, education, economic and governance with a view of ensuring that the population of young people is healthy, well-educated, trained for the job market, and economically engaged in a well governed environment. Kenya subscribes to the ideals of this concept whose eventual outcome is accelerated socio-economic growth and improved quality of life which is in line with the aspirations of *Kenya Vision 2030*. In this regard, Kenya's challenge is to match the population growth rate with the available resources.

Results from the modelling of Kenya's demographic dividend potential, which was done in 2014, showed impressive results that the country can achieve on the social and economic fronts when strategic investments are made in these sectors. However, for Kenya to realize these benefits, each of the forty seven counties in the country will have to make strategic investments in health, education, economic, and governance so that the full potential of young people can be harnessed and socio-economic growth accelerated. The 2015 Kenya National Adolescents and Youth Survey (NAYS) was occasioned by the need to provide each county with information on their respective demographic dividend potential and the specific actions that they need to undertake to realize this potential. This report will therefore be very useful to counties when planning for their respective development activities. It is my hope that each county will make use of this report and contribute to making Kenya a better country where citizens enjoy a high quality of life in a safe environment.

**Mr. Saitoti Torome**, CBS  
Principal Secretary  
State Department of Planning

## Acknowledgment

**T**he Kenya National Adolescents and Youth Survey (NAYS) was conducted in 2015 with the goal of contributing to the country's efforts of harnessing the potential of the young people in accelerating national development. Results from this survey will inform counties on the actions that they need to undertake in order to achieve accelerated economic growth

The 2015 NAYS was implemented through a collaborative effort between NCPD and various partners and stakeholders. In this regard, NCPD would like to thank the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Norwegian Government, through the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), for both their technical and financial support to the survey.

The implementation of the 2015 NAYS was guided by a Task Force made up of two committees, namely; Steering and Technical Committees. The Steering Committee provided advice on the conceptualisation and the implementation strategies and modalities while the Technical Committee was responsible for the development of the survey tools, recruitment and training of the research assistants, coordination, and supervision of data collection, data processing, analysis and report writing. NCPD is grateful to members of the two committees.

The NCPD's County Population Coordinators (CPCs) were responsible for introducing the research assistants to the various counties under their jurisdiction and ensuring their smooth movement within the counties. They were also responsible for conducting the Key Informant Interviews. Given the success of the fieldwork, NCPD would like to thank all the CPCs.

Finally, NCPD would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council of Governors and the individual Governors for facilitating the entry of the research teams into the counties, and the respondents in all the counties who participated in the focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, and the key informant interviews. These respondents include community members, pupils, students, health workers, and heads of learning institutions, programme managers, employers, and government officials. The information that was provided by these respondents facilitated the development of this report. It is therefore NCPD's hope that this report will be useful to all the counties as they contribute to the national efforts towards harnessing the demographic dividend.

**Dr. Josephine Kibaru-Mbae**, OGW  
 Director General  
 National Council for Population and Development

## Executive Summary

**T**his report presents Mander County profile based on the findings of the 2015 National Adolescents and Youth Survey conducted by the National Council for Population and Development, (NCPD), in conjunction with Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Youth department, KNBS and various development partners. The survey covered all the 47 counties with the multiple objectives of examining what potential exists for a demographic dividend in each of the 47 counties, Identifying Health, Education, Economic and Governance issues that affect young people in each county, identifying what specific investment opportunities that could accelerate achievement of the demographic dividend and providing policy and programme recommendations based on the survey findings.

This report interrogates the demographic profile of the county and the prevailing socio-economic indicators of the county and further identifies the challenges and opportunities that exist for harnessing the benefits of a growing youth population. The report therefore presents a preview the demographic, health, education, economic and governance indicators which are the main sectors whose performance impact on building a county that would be responsive to the young people.

The population of Mander County is 1,025,756 people. Of these 559,943 are male and 465,813 female. The county's population is projected to increase to 1,788,170 and 2,672,124 in 2030 and 2050 respectively. The county's population-age structure is youthful with 53.7 percent of the population below age 15. The proportion of the population in the working ages was 44 percent in 2009 and is projected to increase to 58 percent in 2030 and to 65 percent in 2050. The county has a high dependency ration; it was 125 in 2009 but it is projected to decline to 72 in 2030 and further to 54 in 2050. The county's demographic window opens in 2058 and it is estimated to close by 2098.

The county has very high fertility. The average number of children per woman is 8. The use of contraception is very low in the county. Only 2.3 percent of the married women are using contraceptives. Similarly, the number of births that are attended by a skilled health worker is very low. Only 22 percent of the births in the county are attended by a skilled health worker. This implies that the majority of births in the county are delivered without the assistance a skilled health worker. About half of the children 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated. The young people in the county face various health challenges. The main challenges are drug and substance abuse, sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/ AIDS, teenage pregnancies, malnutrition and water borne diseases such as malaria.

School enrolment in the county is relatively low. The primary school net enrolment rate is 27.2 percent. While the secondary school net enrolment rate is 9.3 percent. These figures

indicate that the majority of the school age children are out of school. It is estimated that 137,000 primary school age children and 74, 500 secondary school children are out of school in the county. The main challenges young people face in relation to education are lack of school fees, teenage pregnancies, absenteeism, drugs and substance abuse and child labour.

Mandera County faces high rates of poverty and unemployment. The mainstay of the economy is subsistence agriculture which is heavily dependent on rain. . The main economic activities young people are engaged in are business, domestic work, herding and charcoal burning .The reason why young people engage in these economic activities is high poverty levels. Both social and economic development interventions are necessary to address the scale and impact of these social problems. Investment in the health, education, and economic opportunities for the population coupled reduction in the population growth rate will accelerate economic growth.

The results show that young people face some health challenges which include fear or embarrassment, cost of health services, myths and misconception, religious restrictions, stigma especially those with HIV/AIDs, inadequate family planning commodities, negative provider attitudes. The other challenges include lack of access due to inadequate health facilities and frequent shortage of drugs or expired drugs, inadequate health information and also lack of youth friendly services.

Drugs and substance abuse, communicable diseases for instance malaria, typhoid, other infectious diseases, STIs, HIV and AIDs, teenage pregnancy, water sanitation and hygiene are the main health problems affecting young people in the county. The report recommends public awareness regarding HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, public awareness and free health services so as to make it easily accessible and family planning information.

In education front, the county has very low enrolment in both primary and secondary school levels. Over 136,929 children in primary school and 74,502 are out of school. This situation will, to a large extent, deny the county the benefits of an educated young population. The government should therefore expand opportunities for more children to attend school and provide adequate teachers and learning materials.

The main cases in the county are land disputes, rape and corruption. Cases in this county are mainly solved through the formal justice and traditional systems by council of elders. The county faces some challenges like injustice and inter clan clashes. The report therefore recommends the need to promote peace and morality, public awareness in meetings and chief barazas and address corruption.



# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

### 1.1.1 Youth in Kenya

The United Nations uses the terms 'youth' and 'young people' interchangeably to mean people aged 15-24 years with the understanding that member states and other entities may use different definitions. The Constitution of Kenya (2010) defines youth as those individuals who have attained the age of 18 years but have not attained the age of 35 years. Those aged 18-34 years constitute about 30 percent of Kenya's total population while those aged 0-34 years constitute 78 percent of the population. This youthful population is a demographic asset and investing in their education, health, skill development and employment prospects will accelerate a demographic dividend. To reap the benefits of this dividend, Kenya must make sound investment in health, education and economic development.

### 1.1.2 The Demographic Dividend

The demographic dividend refers to the accelerated economic development that a country can attain by slowing down the pace of population growth while at the same time making strategic investments in the health, education, economic, and governance sectors. The demographic dividend concept is being popularized in developing countries as a potential solution to their development challenges. In embracing this concept, Kenya modelled the demographic dividend in 2014 using the *DemDiv* Model that was developed by Futures Group. The modelling of Kenya's demographic dividend was supported by USAID through the Health Policy Project. Results from the model showed that Kenya could achieve the following results by 2050 through implementation of activities aimed at achieving the demographic dividend: Investments per capita will increase to about US\$ 2,000 from the current figure of about US\$ 200; Fertility levels will decline to an average of 2 children per woman from the current 4 children per woman thereby decreasing the dependency ratio: Even with an increase in the population size, the employment gap (i.e. people in the labour force who are not active) will be 8 million which is less than the current gap of 10 million. These results are consistent with the aspirations of *Kenya Vision 2030*.

### 1.1.3 Population Size, Growth and Composition

The population of Kenya was enumerated at 38.6 million during the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census. It was estimated to be increasing at a rate of 1 million people each year representing a

growth rate of about 2.9 percent annually. From the census results, the dependency ratio was recorded at 87 dependents for every 100 people in the working ages (15-64 years). The same census also indicated that Kenya's population-age structure is youthful because the population of children below the age of 15 years was 43 percent, way above the cut-off limit of 35 percent. This was corroborated by the fact that those aged below 35 years constitute 78 percent of the country's total population. This population-age structure does not lend itself to the country's efforts to attain a rapid economic growth because most of the resources are spent on meeting the ever increasing social needs (health, housing, education, water and sanitation) of the fast growing population.

*Kenya's Population Policy for National Development* recognizes that the rapid growth in the population size is a constraint to national development. To counter this, the policy proposes a reduction in the fertility levels from 5 children per woman in 2009 to 2 children per woman in 2050. According to the 2014 KDHS, the fertility level was 4 children per woman in 2014 which is a clear indication that the fertility levels are dropping. If this trend continues and Kenya achieves a fertility level of 2 children by 2050 then the population size will increase to 59 million in 2030 and 75 million in 2050 with the proportion of those aged below 15 years decreasing to 33 and 25 percent respectively. The dependency ratio for the country in 2030 and 2050 will be 57 and 45 dependents for every 100 people in the working ages (15-64 years) respectively.

## 1.2 Survey Rationale

In 2014, NCPD and various partners modeled Kenya's demographic dividend using the *DemDiv* model. The impressive results from the modeling exercise showed that Kenya could achieve accelerated socio-economic growth through targeted investments. However, it was recognized that for this to happen, each of the 47 counties would have to play a role. Unfortunately, information on the demographic dividend potential for each county and the specific activities that they each need to implement so as to benefit from this potential was largely lacking. Given the differences in the health, education, economic and governance status of the counties, it was necessary to conduct this survey to generate county specific information on the demographic dividend potential and activities that need to be implemented. With this information at hand, each county would know what they need to do to harness the potential of their youthful population.

## 1.3 Survey Goal and Objectives

### *Survey goal*

The goal of the 2015 National Adolescents and Youth Survey was to provide solid evidence on how the growing youth population can be harnessed to accelerate economic growth and achieve a demographic dividend.

## Survey objectives

The objectives of the 2015 NAYS were:

- a. To generate a profile of adolescents and young people in each county. This includes the population size, age distribution, and socio-demographic characteristics.
- b. Identify Health, Education, Economic and Governance issues that affect young people in each county.
- c. Identify investment opportunities in the key sectors in each county.
- d. Provide policy and programme recommendations based on the survey findings.

## 1.4 Survey Organisation

The implementation of the survey was facilitated by two committees; Steering and Technical committees whose members were drawn from different organisations representing the different sectors that have a key role in the country's efforts to harness the demographic dividend. Members of the Steering Committee were involved in providing policy guidance and field work monitoring while members of the Technical Committee were involved in giving technical input and supervision of field teams alongside the NCPD County Population Coordinators.

### 1.4.1 Pre-test

The survey pre-test was conducted in April 2015, where 26 Technical Committee members and a selection of research assistants participated. The purpose of the pre-test was to check on the flow and meaning of questions, language used in the tools, and the time it would take to administer each tool. During the pre-test, the programme for the fieldwork training was developed and reviewed to ensure that the training for the fieldwork would cover all the necessary aspects that are required to fully equip the research assistants in readiness for the data collection exercise.

### 1.4.2 Trainings

The Technical Committee members were trained for three days, in February 2015, on demographic dividend and its applicability in the Kenyan context so that they could be conversant with the concept before embarking on the development of the survey tools. This enabled the Technical Committee members to develop the data collection tools that responded to the objectives of the survey.

In April 2015, thirty-four (34) research assistants were competitively recruited for data collection in the 47 counties. They were trained from 29<sup>th</sup> April to 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in Nakuru. The trainees were taken through the survey tools, materials and modalities of recruiting the respondents for the different tools that were to be administered. They were also trained on how to conduct interviews. Different methodologies and approaches were used in the training to ensure that the research assistants were well equipped to collect quality data.

## 1.5 Survey Methodology and Implementation

The NAYS survey used two methodologies namely; quantitative and qualitative. The quantitative methodology involved the desk review of secondary data from the *2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census*, the *2014 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS)*, the *2014 Economic Survey and the 2014 Basic Education Statistical Booklet*. These sources were used to generate information on population, health, education, and economic issues at both national and county levels. It presented a synopsis of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the country and each of the counties. The quantitative methodology also involved the generation of population projection data for each of the counties using **PADIS software**. The qualitative methodology involved the collection of qualitative data through focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, and key informant interviews.

### 1.5.1 Survey tools

In collecting the qualitative data, the following tools were used:

- a. Focus Group Discussions (FGD) guides for conducting focus group discussions.
- b. Key Informant Interview (KII) guides for conducting key informant interviews with policy/ decision makers at county level.
- c. In-Depth Interview (IDI) guides conducting in-depth interviews with service providers in health, education, and economic sectors.
- d. Check list for youth-serving organisations.

The FGD, KII, and IDI guides were used to solicit information on the key issues affecting the wellbeing and participation of young people in terms of health, education, economic opportunities and governance. In addition to this, the tools were used to collect information on how the identified issues could be addressed. The checklist for youth serving organisations was used to assess the state of health and education facilities and services for young people.



## 1.5.2 Sampling

The sample for the qualitative component of the survey was national in scope covering the 47 counties in Kenya. These counties were clustered into 16 survey regions based on social-demographic characteristics. Table 1.1 shows the clustering of all the counties from which the set of all the tools were administered.

**Table 1.1 Cluster counties by study regions**

	Region	Counties
1.	Nairobi	Nairobi
2.	North Eastern	Garrisa, Wajir, Mandera
3.	Upper Eastern	Isiolo, Marsabit
4.	Central Eastern	Meru, Embu, Tharaka Nithi
5.	Lower Eastern	Kitui, Makueni, Machakos
6.	North Rift (1)	Trans Nzoia, West Pokot, Turkana,
7.	North Rift (2)	UasinGishu, Elgeiyo Marakwet, Nandi
8.	Central Rift	Nakuru, Kericho, Bomet, Baringo
9.	South Rift	Kajiado, Narok, Samburu
10.	Western	Kakamega, Vihiga, Bungoma, Busia
11.	Nyanza South	Kisii, Nyamira, Migori (Kuria)
12.	Nyanza North	Kisumu, Siaya, Homa Bay, Migori (Luo)
13.	Central (1)	Kiambu, Murang'a, Kirinyaga,
14.	Central (2)	Nyeri, Nyandarua, Laikipia
15.	Coast (1)	Mombasa, Kwale, TaitaTaveta,
16.	Coast (2)	Tana River, Lamu, Kilifi

In mapping out areas where the data was collected from, the survey was guided by the National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme (NASSEP V) which is developed and managed by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. Each tool was administered to targeted respondents who had been determined using criteria that had been set prior to the survey field work. The criteria used to recruit those who would participate in the focus group discussions were age, sex, and schooling status. FGDs were conducted for the following age groups 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-34 and 35-60 year olds. Given the survey objectives, the young people responded to issues on health, education, economic, and governance that touched on their daily lives. The older age groups (35-60 years) gave their perceptions on health, education, economic, and governance as it relates to the young people. In order to triangulate the information collected, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and In-Depth Interviews (IDIs) were used to collect information from key informants and service providers respectively. The KIIs

were administered to policy makers' in-charge of the specific sectors of interest in the counties. The respondents to the IDIs were service providers in the health, education and economic sectors.

Table 1.2 and 1.3 show that the target for each county was 8 Key Informant Interviews, 8 In-Depth Interviews, and 9 Focus Group Discussions.

**Table 1.2 Key informant interviews and in-depth interviews sample frame for each county**

Sector	Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)	In-Depth Interviews (IDIs)
Health	County Executive Committee Member (CEC) – Health OR Chief Officer Health OR County Director of Health	1. Health Facility In-charge 2. Manager In-charge of Youth Serving Organisation in Health
Education	1. County Director of Education (CDE) 2. County Executive Committee Member (CEC) - Education	1. Primary School with Pre-primary – School heads (1 public School) 2. Secondary School – Principals (1 public school) 3. Tertiary Institutions – Dean of student (1) 4. TVET (1)
Economy	1. County Director of Youth Development 2. County Executive Committee Member (CEC) - Youth Affairs 3. CEC to be selected depending on the main economic activity of the county	1. Enterprise Development Fund Representative (UWEZO, YEDF, WEF etc) 2. A leading employer in the County
Governance	1. County Commissioner 2. County Executive Committee Member (CEC) – Public Administration	N/A

**Table 1.3 Focus group discussions sample frame for each county**

Group	Additional Criteria	No. of FGDs	Place
Young people, Age 10-14	1 for males and 1 for females	2	School
Young people, Age 15-19	1 for males and 1 for females	2	School
Young people, Age 15-19	1 mixed group out of school (male & female, married & unmarried)	1	Community
Young people Age 15-24	1 for marginalized populations	1	Community
Young people, Age 20-24	1 for married and unmarried youths	1	Community
Young people, Age 25-34	1 for married and unmarried youths	1	Community
Older people, Age 35-60	1 for older people (male and female)	1	Community

### 1.5.3 Data Collection

Data collection was done by 16 teams, each consisting of two (2) research assistants. The fieldwork commenced on 11<sup>th</sup> May and ended on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015. Each team was assigned two or three counties for data collection. In addition to this, each team had a vehicle and a driver to ensure smooth movement during the data collection exercise. Using the field work plan developed during the fieldwork training, the research assistants systematically collected data from their assigned regions. Throughout this process, they were guided by their respective supervisors. At the end of each day the team members got together to share their experiences and prepare the day's summaries. This sharing helped the teams to strategize the next day's work. Table 1.4 summarizes the response rate for the interviews conducted using the FGD, KII, and IDI guides.

Table 1.4 shows that IDIs had the highest response at 93 percent followed by FGDs at 92 percent. KIIs, which targeted the policy makers at county level, had the lowest response rate at 78 percent.

Table 1.4 Survey response rates

	Focus Group Discussions	Key Informant Interviews	In-Depth Interviews
Interviews Targeted	423	376	376
Interviews Conducted	389	294	348
Coverage (percent)	92%	78%	93%

### 1.5.4 Data Processing and Analysis

As part of the data collection exercise, the interviews were captured using both digital recorders and note books. The data was then transcribed in the original language of the interview and was translated into English language, in cases where the interview language was not English. The hard copies of the English scripts were then typed using Microsoft Word to convert them into soft copies. This was done by the research assistants. On receipt of the data at NCPD headquarters, the same was handed over to data clerks for checking, cleaning and processing.

The quantitative data was processed using SPSS and PADIS while the qualitative data was processed using NVIVO QRS (version 10) software. NVIVO software was used to access, organize, manage, shape, code, explore, extract and analyse the textual data. A team of 13 data clerks was trained on how to process the data using this software. To ensure consistency and quality, two supervisors reviewed and verified the coded data.

# 2

## MANDERA COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS

### 2.1 Background

Mandera County is one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located in the North Eastern part of Kenya and borders Ethiopia to the North, Somalia Republic to the East and Wajir County to the South. It is about 1,100km from the capital city of Nairobi by road. The County is characterized by low lying rocky hills located on the plains that rise gradually from 400 meters above sea level in the south at Elwak to 970 metres above sea level on the border with Ethiopia. There are no lakes, swamps or dams but earth pans are a common in the county. The county has six sub counties that are Banissa, Mandera West, Mandera East, Lafey, Mandera North, and Mandera South.

This chapter gives the background information on the socio-economic and infrastructural information that has a bearing on the development of the county.

### 2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Situation

#### 2.2.1 Population Size and Structure

Table 2.1 Population size and structure

Demographic indicator	2009	2030	2050
Population Size	1,025,547	1,788,170	2,672,124
Proportion of Population Below Age 15	53.7%	39.7%	31.7%
Proportion of Population Above Age 64	1.9%	2.2%	3.3%
Proportion of Population in the Working Ages (15-64)	44.4%	58.1%	65.0%
Dependency Ratio	125.1	72	53.9
Year Demographic Window of Opportunity Opens	2058		

The population of Mandera County according to the 2009 census was 1,025,547. It is projected to rise to 1,788,170 by 2030 and 2,672,124 by 2050. The proportion of the population below age 15 was 53.7 percent but it is projected to decline to 40 percent in 2030 and to 32 percent in 2050. The proportion of those in the working age was 44 percent and is expected to rise to 65 percent in 2050. The county

has a high dependency ratio; it was 125 in 2009 but it is projected to decline to 72 in 2030 and further to 54 in 2050. The county's demographic window opens in 2058 and it is estimated to close by 2098.

## 2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics

This section looks at the socio-economic profile of Mandera County in terms of health, education and the human development index.

Table 2.2 Socio-economic characteristics

Socio-economic characteristics	Indicators	
Health	Average Number of Children Per Woman	7.8
	Proportion of Married Women Using Contraception	2.3%
	Proportion of Births Attended by A Skilled Health Worker	21.7%
	HIV Prevalence	0.2%
	Children 12-23 months fully vaccinated	49.5%
Education	Primary School Net Enrolment Rate	27.2%
	Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	45.4
	Number of Primary School-Age Children Out of School	136,929
	Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate	9.3%
	Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	20.2
	Number of Secondary School-Age Teenagers Out of School	74,502
Human Development Indicator	Human Development Index	0.4212424

The county has very high fertility. The average number of children per woman is 8. The use of contraception is very low in the county. Only 2.3 percent of the married women are using contraceptives. Similarly, the number of births that are attended by a skilled health worker is very low. Only 22 percent of the births in the county are attended by a skilled health worker. This implies that the majority of births in the county are delivered without the assistance a skilled health worker. About half of the children 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated.

School enrolment in the county is relatively low. The primary school net enrolment rate is 27.2 percent. While the secondary school net enrolment rate is 9.3 percent. These figures indicate that the majority of the school age children are out of school. It is estimated that 137,000 primary school age children and 74, 500 secondary school children are out of school in the county.

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a tool developed by the United Nations to measure and rank countries levels of social and economic development based on four criteria: Life expectancy at birth, many years of schooling, and gross national income per capita. The HDI makes it possible to track changes in development levels over time and to compare development levels in different countries. The county has a HDI of 0.42 which compares unfavourably with the national average of 0.520

## 2.3 Health and Young People

Young age is a crucial period for establishing positive health and social behaviours. It is a time when young people are undergoing rapid emotional, physical and intellectual changes, and when they begin the transition from childhood to adolescence to independent adulthood. Timely, accurate and comprehensive information on the health and wellbeing of young people is therefore essential for monitoring Kenyan youth.

### 2.3.1 Main Health Issues Affecting Youth

The qualitative survey sought to establish the health issues affecting young people in Mandera County. The survey was tailored to suit all categories of individuals in terms of age and gender on issues of health.

Table 2.3 Health issues affecting youth

Main Health problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drugs and substance abuse	Peer pressure	School dropout	Create awareness & Education
Communicable diseases (malaria, typhoid, other infectious diseases)	Poor sanitation	Poor health conditions	Sanitation and hygiene
STI/HIV AIDS		Absenteeism	Seek health services from hospitals
Teenage pregnancy		Mental health problems	Counselling
WASH			
Poverty(malnutrition)			

From the focus group discussions, the main health issues affecting the young people include Drugs and substance abuse, Communicable diseases like malaria and typhoid, STI/HIV AIDS and teenage pregnancies. Others include shortage of water and poor sanitation and malnutrition. According to the youth and older people interviewed, peer pressure and poor sanitation are drivers of the health issues they experience. This in turn causes school dropout, poor health conditions, absenteeism and mental health problems.

*“Ok, we have so many diseases even like HIV/AIDS. All of these even in this county or country we have that disease and is a killer disease.”*

[FGD. Male young people 10-14, Mandera]

A health county policy maker corroborated that drug and substance abuse; HIV/AIDS and Cultural practices like Female Genital mutilation are the health issues affecting the young people in the county.

*“The main health concerns could be issues of reproductive health, maybe, family planning and cultural issues like FGM which also affects women of the reproductive health of that age group.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Mandera]

The consequences of these health problems include School dropout, Poor health conditions, Absenteeism and Mental health problems .some of the recommendations suggested to address health problems among the youth included Creation of awareness through public education on matters concerning HIV/AIDS and drugs, counselling, Sanitation and hygiene and encourage people to seek health services from hospitals

### 2.3.2 Access and Availability of Information and Services

This section looks at the youth’s perception towards access to services and availability of information. The table below tabulates the sources, type and usefulness and preferred sources of the information.

Table 2.4 Access and availability of information and services

Sources of health information & services	Types of Health Information & Services	Usefulness of Information	Preferred Sources
Health facility Media(Television/radio) School Public health internet	Disease prevention & diagnosis Effects of Drugs and substance abuse Hygiene and sanitation	Disease prevention Increased knowledge	Media Health facilities schools

From the discussions, sources of health information were identified; specifically the media for instance television and radio, health facilities, schools, public health forums and internet. Out of these the most preferred sources of information are health facilities, the media and schools. The type of information received from these sources included disease prevention and diagnosis, effects of drugs and substance abuse and also hygiene and sanitation. This information according to the respondents is considered useful in terms of increasing knowledge on matters to do with drug abuse and HIV/AIDS and also disease prevention.

### 2.3.3 Access and Availability of SRH/FP Information and Services

Moreover the main SRHH/FP information and services that was reported to be available and accessible to youth was contraceptives specifically injectable and condoms also HIV/AIDS awareness. The respondents encounter reproductive health challenges in accessing these services which is attributed to fear or embarrassment, cost of services, myths and misconception, religious restrictions, stigma especially those with HIV/Aids, inadequate family planning commodities, negative provider attitude and the. Other challenges include cost of these services, inadequate health facility, and stock out or expired drugs, inadequate health information and also lack of disability friendly services.

*“It is costly because the only place that is available is the health centres, for example if the health centre is not there you are charged by getting it from the pharmacies or private hospitals.”*

[FGD. Male young people 15-19, Mandera]

They suggested that there is need for public awareness and free health services so as to make it easily accessible.

### 2.3.4 Organisations Addressing Health

The organisations addressing health concerns in Mandera County include Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and government agencies these organisations have reduced cases of malnutrition and improved health awareness. They would like these organisations to keep up their efforts and also offer support to people with disabilities.

### 2.3.5 Opportunities for Improvement on Health

The respondents were asked to suggest opportunities for improvement on health within their county. More qualified health personnel should be recruited and more health facilities built to serve more people as the existing ones are few.

## 2.4 Education and Young People

### 2.4.1 The Main Education Problems Affecting Youth

The survey pursued the education issues affecting youth in Mandera County. The questions were raised across board including youth, adults and marginalized groups focusing on various thematic areas in Education. This section presents a summary of their consolidated responses by sub-themes. The first sub-theme outlines the main education problems affecting youth in this county, causes of these problems, and consequences, of addressing these problems. The second thematic area addresses



accessibility and availability of education information and ICT services; the third sub-theme focuses on organisations and individuals addressing education issues in the county while the fourth sub-theme outlines the opportunities for investment in education.

**Table 2.5 Main education Problems affecting young people**

Main Education problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drugs and substance abuse Cultural and religious practices Inadequate teaching personnel	poverty	School drop out School absenteeism	Sensitization on importance of Education

According to the various focus group discussions, drugs and substance abuse, cultural and religious practices, for instance early marriage, and inadequate teaching personnel were mentioned as the main education problems affecting young people. These problems were caused mainly by poverty. From a discussion with a policy maker, he stated that the enrolment rates right from primary to secondary school is low due to high poverty levels.

*“The enrolment is okay, the girls child is a bit of a problem, Somalis normally do not take girls to school as they do with as boys, so the girls are fewer than the boys because our people here are naturally poor towards education that affects mostly the girls.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Mandera]

The consequences of these problems include school dropout and school absenteeism by students due to drug abuse and early marriage. The respondents felt the need for the community in the county to be sensitized on the importance of Education.

## 2.4.2 Access and Availability of Education Service

This section looks at the accessibility and availability of education services in Mandera County. During the interviews respondents were asked about their Views on Accessibility and Availability of Education services. It was reported that primary and secondary schools are far and few therefore making them in accessible while tertiary schools are inadequate. The county does not have learning facilities for students with special needs right from primary to tertiary level. The institutions in the county lack adequate learning facilities.

Gender disparity is an issue in this county as the respondents perceive that the males are more than the females due to the boy child preference thus making the females drop out of school.

*“There is a difference in boys and girls accessing education in this community and girls are perceived to be inferior to boys that are why you realize the schools for girls are very rare. They are few than schools that are made for boys because the community perceives girls to be inferior objects of less production.”*

[FGD. Male young people 15-19, Mandera]

### 2.4.3 Relevance of Courses Taught and the Labour Market

On the views on courses taught and their relevance in the prevailing Job market, the respondents stated that the courses were key to employment.

### 2.4.4 Organisations and Individuals Addressing Education

In this county the main organisations identified as addressing Education issues are Non-governmental Organisations and government agencies. These two organisations provide financial support and bursaries to poor students.

### 2.4.5 Opportunities for Investment in Education

In conclusion, participants were asked to suggest the opportunities for investment in Education within their county. The respondents stated the need for improving infrastructure in school, public awareness on the importance of Education, provision of ICT services and employment of more teachers. A policy maker also stated that they are putting up vocational training institution so as to give chance to the students who have finished secondary school education to pursue different courses.

*“One is putting up youth polytechnics, equipping them with all the facilities, and offering them various courses that will give an opportunity to many. The national government have also established a technical institution that is to be to eventually turn to a university whereby children pursue from starting courses from a certificate, diploma and then degree, it a later date, and are starting this technical institution in September. We are admitting our first students.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Mandera]

## 2.5 Economic and Young People

The survey set out to establish a number of issues regarding young people and the economy. This included the main issues affecting access to employment opportunities for youth and identifying the main economic activities that young people are engaged in.

### 2.5.1 Main Economic and Income Generation Opportunities

The main economic and income opportunities the young people are engaged in is construction work. They however face some challenges like tribalism and nepotism, corruption, illiteracy and lack of capital.

### 2.5.2 Economic Activities Young People are Engaged in

Table 2.6 Economic activities young people are engaged in

Main economic activities	Challenges encountered	Ways to address these challenges
Business	Lack of capital	Education and sponsorship
Domestic work	Lack of market	Create jobs
Herding	Harassment from Authority or employers	Financial aid
Charcoal burning		

From the discussions, the participants reported that the young people in the county are engaged in business, domestic work, herding livestock and charcoal burning. High poverty levels are the reasons why these young people engage in these activities.

*“Most of the people become demoralized immediately they finish in form four schools due to lack of money for going to further studies.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people, Mandera]

The challenges the youth face when engaging in the above mentioned activities includes lack of capital to boost business, lack of market to sell their goods and also harassment from authorities or employers. The respondents suggested that to curb these challenges, they should create employment opportunities for young people and financial aid to boost their business.

## 2.5.3 Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Unemployment

Table 2.7 Interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment

Main interventions and programs	Challenges in accessing these interventions	Ways to address these challenges
UWEZO fund CDF YEDF	Lack Of Intervention Awareness	Public awareness

The main interventions and programmes addressing youth employment in this county are NYS, UWEZO fund CDF and YEDF.

These interventions have benefited the young people as they can access loans, get financial aid easily and have improved the economic status of the young people. The respondents reported that the major challenge they faced when trying to access these services is lack of intervention awareness regarding these interventions. They further suggested that for more youth to access the funds, they should conduct public awareness regarding the available interventions.

## 2.5.4 Availability and Access to ICT Services

Table 2.8 Availability and access to ICT services

ICT services available	Challenges in accessing ICT services	Ways of addressing these challenges
Telephone	Cost	Provide electricity/solar
Radio	Power supply	Give ICT equipment
Television	Lack of ICT equipment	Creation of employment
Computers	Network connectivity	Establish ICT centres

The available ICT services in this county include telephone, television, radio and computers. The young people use these platforms to search for jobs, to get current information updates and to gain knowledge. The most preferred services by young people in this county are computers and television. However the young person's encounter some challenges in accessing ICT services including cost of ICT services, limited power supply, lack of ICT equipment and network connectivity.

The respondents suggested they be provided with electricity or solar panels, ICT equipment, Creation of employment and also more ICT centres need to be established.

*“These issues can be addressed by creating a lot of cyber cafes so that the people can get the information they require fast.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 20-24]

## 2.5.5 Organisations and People Addressing Youth Economic Empowerment

Table 2.9 Organisations and people addressing youth economic empowerment

Organisations	Services provided	Views about efforts made by the organizations
Government agencies NGO's	Improve infrastructure School fees Capacity building Financial services	Financial support More needs to be done

The main organisations addressing youth empowerment in the county include government agencies, and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's). These organisations provide financial services to youth provide school fees to the poor, capacity building and also improve infrastructure for instance building of classrooms.

The respondents reported that these organization offer financial support. On the other hand, other respondents requested for more financial support. The potential areas to increase employment in this county include Agriculture, *jua kali* sector trade and industry.

## 2.5.6 Savings and Investment for Old Age

The young people in the county think about their old age while some of them don't think about how their old age will be because of religion and uncertainty in life. Respondents stated that they won't work till old age as it will be their time to relax and Somali elders don't work. A few others stated that they would work if they had their own businesses.

When asked if they think of savings and investments, the respondents agreed and said that young people consider savings and investments. However they reported that less income and more needs, use of drugs and substance abuse among young people and unemployment are barriers hindering them to save and invest. For that reason, they recommend that there should be creation of employment, and promotion of investments for young people.

## 2.6 Governance and Young People

Kenyan youth voices should be heard in the various policy, governance and development processes for sustainable development. While the youth and children constitute the majority population in Kenya their strength should be featured in policy and development planning processes. This section is going to look at governance and the issues surrounding the youth in Mandera County.

## 2.6.1 Rule of Law

The rule of law is the legal principle that law should govern a nation, as opposed to being governed by arbitrary decisions of individual government officials.

### 2.6.1.1 Justice system

Table 2.10 Justice System

Main cases	Challenges	Ways to address
Land disputes	Injustice	Public awareness
Tribalism	Inter clan clashes	Promote peace and morality
Rape		Address corruption
Corruption		

From the discussions with various groups, land dispute, rape, tribalism and corruption were mentioned as the main cases prevalent in the county. These are resolved through the formal justice and traditional systems by council of elders. Respondents reported that the community is faced with some challenges when solving these issues which include injustice and inter clan clashes

These challenges maybe address through promotion of peace and morality, public awareness in meetings and chief *barazas* and also when corruption is addressed.

*“Think it can be done, by crating public awareness and holding barazas, for the whole community, and then they can come up solution to solve this recurrent problem.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 20-24, Mandera]

### 2.6.1.2 Security

On matters to do with security, some respondents stated that there is insecurity while others reported that the security is good and the county is peaceful.

*“The security is worse because of excursion and killing all over, innocent people are killed while on their daily earning. So we can describe the situation in the county even worse level.”*

[FGD. Male young people 15-19, Mandera]

Mechanisms put in place to ensure security in this county include: *nyumba kumi* initiative which requires everyone to know at least ten of their neighbours and report any new person who looks suspicious. There is also public awareness where they preach about peace and Unity. The young people

in this county report suspicious cases and people to the authority and also they preach peace and security issues. The challenges they face when maintaining security include covering up for criminals, victimization of individuals and tribalism and nepotism. Respondents recommended that they should hire and train more security officers, address issues of corruption and tribalism and lastly encourage collaboration where by the community work together with officials to maintain security.

### 2.6.1.3 Cohesion

Cohesion ensures peace and unity and it's therefore important for communities to live together in harmony.

From the survey, the respondents mentioned that the programmes put in place to ensure unity include peace initiatives and Education and religious leaders who preach peace. The respondents suggested that there is need to appreciate all tribes, promote justice and equity and also issues of corruption be addressed.

## 2.6.2 Transparency and Accountability

Young people in this county according to the survey, receive information on planned activities from community meetings that is the *barazas* suggestion boxes and service delivery charter. The mechanisms put in place to ensure transparency and accountability includes disciplinary action taken against offenders, the perpetrators are also asked to step aside for investigations to be conducted. A number of respondents however felt that there is no transparency and accountability in the county due to corruption.

The respondents stated that for these mechanisms to be improved, if issues to do with corruption are addressed.

## 2.6.3 Consensus, Equity, Inclusiveness, Participation and Responsiveness

According to the survey, the young people in this county reported that they are not involved in the process since they are discriminated by age.

*“there is no involvement of youth in such projects because mostly their projects are normally awarded to the old people but mostly those who have connections in high ranks and the only opportunity you can be given is to carry out the manual work using the hand, but example construction of classrooms, you only see the old but you do not see any other involvement of the youth in such projects. They do not even consult us because once they are awarded they go on and do their own design.”*

[FGD. Male young people 15-19, Mandera]

When asked about the roles they would like to play in projects and programmes the youth stated that they would like to be involved in the project process to give out their opinions before any projects and programmes begin.

A majority of the youth feel that the projects and programmes do not address the needs of young people as there is minimal involvement in the project making process while others stated that the existing projects and programmes have really played an important role since they created employment opportunities to the youth. The respondents reported that existing opportunities do not serve those who deserve due to corruption.

*“Opportunities exist, but there is no means to ensure because they are not serving those people who deserve them as we are saying, they are given to people who are in connection.”*

[FGD. Male young people 15-19, Mandera]

The young person’s experience some challenges when they are involved in project implementation this include corruption and tribalism, discrimination by age as most projects are handled by older people and also insufficient funds.

The respondents suggested that more job opportunities should be created, youth representation in the budget making process should be considered, awareness regarding new projects targeting youth should also be done.

#### 2.6.4 Effectiveness and Efficiency

The available resources according to the respondents do not target the youth therefore they would like transparency, accountability and fairness during resource allocation for the youth.

#### 2.6.5 Political Leadership

The respondents were further asked on the role that the political leadership play in the management of youth affairs. They stated that they provide funds for education; they also create employment opportunities to the youth.

*“Political leadership plays partial in management of youth because sometimes they associate or assign or create employment to the youth in accordance to how they are related or how they contribute to their posts. Because a politician role is somebody who is now in power due to election so they create employment or even allocate roles to young according to how that youth contributed.”*

[FGD. Male young people 15-19, Mandera]



## 2.7 Perspectives about Growing Population of Young People

The respondents were asked about their views concerning the growing population of young people. They stated that a high population leads to increased disease transmission rates, few medical personnel and supplies and congestion in health facilities. It affects education since there will be congestion in schools as classrooms will be few and there will be imbalanced teacher student ratio. There will be unemployment as job opportunities will be few. Additionally, crime rates will increase due to a lot of insecurity. The respondents stated that a high population leads to increased disease transmission rates, few medical personnel and supplies and congestion in health facilities. It affects education since there will be congestion in schools as classrooms will be few and there will be imbalanced teacher student ratio. There will be unemployment as job opportunities will be few. Additionally, crime rates will increase due to a lot of insecurity.

## 2.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

To sum up, the survey looked at the health, education, Economic and Governance sectors in Mandera County and the issues surrounding the youths in each of the sectors. In terms of health the young people are affected by drugs and substance abuse, Communicable diseases like malaria and typhoid, STI/HIV AIDS and teenage pregnancies. In Education, they are affected by Drugs and substance abuse, Cultural and religious practices and inadequate teaching personnel. They are also affected by lack of capital, lack of market and harassment from authorities or employers when it comes to economy and also issues like land disputes, tribalism, rape, corruption.

The window of opportunity for Mandera County will open in the year 2058 and close in the year 2108. Therefore the key emphasis should be placed on the four sectors that is health, education, economic and governance.

### Recommendations

Following the discussion above there is need to:

#### *Health*

1. Sensitize the government officials, religious leader's stakeholders and policymakers on the importance of birth spacing on both the county and house hold level. The number of children per woman is very high at 7.8 against the nationals 3.9(KDHS 14).
2. Create awareness through public education on matters concerning HIV/AIDS and drugs, counselling, Sanitation and hygiene and encourage people to seek health services from hospitals.
3. Educate women on the importance of giving birth in hospitals by a skilled service provider so as to reduce maternal and child mortality. The number remains low at 21.7 percent of those who give birth in hospitals.
4. Employ more health personnel in the county as the doctor patient ratio is imbalanced.

### *Education*

1. Create awareness on the importance of education as the enrolment rates according to the demographic survey for 2014 shows that most children of school going age are out of school.
2. Establish more learning centres, especially for girls and tertiary institutions in the county to ensure everyone gets a chance to get educated.
3. Promote girl child education as it's evident that the girl child is not given the opportunity to go to school. This will prevent early marriage and teenage pregnancy.
4. Employ more teachers so as to ensure the teacher student ratio is balanced and the students receive quality education.

### *Economics*

1. Conduct civic education in the county in order to enable the young people to make informed choices and decisions on loans, savings and investments.
2. Create job opportunities in the fast growing sectors such as ICT sector.
3. Institutions of higher learning in the county should regularly update their curriculum to fit the requirements of the labour market. Similarly, they should upgrade the content of the courses offered to ensure that students don't end up with inconsequential education. The courses offered should be informative and relate to the issues in the contemporary economy.
4. Institutions of higher learning should also incorporate as part of the major courses industrial attachment for the students so that they can gain skills and experience in what they are training for. In this sense the training offered by these institutions should be one that encompasses Skills, experience and attitude .
5. Universities and TVET institutions should establish career centres where students can learn about their aptitudes and interests, course offerings and make comparisons with market demands. Such programmes should also help students on job related experiences-job search, writing curriculum vitae and preparing for interviews.

### *Governance*

1. Involve the youth in project and programmes design and implementation process so as to get their views on what they would like to take place.
2. Ensure youth representation in the budget making process.
3. Inform the youth on any existing projects and programmes targeting them once in place.
4. Promote peace in the county by creating public awareness on issues concerning tribalism and corruption.
5. Ensure there is transparency accountability and fairness during resource allocation for the youth.

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## Annex 1: County Demographic Windows

The United Nations defines the demographic window as the period when the proportion of those aged below 15 years permanently falls below 30 percent of the total population while the proportion of those above 64 years is still below 15 percent of the total population. This period is estimated to last about 40 years and it presents an opportunity for a country to achieve a much faster economic growth driven by the large population of people in the working ages. Table A1.1 below shows that Kenya's demographic window will open in 2038. The proportion of those in the working ages will be 66 percent of the total population and the dependency ratio will be 52. An analysis of the beginning of the demographic window for each of the 47 counties in Kenya shows that the window will open at different times for each county.

Table A1.1 Demographic dividend window opening year

2010s	2020s	2030s	2040s	2050+
Kirinyaga	Kiambu	Makueni	Lamu	Mandera
Nyeri	Embu	Machakos	Nandi	Marsabit
Murang'a	Taita Taveta	Nakuru	Elgeyo Marakwet	Migori
	Meru	Nyandarua	Kajiado	Tana River
	Nairobi	Tharaka Nithi	Kitui	Garissa
	Mombasa	Uasin Gishu	Bomet	Narok
		Laikipia	Siaya	Samburu
		Kisumu	Kakamega	Turkana
		Nyamira	Vihiga	West pokot
		Kericho	Baringo	Wajir
		Kisii	Busia	
			Isiolo	
			Kwale	
			Bungoma	
			Homa Bay	
			Kilifi	
			Trans Nzoia	

## Annex 2: Survey Personnel

### North Eastern Region Survey Personnel

Table A2.1 North Eastern Region

Counties	Technical Committee Member	County Coordinator/ Supervisor	Research Assistants	Data Clerk
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5. Agnes Koori (Ministry of Education Science and Technology)
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NCPD is a semi-autonomous government agency that formulates and promotes population policy and coordinates related activities for sustainable development in Kenya.

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**MANDERA COUNTY**