



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

**KERICHO COUNTY**



January 2017



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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome	NYS	National Youth Service
AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities	PADIS	Population, Administration, and Decision Information System International
CDF	Constituency Development Fund	SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
CPC	County Population Coordinators	STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
DemDiv	Demographic Dividend	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
DSA	Drug and Substance Abuse	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
FGD	Focus Group Discussion	WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
FHOK	Family Health Option Kenya	YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund
GER	Gross Enrolment Rate		
HDI	Human Development Index		
HIV	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus		
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		
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics		
MFI	Micro Finance Institution		
NASSEPV	National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme		
NAYS	National Adolescents and Youth Survey		
NER	Net Enrolment Rate		
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation		

## 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.

# KERICHO COUNTY



## 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

The general objective of the 2015 National Adolescent and Youth Survey (NAYS) was to provide evidence of a potential for a demographic dividend and identify opportunities for investment in key sectors; health, education, economic and governance in the 47 counties in Kenya. Data was collected from the young people, older people, service providers and policy makers from the key sectors. Two approaches of data collection were used in the survey. The first method involved the analysis of secondary data to generate the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of Kericho County. The second method entailed qualitative data collection using focus group discussions, in-depth and key informant interviews.

Results from the desk reviews and data analysis showed that the total population of Kericho County was 590,372 people in 2009 and is projected to increase to 917,945 people by 2030 and to 1,181,399 by 2050. The proportion of the population below 15 years was 43 percent in 2009. This proportion will decline to 33 and 25 percent in 2030 and 2050 respectively. The proportion of the population aged 64 and above was 3 percent in 2009 and will gradually rise to 7 percent in 2050. The proportion of the population in the working ages (15-64) was 54 percent in 2009 and is projected to increase to 63 percent in 2030 and to 69 percent in 2050. The county had a dependency ratio of 86 in 2009 and is projected to decline to 58 and 45 in 2050. The demographic window of opportunity is projected to open for the county in the year 2039 and to close in 2079.

The county has a fertility rate of 4 children per woman and 63 percent of the currently married women in the county are using contraception compared to 58 percent nationally. The proportion of births delivered by a skilled provider is 64 percent compared to 62 nationally. The HIV/AIDS prevalence rate for the county is 3 percent which is half of the national rate of 6.4 percent. About 72 percent of the children 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated.

The county has almost universal enrolment in primary school. However, the secondary school net enrolment rate is 59 percent, indicating that a large number of secondary school age children are out of school in the county. The projections indicate over 32,000 secondary school age children are out of school. The county has good pupil-teacher ratio both in primary and secondary levels. The Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio and Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio is 28 and 20 respectively.

The qualitative survey findings show that drug and substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, STI and HIV/AIDS, abortions, malnutrition, poor sanitation, sexual gender based violence (SGBV), mental health problems and malaria are the main health issues affecting young

people in the county.. In order to improve on health outcomes, there is need to increase investment in the health sector especially on child survival and reproductive health services, including family planning services.

The other issues that were mentioned as affecting young people in the county were, indiscipline in schools, child labour lack of school fees, and inadequate learning facilities To improve the education standards, it is recommended that the county government should address the problem of school drop in the county by providing bursaries to the needy children and providing sanitary towels to girls among other measures. In addition, the county should also indiscipline among in schools and absenteeism by both teachers and students and also improve facilities in schools.

The main employment and income generating opportunities in the county are mainly agro based activities especially tea farming and small scale business enterprises. The main issues encountered by young people are limited employment opportunities, lack of requisite academic qualifications and experience, lack of start-up- capital. It was also reported that young people preferred being employed by someone or institution to self employment.

The main reasons why under-age children in the county are engaged in employment were given as prevailing poverty in some households and peer influence. To reduce unemployment there is need for the county government to create more employment opportunities for young people, sensitize the young people on existing income generating and employment opportunities in the county and to create a more conducive business environment for investments in trade, commerce and agro-based industries in the country.

At the county level, young people are employed to work/or manage projects initiated by the County government. Some of the challenges they face, lack of requisite skills and experience, poor pay and incidences of corruption.

The county should make deliberate efforts to actively involve young people in the county's development programmes and projects. Young people should be involved in all the stages program/project development and implementation., This will ensure that there is community buy-in and improvement in social accountability and to strengthen the governance structures in the County and the participation of the young people in county leadership and increase their chances of being employed.



# 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 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 modelled Kenya's demographic dividend using the *DemDiv* model. The impressive results from the modelling 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 research assistants were competitively recruited for data collection in the 47 counties. They were trained from 29th April to 9th 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 (NASSEPV) 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 years. 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 research assistants. The fieldwork commenced on 11th May and ended on 31st 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 after which it 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 thirteen (13) data clerks were trained on how to process the data using this software. To ensure consistency and quality, two supervisors reviewed and verified the coded data.

# 2

## KERICHO COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS

### 2.1 Background

Kericho County is located in the Central Rift of Kenya. It lies between longitude 35° 02' and 35° 40' East and between the equator and latitude 0 23' South. It borders Uasin Gishu County to the North, Baringo County to the North East, Nandi to the North West, Nakuru County to the East, Bomet County to the South, Nyamira and Homa Bay Counties to the South West and Kisumu County to the West. The county covers a total area of 2,479 square kilometres. Administratively, the county is divided into five sub-counties, namely; Kericho East, Kericho West, Sigowet, Kipkelion West, Kipkelion East and Bureti. Electorally, the county has 6 constituencies which include Ainamoi, Kipkelion East, Kipkelion West, Sigowet/Soin, Bureti and Belgut. The County is well known for producing the worlds' best quality of tea.

### 2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

#### 2.2.1 Population Size and Age Distribution

Table 2.1 presents population size and structure for Kericho County. The total population of Kericho County was 590,372 people. With the total fertility rate of 4.0 children per woman, this population is projected to increase to 917,945 people by 2030 and to 1,181,399 people by 2050. The proportion of the population below 15 years was 43 percent in 2009. This proportion will decline to 33 and 25 percent in 2030 and 2050 respectively. The proportion of the population aged 64 and above was 3 percent in 2009 and will gradually rise to 7 percent in 2050. The proportion of the population in the working ages (15-64) was 54 percent in 2009 and is projected to increase to 63 percent in 2030 and to 69 percent in 2050. The county had a dependency ratio of 86.1 in 2009 and is projected to decline to 58 and 45 in 2050. The demographic window of opportunity is projected to open for the county in the year 2039 and to close in 2079.

**Table 2.1** Kericho County's projected population size and structure (2009-2050)

Demographic Indicators	2009	2030	2050
Population Size	590,372	917,946	1,181,399
Proportion of Population Below Age 15	43.4	33.4	24.7
Proportion of Population Above Age 64	2.9	3.2	6.6
Proportion of Population in the Working Ages (15-64)	53.7	63.4	68.8
Dependency Ratio	86.1	57.7	45.4
Year Demographic Window of Opportunity Opens	2039		

Source: Various reports (See the references section)

## 2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics

Table 2.2 presents the socio-economic characteristics for the county. From the table, the total fertility rate for the county is 4.0 children per woman and 63 percent of the currently married women in the county are using contraception compared to 58 percent nationally. The proportion of births delivered by a skilled provider is 64 percent compared to 62 nationally. The HIV/AIDS prevalence rate for the county is 3 percent which is half of the national rate of 6.4 percent. About 72 percent of the children 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated.

## 2.2.3 Socio-Economic Indicators

**Table 2.2** Socio-economic characteristics for Kericho County

Socio-economic characteristics	Indicators	
Health	Average Number of Children Per Woman	4
	Proportion of Married Women Using Contraception	62.9
	Proportion of Births Attended by A Skilled Health Worker	64.4
	HIV Prevalence	3.4
	Children 12-23 months fully vaccinated	71.8
Education	Primary School Net Enrolment Rate	99.3
	Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	28.4
	Number of Primary School-Age Children Out of School	1,358
	Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate	58.6
	Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	19.6
	Number of Secondary School-Age Teenagers Out of School	32,140
Human Development Indicator	Human Development Index	0.5218517

Source: Various reports (See the references section)

The primary school net enrolment rate is 99 percent compared with the secondary school net enrolment rate of 59 percent. The huge difference in the two net rates is due to a huge number of primary-to-secondary school drop-outs. This high enrolment rate in primary schools could be mainly due to the Free Primary Education (FPE) Programme. Table 2.2 also shows that 32,140 secondary school age children are out of school in the county. This implies that the Free Day Secondary School programme is not having a big effect in the county. The Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio and Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio is 28 and 20 respectively. This implies that teacher ratio in the two levels of education is fairly good.

The County Human Development Index (HDI) is 0.5218517 and the national one is 0.520. This implies that the county is performing just like at the national average in terms of human development.

## 2.3 Health and Young People

The survey sought to establish the health issues affecting young people in the county. The FGDs and interviews focused on various thematic areas in health. This section presents a summary of the consolidated responses by sub-themes. The first sub-theme outlines the main health problems affecting young people in the county, the causes for the problems, the consequences to young people and the ways of addressing them. The second area addresses accessibility and availability of health information and services; the third sub-theme focuses on organisations providing health services in the county while the fourth sub-theme presents the suggested ways of improving health of the young people in the county.

### 2.3.1 Main Health Issues Affecting Young People

Table 2.3 Main health issues affecting young people

Main Health problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drug and Substance Abuse	Lack of SRH information among young people	School drop outs	Promoting health education for young people
Teenage Pregnancy	Male chauvinism fuels SGBV	Poor Health Condition	Guidance and counselling of young people
STI or HIV and AIDS	Early sexual debut among teenagers	Poor performance in schools	Promotion of peer education
Abortion	Risky sexual behaviours	Risk sexual behaviours results to teenage pregnancies	Promote Parental care and Guidance of their children
Malnutrition	Addiction to or influence of DSA	Abortion due to teenage pregnancies	Enforcing Drug Regulation Laws
Poor Sanitation	Ignorance	Stigmatization at the community level	Creation and promotion of Youth friendly health and SRH service centres to increase utilization and information base
SGBV	Non disclosure of HIV status fuels the spread of HIV	Death/suicide	Creation of Employment for the idle and unemployed young people
Mental Health problems	Idleness of young people/unemployment	Inability to work/unproductive generation	Establishing Rehabilitation Centres for the addicted young people
Malaria	Parental Negligence or lack of Parental Guidance		
	Peer Pressure		
	High Levels of Poverty		

The main health problems affecting young people are; drug and substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, STI or HIV and AIDS, abortions, malnutrition, poor sanitation, sexual gender based violence (SGBV), poor mental health and malaria.

Lack of SRH information among young people, influence of DSA, lack of knowledge about sexuality and reproductive health issues, idleness of young people/unemployment, parental negligence or lack of parental guidance, peer pressure and high levels of poverty were cited as some of the factors that causes of the main health problems mentioned.

*“Alcohol is the major one because they drink with the thought of removing stress. They are also idle in that at the end of the day they have done nothing constructive.”*

[FGD. Mixed older people, 35-60, Kericho]

The respondents reported the consequences of the health problems in the county include; school drop out/poor health conditions, poor performance in schools, risk teenage pregnancies, abortions and inability to work. It was also reported that in some instances the health problems resulted in death and those who feel desperate due to embarrassment commit suicide.

*“The issue of teenage pregnancy, one may be able to drop out of school and that will affect the population of the school. Again if some has contracted HIV or pregnant, they will lack self-esteem.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

Promoting health education, guidance and counselling of young people, peer education, proper parental care and guidance, provision of youth friendly services, increasing employment opportunities and establishing rehabilitation centres were mentioned as the key ways to address the health problems.

### 2.3.2 Access and Availability of Information and Services

The sources and types of health information and services, their usefulness and the preferred sources of information are presented in Table 2.4

Table 2.4 Access and availability of health information and services

Sources of health information	Types of health information & services	Usefulness of health information	Preferred sources
Health Facilities	Treatment and Medication	Disease Prevention	Schools
Schools	SRH information		Churches
CHWs or CHEWs	Disease prevention and diagnosis	Increased Knowledge influences behaviour change	Youth empowerment centres
Mass media(Print, Radio and TV)	Hygiene and sanitation		
Religious Institutions	Information on Drug and Substance Abuse		
Public health talks or barazas or camps			
Friends and Peers			
Family members			
Internet			
IEC materials			
Youth empowerment centres			

A wide range of sources of information were identified in the FGDs. These include: health facilities, schools, CHWs mass media (Print, Radio and TV), religious institutions, youth empowerment centres, public health talks or camps and peers. Others are family members and internet. Out of these the most preferred sources are schools, churches and youth empowerment centres.

The main type of information and services available for the young people in the county include; sexuality and reproductive health, disease prevention and diagnosis, hygiene and sanitation, drugs and substance abuse This information was regarded as useful in terms of prevention of disease prevention and increased knowledge to influences behaviour change.

Table 2.5 presents a summary of SRH/FP information and services. It gives a summary of main SRH/FP information & services available & accessible, challenges in accessing SRH/FP information & services and how to address these challenges.

**Table 2.5 SRH/FP information and services**

Main SRH/FP information & services available & accessible	Challenges in accessing SRH/FP information & services	Addressing Challenges
Sexuality and reproductive health, and Family planning	Generally lack of youth friendly services Stigma from the community and self-stigma Cultural barriers Ignorance Long distances Lack of adequate SRH information and services Perceived long time (travel, waiting time and service time) taken Fear or Embarrassment Myths and Misconceptions Cost of Services Lack of Disability Friendly Services Provider Attitude Illiteracy	Conducting health outreaches Creating a Conducive Youth Friendly Environment in provision of services Training health providers on provision of disability friendly services Establishing disability friendly health services Employ more providers Employ more providers and building more hospitals Provision of universal Free SRH/FP Services Capacity Building health personnel on provision of SRH services

The main SRH/FP information and services that were reported to be available and accessible to young people were sexuality and reproductive health including family planning. These services were also available to the young people with disability (PLWD). The other information and services available are ARV treatment and care for HIV and AID patients and guidance and counselling for young people. However, the respondents mentioned a number of challenges that the young people face accessing information and services in the county. These include: lack of youth friendly services, stigma cultural barriers, and lack of information and services in the neighbour. Other challenges include; fear or embarrassment, myths and misconceptions associated with some family planning methods, perceived high cost of services, negative attitudes of health providers

*“Money is a challenge because we depend on our parents to give us money as and we sometimes fear because you don’t know where to start.”*

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

Some of the ways suggested by the various groups to address these challenges include; establishing and conducting community health outreach services, provision of youth friendly services and training of health workers on provision of such services, , increasing the number of health workers and health facilities.

The respondents had mixed views regarding on the availability of youth friendly service centres in the county. Some respondents some health facilities were offering youth friendly in the county. The

pointed out that there is a lot privacy in the health facilities, confidentiality and that most of the SRH/FP service providers are young people. While other respondents. .reported that there were generally no youth friendly centres/services in the county.

### 2.3.3 Organisations Addressing Health Issues

In the county the main organisations identified as addressing health issues affecting young people are the government health facilities, health facilities managed/owned by Non-governmental organisations (NGOs), those owned by Faith Based organisations (FBOs) and youth centres. The government managed facilities were acknowledged for the improved awareness of SRH/FP services and provision of life skills to young people.

### 2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement

To improve health service provision in the county, the respondents recommended establishment more health facilities and provision of youth friendly service centres and training of health personnel .

## 2.4 Education and Young People

The FGDs and interviews covered various thematic areas in education. This section presents a summary of their consolidated responses by sub-themes. The first theme outlines the main education issues affecting young people in Kericho County, the causes for these issues, the consequences to young people and the ways of addressing these problems. The second thematic area addresses accessibility and availability of education services; the third theme focuses on the respondents' views on the content of the current education curriculum in relation to the prevailing job market requirements, the fourth section looks at the organisations providing education services in the county while the fourth sub-theme outlines the opportunities available for young people to access education and gain skills.

### 2.4.1 Main Education Issues Affecting Young People

From all the FGDs conducted teenage pregnancies, some cases of poor implementation of education policies, indiscipline in schools, child labour issues, drug and substance abuse, poverty and lack of school fees and teacher and student absenteeism were identified as the main issues affecting education of young people. Other issues that were mentioned included; inadequate facilities in schools and SGBV. On school fees, one of the participants in an FGD with young people observed that:

*“If you don’t have fee and you come to school you will be chased to go and bring fees; then reaching home there is no fees; so you remain at home.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 10-14, Kericho]

In addition, understaffing and poor infrastructure were also mentioned as affect education service provision in most learning institutions.

**Table 2.6 Main education issues affecting young people**

Main Education problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Poverty and lack of school fees	Peer Pressure leads to DSA	Loss of hope in education	Creation of employment opportunities for teenagers to have hope in education and future
Teacher and student absenteeism	Teenagers DSA as stress reliever	Missing lessons	Building of orphanages to care of the orphaned children
Inadequate Learning Facilities	Negative Attitude about the future	School Absenteeism	Free education or reduction of school fees
SGBV in schools	Orphan-hood	Poor Academic Results	Provision of sanitary towels in schools
Teenage Pregnancies		Lack of Concentration	Provision of Bursaries
Poor implementation of education policies		School Dropouts	Promotion of Parental Awareness of their children
Indiscipline in schools			Law Enforcement on Child Labour
Child Labour			
Drug and Substance Abuse			

The education issues identified were mainly attributed to peer pressure among the young people to use of drugs.

The respondents mentioned that the main consequences of the issues included; absenteeism, poor performance and school dropouts. One FGD participant observed that:

*“Drop outs are many because most cannot afford school fees and also those with low grades; they are discouraged by the family by being called failures.”*

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

The respondents also proposed ways of addressing the problems affecting education in the county. These include provision of bursaries, provision of free education, provision of counselling and guidance in schools, provision of sanitary towels in schools, enforcement of the law on child labour.

## 2.4.2 Access and Availability of Education Services

Although Kenya has made some progress in the universal access to education, barriers to access and availability of education services still exist in the Counties. The FGD participants made observations touching on the adequacy of learning facilities in the institutions including for students with special needs, gender disparities in schools and availability & accessibility of education services.

The respondents reported that the schools in the county did not have adequate learning facilities such as libraries (books) and laboratories. Some schools were reported to have very few toilet facilities, poor water supply and lack electricity supply. One FGD participant noted the following:

*“About our neighbouring schools, the learning facilities are not enough because they do not even have a laboratory, very few classrooms.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

Although the government has made efforts in integrating the education services for the physically handicapped children in the normal schools, the respondents were of the opinion that most of the schools in the county lacked facilities for the children with disability. Moreover, there are no special schools for children with special needs (i.e. disabled children).

On gender disparities in schools, the findings show that there are more girls than boys in the both primary and secondary schools.

On accessibility of education services, the groups reported that primary and secondary education is accessible and available. However, some schools are distant (very far) particularly day secondary schools. However, the respondents pointed out that there are very few tertiary institutions in the county and secondary school-leavers go to other counties in search of tertiary education.

*“Tertiary institutions are not there in this county we have only branches of universities but there are no colleges.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-34, Kericho]

### 2.4.3 Organisations Providing Education Services

The main service provider of education services in the county is the government. The provision and management of pre-primary and TIVET institutions are under the management and funding mainly by County government. The Ministry of Education of the national government is the main organization that provides education services in primary, secondary and other tertiary levels.

Financial institutions, Non-governmental Organizations, Community Based organisations (CBOs) and religious institutions were acknowledged paying school fees for some needy children. The government and the other players in the education sector were lauded for provision of bursaries especially to needy children.

### 2.4.4 Relevance of courses and the labour market requirement

On the relevance of the courses taught in schools and the labour market requirements, the groups had varied views. There were those who were satisfied that, what is taught in schools meets the labour

market requirements while others stated the contrary. For those who said they are relevant, they observed that the courses taught are relevant and marketable and relevant but jobs are scarce.

For those who said the courses are not relevant to the labour market requirements, they stated that, most colleges and courses lack of proper career guidance, most courses are theory than practical and that some tertiary institutions offering courses that have not been approved by the relevant authorities.

### 2.4.5 Opportunities for Young People to Gain Skills

In terms of the opportunities to gain skills, some of the groups noted that, there are few programmes in the county that offer internship, mentorship, capacity building and attachment opportunities for young people to gain skills required in the labour market.

### 2.4.6 Opportunities for Investment in Education

The various discussions in the various FGDs made suggestions on the opportunities for investing in education in the county. Promotion and investment in return to school after child birth policy, allocating and ensuring bursaries reach deserving needy and orphan students / or pupils, establishing more vocational training institutions for school drop-outs, lower university cut off points to increase access to university education building of libraries or resource centres and initiating programmes to support marginalized populations. Other areas suggested by the groups include; provision of facilities that can accommodate students with special needs, public awareness on importance of education, provision of ICT Services to improve education standards and performance and employing more teachers. Existence of facilitative education policies was also cited by the policy makers as the greatest opportunity at this time.

*“Those bursaries forms should be given to those who are orphans and those with disabilities to apply for bursaries, let give those who are not able rather than giving those who are strong.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

## 2.5 Economic Status and Young People

The FGDs and interviews focused on various thematic areas in the economic wellbeing of young people. The first section outlines the main employment and income opportunities available to young people while the second section outlines the challenges experienced by young people in accessing these employment and income opportunities. The third section summarises the main economic activities young people are engaged in, the challenges they encounter in the course of their duties and how the challenges can be addressed. Focus on the reasons why under-age children are engaged

in employment opportunities will also be presented. The final section outlines the main interventions and programmes in place to provide employment and income opportunities to young people, challenges in accessing these interventions and to address them.

### 2.5.1 Main Employment and Income Opportunities

In the county, the main employment and income opportunities identified by the various groups were mainly farming activities especially tea farming, and small scale business enterprises.

### 2.5.2 Challenges Encountered in Accessing Employment and Income Opportunities

The various groups identified a number of issues that young people encounter in accessing employment and income opportunities in the County; The main ones identified are; corruption perpetuated by institutions and individuals in the business and employment environment, inadequate academic qualifications compared to the employers specific-requirements, unfair competition and business practices, negative attitude of young people towards self-employment as opposed to white collar jobs, limited opportunities, high taxation regimes, lack of adequate knowledge and skills and lack of adequate capital for start-up capital.

*“Those who want to do business they lack capital and when they want to access loans it is a problem.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people, 25-34, Kericho]

Other than the challenges observed by the groups, the County policy makers observed that, lack of information on the available opportunities, tedious & complex registration processes and lack of markets for young people' goods & services have also clogged young people from accessing these opportunities. A policy maker noted that:

*“Access to capital is the major challenge and also the issue of taxation and business registration is a problem but when it comes to security in general it is okay.”*

[Policy maker, Kericho]

### 2.5.3 Economic Activities Young People are Engaged In

Section 53 (1) of the Employment Act, 2007 of the laws of Kenya states that, notwithstanding any provision of any written law, no person shall employ a child in any activity which constitutes worst form of child labour. From the FGDs and other survey respondents it was apparent that under-age children are engaged in some form of economic activities. The main economic activities these young

people engage in include; Tea picking, Casual/menial jobs, Charcoal Burning, Waiters in restaurants, Touting and conductors, Domestic Work,'Boda boda' riders, hawking, shop attendants, tea farming and operating small scale business.

*“Mostly those who are drop outs engage in casual labour.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

## 2.5.4 The Main Economic Activities that Young People are Engaged In

Table 2.7 Main economic activities young people are engaged in

Main economic activities	Challenges encountered	How to address the challenges	Reasons why under-age children engage in employment and income opportunities
Tea picking	Lack of collateral to enable them acquire loans for business	Create Public Awareness against employing under-age children	Forced child labour
Casual/menial jobs	Occupational Hazards (Health complications and Accidents that may lead to death)	Enforcement of Laws on Child Labour	Peer influence
Charcoal Burning	Lack of Market for goods and services	Ease Access to youth funds	Child headed households
Waiters in restaurants	Harassments by authority or employers including sexual harassment	Setting up- more vocational trainings for youths to gain skills	Poverty issues
Touting and conductors	Lack of Necessary Skills required in business or employment	Sensitization of the public on the importance of education	
Domestic Work/ 'Boda boda'	Lack of awareness on legal requirements for business and employment	Formation of Empowerment Groups	
Hawking	Poor Pay Exploitation by their employers		
Shop attendants			
Farming-Tea			
Small scale businesses			
Masonry			
Tailoring			
Carpentry			

While engaging in the above economic activities, these young people come across a number of challenges. They are; lack of collateral to enable them acquire loans for business, face occupational hazards (health complications and accidents that may lead to death), lack of market for goods and services, harassments by authority or employers including sexual harassment and lack of necessary skills required in business or employment. In some other instances, others lack awareness on legal requirements for business and employment and poor pay and exploitation by their employers.

*“Those who pluck tea sometimes can be rained on and can contract diseases like pneumonia.”*

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

To address these challenges, the groups noted that; there is need to create public awareness against employing under-age children, enforcement of laws on child labour, ease access to youth funds, setting up- more vocational trainings for youths to gain skills and sensitization of the public on the importance of education.

The under-age young people working in the County are due to poverty issues in some households, peer influence and in child headed households. In certain instances, there are cases of forced child labour.

*“Lack of school fees results to people like us going to work because when you are chased and you go home most parents say that they don’t have money to pay for school so you have to work.”*

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

## 2.5.5 Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Unemployment

Over the years, and upon establishment of county governance structures, there have been a number of programmes and interventions that have been rolled out to address youth unemployment issues. In Kericho County, the groups identified key interventions/programmes that offer opportunities to young people to gain skills to enable them access employment or offer start-up capital at a much lower interest rates. These interventions include; Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) that enable young people to access 30 percent of all government (national and county) procurements, National Youth Service (NYS) programmes that enable young people to gain specific technical skills, UWEZO, YEDF and WEF funds that enable young people and women to access credit at low interest rates.

Table 2.8 Interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment

Main interventions and programmes	Challenges in accessing these interventions	Ways to address these challenges
Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) WEF YEDF UWEZO Fund NYS	Loans are accessed in groups with no option of individuals given group dynamics Lack of collateral to access loans, Organizational bureaucratic structures Too long time taken for loans to mature, Corruption and favoursism in service delivery, Fear of taking loans and Lack of intervention awareness	Giving loans to both individuals and groups Increase funding for the interventions to cover more young people Reforming and strengthening the institutions in charge of these programmes to address corruption Sensitization on the interventions operations

In accessing these interventions and programmes, young people face a number of organizational, individual or programmatic challenges. The various groups observed that; Loans are accessed in groups with no option of individuals given group dynamics, Lack of collateral to access loans, organizational bureaucracy, too long time taken for loans to mature, corruption and favours in service delivery, fear of taking loans and lack of intervention awareness. A participant in an FGD with young people noted that:

*“UWEZO fund is there but most youths lack the knowledge so they avoid borrowing the loans due to fear of mismanagement.”*

[FGD. Male young people, 20-24, Kericho]

In order to address these challenges, the groups recommended that, there is need of giving loans to both individuals and groups, increase funding for the interventions to cover more young people, reforming and strengthening the institutions in charge of these programmes to address corruption and sensitization of young people on the interventions operations.

### 2.5.6 Availability and Access to ICT Services

Information & Communication Technology (ICT) has been lauded to revolutionize businesses. In Kericho County, availability of cyber cafes to provide computer and internet services, mobile telephony penetration, radio, television coverage has helped young people’s access information on the available business and income generating opportunities. The most preferred services are social media, mobile phones and internet. The type of information sought by young people is on further studies, SRH information currents affairs & news, job searching, academic research and for entertainment purposes.

*“If you don’t have a television and you want to know about the world then, you go to the internet or books.”*

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

One of the main benefits of using the various ICT services that was reported across various groups is that is that ICT enable users get information to gain knowledge, people are exposed on current and important issues, entertainment purposes, enhance communication, promotes self-improvement, social networking and gaining information to improve farming practices.

Parental restrictions, lack of or limited ICT facilities, ,inadequate ICT centres, poor power supply, high cost of acquiring ICT devices, and poor network problems are some of the key challenges that affect access to and utilization of ICT services.

*“Lack of electricity you find that people buy computers and television but they lack where they can charge, there is no power so, I wanted to say electricity cost should be reduced so that all people will be able to purchase it.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-34, Kericho]

In order to facilitate ICT use, the groups proposed the establishment of ICT centres to ease access and utilization, provision of computers in schools and provide electricity supply connection to support ICT,

*“Some youth, especially those from rural areas, don’t know how to use ICT facilities like computers so they should teach them how to use them.”*

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

### 2.5.7 Organisations Addressing Youth Economic Empowerment

The organisations that address young people’s economic empowerment include; CDF that offer bursaries to young people for education purposes, NGOs that offer education scholarships and bursaries, Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs) that offer loans and other government agencies that provide economic empowerment needs.

### 2.5.8 Potential Sectors to increase employment and income opportunities

The groups observed existence of agricultural potential particularly tea farming, transport sector and construction sectors, information communication and Technology, trade and industry, existing business opportunities and sports development as some of the sectors that can increase employment and income opportunities in the county..

### 2.5.9 Savings and Investment for Old Age

Savings for old age enables people in their old age to have income that can enable them meet their daily needs. Young people were asked if they are concerned about investments for their old age. There groups especially the young people had varied opinion on their investment for the old age. There are those who said that, investment for the old age should start at younger ages so that they can have income during their old age and continue with life as if they were earning.

Those who said that they are not saving for their old age stated current economic challenges that do not enable them to save. Some of the barriers identified that prevent young people from investing

for their old age include; less income with more needs, high expenditure on entertainment, lack of knowledge on investment for old age and unemployment of very many young people.

*“For me I see many issues affecting young people when it comes to thinking about their old age for example issues of polygamous marriages and little income so they have nothing to save actually.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people, 25-34, Kericho]

To address these barriers and encourage young people to invest for their old age, the group’s observed that there is need sensitize young people on the importance of saving for their old age.

## 2.6 Governance and Young People

The FGDs and interviews focused on various principles of governance and how young people are involved in the governance functions especially after the devolution of services to the county level. This section presents a summary of discussions and observations on how young people participate in governance roles in the county. The first section discusses issues on the rule of law while section two explores the mechanisms in place to ensure accountability and transparency in the County governance structures. The third section looks at issues to do with how consensus in project management are arrived at, equity in service representation, inclusiveness and participation of all people in governance, and responsiveness of programmes to the needs of young people. The fourth section outlines effectiveness and efficiency in resources allocation and utilization. The last section looks at the political leadership and what role they play in the management of youth affairs at the County.

### 2.6.1 Rule of Law

The rule of law is an overarching principle which ensures that all people are governed by laws which their elected representatives make and which reflect the rule of law. It requires that the laws are administered justly and fairly. The rule of law requires that, people should be ruled by the law and obeys it and that the law should be such that people will be able and willing to be guided by it. Moreover, the law should be able to foster cohesion among the people.

#### *Justice System*

In terms of the justice system and the main cases prevalent in the county, the participants in the FGDs observed that; corruption cases perpetuated by law breakers and law breakers, petty crimes robberies and land disputes.. In solving these cases, the respondents’ existence of both official/recognized ways as well as traditional mechanisms. For the official mechanisms, the normal judicial court systems and administrative officers were widely mentioned. In terms of the traditional systems, existence of council of elders was lauded for solving most of the cases. The policy makers noted that religious leaders have also contributed to solving some of the cases.

In pursuit of justice for all, there exist challenges in the system. These challenges include; corruption by the law enforcers and perpetrators of crimes, ignorance and lack of knowledge on the side of affected people on the recourse process, ignorance of the judicial system, poverty and lack of money to pursue justice, social prejudice and poor conflict resolution mechanism.

*“They are solved most of the times by law enforcers such as village elders but the only problem that they have is that they are corrupt and they lack skills concerning law.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-34, Kericho]

To address these challenges, the groups suggested addressing; corruption/governance issues in the judicial systems, public awareness on how to seek justice if affected, promotion of justice for all, issuance of title deeds to address land disputes and intensifying law enforcement.

### Security

A secure and peaceful environment was underscored as conducive environment for investment to realize socio-economic development. The security situation of Kericho County was described as relatively very good. The overall security situation is safe and secure as indicated by a security policy maker /enforcer in the County.

*“I can say Kericho County security wise, one is secure and security matters are under control, there are minimal cases in fact the minimal cases that happen in Kericho are isolated.....We don’t have intertribal conflict which we don’t have also, we don’t hear of any radicalization of the youth.”*

[KII, policy maker, Kericho]

The mechanisms in place to ensure security for all, the groups observed that; there is existence of ‘Nyumba Kumi’ initiative where people get to better know their neighbours and street lights and alarms in urban areas and night police patrols. The policy makers also stated that there are community Security Meetings to assess security situation in the county and sensitize communities on maintenance of law and order.

Maintenance of security was reported as a function of all people in the community including young people.

In the County, the role young people play in maintaining security included; Reporting Suspicious Situations and people to the police, reporting Law Breakers, Preaching Peace among the people and young people, participating as members of the Community Policing committees, advising their fellow young people to shunning away from issues that cause insecurity and participating in disseminating

information on insecurity. One participant mentioned the roles they play in maintaining security at the community by saying that:

*“Also reporting strangers to the chiefs ensuring there is security for all in this community.”*

[FGD, female young people, 15-19, Kericho).

Victimisation of the whistle blowers, corruption perpetuated by the security agents and law breakers and delayed response by the police whenever there is insecurity lapse were mentioned as the major challenges in maintaining security for all.

*“Victimization for examples if you report chief who has done a mistake you are victimized and you may even pay for the consequences.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-34, Kericho]

*“Yeah we still have challenges. One lack of volunteering of information few people gives us information on criminals.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Kericho]

To address challenges, the FGD participants and county leaders suggested that there was need for severe punishing of perpetrators and public awareness on maintenance of law and order and reporting of insecurity incidences.

## Cohesion

A cohesive society ensures that people works towards the well-being of all its members, fights exclusion and marginalization, creates a sense of belonging, promotes trust, and offers its members the opportunity for a socio-economic upward mobility. The main issues that affect the unity of the people in Kericho County include; tribalism in public service delivery, social class disparities/ differences, unfair/unequal distribution of resources and political differences fuelled by political greed and animosity. One of the FGD participants noted that:

*“Unfair distributions of resources because village elders need to be paramount so they don’t accommodate new ideas from youth.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-34, Kericho]

The mechanisms in place to promote unity of the people are; sporting activities that brings people from all diverse backgrounds in the County, religious activities to preach peace and unity and youth meetings to promote unity in the society.

The policy makers also noted that, there are a number of community peace meetings to educate people on the importance of their unity. Additionally, they suggested that, there is need to promote cultural festivals to celebrate various cultural diversities in the county.

*“We should come up with more clubs, we should support musicians which are going to sing and bring about cohesion and then we should also have peace forums across the counties.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Kericho]

## 2.6.2 Transparency and Accountability

Transparency and accountability ensures that public resources are used in a manner that is apparent to all and any people involved in the management of these resources should be held answerable to the public and government in cases of misappropriation. The groups identified the mechanisms put in place by the government to inform young people on planned and ongoing activities which include; community meetings and public announcements, passing messages through local administrators in public meetings and through print media, radios and television and through. The policy makers also suggested that public information is obtained on the public notice boards.

*“All tenders are put in notice board are in the local dailies that is some the youth receiving from, others are for women and youth others are general and then through projects, the projects are named labelled if it is C.D.F projects Ainamoi, C.D.F Project Belgut.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Kericho]

To ensure transparency and accountability is observed in public service delivery and management of public affairs, the County Government should be taking disciplinary action against those who misappropriate public funds.

Although all these mechanisms are in place, there are inherent challenges that the groups observed which mostly touches on availability of information. Moreover, the groups noted that, governance issues should be addressed to ensure transparency and accountability in service delivery. One participant observed that:

*“There is corruption in the county in that they hide what is going on and even find that only relatives are in county.”*

[FGD. Mixed young people, 25-34, Kericho]

To better improve on transparency and accountability mechanisms in place, the groups observed that there is need to address governance/corruption concerns in projects managements and public awareness on the need for their participation in holding the government accountable to the public.

Additionally, the policy makers suggest that there is need to have Monitoring and Evaluation of Project Intervention at every stage of implementation and encouraging community to reinforce social accountability

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

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Public Financial Management Act, 2012 promotes public participation in budget process, project identification, design and implementation. In Kericho County, the groups identified various ways in which young people are involved in these processes. Specifically, the groups noted that young people are employed to work/or manage projects initiated by the County government and in implementation of projects.

In projects and programmes management, the policy makers observed that young people **LIKE** to be involved in the entire project's design, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation activities of these projects and participation in M&E activities of projects in the county. A policy maker noted that:

*“At the initial stage for identifying they want to set themselves that we identify this road, this is what we need another thing is that they like to be involved in implementation.”*

[Kil. Policy maker, Kericho]

Asked what they **WOULD LIKE** to be involved in, most of the participants in the groups noted that, young people would like be engaged in leadership roles in the projects, participate in the budget processes and supply of raw materials to projects funded by the county government.

Involvement of young people in projects and programmes ensures that they gain skills to improve their employability; get employment opportunities hence earn income to improve their economic status and provide bursaries for young people to further their education. A participant in an FGD with young people opined that:

*“I think also the projects act as a source of employment for the youths and assist the families’ sisters and brothers to pay fees.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

In the county, opportunities and resources are reserved for specific categories of the population regardless of their political, social or economic affiliations. In Kericho County, the county government and other national government opportunities are ensured that they serve those who deserve. Among the ways the County government have ensured this happens include and implementation of the 30 percent gender and youth rule in public procurements including resources for PWDs.

*“We get money from the government and we identify the most needy elderly people.....another thing is the 30percent gender rule where employment opportunities. We have also implemented programme for PWDs by giving them also opportunity to be employed in this counties like in county assembly, we have people MCAs living with disabilities, we have also all committees they are integrated like C.D.F. The PWDS are there. We have also the national fund we normally identify them in the community and if it is a wheelchair, if it a tool box with tools for tailoring”*

[Kil. Policy maker, Kericho]

In the course of their involvement/participation in projects implementation, young people are faced by challenges that may impede their full participation and involvement. The issues raised by the groups are; forces of corruption perpetuated by the leaders and service providers in the system, lack of skills to increase participation and poor pay and exploitation for young participants in projects management.

To improve participation of young people in projects management, the groups observed that; there is need for training and capacity building of young people to equip them with more skills on projects management and on leadership to improve on their participation, entrusting young people with responsibilities to build their leadership and management skills, involving the youths in projects management.

#### 2.6.4 Effectiveness and Efficiency

There were general views from the groups that, both the county and national government allocate resources targeting young people through the various government programs. The policy makers on the other hand note that many resources at the county level and national government are allocated public procumbent opportunities to young people, allocation of resources to further their studies and also appointing them in leadership positions. A policy maker noted that;

“There are opportunities meant for youth for example tenders and they access them and we tell them to establish companies. We also ensure that the money which are from the government target them also the county government also have soft loans that target the youth. There are also bursaries for the needy who the Ministry of education and also the county government we also ensure that youth have

sound structures whereby they have their leaders. There is also county president who champion their rights in the county” (KII, Policy maker, Kericho).

To ensure that resources achieve expected outcomes, the county government has prioritized strong organizational and operational systemic mechanisms by enforcing rules and regulations on utilization of public funds and formation of committees to oversee projects implementation. A policy maker emphasized that:

*“There is structure of youth which is highly organized. We also have committee in UWEZO Fund to identify groups. We also do monitoring and evaluation of projects to ensure whether it has achieved the outcomes.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Kericho]

To improve on efficiency and effectiveness in utilization of resources, the policy makers observed that, there is need for carrying out monitoring and evaluation of government funded projects from time to time to determine their relevance and socio-economic effect.

*“We give resources timely to ensure effectiveness and we also do assessment to ensure that they have achieve objectives.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Kericho]

## 2.6.5 Political Leadership

Findings from the various groups show that there is varied view on the roles political leadership play in the management of youth affairs. There were those who noted that, political leadership play important roles in the management of the affairs of young people while others stated otherwise. For those with a positive perspective, they noted that, political leaders support education for the young people, participation in improving the infrastructure, Create employment opportunities for young people, championing youth rights and developing pro-young people economic and empowerment policies.

The policy makers also opined that the political leadership play useful roles in the life’s of young people. One of the policy makers noted that:

*“Yeah they ensure that resources target youth. They also influence youth to make groups. They also sensitize youth on how to utilize resources. They do away with politics as not to interfere with youth. They should only create more income generating opportunities to do away with idleness among youth. Leaders also sponsor programmes.”*

[KII. Policy maker, Kericho]

## 2.7 Population Structure

In terms of the growing population of young people with regard to provision of health services, the various groups noted that, this situation is likely to lead to congestion in health facilities due to many people and few health facilities, overworking of health personnel because of the un-proportional doctor patient ratio and in some cases deteriorating quality of health services. One of the participants in an FGD with young people observed that:

*“I think there is a lot of effects because the more population is growing the more the health deteriorates because many people are not able to access the health facilities.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

With regard to the growing population of young people with respect to provision of education services, the groups noted that, there will be many negative effects associated with the high population. They specifically noted that with increasing population, there will be inadequate learning facilities in school, low quality of education due to imbalanced teacher student ratio

The issue of increasing population and economic situation has always generated varied discussion and opinion on the effect of their interaction. In Kericho County, most groups had negative opinion on the growing population. They stated that increasing population of young people is likely to result in straining of the available resources, environmental degradation due to over-consumption, poor economic performance, and high poverty levels in many households due to low resource bases and high unemployment in the economy. One of the worried young people noted that;

*“I think in terms of economy, the more the population in increasing most of the land will be occupied, and the economy will go low.”*

[FGD. Female young people, 15-19, Kericho]

In terms of governance, the growing population of young people seems to be associated with negative consequences. The groups observed that, the growing population of young people would create a huge chunk of unemployed youth which predisposes them to engaging in crime leading to insecurity in most places also create challenges in the administration and maintenance of law and order as the administrators are fewer than the population.

To address the growing population of young people and in relation to the four demographic dividend pillars, the groups observed that:

- There is need to sensitize young people on importance of FP and adopting small family norms.
- Put mechanisms in place to increase access to education.
- Develop high impact economic policies targeting young people to create employment for the growing population.
- County government create mechanisms for young people inclusion in leadership positions.

## 2.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

The demographic dividend window of opportunity for the county is likely to open in 2039 and close by 2089. This means that the county needs to expedite investment in the four pillars of the demographic dividend to benefit from this window of opportunity. Although the NER in primary level is too high, the NER in secondary is too low, additionally, there are a number of issues that may adversely affect this high rate and therefore, addressing them should be prioritized. Economically, there is an enormous economic opportunity at the county that requires timely exploitation, particularly the agricultural potential presented by agriculture (tea farming). The HDI for the county is below the national level due to the many economic issues associated with most of the households. The issue of concern is the exclusion of young people in the governance structures/processes at the county level. Social accountability mechanisms are also not well entrenched into projects management.

### Recommendations

#### *Health*

1. Investment in the health sector especially on child survival programmes and reproductive health services including family planning services to improve on the contraception prevalence rate.
2. Advocate for behaviours change for couples to adopt small family norms.
3. Intensify campaigns on myths and misconceptions on certain methods of FP.

#### *Education*

1. The County government should explore mechanisms and allocate bursaries to secondary education to reduce the number of primary-to-secondary-school drop-outs and mop- out the huge number of children who are out of school.
2. Enforce laws on the right of children to compulsory basic education for all.
3. Provision of sanitary pads to girls in schools.

### *Economy*

1. The county government should formulate and implement high impact economic and social policies targeting young people.
2. Sensitization of youth on the existing income and employment opportunities in the county.
3. Create a conducive economic environment for the private sector including industrial set-ups to thrive and create more job opportunities.

### *Governance*

1. Encouraging community involvement in projects design, planning, and implementation and budget preparation processes. This would ensure that there is community buy-in and improvement in social accountability.
2. Strengthen the governance structures in the County and deliberately include young people in county leadership positions.

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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 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

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Table A2.1 Central Rift Region

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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.

**KERICHO COUNTY**