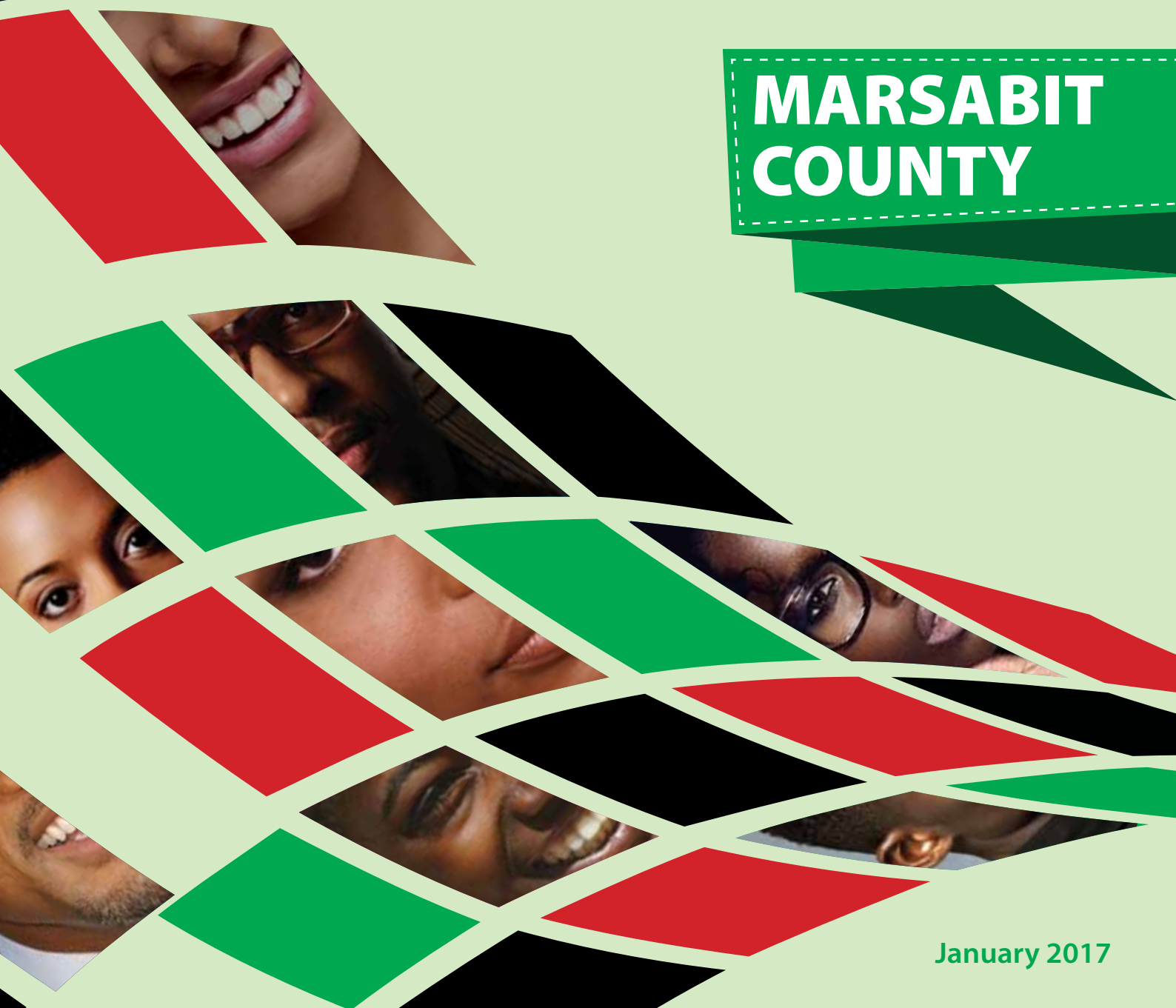




2015 KENYA NATIONAL **ADOLESCENT AND YOUTH** SURVEY (NAYS)

MARSABIT COUNTY



January 2017



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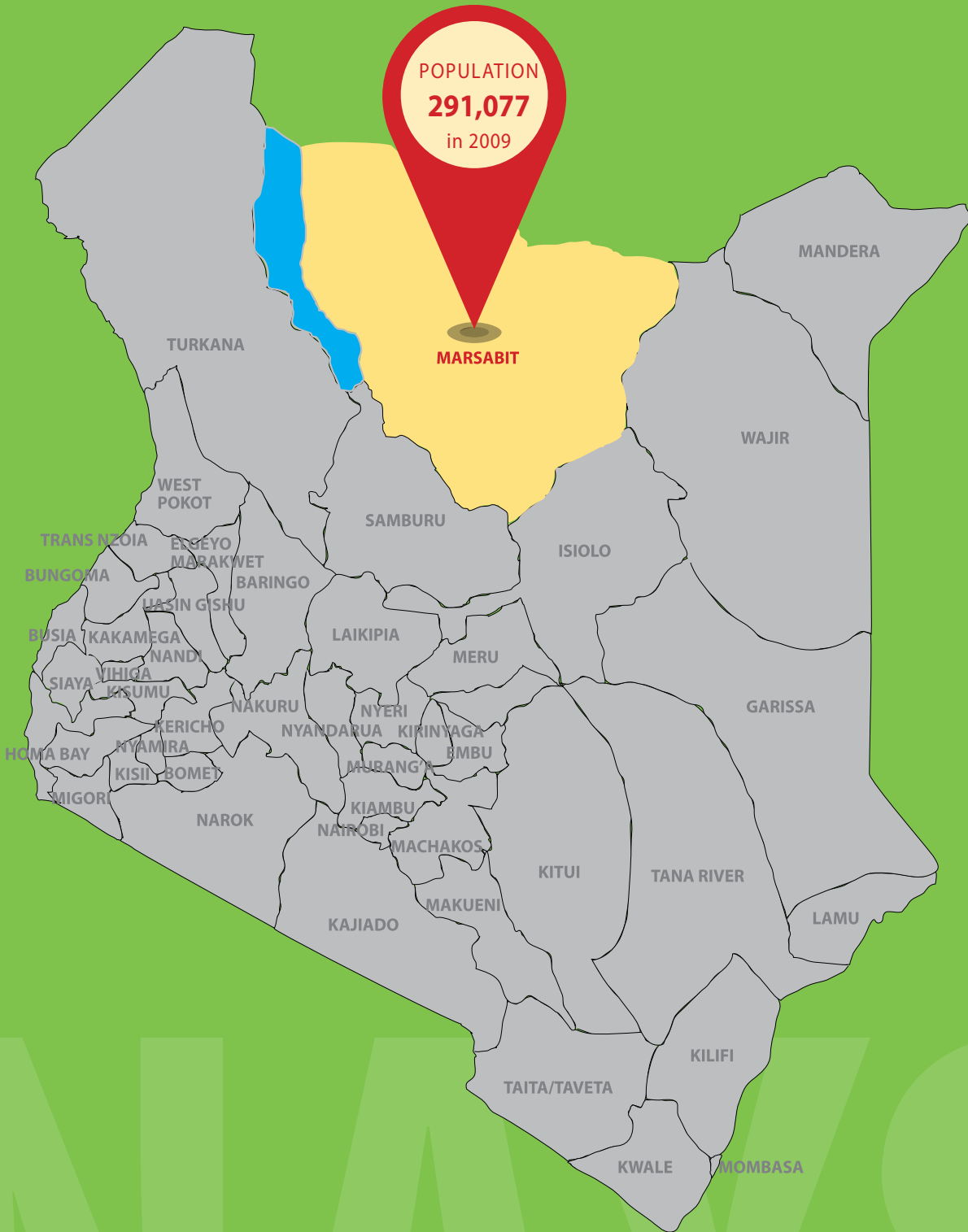
Acronyms and Abbreviations

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.

MARSABIT COUNTY



Foreword

Kenya 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

The 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

This report presents the Marsabit County profile based on the findings of the 2015 National Adolescents and Youth Survey conducted by the national council for population 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, identify 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 an overview of 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 county had a population of 291,077 people and is projected to increase to 491,95 and to rise to over 727,000 in 2050. The population is quite youthful with 47 percent of the population below age 15. However, the proportion of population below 15 years is projected to decline to 39 percent in 2030 and to 32 percent in 2050. The proportion of the population in the working age was 49 percent in 2009 and is projected to increase to 58 percent in 2030 and further increase to 64 percent. The county has a high dependency of 104 as of 2009 but it is projected to decline 72 percent in 2030 and further to 56 percent in 2050. The demographic window of opportunity in the county is projected to open in 2058 and to close in 2098.

The county has a fairly high fertility. The average number of children per woman is 5 children. The use of contraceptives is very low in the county; only 12 percent of married women are using contraceptives. Twenty-six percent of the births in the county are delivered by a skilled health worker. However, the uptake of immunization is high in the county; sixty-seven of the children 12-23 months are fully vaccinated. Primary school enrolment is high in the county; the primary school net enrolment rate is 66 percent. However, the county has very low secondary school enrolment. The secondary school net enrolment rate is only 13 percent.

In the context of the four pillars of the demographic dividend, the survey found the following findings:

Health Issues affecting Young People

Marsabit County's young people face various health problems with the most commonly mentioned during the survey being drug and substance abuse, sexually transmitted infections teenage pregnancy and long distance to health facilities. For the health of the young people to improve, there is need to curb the use drugs and alcohol and create awareness among young on health matters in addition to establishing more health facilities.

Issues Affecting Education of Young People

School enrolment rates in Marsabit County are low compared to national levels. The key issues identified to be affecting the education of young people in the county were drug and substance abuse, child labour, absenteeism of teachers and students and lack of school fees. These issues are mainly caused by lack of parental guidance (parents asking their children to look after livestock), poverty and long distance to schools.

Economic Issues Affecting Young People

Young people in Marsabit County involve themselves in mainly in trade (livestock and charcoal) and *boda boda* for their livelihoods. These economic activities are affected by lack of livestock market in the county, poor road network and insecurity. For the young people to fully exploit their potential, they should be trained, the security situation in the county should be improved and a factory for livestock products be established.

In regard to ICT, the respondents reported that access is hindered by the high cost of connectivity, lack of adequate computer service outlets, lack of electricity and poor connectivity network. These issues could be resolved through provision of electricity and lowering of connectivity charges.

Governance Issues Affecting the Youth

The main challenges affecting governance in Marsabit County are insecurity and cattle rustling among others. Solving these cases is mainly done through council of elders and religious leaders who lack skills in law. For governance to improve in the county, there is need to promote skills in solving cases and improve security by increasing the number of police officers.



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 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 socio-economic 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 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 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

MARSABIT COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS

2.1 Background

Marsabit County lies in the Northern part of Kenya. It has an international boundary with Ethiopia to the North, borders Lake Turkana to the West, Samburu County to the South and Wajir and Isiolo Counties to the East. It lies between latitude 02° 45' North and 04° 27' North and longitude 37° 57' East and 39° 21' East. It has a total area of 70,961.2 Km² and occupies the extreme part of Northern Kenya. There are no permanent rivers in the county, but four drainage systems exist, covering an area of 948 Km². Chalbi Desert is the largest of these drainage systems. Administratively, Marsabit County is divided into four administrative sub counties namely: Marsabit Central, Laisamis, North Horr, and Moyale. Sub-counties are further divided into 20 wards and administrative villages. There are 4 sub-counties and 20 wards.

2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Situation

2.2.1 Population Size and Age Distribution

Population size and age distribution are key factors necessary in planning for most of the development programmes especially education and health. Table 2.1 presents the county's population, the age distribution and the computed year when the demographic window of opportunity opens.

Table 2.1 Population size and structure

Demographic indicator	2009	2030	2050
Population Size	291,077	491,952	727,183
Proportion of Population Below Age 15	46.7%	39.0%	31.8%
Proportion of Population Above Age 64	4.2%	2.8%	4.1%
Proportion of Population in the Working Ages (15-64)	49.1%	58.2%	64.1%
Dependency Ratio	103.6	71.8	56
Year Demographic Window of Opportunity Opens	2058		

The population of Marsabit County was 291,077 people in 2009 according to the Kenya Population and Housing census. This population is projected to rise to over 727,000 in 2050, 8 years before the year when the Demographic window of opportunity opens. The population is quite youthful with 46.7 percent of the population below age 15 and has therefore a high dependency ratio (104). However, the proportion of population below 15 years is projected to decline to 39 percent in 2030 and later to 32 percent in 2050. This reduction which is mainly as a result of decline in fertility is expected to result in the rise in proportion of the working age population to 58 percent and 64 percent in the same period. These combined effects will cause dependency ratio to steadily decline to 72 and 56 over the same period.

2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics

The survey also sought the status of some social economic indicators that are key in harnessing the demographic dividend. Table 2.2 presents health, education and other social economic data for the county.

Table 2.2 Social-economic characteristics

Socio-economic characteristics	Indicators	
Health	Average Number of Children Per Woman	6.9
	Proportion of Married Women Using Contraception	10.4%
	Proportion of Births Attended by A Skilled Health Worker	22.8%
	HIV Prevalence	7.6%
	Children 12-23 months fully vaccinated	61.8%
Education	Primary School Net Enrolment Rate	58.8%
	Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	71.4
	Number of Primary School-Age Children Out of School	109,414
	Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate	8.7%
	Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	28.5
	Number of Secondary School-Age Teenagers Out of School	106,368
Human Development Indicator	Human Development Index	0.3741289

Table 2.2 shows that the average number of children per woman in the county is 5, higher than the national average of 3.9 as per the KDHS 2014. The proportion of married women currently using contraceptives is around 12 percent, way below the national level of 58 percent. Primary school net enrolment rate was 66 percent and secondary school net enrolment is quite low at 13 percent.

2.3 Health and Young People

The survey sought to establish the health issues in the county, their causes and consequences and possible ways of addressing them. The main findings are presented in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3 Main health issues affecting young person

Main Health problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drug and substance abuse	Parental negligence	School drop out	Public health education
Sexually Transmitted Infections	Poverty	Poor health	Counselling
Teenage Pregnancy	Negative cultural practices	Mental health problems	Life skills

The survey findings show that the top health issues in the county include sexually transmitted infections, drug and substance abuse and teenage pregnancies.

Drug and substance abuse was mentioned across all groups except the age 10-14 meaning that the youth and older people are aware of the existence of the issue. STIs and HIV/AIDS were mentioned more by the younger people compared to the older people while teenage pregnancy was identified as a health problem by all groups. The county director of health also reported that the above cases are common and could be more prevalent than documented since some cases are never reported. The FGDs reported that the main causes of the health problems are parental negligence, negative cultural practices and poverty. These causes were highlighted by the age groups 10 – 24.

“Teenage pregnancy is common due to pastoralist culture, among the morans the culture of beading, whereby a girl is bought beads by a Moran and thereafter the Moran can sleep with her anytime he wants, also due to lack of and use of contraception.”

[Mixed young people 15-19 FGD, Marsabit]

The communities understood that the health issues are impacting negatively on the population with the main consequences being school dropouts, mental disorders and general decline in health status. Dropping out of school was mentioned mainly by the younger people age 10-24 while the other two impacts were familiar to all the groups.

The communities gave ideas on how the health problems can be addressed. The major proposals were conducting public education or awareness, counseling and teaching life skills. These recommendations were pointed out by all groups with the younger ones mentioning the issues more than the elderly people. The County Director of health mentioned that there is need to establish rehabilitation programs for the drug and substance abusers. To address the health issues, the county plans to start awareness campaigns through local radio to try and help youth to abandon the negative practice. However, funding and staff shortages remain challenges towards full implementation of the proposed activities.

“All girls must be taken to school so that issue of early pregnancies could be reduced and some cultural practices such as beading of girls need to be removed. The society also needs to be taught on importance of educating a girl child.”

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

2.3.1 Access and Availability of Information and Services

The respondents were asked about access and availability of information and the findings are shown in table 2.4.

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	Hygiene and sanitation	Behaviour change	Health facility
Media	STI and HIV/ AIDS counselling and testing	Improved health awareness	Media
School	Drug and substance abuse		School
NGOs			
Family			

The findings revealed that the main sources of health information are the health facilities, schools, Media, NGOs and the families. Health facility was mentioned as a key source of information by all the age groups while school was largely mentioned by ages 10-24. The younger age of 10-14 are not aware of NGOs as a source of health information while the older people (20 – 60) did not mention family as a source of information. This is in contrast to the ages 10-19 who feel that the parents provide the information.

The information that is provided mainly includes Hygiene and sanitation as mentioned by all groups, STIs and HIV/AIDS (15-60 years) and Drug and substance abuse (all groups) and is available to all groups of people. The 10-19 highlighted DSA more as compared to other age groups. All the groups felt that the health information provided is very useful in increasing health awareness especially on DSA, FP and GBV hence contributing to behaviour change. A manager at one of the Youth serving organisations also mentioned that the uptake of services is very high in the county. The younger ages of 10-14 mentioned behaviour change as an outcome more than the other groups. The respondents were further asked their preferred sources of information and highlighted the main ones as health facility, media and schools. The 10-19 olds were the only ones who preferred school as the source of information while the elderly (35-60) did not identify health facility as an appropriate source of information for the youth.

2.3.2 Access and Availability of SRH/FP Information and Services

The respondents were specifically asked on SRH/FP information and services and the findings are presented in table 2.5.

Table 2.5 Access and availability of SRH/FP information and services

Main SRH/FP information & services available & accessible	Challenges in accessing SRH/FP information & services	Addressing Challenges
Condoms	Fear of embarrassment	Creative conducive environment for youth
Injectables	Cultural issues	Create public health awareness
Contraceptive pills	Provider attitude	Provide medicines
No SRH/FP information and services available	Lack of youth and disability friendly services	
	Lack of drugs	

All community groups interviewed mentioned that contraceptive pills were the most common services. This was followed by condoms and injectables which were mentioned by some segments of the communities. The elderly (35-60) however did not mention injectables as a health service provided in the county. It was also a feeling in one of the FGDs that there are no SRH/FP information and services in the county as one respondent said ...

“There are no SRH/FP information and services since people are illiterate and they only use herbs.”

[FGD. 2 Female young people 15-19]

The county Director of health however mentioned the county has recorded increase in FP uptake due to the strategies and policies implemented by the government. However, some herbalists are preaching in the streets against use of modern contraceptives.

The key challenges in accessing SRH/FP information & services were identified as fear of embarrassment, cultural issues, negative provider attitude and cost of services. These challenges were mentioned across all age groups while the cost of services was mentioned more by the 15-19 year old. Lack of information on health issues was also mentioned as a challenge to full access of the information and services.

The participants mentioned that to address the challenges, there is need for a creative and conducive environment for youth such as youth friendly centres (all groups), create public health awareness (15-34) and provide medicines (15-34) amongst other minor recommendations.

2.3.3 Organisations Addressing Health

The respondents were asked to name all the organisations operating in the health sector and discuss the services offered. It was mentioned that the main organisations addressing health issues are NGOs (e.g. concern worldwide, world vision), the government and religious organisations. These organisations have engaged youths in certain activities and have improved health services including creating awareness on key issues especially on HIV/AIDS, DSA and FP. Some communities indicated that the organisations can still do more through increased youth engagement.

2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement

The communities were asked about what they think as opportunities to improve health issues in the county. The key things identified included more awareness creation, construction of more health facilities and capacity building in the area of first aid.

2.4 Education and Young People

Education of young people is important in developing their full potential. An educated youth therefore will be more productive in realisation of the demographic dividend.

2.4.1 The Main Issues Affecting Education

To get a deeper understanding of the education sector in the county, respondents were asked questions on issues of education and the findings are presented in Table 2.6.

Table 2.6 The main education issues affecting the youth

Main Education Issues affecting Young People	Causes	Consequences	Ways of Addressing Education Issues
Drug and Substance Abuse (including teachers) Child Labour Absenteeism of teachers and students Lack of school fees	Looking after cattle Teenage pregnancies/marriage Long distance to schools Poverty due to droughts	School dropouts Poor academic results School absenteeism	Provision of bursaries Sensitization of importance of education Guidance and Counselling

The survey findings revealed that DSA (all groups), child labour (all groups), absenteeism of teachers (all except 35-60) and lack of school fees (youth) are the main education concerns in the county. These problems have been brought about mainly by children going out to look after cattle, especially in a setting where parents regard education as of little value. Other common causes of these issues include gender discrimination (boys preferred to be in school to girls), teenage pregnancies, DSA, long distance to schools, and poverty which is mainly caused by the persistent droughts in the county.

“Yes, the girl child still lags behind. In accessing education the number of girls has risen from 80 last year to 146 this year. The attitude of the community towards girl child education is a big problem, pastoralists do not value girl child education, and they are married early in most cases in exchange for camel and cows.”

[Principle Sec School, Marsabit]

Negative cultural practices, nomadism and insecurity are also hindrances to proper education systems in the county. The respondents said that these and other problems have resulted in school drop outs/ low enrolment rates, poor academic performance and school absenteeism among other negative impacts.

There are interventions in place to respond to the challenges and the main ones include provision of water and sponsorship, like one of the school principals pointed out...

“The governor is also sponsoring the brightest student to go through university. Many non-governmental organisations have also come in to sponsor needy students like, North Horr boys, Chalbi educational funds.”

[Principle Sec School, Marsabit]

To address these issues, respondents proposed that there should be allocation of more bursaries, sensitization on importance of education and guidance and counselling among other recommendations. The 10-14 female respondents indicated that the girls are provided with sanitary towels in school.

2.4.2 Availability and Accessibility of Education Services

The respondents were asked about adequacy of learning institutions, their views on the availability and access to education services. On adequacy of learning facilities, the respondents mentioned that both primary and secondary schools are few and far apart. The situation is worsened by inadequacy of facilities such as classrooms, desks, libraries and laboratories. The tertiary schools are extremely few with no fully fledged university in the county. The county has few institutions with facilities for people with disability according to the FGD participants and the school heads interviewed. However, the education CEC and CDE gave conflicting information on actual existence of schools for people with disabilities in the county.

Regarding the courses offered at the learning institutions, the youth said that they are not marketable but the older people were of the view that the courses are responsive to market demands.

2.4.3 Opportunities for Young People to Gain Skills

The respondents were asked about availability of internships and mentorship programs in the county. The survey found that there exist very few internship opportunities in the county and these are mainly offered by NGOs. However, some groups said that they were not aware of such arrangements. Issues of nepotism and corruption have been observed to affect access to the few programmes available.

2.4.4 Opportunities in Investing in Education and Training

Government, private companies (equity Bank) and NGOs including World Vision, Pastoral women for health and education (PWHE) and Boma among others are the main players offering financial support through sponsoring poor students and construction of classrooms. Other NGOs and religious organisations are involved in public awareness on importance of education and provision of books and sanitary towels. The communities appreciate that the efforts done by these organisations have helped improve the status of education in the county as one respondent commented

“They are improving education status of youths since they provide learning materials and also girls who have dropped out have got second chance to pursue their education and achieve their dreams.”

[FGDs\FYP. 15-19\FGD. Female young people 15-19, Marsabit]

Most groups interviewed mentioned that to improve the levels of education in the county, there is need to construct more schools and better equip the current ones. Other areas that would bring positive impacts mentioned were increase in sponsorships, frequent staff supervision, public awareness and posting of more teachers to the county.

2.5 Economic and Young People

2.5.1 Employment and Income Opportunities

The respondents were asked questions regarding the state of economy in the county, the opportunities, challenges and possible ways of overcoming the challenges. From the survey findings, it is evident that there are very few employment and income opportunities in the county, the key ones being pastoralism (rearing cattle, camel and goats), charcoal burning and small businesses. The few employment opportunities available are in the government sector and menial jobs in construction industry. Other businesses and jobs available include *boda boda* riders and *kazi Kwa vijana*.

2.5.2 Challenges in Accessing Employment and Income Opportunities

There are several challenges in accessing employment and income opportunities. Respondents were more concerned with challenges related to income opportunities and pointed out the key ones as insecurity, high taxation and problems with loan repayment. Insecurity is mainly as a result of tribal conflicts where people are hesitant to open large businesses for fear of the unknown.

“Insecurity is another challenge because one fears to put up a large business because he/she might incur losses when tribal clashes erupt.”

[FGD. Mixed Older People 35-60 Marsabit]

2.5.3 Economic Activities Young People are Engaged In

Table 2.7 Economic activities young people are engages in

Main economic activities	Challenges encountered	How to address the challenges encountered
Boda Boda	Lack of capital	Government aid
Livestock buying and selling	Poor roads infrastructure	Provision of loans
Firewood selling	Motor cycle accidents	Provide irrigation water
	Poor weather and environment	Improve security

The respondents mentioned that youths are mainly engaged in *Boda boda* trade, Livestock buying and selling and collection and sale of firewood. It was evident that some school age children were engaged in economic activities and the main reasons given for this include economic pressure from home e.g. orphans and idleness for those who dropped out of school.

The businesses are mainly affected by lack of capital, poor infrastructure and the harsh environment conditions. *Boda boda* business is affected by harassment by Police, frequent accidents and general poor state of the roads. Livestock sellers have to transport the animals to either Isiolo or Nairobi, incurring huge costs and animal losses/deaths on the way to the market. This business is also affected by the frequent droughts experienced, lack of reliable water sources and insecurity.

To address the problems encountered respondents recommended that security in the county be improved, irrigation projects be expanded, new farming methods be introduced and improve infrastructure among other recommendations.

“Bodaboda riding is also another activity that youths in our community engage in, this activity also does not provide much income for the youth because of poor road infrastructure since they spend a lot of money in repairing their motorbikes.”

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

2.5.4 Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Unemployment

Table 2.8 Interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment

Main interventions	Challenges in accessing the interventions	Ways to address these challenges
Uwezo YEDF NYS WEF	Lack of awareness on programmes Loan repayment	Sensitization On The Interventions Ease Of Access To Funds

When asked about the programmes in the county to address youth unemployment, respondents mentioned UWEZO, YEDF, and NYS as the main ones. The interventions are viewed to be beneficial to the youth due to provision of business loans (UWEZO and YEDF) and skill development (NYS) in the county. However, some of the interventions were said to be common in the urban areas only. For instance respondents of some FGDs pointed out that they are not aware of AGPO and ...

“YEDF is not common in rural areas but are aware of Women Enterprise Fund and National Youth Service.”

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

2.5.5 Access to ICT Services

On ICT, the respondents mentioned that Televisions, radio, telephones and computers are available in the County but not accessible to all. Most of the groups reported that youths mainly use internet for social media, playing music and games while a few are using to search for information. The information that is mostly sought news, job advertisements and health issues. The information is mainly used for entertainment and academic research. The main challenges encountered while accessing ICT services include high cost, lack of adequate computer points, lack of electricity and poor connectivity/network.

To improve access to ICT, the respondents recommended establishment of more ICT centres including in schools, provision of electricity, increasing installed network boosters, provision of free Wi-Fi.

The key challenges encountered in accessing these interventions include lack of awareness on existing programmes, difficulties in repaying loans and corruption.

“Inequitable sharing politics and segregation has prevented most youth from accessing this interventions, some apply but during selection of businesses to be funded there is favoritism occasioned by most of this offices operating under political offices. There is a lot of unfairness in this intervention in Marsabit County; due to this most young people are not to get these funds from the intervention.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 15-19, Marsabit]

When asked about recommendations to improve access to the interventions, the respondents mentioned that they would prefer the terms of loan repayment be made easier and awareness on the interventions be increased.

“Loan repayment should be made on daily basis to avoid pile up of loan arrears.”

[FGD. Male youth people 15-19, Marsabit]

2.5.5 Access to ICT in Schools

On ICT respondents said that there are some secondary schools offering computer lessons and people can also acquire computer skills through tertiary institutions that offer the courses. One of the challenges identified in ICT is lack of electricity in most of the schools.

2.5.6 Organisations and People Addressing Youth Economic Empowerment

There are several organisations who are engaged in economic activities of the county with the key ones including NGOs, Business people and the Government.

“Concern Worldwide gives Ksh 7,000 to orphan families, world vision gives three Goats to orphan families.”

[FGD. Mixed male group 15-24, Marsabit]

The main intervention areas offered by these organisations and people are financial, employment and internship programmes. FGD participants felt that the organisations are assisting the communities but the programmes should be expanded.

2.5.7 Potential Areas to Increase Employment and Income Opportunities

The respondents were asked to identify potential areas that would make maximum benefit to the county. The main areas mentioned included trade and industry, agriculture and *boda boda*. The trades mostly mentioned are in livestock and selling merchandise while milk processing was mentioned as one area that remains largely untapped.

2.6 Governance and Young People

The respondents were asked about governance issues in the county and gave responses to the principles of governance as presented in this section.

2.6.1 Rule of Law

2.6.1.1 Justice system

Table 2.9 presents the main cases in the county, challenges encountered in solving them and recommendations on how to improve them.

Table 2.9 Justice system

Main Cases Prevalent	Challenges encountered in solving cases	Ways of addressing the challenges
Land disputes	Corruption	Council of elders
Cattle rustling	Lack of expertise in resolving cases	Religious leaders
Crime		Local administration

The respondents pointed out that the main justice cases resolved or encountered include land disputes, cattle rustling and crime. Land disputes are mainly due to grazing land and watering points and when the government wants to construct roads on peoples land. Most of the cases in the county are resolved through council of elders, Religious leaders or the local administrations such as chiefs. The courts of law are also used for dispute resolution but mainly by people in Marsabit town only.

“It is not easy but security issue is solved through security agents, the boda boda issue is solved through capacity building on traffic rules, educated on use of motorbikes and their operations are streamlined. Land dispute is not easy but the County Government through the department is coming up with information system on land like a land registry. The main dispute resolution is through “Wazees” especially because the legal system is not easily accessible in rural set ups of this County. The only

Court is located in Marsabit town and if you go out of the County headquarters like Laisamis, Moyale North Horr the disputes are solved through the “Wazees” very few cases come to the court.”

[KII. CEC Public Administration Marsabit]

There are challenges in resolving cases and the main ones include corruption and lack of expertise in resolving the cases. It was pointed out that the council of elders are sometimes seen to be biased on one side, something that the respondents feel is due to corruption. However, the local administration feels that the committees are sometimes accused wrongly of bias and their lives endangered in the process. To improve the justice systems, respondents felt that there is need to ensure the council of elders have no relationship to the people involved in the cases under arbitration. Also, some members felt that all cases should be taken to court to evade corruption within the traditional systems. To ensure land disputes are minimized, the recommendation was to demarcate the land in the county.

“The issues of land dispute the county government should come in and mark the boundaries.”

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

2.6.1.2 Security

When asked about the security situation majority pointed out that the situation is bad although most of the groups agreed that the situation has improved from previous years. The County commissioner also said that the county is relatively calm. It was further reported that tension remains high since the security situation of the county is largely unpredictable.

“The security situation in Marsabit County is very fragile, anything can happen any time. Main roads can be closed anytime due to hatred flare up can happen any time.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized group 15-24, Marsabit]

The main mechanisms in place to ensure security include community policing “nyumba kumi” initiative and the Kenya Police Reservists. Some respondents mentioned that KPRs are not available in all the communities and are only in “certain areas”. The youth are being involved in community policing and are employed as KPRs and regular police. Also, youth are reporting suspicious characters to the authorities. The main challenges in ensuring security are lack of enough security personnel, lack of police equipment and delayed response by police.

“Kenya police Reservists are not enumerated, they have no car to mobilize and respond to security issues. Police are few also AP, they have outdated gadgets.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized group 15-24, Marsabit]

Respondents therefore felt there is need to employ more police officers, build more police posts and provide them with proper equipment. Community participation in fighting crime need to be enhanced through members taking responsibility of their own security and reporting all criminals to relevant authorities.

2.6.1.3 Cohesion

The respondents mentioned that there have been instances of lack of cohesion in the county with main causes being tribalism, political differences, land disputes and DSA.

“One of them is cultural diversity where people from different backgrounds take issues differently and people don’t appreciate the culture of others which brings about conflicts. The other is poverty; the gap between the poor and rich is big. Those getting contracts are rich people making young people start fighting for these opportunities creating dis-unity, it is evident in Marsabit. The livestock issues like theft has been made to be business, young people from certain tribes are hired to steal from other communities causing dis-unity. Politics is another issue that affects unity of people; politicians fight for their communities in representation and even job placements. Resource allocation is a major cause of conflict.”

[KII. CEC Public Administration Marsabit]

To address these issues, the community and stakeholders have been promoting sports, peace meetings, cultural festivals and community exchange meetings.

“Exchange programme organised by the Catholic Church in Marsabit County, Catholic Church is vibrant and the oldest institution with presence in most places even the remotest area in Marsabit County.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 15-19, Marsabit]

However, one of the FGDs indicated that there are currently no such efforts in place to promote cohesion in the county. In order to promote cohesion, majority of the respondents want the cultural activities to be strengthened, peace meetings be more regular and allocate resources equitably.

2.6.2 Transparency and Accountability

Mechanisms in Place to Inform Young People on Planned and Ongoing Activities

Respondents indicated that there are several mechanisms in place to inform young people on planned and ongoing activities. The main methods used are through community meetings, chiefs' barazas, public notice boards and service delivery charters especially in health centres.

Mechanisms in Place to Ensure Accountability and Transparency

The respondents pointed out that are practised to ensure accountability and transparency in the county include curses and stepping aside for investigation. These mechanisms are however more practiced in the traditional systems and not in the modern systems. The CEC administration mentioned also that the IFMIS system is helping the fight against corruption.

“Traditional community we have all this mechanisms like curses, stepping aside and resignation, among the elders. These mechanisms are not practiced in the County government and National Government.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 15-19, Marsabit]

How these Mechanisms can be improved

The respondents felt that to improve accountability and transparency, it is important to have more community involvement in project implementation and institute disciplinary measures to those who break the laws. The County CEC Administration added that

“The challenges can be addressed through civic education and those who want to win tenders should have the required documents. Some security function needs to be devolved or rather the Counties should be allowed to hire their own security personnel or a department like Administration Police should be placed under the County Government. Youth need to be educated and exposed so that will not only depend on white collar jobs but have skills to help them.”

[KII. CEC Public Administration Marabit]

2.6.3 Consensus, Equity, Inclusiveness, Participation and Responsiveness

Youth involvement in budget process, project identification, design and implementation

Respondent felt that youth are involved in project design and implementation especially through employment but only a small percentage. Some members also felt that most of the youth are left out in project process and are hardly involved.

“Yes in identifying priorities of ward, county levels which county people come to the ground, the youths participate mostly, the youths in centers, market centers.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized group 15-24, Marsabit]

Roles young people like to play in projects and programmes

When asked about the role that young people like to play if project process, the groups interviewed reported engagement in manual jobs such as in construction.

Roles young people would like to play in projects and programmes

The young people would like to be more involved in budgeting and project identification as was mentioned by some of the groups interviewed. Others mentioned that they would like to be involved in the entire project process.

“The young people would like to be included in the process of project identifications. This way, they can be able to identify the projects that are of importance to them and need to be prioritised.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized group 15-24, Marsabit]

How Projects and Programmes Address the Young People's Needs

Most of the groups interviewed mentioned that the projects have been providing youth with employment and is a source of livelihood for them. Some youths are benefitting from gaining skills in the opportunities available for use in getting better jobs.

How existing opportunities ensure they serve those who deserve

The existing opportunities are addressing the needs of PWDs and women through targeted interventions. For instance some PWDs have been provided with wheel chairs and more women are currently involved in government initiatives.

Challenges young people face during their involvement in project implementation

The young people are experiencing challenges during project implementation. The main challenges in the county include poor or low pay, gender discrimination and the tedious nature of the available manual jobs such as in construction.

How Young people's involvement in project process can be improved

The respondents suggested that in order to improve young peoples' involvement in project process, there is need to pay them better, ensure no discrimination in recruitment and increase awareness on available opportunities for the youth.

2.6.4 Effectiveness and Efficiency

How available resources are allocated to target the young people

Majority of the respondents indicated that they are not familiar to the methods used to allocate resources since they are not involved in the process.

“Very minimal community involvements in policy makings and implementation, we do not know how the available resources are allocated to target the young people in the community.”

[FGD. 2 Male young people YP 15-19, Marsabit]

Mechanisms in place to ensure resources are used to achieve expected outcome

All groups interviewed were in consensus that there are no mechanisms in place to ensure the resources are used to achieve the desired results.

What can be done to improve efficiency and effectiveness in utilization of resources

The groups recommended the need to initiate projects that are specifically targeting youths including community based projects. In addition, there is need to establish committees to oversee project implementation to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in utilization of resources.

2.6.5 Political Leadership

Role political leadership play in management of youth affairs

Respondents were asked opinions on the role of political leaders in their counties and communities and mentioned employment and offering scholarships as the key roles they play. Some groups said that the politicians play no role in youth affairs and the ones that do only perpetuate funds misuse, tribalism and nepotism.

“The political leadership play a big role in embezzling and misusing resources meant to be allocated to and utilized by the young people in the country.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 15-19, Marsabit]

“Youth employments are also done on the basis of tribalism, nepotism and political affiliates by these political leaders.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized group 15-24, Marsabit]

2.7 Population Structure

Thoughts about growing population of young people in relation to health

The respondents identified the negative impacts of a growing population on health and gave the main ones as congestion in health facilities and shortage of drugs. One of the policy makers however said that although the youth population is growing, it has not reached alarming levels.

“Yes, we know the population of young people is growing. The population pyramid shows that the young person’s occupy the larger percentage, but I would not say it is of concern at the moment. There are no complaints from the education, health and economic sectors about serving the youth.”

[KII. Policy maker Marsabit]

Thoughts about growing population of young people in relation to education

The respondents mentioned that a growing population will have negative impacts on education and highlighted issues of congestion and strain in use of resources as the key impacts.

“In relation to education, growing population will cause strain on desks and learning materials such as books. The teachers also would be able to handle the large number of pupils that will join primary school.”

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

Thoughts about growing population of young people in relation to economic status

Some respondents realize that a growing population will bring unemployment and competition among the many business people hence lower profits. However, there are those who feel that a larger population would be useful in expanding the County's wealth ...

“In relation to economy, the increase in population would make more people to be creative and productive in business sector.”

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

Thoughts about growing population of young people in relation to governance

When asked about the growing population and governance issues, the respondents were able to demonstrate that the higher population will result to lack of employment and possible insecurity due to crime. The County commissioner summarized the impacts of a growing population and gave some recommendations on how the situation can be addressed.

“It is growing very fast. Am foreseeing a lot of problems in future; like we will see so many drug addicts, crime will rise, so many school drop outs, am sensing also insecurity because of the rising population of youth probably because most may join radicalized groups. On health; issues like drug addiction and HIV infection will be prevalent. On Education, the education will change because a good number of them will be educated with the current government effort for free education. We will have a lot of challenges because of larger number of young people but as they grow we may have innovations or even problems like crime. On the Economy, it is going to be challenging. If the youth are engaged in development and industrious then they will contribute positively in economic development.”

[KII. County Commissioner Marsabit]

2.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

Health

The health of the residents of Marsabit County is affected by mainly issues of drug and substance abuse, STIs, teenage pregnancy and long distance to facilities among other issues. These issues are partly caused by lack of awareness on health issues and cultural practices.

To address these issues, there is need to:

1. Establish more facilities due to the long distances between facilities.
2. Provide mobile health facilities to take care of the nomadic nature of most pastoralists.
3. Create more awareness on health issues.

Education

The issues that mainly affect the education sector in the County are DSA, child labour, absenteeism of both teachers and students and lack of adequate schools and facilities. Survey findings show that teacher absenteeism is partly caused by the long distances they travel when going from rural to urban centres. The students are involved in child labour due to attitude by the parents and lack of school fees.

To address the situation, there is need to:

1. Employ adequate teachers to improve the student Teacher ratio.
2. Establish more schools due to the long distance travelled by both students and teachers.
3. Provide additional funding to equip the schools them with necessary facilities.
4. Create more awareness on importance of education to improve enrollment rates.

Economic

Majority of the residents of the County are involved in livestock keeping and trade. The livestock farmers are pastoralists due to lack of pasture and water. Some respondents mentioned that there is potential in milk processing.

To address the economic issues, there is need to:

1. Promote livestock farming by constructing more watering points.
2. Establish abattoirs and milk processing plants for farmers to sell the livestock and milk.
3. Improve infrastructure such as roads and electricity to ease communication and use of ICT services.

Governance

The major issues affecting security in the County are cattle rustling and land disputes. The cases are mainly resolved through council of elders, religious elders and the Kenya Police reservists. Respondents mentioned corruption as a major problem while using the traditional settings to resolve cases.

To address the issues, there is need to:

1. Establish mechanisms to recognize the work performed through traditional methods and ensure the cases are resolved with fairness and justice.
2. Demarcate land to avoid disputes.
3. Increase the number of police and police posts to curb insecurity.

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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

Upper Eastern Region Survey Personnel

Table A2.1 Upper Eastern Region

Counties	Technical Committee Member	County Coordinator/ Supervisor	Research Assistants	Data Clerks
Isiolo Marsabit	Hambulle Mohammed	Beatrice Okundi	Adan Mohamud Deka B. Nura	Bashir Maalim Hussein

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Here below are authors who participated in the development of this report:

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Annex 3: List of 2015 NAYS Participants

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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.

MARSABIT COUNTY