



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

**ELGEYO
MARAkwET
COUNTY**



January 2017



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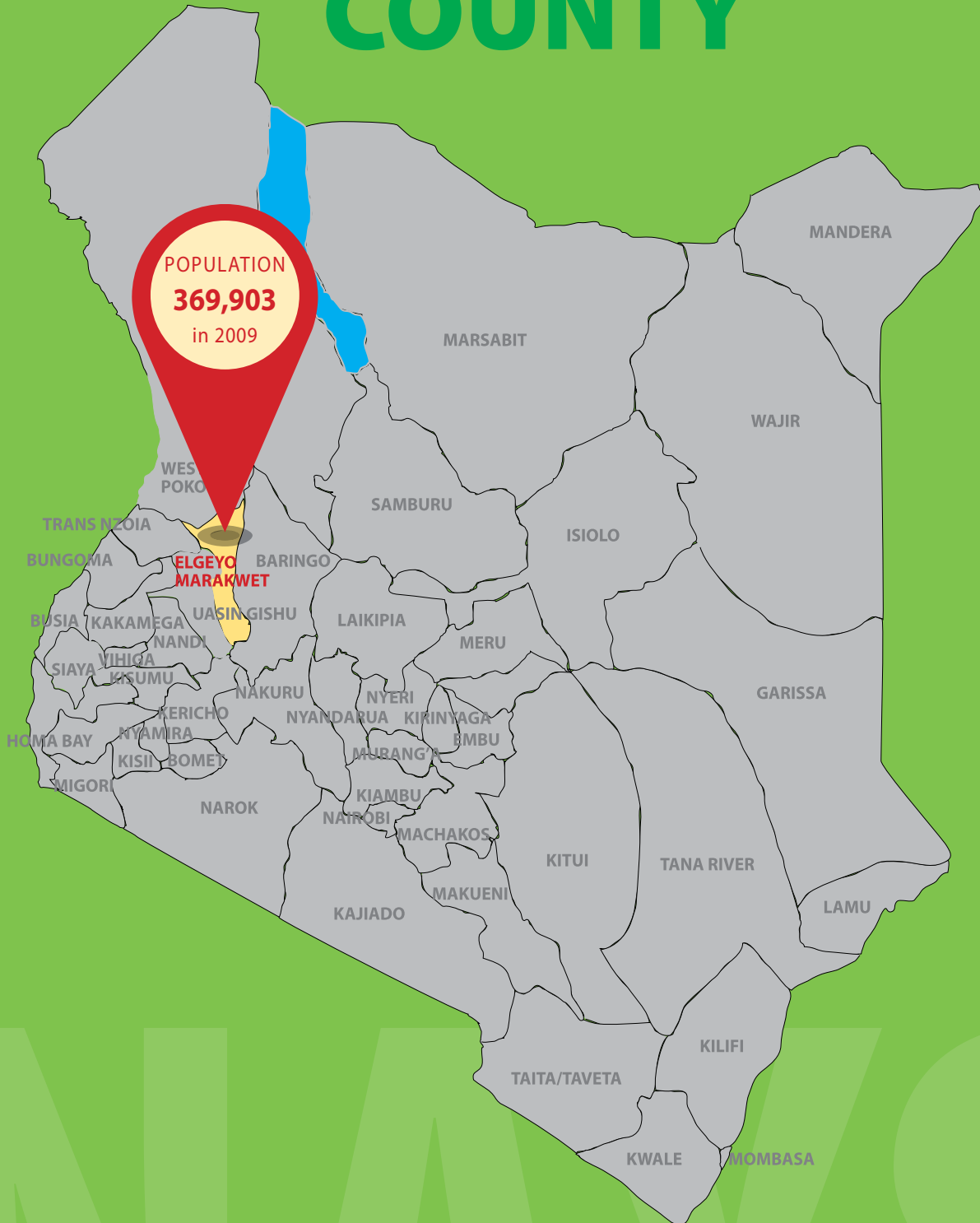
Acronyms and Abbreviations

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.

ELGEYO MARAKWET 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

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 young person's groups, older people groups, 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 Elgeyo Marakwet County. The second method entailed qualitative data collection using focus group discussions, in-depth and key informant interviews.

Results from the desk review and analysis showed that the total population of Elgeyo Marakwet County was 369,903 people in 2009. The population is projected to increase to 573,894 people by 2030 and to 749,895 people by 2050. Forty-six percent of the total population in the county is below age 15 and this population is projected to decline to 34 percent in 2030 and to 25 percent in 2050. Nearly 50 percent of the county's population is in the working ages (15-64) and this population is projected to increase to 62 percent in 2030 and to 69 percent in 2050. The county has a very dependency ratio of 105. This ratio is projected to decline to 60 in 2030 and to 44 in 2050. The demographic window of opportunity is expected to open in the year 2041 and close in 2081.

The total fertility rate for the county is 4.1 children per woman. The contraceptive prevalence rate for the county is 55 percent compared to 58 percent for the whole county. Sixty-five percent of the births in the county are attended by a skilled health provider. And 85.2 percent of the children 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated. HIV prevalence rate for the county is fairly low (2.5 percent) and is lower than the rate for the whole county which is 6.4 percent.

The county's has a good human development index score. In 2012, the county's index was 0.5321566 compared to 0.520 for the whole country. The school enrolment is fairly high. The primary school net enrolment rate is 95 percent and the secondary school enrolment is 62%. These figures imply a large of secondary school age children are out of school in the county.

The qualitative survey findings show that abortion, malaria, malnutrition, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and AIDS, drug and substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, sexual and gender based violence and cases of mental health problems were the main health problem affecting the young people in the county. These issues are attributed to

idleness of the young people, addiction to drugs and alcohol, lack of health information, negative cultural practices, peer pressure, lack of parental guidance, high levels of poverty. In order to improve on health outcomes, the county should strengthen provision of sexuality and reproductive health information and services to the young people. Parents should be encouraged to provide adequate guidance to their children and the county should create more training and employment opportunities for the young people.

The issues that affect education of young people in the county were identified as drug and substance abuse, inadequate teachers, teenage pregnancy, early marriage, child labour, school absenteeism and lack of school fees. To overcome these problems, the county should introduce comprehensive sexuality education in both primary and secondary schools, increased the number of bursaries to the needy children, provide counselling services to the young people, create public awareness on the dangers of drugs and alcohol, strengthen the implementation of the back to school policy for girls after delivery and dealing with teachers absenteeism.

The main employment and income opportunities in the county are farming activities especially maize farming, menial jobs and various businesses opportunities including '*boda boda*' business. The main issues encountered by young people in accessing income and employment opportunities are corruption, high taxation, lack of the required academic qualification and experience, insecurity in the Kerio Valley, limited training and employment opportunities, lack of adequate capital, lack of market for products and poor infrastructure.

The county government should put in place measures and strategies to create more training and employment opportunities for the young people. These should include creating awareness among young people about the existing training and employment opportunities in the county, enabling young people access business credit facilities (loans), involving the young people in project planning and implementation, improve the infrastructure in the whole county and provide assistance to the young people to market their products.



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 people in 2009. 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 2009 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 per woman by 2050 then the population size will increase to 59 million people in 2030 and 75 million people 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 results obtained 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, Elgeyo 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

ELGEYO MARAKWET COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS

2.1 Background

Elgeyo Marakwet County is located in the North Rift region of Kenya. It borders West Pokot County to the North, Baringo County to the East, Trans Nzoia County to the Northwest and Uasin Gishu County to the West. The County covers a total area of 3029.9 km² which constitutes 0.4 percent of the country’s total area. It extends from latitude 0° 20' to 1° 30' to the North and longitude 35° 0' to 35° 45' to the East. Administratively, the county is divided into four sub-counties, namely; Marakwet East, Marakwet West, Keiyo South and Keiyo North. These are further subdivided into 15 Divisions, 69 Locations and 203 Sub-locations. The four sub-counties are equivalent to constituencies in the County.

2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Profile

2.2.1 Population Size and Age Distribution

According to the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHC), the total population of Elgeyo Marakwet County was 369,903. The population is projected to increase to 573,894 people by 2030 and to 749,895 people by 2050. From Table 2.1, the proportion of population below age 15 was 46 percent in 2009 and this proportion is projected to decline to 35 percent and 25 percent in 2030 and 2050 respectively. The proportion of the population aged 64 and above was 4 percent in 2009 and will decline to 3 percent in 2030 and increase to 6 percent in 2050. This implies that the social protection programmes are required to cater basic need of the increasing aging population in the county.

Table 2.1 Population size and structure

Indicator	2009	2030	2050
Population Size	369,903	573,894	749,895
Proportion of Population Below Age 15	46.4	34.5	24.9
Proportion of Population Above Age 64	4.0	3.2	5.7
Proportion of Population in the Working Ages (15-64)	49.6	62.3	69.4
Dependency Ratio	101.5	60.5	44.1
Year Demographic Window of Opportunity Opens	2041		

Source: Various reports

The proportion of population in the working ages (15-64 years) was 50 percent in 2009 and will increase to 62 percent in 2030 and to 69 percent in 2050. Although the proportion of this economically active age group is on the upward trend, the dependency ratio is still high in the County but declining. In 2009, the dependency ratio was high at 102 and is expected to decline to 61 by 2030 and to 44 by 2050. This implies that the County has a high dependency ratio and also a high potential for future labour force. The demographic window of opportunity is expected to open for Elgeyo Marakwet County in the year 2041 and close 2081 people.

2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics

Table 2.2 presents information on the socio-economic characteristics for Elgeyo Marakwet County. From Table 2.2, the total fertility rate for the county was 4.1 children per woman in 2014. The 2014 KDHS indicates that 55 percent of the married women were using contraception compared to 58 percent nationally. The proportion of births assisted by a skilled provider is 65 percent. The HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the county is 3 percent compared to the national rate of 6.4 percent. Eight-five percent of the children 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated.

Table 2.2 Socio-economic characteristics of Elgeyo Marakwet County

Socio-economic characteristics	Indicators	
Health	Average Number of Children Per Woman	4.1
	Proportion of Married Women Using Contraception	55.2%
	Proportion of Births Attended by A Skilled Health Worker	65.0%
	HIV Prevalence	2.5%
	Children 12-23 months fully vaccinated	85.2%
Education	Primary School Net Enrolment Rate	95.0%
	Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	25.3
	Number of Primary School-Age Children Out of School	5,133
	Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate	61.5%
	Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	19.1
	Number of Secondary School-Age Teenagers Out of School	15,798
Human Development Indicator	Human Development Index	0.5321566

Source: Various reports (See the references Section) and the outputs of the population projections and Demographic Dividend modelling.

The primary net enrolment rate is 95 percent against the secondary school net enrolment rate of 62percent. The wide range between primary and secondary enrolment rates is due to huge number of primary-to-secondary school drop-outs. This high enrolment rate in primary schools could be partly attributed to the Free Primary Education (FPE) strategy of the National Government. The Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio and Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio are 25 and 19 respectively. This implies that the ratios in the two levels of education are fairly good in the County.

The County's Human Development Index is 0.5321566 and the national one is 0.561. This implies that the county is performing below the national average in terms of human development. This could be attributed to the low level of education in the county.

2.3 Health and Young People

The survey sought to establish the health issues affecting young people in Elgeyo Marakwet 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 Elgeyo Marakwet County, the causes for these health problems, the consequences to young people and the ways of addressing these problems. 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 outlines the suggested ways of improving health of young people in the County.

2.3.1 Health Issues Affecting Young People

The main health problems affecting young people are; Abortion, malaria, malnutrition, sexually transmitted infections including HIV and AIDS, drug and substance abuse (DSA), teenage pregnancy, sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) and cases of mental health problems. These problems could be caused by idleness of the young people, lack of adequate health information, negative cultural practices, peer pressure, parental negligence or lack of parental guidance and lack of high levels of poverty.

“Alcoholism, many youths engage in alcohol and get addicted sometimes they get sick because of alcoholism.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

The groups observed that the consequences of these health problems include school dropout, poor health conditions, deaths/or suicide, low self-esteem and stigmatization, poor economic or social productivity of the young people. It was also noted that in some instances the health problems led to premature deaths as those who feel desperate due to embarrassment commit suicide.

“Most of school dropout cases are due to too much alcoholism and parents reject them. Also someone can drink and might even rape because they don’t know what they are doing and molest young children.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Table 2.3 Main health problems affecting young people

Main Health problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Abortion	Idleness among young people	School drop outs	Educate the youth to abstain from early sexual orientations
Malaria	Addiction to DSA	Poor health conditions	Guidance and Counselling of young people
Malnutrition	Lack of adequate health information	Deaths/or Suicide	Public health education
Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS	Negative cultural practices	Low self-esteem and feel embarrassed	Sensitization on SRH and FP Issues
Drug and substance Abuse (DSA)	Peer pressure	Poor Economic or Social Productivity of young people	Parental guidance and responsibility
Teenage Pregnancy	Parental Negligence or lack of Parental Guidance	Desperation	Creation of employment opportunities for the idle young people
Sexual and Gender based violence(SGBV)	High levels of poverty levels	Stigmatization and discrimination of the affected	
Mental Health Problems			

Educating the youth to abstain from early sexual orientations, guidance and counselling of young people, Public health education, Sensitization on SRH and FP Issues, Parental guidance and responsibility and creation of employment opportunities for the idle young people were mentioned as some of the key ways to address these issues.

2.3.2 Access and Availability of Information and Services

Summary of the sources and types of health information and services, usefulness of the information from these sources and young people 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 & services	Types of Health Information & Services	Usefulness of Information	Preferred Sources
Health Facilities	Information on STI & HIV/ AIDs	Increased knowledge	Health Facilities
Religious institutions	Treatment and medication	Prevention of teenage pregnancies	Mass Media
Public Health Talks and or Barazas/forums	VCT services	Upholding good morals	Schools/teachers
Schools	Sex Education	Behaviour change	Public forums
Mass Media	Health Education & Awareness	Disease Prevention	
Friends	WASH	Saving life	
Internet	Family planning information		
	Guidance and counselling		
	Hygiene and sanitation		

During the FGDs, a range of sources of information were identified; particularly the health facilities, religious institutions, public health talks 'schools and teachers, and mass media were mentioned as the main sources of health information. Other sources mentioned included internet and friends. Out of these, the most preferred sources of health information are health facilities, the media, schools / or teachers and public forums. The main type of information received included information on STI, HIV and AIDs, treatment and medication, VCT services, sex education, health education family planning information, guidance and counselling and information on hygiene and sanitation. The information was regarded as useful in terms of prevention of teenage pregnancies, upholding good morals, saving life and disease prevention.

Table 2.5 SRH/FP information and services

Main SRH/FP information & services available & accessible	Challenges in accessing SRH/FP information & services	Addressing Challenges
Family Planning Methods/ Services (Contraceptive pills, Injectable, IUCD, implants) VCT counselling and testing	Fear of self-embarrassment High cost of SRH services Illiteracy Inadequate FP personnel Long distance to access the services Fear of side effects Myths and misconceptions about modern FP methods Erratic supply of FP medicines/drugs Poor infrastructure Poor provider attitude Lack of disability friendly services	Improve FP service provision infrastructure Create Public health awareness to address perceived side effects and myths & misconceptions Provision of friendly services to PWDs Training and recruiting more FP service providers -Provision of free FP services

The main SRH/FP information and services that were reported to be available and accessible to young people were family planning contraceptives such as the injectables, contraceptive pills, IUCD and implants and VCT counselling and testing services.

On the types of information & services available for marginalized young people including PWDs, young people living with HIV/AIDS and Orphans, the groups observed that; there are ART services for those with HIV, guidance and counselling, donations and financial support for people with disabilities and orphans, health education targeting the marginalized groups and treatment services.

Fear of self-embarrassment, High cost of SRH services, illiteracy, inadequate FP personnel, long distance to access the services, fear of side effects, myths and misconceptions about modern FP methods and erratic supply of FP medicines/drugs are the main challenges that inhibit young people from accessing these services. Other challenges include; Poor service provision infrastructure, poor provider attitude and lack of disability friendly services.

“Misconception of information whereby one tells you ‘contraceptives can affect your health later on.’”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Some of the ways suggested by the various groups to address these challenges include; Improving FP service provision by training and recruiting more service providers and increasing the health facilities, creation of awareness among the public to address the perceived side effect and the, myths and misconceptions about family planning and provision of youth friendly services.

The FGD participants had mixed views regarding the availability of youth friendly service centres. The older group were of the option that the some of the existing health facilities provided youth friendly services while the younger group stated otherwise. . Lack of confidentiality and lack of youth specific services centres were the main reasons stated by those who said there are no youth friendly services. A participant in an FGD with younger people asserts that:

“Not all are friendly, doctors discuss your issues with relatives who will spread and tell everyone.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

For those in support of it, they stated confidentiality, free SRH services, conducive environment, friendly personnel and privacy to back up their argument. “Doctors keep privacy and are confidential the environment is friendly doctors are friendly” (FGD, mixed older person 35-60, Elgeyo Marakwet).

On the contrary, the service providers insist that, although most of the facilities lack specific youth friendly services, most of the services provided in the health facilities guarantee privacy and confidentiality to them.

“...Stigmatization is a challenge in community and us here we keep confidentiality we don't disclose people's affairs, our staffs observe...”

[Manager in charge of Health YSO, Elgeyo Marakwet]

2.3.3 Organisations Addressing Health Issues

In the county the main organisations identified to be addressing health issues affecting young people were reported as the government health facilities and those managed by Non-Governmental organisations (NGOs). Even with the existing structural and organisational challenges facing the health sector in the county, the government managed facilities were acknowledged to have improved in the provision of health services, creating health awareness and provision of drugs to PLWHAs. The NGO managed organisations were also recognized for their contributions to the improvement of the health status of the community and in particular creating health awareness, giving donations to OVCs as well as provision of guidance and counselling services.

2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement

To improve on health service provision, the groups observed that, there is need to expand the number of health facilities employ more health personnel, introduce mobile clinics and carry out awareness campaigns to increase access to health services.

The key informants pointed out that there were various supportive policies and guidelines that offer opportunities and a conducive environment for the provision of health services to improve the health status of young people. They pointed out that what majorly needs to be done is to ensure the full implementation of these policies by the health care service providers in the county. The policies available for improvement of health of young people include; National Health Policies, Ambulance and Referral Policy, Community Health Program, Guidelines on Youth Friendly Services, Health Bill, National Reproductive Health Policies, Sanitation Policy, School Health Programs, and Sexual Reproductive Health Guidelines.

2.4 Education and Young People

The FGDs and interviews focused on 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 Elgeyo Marakwet 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 Education Issues Affecting Young People

The FGDs conducted across the various groups, Drug and substance Abuse (DSA), Inadequate teaching personnel, Early marriages, High indiscipline cases, Teenage Pregnancies, Child labour, Absenteeism (Teachers and Pupils/Students) and Lack of school fees were identified as the main issues affecting education of young people.

On DSA, one of the participants in an FGD with young people observed that:

“Use of drugs is there they use it due to peer pressure and permissive society where parents are the ones cooking alcohol so as to pay fees for their children so students start drinking from there.”

[FGD. Female young people 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

The education service providers also observed that poor infrastructure to schools is part of the issues that contribute to school drop-out cases.

Table 2.6 Main education issues affecting young people

Main education issues	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing the issues
Drug and substance Abuse (DSA)	Peer pressure	School drop out	Guidance and counselling of young people
Inadequate teaching personnel	Easy accessibility of drugs	Absenteeism	Public awareness against DSA
Early marriages	Poverty	Lack of concentration in class	Introduce free secondary education
High indiscipline cases	Poor parenting	Low transition rates in schools	Back to school policy for girls after delivery
Teenage Pregnancies	Media influence	Poor academic performance/ Results	Avoid teacher absenteeism
Child labour		Early marriages	
Absenteeism of some teachers and pupils/ students)		Lagging behind academically/syllabus	
Lack of school fees			

The education issues identified were mainly attributed to peer pressure among the young people and poverty levels of households. Other causes mentioned were easy accessibility of drugs, poor parenting and the influence of the mass media.

The mentioned consequences of these issues included; school dropout; absenteeism from school, lack of concentration in class, low transition rates in schools, early marriages and poor school performance.

Of concern is the school drop-out consequence leading to low transition from primary to secondary schools in the county. One FGD participant noted that:

“Few pupils proceed to high school others are not able to proceed, they go to the village and just stay.”

[FGD. Male young person 10-14, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Guidance and counselling of young people, public awareness against DSA, introduce free secondary education, implementation of Back to School policy for girls after delivery and dealing with teachers absenteeism were mentioned as some of the ways to address the key issues identified.

2.4.2 Access and Availability of Education Services

Although Kenya has made some progress in ensuring 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 schools and colleges, gender disparities in education and availability of learning facilities for PWDs.

In terms of adequacy of learning facilities, the groups observed that learning facilities (books libraries, computer classes, desks) in public institutions are generally inadequate in primary and secondary schools. Some of the learning facilities were said to be in poor condition. Water supply and electricity is still also an issue in most of the schools. Two FGD participants noted the following:

“We have one library with few books.”

[FGD. Female young person 10-14, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Findings from the FGDs show that there exists a gender disparity between boys and girls in primary and secondary education. There are more girls than boys in the two levels of education. On the contrary, the service providers in education view that, in general, there are no significant disparities.

Although the government has made efforts in integrating the education services for the physically handicapped children in the normal schools, the infrastructure is not supportive/accessible to PWDs in primary and secondary schools. Moreover, in the entire County, there are no specific special schools for the disabled children.

2.4.3 Organisations Providing Education Services

Findings from the groups, service providers and policy makers' show that the main service providers of education services are the government managed learning institutions in primary and secondary level. 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 organisation that provides education services in primary, secondary and other tertiary levels. Other institutions mentioned are the religious institutions.

Non-governmental Organizations, financial institutions and some religious institutions were lauded for their efforts in paying school fees for orphans, needy children and children with disability to access education. The government and the other players in the education sector were lauded for the improvement in education performance in schools and provision of bursaries especially to advance to tertiary level education.

2.4.4 Access and Availability of ICT Services in Schools

There was a general consensus and observation by policy makers, service providers and FGD participants in the various groups that, few schools (primary and secondary) are equipped with ICT facilities. In tertiary level institutions, ICT services are made available to the students. The importance of ICT services were underscored in the learning institutions. Moreover, the ICT service helps students to enhance communication.

2.4.5 Opportunities for Investment in Education

The various discussions in the various FGDs made suggestions on the opportunities for investing in education in the county. These included; standardization of school fees and allocation of bursaries to needy students/pupils, employment of more teachers, refresher courses for teachers and improvement of infrastructure. Existence of facilitative education policies was also cited as the greatest opportunity at this time.

2.4.6 Opportunities for Young People to Gain Skills

The groups noted that, there are few programmes in the county that offer apprenticeship, mentorship, internship, attachments and trainings opportunities for young people to gain skills required in the labour market.

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

The main employment and income opportunities identified by the various groups were farming activities especially maize farming, menial jobs and various businesses opportunities including 'boda boda' business. Apart from the opportunities identified by the groups, the county leaders observed that, ICT and the transport sector also provides employment and income opportunities to many young people in the County.

Challenges encountered in accessing employment and income opportunities

Corruption, high Taxation regimes, inadequate academic qualifications, insecurity along Kerio valley, limited opportunities, lack of knowledge and skills, lack of adequate capital, lack of market for products and poor infrastructure were highlighted as some of the key challenges faced by young people in accessing income generating and employment opportunities in the county.

“Taxes levied are a lot and someone can even close their businesses when you give a lot of taxes you may close your business.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 20-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Other than the challenges mentioned were fear of taking loans, inadequate power supply, lack of information on the existing opportunities and, tedious and processing for registering a business.

“Registration of companies is not vibrant, most companies are registered it takes long to issue certificates. It is a challenge because at the end of the day companies are not registered and issue of tenders many will not access, they cannot participate and those companies do they have experience in engaging in any kind of business.”

[Policy maker, Elgeyo Marakwet]

2.5.2 Economic Activities Young People Are Engaged In

From the FGDs across the various groups, key information and in-depth interviews, small scale businesses, *Bodaboda* rider business, casual/menial work, farming (crop, horticulture, livestock, poultry), herding animals, domestic work and charcoal burning and selling were identified as the main economic activities young people are commonly engaged in. A participant in an FGD with younger people noted that:

“Those who drop out of school burn charcoal, drive motorbikes and are houseboys and house girls.”

[FGD. Male young person 10-14, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Table 2.7 Economic activities young people are engaged in

Main economic activities engaged in	Challenges Encountered	How to address the challenges	Reasons why under-age children engage in employment and income opportunities
Small scale Businesses Boda boda Businesses Casual/menial labour jobs Farming (Crop, Horticulture) Livestock, Poultry Herding animals Domestic workers job Charcoal burning	Poor pay and exploitation Insecurity of businesses Health complications Lack of legal requirements to operate businesses Long registration of business procedures Poor infrastructure Lack of market for their products Lack of necessary knowledge and skills Financial constraints to expand business Harassment by authorities and employers Accidents	Provision of education services to avoid school-drop-outs Improvement of infrastructure Provision of loans/ financial support and ease access of the same	Family support Improve living standards due to poverty For leisure Avoid idleness To get school fees

Poor pay and exploitation, health complications, lack of legal requirements to operate businesses, long process for business registration poor infrastructure, lack of market for products, lack of necessary knowledge and skills, lack of capital, harassment by authorities and employers, and accidents were cited as the main challenges that young people encounter while engaging in the various economics activities.

“Some adults don’t pay them because they just see them as small children.”

[FDG. Male young person 10-14, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Provision of education opportunities to under-age children who are engaging in employment opportunities for them to go back to school was widely recommended. Additionally, Improvement of infrastructure, provision of loans/financial support and ease access of the same were also suggested as facilitative factor for young people to produce goods and services and deliver them to the market without much challenges.

The under-age young people in this County is driven by the need to get money for family support and upkeep, improve living standards due to poverty, and the need to raise school fees pre-dispose young people to engage in economic activities. In some instances, young people noted that they that they engage in economic activities as part of their leisure activities and avoid idleness.

“They all do these jobs to earn money so that they can pay and raise school fees.”

[FGD. Male young person 10-14, Elgeyo Marakwet]

2.5.3 Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Unemployment

Over the years, the government has rolled out interventions and programmes that address unemployment issues affecting many young people in Kenya. In Elgeyo Marakwet County, the groups and other interviewees identified key interventions/programmes that offer an opportunity to young people to gain skills to enable them access employment or offer start-up capital at a much lower interest rates. Some of the key interventions identified included; Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO), NYS programmes that enable young people to gain specific technical skills, UWEZO fund, YEDF and WEF that offer affordable loans at low interest rates to women and young people.

Table 2.8 Interventions and programmes addressing youth issues

Main interventions and programmes	Challenges in accessing these interventions	Ways to address these challenges
AGPO	Age and programme restrictions	Address governance/ corruption issues
NYS programmes	Corruption	Simplify procedures to ease accessibility of funds/loans
UWEZO fund	Political interference	Training young people on existing interventions
Women Enterprise Fund (WEF)	Fear of loans	Devolution of Projects or Interventions to the Village Level
Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF)	Lack of awareness on the existing interventions	
	Programme restrictions	
	Limited opportunities	
	Perceived difficult procedures/bureaucracy	

The various groups cited political interference, corruption and favours issues, Fear of taking loans, Lack of awareness on the existing interventions, Programme restrictions, Limited opportunities and Perceived difficult procedures/bureaucracy greatly affects young people in accessing these interventions.

“Policies are not friendly form four leavers told to have an existing business or a 6 month old bank statement.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 20-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Devolution of projects/ interventions to the village level, addressing governance/corruption issues, training young people on existing interventions as well as simplifying procedures to ease accessibility to loans were cited as some of the key ways to address these challenges.

2.5.4 Potential Areas to Increase Employment and Income Opportunities

The groups observed existence of agricultural potential particularly mangoes, pyrethrum and potatoes farming, setting up potato, pyrethrum and mango industries, construction sector especially after devolution of governance structures in the country, unexploited tourism and hospitality opportunities, sports especially athletics as some of the areas that can increase employment and income opportunities in the County.

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 Elgeyo Marakwet 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 the people including, the government should be ruled by the law and obey 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. In terms of administration of the rule of law in Elgeyo Marakwet County, the groups identified the following areas.

Justice System

Participants in the FGDs observed that; corruption cases, petty crimes, drug and substance abuse, family disputes, land disputes, rape cases, normal robberies, SGBV and violence were cited as the

main cases prevalent in the County. The policy makers also mentioned child labour issues and cases of retrogressive cultures like FGM. In solving these cases, the groups observed existence of both official/recognized ways as well as traditional mechanisms. These processes are; the normal judicial court systems, solving cases by the government administrative officers, the council of elders as well as religious leaders.

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, poverty and lack of money to pursue justice, tribalism, inefficiency in the judicial system where very long-time is taken to deliver justice.

“Criminal bribes out and may kill you after being released.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 20-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Public awareness on how to seek justice if affected, promotion of justice for all, addressing corruption/governance issues, reforming judicial systems to solve cases in time and in a transparent manner and reporting of cases were recommended by FGD participants as some of the ways to address and prevent/minimise these issues or challenges.

Security

Maintenance of security was highlighted as necessary for socio-economic development. In the County, security situation was reported to be relatively good except along Kerio valley due to inter-tribal clashes. Moreover, inter-clan disputes due to boundary or land disputes have also compromised the security in some areas of the County. Overall, the county is safe and secure as alluded by a security policy maker /enforcer in the County.

“It is good we have inter government forums which bring people from county government and national government, last week I was to go on meeting and we inform governor on security.”

[Policy Maker. Elgeyo Marakwet]

The mechanisms in place to ensure security for all include; chiefs' *barazas* to preach peace, community policing initiatives, existence of police reservists, specific community's strategies/initiatives, '*Nyumba Kumi*' initiative, existence of police stations and police patrols and council of elders.

Maintenance of security was reported as a function of all people including young people. In the County, young people were mentioned as agents of maintaining security by including them in the community policing initiatives, preaching peace, helping in solving cases where possible, youth patrols in the village, participating in '*Nyumba Kumi*' initiatives and reporting of law breakers and suspicious characters in the community to the police/authorities.

Community possession of weapons, corruption perpetuated by the security agents and law breakers, inadequate police stations and police officers, delays in police response whenever called to address insecurity lapse, poor police performance, failure to report crimes by civilians especially if committed by family members, poor infrastructure and victimization of whistle blowers were mentioned as the major challenges in maintaining security for all.

“People keep quiet on crimes committed especially if committed by their relatives.”

[FGD. Female young person 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

To address challenges, the FGD groups and county leaders recommended that for the enhancement of the community policing initiatives, strengthening of security coordination mechanisms by the law enforcers, employment and deployment of more security agents, creation of more police stations, encouraging members of the public to report crimes, creation of more employment opportunities for young people improving infrastructure to ease mobility.

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 socio-economic upward mobility. The main issues that affect the unity of the people in Elgeyo Marakwet County include; corruption, cultural-economic differences with the neighbouring communities along the Kerio Valley, inter-clan/community conflicts, lack of role models, education and social class disparities, land disputes and nepotisms in public service delivery.

“Inter-clan conflicts between clans they are always fighting.”

[FGD. Female young people 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Community’s interaction through peace meetings, education for all to eliminate perceived or real marginalization or exclusion, holding cultural days to celebrate people’s culture to foster unity, inter-marriages among clans, peace talks, sporting activities and religious meetings/activities were cited as the key initiatives/ programmes in place to promote the unity of the people in the County. In addition to the existing programmes/ activities to maintain the unity of the people, the various groups also noted that, there is still need to promote justice and equity in within the county, bridge the social class difference through education for all, create youth forums, and promote unity/love among various communities/groups, creation of employment opportunities for all.

The policy makers also recommended that resources should be allocated fairly and equitably to all the areas in the county to avoid certain areas being marginalised. There is also to promote civic education at the lower units of governance.

2.6.2 Transparency and Accountability

The mechanisms put in place by the government to inform young people on planned and ongoing activities are through; public announcements, community meetings by local administrators, IEC materials, public notice boards, suggestion boxes and service delivery charters in public institutions.

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. To ensure transparency and accountability in public service delivery, the County Government should have mechanisms to ensure that there is transparency and accountability in all county operation and those who measures to detect and punish those who misappropriate public funds. In addition to the groups' observations, the County leadership also noted that there is community involvement and participation in projects management.

To better improve on transparency and accountability mechanisms in place, the groups recommended that governance / corruption concerns in projects managements should be addressed promptly, evaluation of projects should be done at every stage of development and proper vetting of leaders be done before they assume any leadership positions. Additionally, the policy makers recommended that supervisory committees to be set up to oversee projects initiated by the government so as to achieve maximum social accountability and also sensitize members of the public against engaging in any acts of corruption that may negate the governments' efforts in achieving transparency and accountability.

2.6.3 Consensus, Equity, Inclusiveness, Participation and Responsiveness

The groups identified various ways in which young people are involved in the Budget Process, Project Identification, Design and Implementation especially after the advent of the County governance structures. Specifically, the groups noted that, young people are employed to work/or manage projects initiated by the County government, budget making processes, involved in projects identification and implementation since the projects directly/indirectly affect them. An FGD participant with older people noted that, young people are:

“Involved in budget process project identification and project implementation they are involved in all sectors.”

[FGD. Mixed older people 35-60, Elgeyo Marakwet]

Other than these roles, the policy makers concurs on how young people are currently involved in these stages of project cycle and added that, young people are also involved in the joint M&E activities implemented by the County government.

Despite efforts put in place to ensure that young people are involved in budget process, project identification, design and implementation, a good number of young people are still not involved. This

is mainly due to lack of information that they should be involved, governance issues in the projects leadership, some leaders do not engage young people on account of the relative younger ages, and in some cases nepotisms thrives on who to be involved.

“I think the youth are not involved because they are considered immature and they cannot make decisions which they can help the community.”

[FGD. Male young person 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

In projects and programmes management, the groups observed that young people **LIKE** to be involved in the project’s design, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation activities of these projects, supply of labour and other raw materials to the projects. 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 farming activities and involvement in leadership roles in the projects.

Involvement of young person’s in projects and programmes ensures that they reduce idleness; access employment opportunities hence earn income to improve their economic status and gain skills and experience. A participant in an FGD with older person’s opined that:

“R6-they are able to earn a living/ income and buy personal needs.”

[FGD. Mixed older people 35-60, Elgeyo Marakwet]

It is evident that in the county there is a general satisfaction that indeed, opportunities and resources are reserved for specific categories of the population. Through these opportunities, resources are set aside, and used for intended purposes given. Opportunities are made accessible to all regardless of their social-economic status, political or otherwise affiliations. Among the ways the County government have ensured this happens include; offering employment opportunities to all regardless of their background, exercise gender equity and equality in the achievement of socio-economic prosperity and involvement and setting aside resources to be accessed by PWDs.

“They consider gender, in posts applied. PWD are also considered.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

In the course of their involvement/participation in projects implementation, young people are faced by a number of organizational/systemic or individual factors that may impede their full participation and involvement. The issues raised by the groups are; forces of corruption perpetuated by the leaders in the system, attitude of young people who view positive criticism as being targeted, discrimination on account of their relatively younger ages compared to their elder colleagues in the project management teams, exploitation and poor pay, harassment by supervisors, lack of adequate skills and experiences and inadequate tools and equipment to perform their duties. One of the young people lamented that;

“Not given a chance by old people they think they are the ones to make decisions.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

To improve on young people's involvement in project process, the groups observed that there is need for training and mentorship of young people to equip them with more skills on projects management and on leadership. They improve on the pay/ and offer leadership positions to young people in project 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 programmes like the youth fund.

“Through the Ministry of youth, there is youth fund money for many youths, for example, groups can access 50,000 to help one another.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-44, Elgeyo Marakwet]

The policy makers, on the other hand, note that many resources at the county level and national government are allocated to target young people to access education and create employment opportunities for them. To ensure that resources achieve expected outcomes, the county government has prioritized strong organisational and operational systemic mechanisms to improve on service delivery and achievement of results. The policy makers noted that the government has prioritized implementation of activities with specific outputs and outcomes, formation of project watch dog/ supervisory committees, improved transparency in projects management and public participation in projects management.

To improve on efficiency and effectiveness in utilization of resources, the policy makers observed that, there is need for capacity building of public officers on public service delivery and improve public participation.

“There is need for wider capacity building for people, public participation is for certain people others are laid back even if it was done in village x it was a few there is need to try and go deeper too ensure there is real participation, they need to make it real...”

[Policy Maker, Elgeyo Marakwet]

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. Some of the groups reported that political leadership play important roles in the management of the affairs of young people while others stated otherwise. The young people with a positive perspective argues political leaders are involved in resource allocation such as education bursaries, create employment opportunities for the young people, offer donations to young people for education needs and other purposes, support health programmes in the county, offer financial support to the poor, participate in the improvement of infrastructure and facilitate education sponsorship opportunities to young people. One of the participant from an FGD with younger people commented that:

“They give youths jobs in community, for those educated and not employed, chief and MCA take their papers and get for them jobs.”

[FGD. Female young person 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

On the other hand, the young people dissatisfied with the contribution of the political leadership in the management of young people’s affairs stated that they only engage corrupt practices and perpetuate impunity by exercising nepotism in the management of their affairs.

2.7 Population Structure

With regard to the growing population of young people and the provision of health services, the various groups noted that this situation is likely to lead to congestion in health facilities, inadequate drugs, poor sanitation, faster spread of diseases in case of an outbreak, few medical personnel, overworking of health personnel and inadequate equipment and health facilities in the county.

“With population increase, congestion in hospitals, wards are few, one bed two people, need to increase number of health facilities because with congestion people can even cross infect one another.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-24, Elgeyo Marakwet]

In terms the growing population of young people in relation to provision of education services, young people seems to be worried on the effects of the growing population. The participants observed that, there will be inadequate schools and congestion in the existing ones, over-working teachers, poor performance in schools, and increased school drop-outs since most parents will not be able to cater for many children, imbalanced teacher student Ratio, poor education standards and few learning materials.

“In schools, due to high population, teachers will be few and students many.”

[FGD. Female young person 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

In terms of the economic situation of the county, the effect of the growing population would lead to poor performance of the economy to due increased crime rates perpetrated by idle and unemployed young people, the economy will be required to create more job opportunities for the increased population, leads to poor living standards and mushrooming of slums, high poverty levels, inflationary pressures due to high demand of goods and services pushing prices up and increased pressure for the government to provide basic services.

“When people become many, there will be no jobs or no employment and crime increases.”

[FGD. Mixed young people 25-34, Elgeyo Marakwet]

On the governance in the county, 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 large population of unemployed young people, increased crime and insecurity increases challenges in administration and maintenance of law and order in the county.

“There will be rise of crime many people will look for money, they will steal and it will bring insecurity and chiefs will not be able to govern well.”

[FGD. Female young people 15-19, Elgeyo Marakwet]

In order to address the growing population, the policy makers recommended that mechanisms be put in place to reduce the fertility levels in the county. They suggest that family planning efforts should be intensified to encourage people adopt small family norms.

“We have locally, more borrowed, solutions we can talk of FP they can be improved people be informed on size of families.....people should know dangers of big families, awareness creation and dangers of big family size.”

[Policy maker, Elgeyo Marakwet]

a) Why young people move from Elgeyo Marakwet County to other counties

Although there are numerous resources and opportunities in Elgeyo Marakwet County, the county leadership noted that, young people still migrate to other counties mainly in search of employment and educational opportunities, better social amenities and infrastructure.

b) Why young people move from other counties to Elgeyo Marakwet County

The reasons why many young people migrate to Elgeyo Marakwet county is because they are seeking for farming opportunities, tourism and sporting activities, good climatic conditions and seek for job opportunities.

2.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

The demographic dividend window of opportunity for the county is likely to open in the 2041 and close by the year 2081. This means that the county needs to expedite investment in the four pillars of the demographic dividend to benefit from this window of opportunity. In terms of CPR and TFR, the county is below the national average. Although the NER in primary level is too high, the NER in secondary schools is too low. The county needs to improve the transition rate from primary education to secondary education and stem school drop outs due to lack of school lack by extending bursaries to the needy pupils and students. Economically, the county has is enormous economic potential opportunities that should be exploited. The HDI for the county is below the national level. Efforts should make to increase investments in education, health and in creating employment opportunities and encourage the participation of young people in decision making and in projects and programmes and in other leadership positions in the county.

Recommendations

Health

1. Investment in the health sector especially on child survival programmes and reproductive health services including family planning services should be prioritized and expanded.
2. Advocate for couples to adopt small family norms to reduce the TFR which is above the national average.
3. Create and strengthen partnerships in the provision of accessible and affordable health services.
4. Increase uptake of maternal health care services For instance increases the percentage of births attended by skilled health workers.
5. To strengthen the provision of family planning services and other reproductive health services in the county. This should entail strengthening the implementation of the Community Health Strategy.
6. Strengthen the provision of youth friendly services in all the health facilities in the county.

Education

1. The County government should develop mechanisms that will ensure that bursaries and other education funds are allocated fairly, equitably and transparently to all needy pupils and students in the county.
2. 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. Improvement and construction of technical colleges to cater for out of school adolescents to acquire skills to enable them get employment.
3. Ease access to credit and information on the same to young people.
4. Simplification of the procedures and process of registering a business.
5. The county government should put measures in place to reduce child labour, curb exploitation and poor pay.
6. Create a conducive economic environment for the private sector including industrial set-ups to thrive and create more job opportunities. The industries prioritized here are mango, potatoes and pyrethrum factories.
7. Farmers to be encouraged to grow tea especially in the highlands and to, keep merino sheep for the wool.

Governance

1. Governance structures should be strengthened in the county to ensure effective delivery of service and to entrench the practice of fairness, transparency, accountability and accountability. And to deliberately include young people in county leadership positions.
2. Community involvement in projects design, planning, and implementation. This would ensure that there is community buy-in and improve social accountability.
3. Strengthen the M&E systems in the projects management.
4. The security agencies to prioritizes security and maintenance of law and order especially along the valleys.

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Annex 1: County Demographic Windows

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

Table A1.1 Demographic dividend window opening year

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

Annex 2: Survey Personnel

North Rift – 2 Region Survey Personnel

Table A2.1 North Rift – 2 Region

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