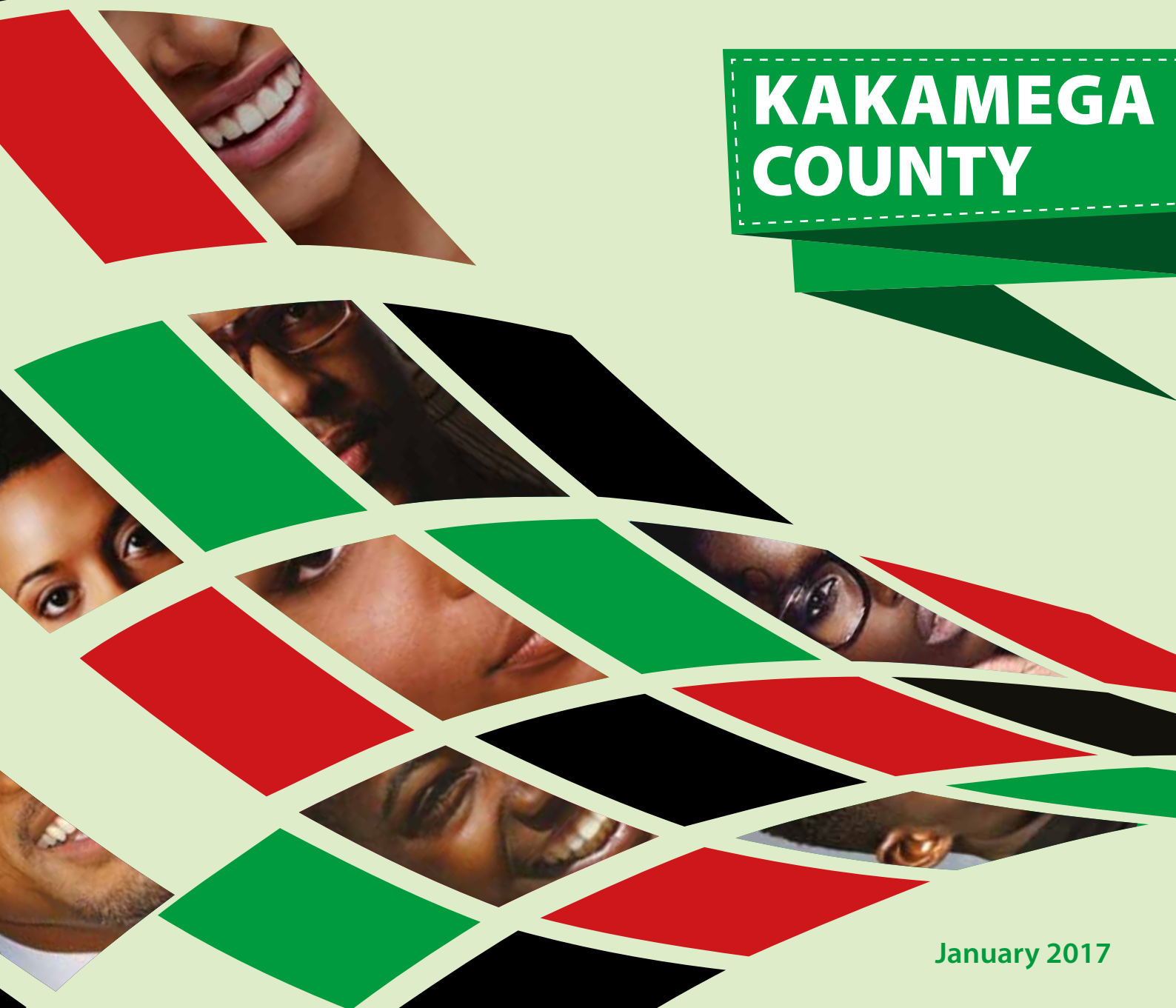




2015 KENYA NATIONAL **ADOLESCENT AND YOUTH** SURVEY (NAYS)

**KAKAMEGA
COUNTY**



January 2017



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CONTENTS

Acronyms and Abbreviations	iv
Glossary of Terms	v
Foreword	1
Acknowledgment	2
Executive Summary	3
1 INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Background	5
1.1.1 Youth in Kenya	5
1.1.2 The Demographic Dividend	5
1.1.3 Population Size, Growth and Composition	5
1.2 Survey Rationale	6
1.3 Survey Goal and Objectives	6
1.4 Survey Organisation	7
1.4.1 Pre-test	7
1.4.2 Trainings	7
1.5 Survey Methodology and Implementation	8
1.5.1 Survey tools	8
1.5.2 Sampling	9
1.5.3 Data Collection	11
1.5.4 Data Processing and Analysis	11
2 KAKAMEGA COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS	12
2.1 Background	12
2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Situation	12
2.2.1 Population size and structure	12
2.2.2 Socio-economic characteristics	13
2.3 Health and Young People	14
2.3.1 The main health problems affecting youth	14
2.3.2 Access and Availability of Information and Services	16
2.3.3 Organisations Addressing Health	17
2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement	17
2.4 Education and Young People	18
2.4.1 Education issues	18
2.4.2 Availability and Access of Education Services	19
2.4.3 Relevance of Courses and the labor market requirement	19
2.4.4 Organisations Addressing Education	20
2.4.5 Opportunities for Improvement	20
2.5 Economic Status and Young People	20
2.5.1 Main employment and income opportunities	20
2.5.2 Economic activities for young person	21
2.5.3 Interventions and programmes addressing youth Employment	22

2.5.4	Availability and Access to ICT Services	22
2.5.5	Potential areas to Increase Employment and Income Opportunities	23
2.5.6	Savings and Investment for Old Age	23
2.5.7	Organisations Addressing Economy	23
2.6	Governance and Young People	24
2.6.1	Rule of Law	24
2.6.2	Transparency and Accountability	25
2.6.3	Consensus, Equity, Inclusiveness, Participation and Responsiveness	26
2.6.4	Effectiveness and Efficiency	26
2.6.5	Political Leadership	26
2.7	Population structure	27
2.8	Conclusions and Recommendations	27
	Recommendations	28
	References	29
	ANNEXES	
	Annex 1: County Demographic Windows	30
	Annex 2: Survey Personnel	31
	Annex 3: List of 2015 NAYS Participants	32
	LIST OF TABLES	
	Table 1.1 Cluster counties by study regions	9
	Table 1.2 Key informant interviews and in-depth interviews sample frame for each county	10
	Table 1.3 Focus group discussions sample frame for each county	10
	Table 1.4 Survey response rates	11
	Table 2.1 Kakamega projected population size and structure (2009-2050)	12
	Table 2.2 Socio-economic indicators for Kakamega County	13
	Table 2.3 Health issues affecting young people	15
	Table 2.4 Access and availability of health information and services	16
	Table 2.5 The main education issues affecting young people	18
	Table 2.6 Economic activities young people are engaged in	21
	Table 2.7 Interventions and programmes addressing youth employment	22
	Table 2.8 Availability and access to ICT services	22
	Table 2.9 Justice system	24
	Table A1.1 Demographic Dividend Window Opening Year	30
	Table A2.1 Western region survey personnel	31
	Table A2.2 Report authors	31

Acronyms and Abbreviations

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

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.

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 Kakamega County profile based on the findings of the 2015 National Adolescents and Youth Survey conducted by the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) in conjunction with Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Youth department, KNBS and various development partners. The survey covered all the 47 counties with the multiple objectives of examining what potential exists for a demographic dividend in each of the 47 counties, 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 population of Kakamega County was 1,659,579 in 2009 and is projected to increase to 2,658,577 in 2030 and to over 3.5 million people in 2050. The county's population- age structure is notably youthful with 46.7 percent comprising of the population below age 15 in 2009. The county's demographic window will opens in open in 2043 and closes by 2083.

Fertility is fairly high in the county; the average number of children per woman is 4.4 which are well above to the national average of 3.9 children per woman. However, this situation is likely to improve as more married women adopt modern methods of contraception. Currently, 62.1 percent of the married women in the county are using contraception; a rate which is above national average of 58 percent.

About fifty percent of the births in the county are attended by skilled health worker and 73 percent of the children age 12-23 months are fully vaccinated. These figures show that there is room for improvement in these key maternal health indicators in the county. This improvement is likely to be realised if the county can increase the coverage and access to health services in the county especially in the rural areas.

The county has high school enrolment rates; the primary school net enrolment rate is 96.0 percent. While the secondary school net enrolment rate is 52.1 percent which implies that nearly half of the secondary school age children are out of school. The figures show that 86,959 secondary school age children do not attend secondary school in the county.

The difference in the primary and secondary school net enrolment rates also imply that the primary to secondary school transition rate is relatively low in the county, indicating that there a large number of children who drop not proceed to secondary level education after primary school level. This situation, if allowed to continue, will deny the county the benefits of an educated young population.

It is worthwhile to note that the education quality indicators such as the pupil teacher ratio for both secondary and primary schools are good in the county. They are 1:19.5 and 1: 38.4 respectively. The National government should therefore expand opportunities for more children to attend school and provide adequate number of teachers and learning materials in the county. The county government should also increase the number of bursaries to the needy students.

Furthermore, this report recommends increased investments for creating training and employment opportunities for the young people and for concerted efforts to be made to enable young people to access credit facilities and opportunities for industrial attachment and mentorship.



INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Youth in Kenya

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

1.1.2 The Demographic Dividend

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

1.1.3 Population Size, Growth and Composition

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

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

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

1.2 Survey Rationale

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

1.3 Survey Goal and Objectives

Survey Goal

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

Survey Objectives

The objectives of the 2015 NAYS were:

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

1.4 Survey Organisation

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

1.4.1 Pre-test

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

1.4.2 Trainings

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

In April 2015, thirty-four (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 socioeconomic characteristics of the country and each of the counties. The quantitative methodology also involved the generation of population projection data for each of the counties using **PADIS software**. The qualitative methodology involved the collection of qualitative data through focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, and key informant interviews.

1.5.1 Survey Tools

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

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

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

1.5.2 Sampling

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

Table 1.1 Cluster counties by study regions

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

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

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

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

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

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

Table 1.3 Focus group discussions sample frame for each county

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

1.5.3 Data Collection

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

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

Table 1.4 Survey response rates

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

1.5.4 Data Processing and Analysis

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

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

2

KAKAMEGA COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS

2.1 Background

Kakamega County is Kenya's second most populous county after Nairobi. It borders Vihiga County to the south, Busia and Siaya Counties to the West, Bungoma and TransNzoia to the north, Uasin Gishu to the North East and Nandi County to the east. The county covers an area of approximately 3050.3 Km². The county has 9 constituencies in total and receives a very high amount of annual precipitation. The county contains Kakamega Forest, a preserve which is a remnant of a rainforest that stretched west through Uganda. Kakamega serves as the headquarters of Kenya's largest sugar producing firm, Mumias Sugar, located in the town of Mumias.

2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Situation

This section highlights the demographic features of the county. The information includes the age distribution, population size, dependency ratio and projections for 2030 and 2050. It also highlights socioeconomic characteristics of the county.

2.2.1 Population Size and Structure

Kakamega County is one of the most populous counties in Kenya with a population of 1,659,579 people. The population is projected to grow to 2,658,577 in 2030 and to over 3.5 million people in 2050 as indicated in Table 2.1

Table 2.1 Kakamega projected population size and structure (2009-2050)

Demographic	2009	2030	2050
Population Size	1,659,579	2,658,557	3,540,341
Proportion of Population Below Age 15	46.7%	35.6%	25.8%
Proportion of Population Above Age 64	3.6%	3.3%	5.2%
Proportion of Population in the Working Ages (15-64)	49.7%	61.1%	69.0%
Dependency Ratio	101.1	63.9	44.8
Year Demographic Window of Opportunity Opens	2043		

Table 2.1 indicates that county's population- age structure is youthful with 46.7 percent of the total population aged being below age 15 in 2009. The percentage of this population is projected to progressively decline to 35.6 percent in 2030 and 26 percent in 2050. On the other hand the proportion

of population in the working ages was 479.7 percent in 2009 and is projected to increase to 61.1 percent in 2030 and to 69 percent in 2050. The county has high dependency ratio of 101. However, the dependency ratio is projected to decline to 64 in 2030 and 45 in 2050 in line with the changing age structure.

The County's demographic window of opportunity is projected to open in 2043 and close in 2083. The county needs to investment in health, education and in creating economic and employment opportunities for the young people in order to harness the demographic dividend.

2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics

Table 2.2 gives a preview of socioeconomic profile of Kakamega County. Fertility is fairly high in the county; the average number of children per woman is 4.4 which are well above to the national average of 3.9 children per woman. However, this situation is likely to improve as more married women adopt modern methods of contraception. Currently, 62.1 percent of the married women in the county are using contraception; a rate which is above national average of 58 percent.

Nearly half (49 percent) of the births in the county are attended by a skilled health worker and 73 percent of the children age 12-23 months are fully vaccinated. These figures show that there is room for improvement in these key maternal health indicators in the county. This improvement is likely to be realised if the county can increase the coverage and access to health services in the county especially in the rural areas.

Table 2.2 Socio-economic indicators for Kakamega County

Socio-economic characteristics	Indicators	
Health	Average Number of Children Per Woman	4.4
	Proportion of Married Women Using Contraception	62.1%
	Proportion of Births Attended by A Skilled Health Worker	48.6%
	HIV Prevalence	5.9%
	Children 12 - 23 months fully immunized	73.1%
Education	Primary School Net Enrolment Rate	96.0%
	Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	38.4
	Number of Primary School-Age Children Out of School	18,677
	Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate	52.1%
	Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	19.5
	Number of Secondary School-Age Teenagers Out of School	86,959
Socio-Economic	Human Development Index	0.4834511

Even, more worrying is the high rate of maternal and child mortality. According to the Kenya Housing and Population Census (2009), the maternal mortality for the county was 364 deaths ranking it 5th highest in the country. The county also recorded infant and under 5 mortality rates above the national average. This could be attributed to limited coverage of health care s and limited uptake of

maternal health services. Other health challenges reported by the respondents include high morbidity and mortality associated with malaria. The health situation is attributed to poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition, waterborne diseases and low access to health care services. In addition, HIV and AIDS is a critical health challenge facing the county. Campaigns on awareness on prevention of HIV infections have been implemented; however HIV prevalence is slightly high at 5.9 percent.

The county therefore needs to improve access to basic social services such as access to clean drinking water, support for food production, child care and maternal services; preventive measures for malaria and other diseases that are endemic to the county, adequate health facilities and sustained reproductive and sexual health programmes.

On the education front, the county has high primary school net enrolment of 96.0 % . However, the county has over 18,000 children of primary schools age are out of schools. The secondary school net enrolment rate for the county is 52.1 percent which implies that nearly half of the secondary school age children are out of school. The figures show that 86,959 secondary school age children are out of school.. The difference in the primary and secondary school net enrolment rates also imply that the primary to secondary school transition rate is relatively low in the county, indicating that there a large number of children who drop not proceed to secondary level education. This situation, if allowed to continue, will deny the county the benefits of an educated young population.

Nonetheless, education quality indicators such as pupil- teacher ratio for both secondary and primary schools are good in the county. They are 1:19.5 and 1:38.4 respectively. The National government should therefore expand opportunities for more children to attend school and provide adequate teachers and learning materials.

2.3 Health and Young People

Good health is a prerequisite for socio-economic development. This survey sought to study health issues affecting young people, challenges and health information and services available in the county in order to gain the benefits of the demographic dividend. This section highlights survey findings on health for young people in Kakamega County.

2.3.1 The Main Health Problems Affecting Youth

As presented in Table 3.3, sexually transmitted infections, were identified as a major issue affecting young people. It was reported that the age at sex debut in the county was as low as 15 years and that there was little awareness of the consequences of unsafe safe.

“HIV/AIDS is common among the deaf youth because the government do not have ways of sensitization to this group and the youth do not have access to VCT services.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized 15-24, Kakamega]

Table 2.3 Health issues affecting young people

Main Health problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Sexually transmitted infections, HIV and AIDS	Peer pressure	School drop out	Public education/ Awareness
Drug and substance Abuse	Poverty	Death abortion	Counselling
Teenage Pregnancy	Unemployment	Poor health conditions	Parental guidance
Sexual and Gender based violence	Addiction to DSA		Government intervention Law enforcement

In addition, drug and substance abuse, teenage pregnancy and sexual and gender based violence were also identified as the main health issues affecting young people. These health issues were attributed to unemployment, peer pressure and poverty. The most abused drugs included: illicit brew (*chang'aa*) and bhang. These issues have a lot of consequences on the quality of life. School dropout is evident, high HIV prevalence, and abortions were reported to affect the wellbeing of young people.

The youth also reported that lack of money hindered them from seeking the required medical attention. It was further reported that inadequate qualified medical staff and frequent strikes by health personnel in the county affected the delivery of health care. Furthermore, the lack of proper specialised personnel and equipment at the health facilities often made it necessary for patients to be referred to other health facilities which are far and expensive hence discouraging patients to seek medical attention. The youths also felt that services in the health facilities were not friendly to them which discouraged them from seeking help at the health facilities.

Some of the proposed interventions for addressing these health issues included: public education on effects of health issues both at community level and in schools, enforcement laws/legislations to curb child labour, counselling, parental guidance and provision of employment opportunities through government interventions.

“By creating awareness among the youth. Youths are involved in many things which endanger their lives. Girls need to know how to negotiate safe sex early enough in life to avoid teenage pregnancy. By 12 years, most of the youths are exposed so we need to target them with sex education and safe sex so that they are protected from HIV, early pregnancy and the rising abortionhealth education from early age”

[Kil. County Director of Health, Kakamega]

“We used to have youth friendly services but they are no more. It was a policy to have them in all health centres but they are not available to address the issues affecting the youth.”

[IDI. Health facility in charge, Kakamega]

2.3.2 Access and Availability of Information and Services

The other area of concern was access to services and the availability of health information to young people. Various sources, types and usefulness of information were identified as displayed in Table 2.4

Table 2.4 Access and availability of health information and services

Sources of health information	Types of Health Information & Services	Usefulness of Information	Preferred Sources
Media	Disease prevention and diagnosis	Increased knowledge	Media
Schools	Health advice	Disease prevention	Health Facilities
Friends and peers	STI or HIV	Behaviour change	Schools
Talks /Barazas	Treatment and medication		Public forum
Community health workers and community health extension workers			

From the discussion, a number of sources of information were identified; media particularly the radio, television, newspapers and magazines; schools; friends and peers and public health talks. The most commonly accessed information and services included: Disease prevention, health advice, STI and HIV information and treatment and medication. This information was considered as useful in terms of increasing knowledge for disease prevention.

In the county the main SRH information and services that were reported to be available and accessible to youth were contraceptives, including condoms, injectables, pills and implants. The findings also show that women are the leading in use of family planning methods. However, the young people face a myriad of challenges in accessing these services which includes: fear or embarrassment, fear of side effects, cost of services and inadequate health facilities. Other challenges mentioned were negative health provider attitude and lack of youth friendly services. The respondents proposed that the county should increase the number of health of health facilities, increase public awareness on health issues and provide youth friendly health services.

“Those with disabilityare harassed by health worker and even told that it is not the health worker who infected them with the disease. They talk to them badly.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 20-24, Kakamega]

“We used to have youth friendly services but they are no more. It was a policy to have them in all health centres but they are not available to address the issues affecting the youth.”

[IDI. Health facility in charge, Kakamega]

2.3.3 Organisations Addressing Health

The main organisations that were identified as addressing health issues were the government and Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including UNICEF, UNESCO and USAID. They were acknowledged for contributing to the improved health awareness, hygiene and sanitation and financial assistant.

“... the CBO of Nuclear Children Trust has particularly assisted the youth who were affected and have now gotten the information and are working together in unity. There is cooperation between the infected and those not infected.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 25-34, Kakamega]

2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement

The respondents were asked to suggest the opportunities for improvement of health within their county. The findings show that there is the need to increase the level awareness among the young people on how to deal with health issues. This could be done through public fora, talks or *barazas*. There was need to improve the coverage, access and quality of health services, in particular family planning and SRH by increasing the number of health facilities and health personnel. They also proposed the need for more qualified doctors as it was noted that doctor-to-patient ratio is wanting.

“I told you reproductive health information because there is discrimination men/fathers who only get service/information when they are sick. The women get information when they visit maternal clinics. There is a lot of ignorance such that the illiterate can't access information as compared to educated ones who can get from the internet or other means.”

[FGD. Mixed older person 35-60, Kakamega]

2.4 Education and Young People

Quality education is paramount to ensure all young people develop their skills for national development. Thus this survey sought to examine issues hindering young people to access and participate in education.

2.4.1 Education Issues

As noted earlier, Kakamega County has comparatively well developed school infrastructure and performs well on key indicators on education. Majority of the primary and secondary schools in the county are public schools. In addition, County has a number of middle level colleges and a public University. However, the education sector is still faced with issues that are adversely affected to the realization of the full benefits of quality education to the county as presented in Table 2.5

Table 2.5 The main education issues affecting young people

Main Education problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drug and substance abuse	Peer pressure	School drop out	Law enforcement
Child labour	Poor parenting	Lack of concentration	Government interventions
Absenteeism of teachers and students		Poor performance	Offer employment opportunities
Corporal punishment			Provision of bursaries

One of the main issues facing education in the county is absenteeism of teachers and students. Some of the respondents attributed the teacher absenteeism to teachers using school time to engage in farm work and to do business instead of teaching. They also observed that teachers' strikes contribute largely to teacher absenteeism.

On the other hand, lack of school fees and child labour were key issues that were reported to significantly explain student absenteeism. Some of the child labour practices included domestic work (baby sitting), *bodaboda* riding and working to fend for older parents. It was reported that orphans and girls were more vulnerable to child labour suggesting that affirmative programmes for OVCs and girls would go a long way in helping keep them in school.

In addition, drug and substance abuse (DSA) among both teachers and students was also reported to be an issue facing education that led to absenteeism and lack of concentration in class. The consequences of these issues were cited as school dropouts and poor performance. In reference the DSA problem one respondent thus remarked:

Another issue was lack of adequate schools for children with special needs. Children with special needs have to attend school far away from their homes and are also unable to raise school fees for special needs schools. They also reported being stigmatized against. Other issues mentioned include, sexual abuse, teenage pregnancy and early marriages.

“Most of the special schools are private, very few, far and expensive for the poor to afford. Disabled children are also discriminated during enrolment to schools. They are also stigmatized and lack school fees.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized 15-24, Kakamega]

Generally, most of the issues that affect education in the county are due to poverty. Policies that seek to improve household incomes and implementation of education subsidy programmes and support initiatives are suggested as long term solutions to these issues. Other suggested solutions include provision of bursaries, enforcing laws against child labor and creation of employment opportunities.

2.4.2 Availability and Access of Education Services

Access to education services is a strong pointer to the effectiveness of a county's education system. A main indicator of this is the adequacy of learning institutions from primary to tertiary level. During the survey most of the participants reported that the county had adequate learning facilities.

At primary school level, the respondents' reported that the county has adequate schools that are easily accessible within a walking distance. Many do not use transport they walk to school, few use motor bike and few pay transport money. The views were similar for secondary schools and it also reported that many more secondary schools are still being constructed. However, it was noted that access to tertiary institutions such as colleges was still a problem in the county. They were very few in the county. Similarly, it was observed that institutions for students with special needs were very few at all the three levels of education.

“Those ones are near us. Even every secondary school has a primary next to it. So for primary and secondary schools we are okay the problem is with the colleges. The one close is maybe Kaimosi, but the TTC near here is private which is very expensive”

[FGD. Mixed older person, 35-60, Kakamega]

The county has made good progress in attaining gender parity in education. There was general consensus that gender parity was evident in education institutions in the county with both boys and girls having access to education opportunities.

2.4.3 Relevance of Courses and the labor market requirement

On the issue of courses taught with relevance to prevailing market demands, there was a general view that the courses taught were not marketable and very theoretical. Respondent felt that practical training was important and emphasis should be placed on internships and students attachments.

2.4.4 Organisations Addressing Education

The main organisations that were identified as addressing health issues were the government and Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as World Vision and APHIA plus who are sponsoring education to orphans. In addition World Bank was reported to have funded learning infrastructure including classrooms, laboratory, chairs and lockers in some schools.

2.4.5 Opportunities for Improvement

Some of the opportunities that exist in the education sector that were proposed are; establishing more schools, improving of infrastructure especially in special needs schools. It was suggested that government should enforce and institute stiffer penalties for drug and substance abuse. Also proposed was capacity building to ensure youths are taught about dangers of drug abuse to their health and introduction of school feeding programmes as a way keeping learners in school. These various interventions proposed will lead to more economically empowered households thus making it easier for the children to attend school.

2.5 Economic Status and Young People

Kakamega County is a predominantly agriculture based economy with the main crops grown in being sugarcane, maize, beans, cassava, finger millet, sweet potatoes, bananas, tomatoes, tea and sorghum. The average farm size in the County is 1.5 acres for small scale holders attributed to high population density which has negatively affected productivity. This reliance on subsistence agriculture partly explains the high incidence of poverty levels of 51.3percent in the county.

2.5.1 Main Employment and Income Opportunities

Most employment and income activities in the county revolve around farming and small businesses. The county also has sugar processing industries that provide opportunities for employment to the young people in the county. These factories are Mumias, Butali and West Kenya sugar companies. In addition, tourism activities especially around Kakamega forest provide potential for employment and engaging in promotion of tourism supporting activities like transport, pottery and souvenir making. These areas provide most of the employment opportunities in addition to formal employment provided by public and private institutions. In addition the opening up of public sector tenders to the youth is a potent opportunity for the youth to engage in formal businesses in the county. Generally, agriculture was identified as holding the most potential for the county.

The youth face a number of challenges in an attempt to access these opportunities. Corruption was identified as a key hindrance to access to jobs and other investment opportunities.

“I will add something. I can have a child who has failed exams and also my brother in-law here has a child who passed exams. When a vacancy opens up, the failure will be taken because I have money to bribe.”

[FDG. Mixed Older People 35-60, Kakamega]

Lack of knowledge and skills was also cited as key challenge to exploitation of employment opportunities suggesting that acquisition of skills development and training programmes are critical for developing the capacity of the young people to exploit opportunities. Other challenges mentioned are lack of capital, slow registration process for business and high taxes. This shows that cost of licenses and other requirements of starting business are still considered a significant deterrent by the young people in the county.

2.5.2 Economic Activities for Young Person

Majority of young people in the county mainly have menial employment opportunities. Domestic workers, hawking, *bodaboda* and looking after cattle were mentioned as the main employment opportunities the young people have. Young people cited poverty and the need for to earn money as the main reason for engaging on these job opportunities. Others reported that they engage in these jobs to supplement their parents' income.

Table 2.6 Economic activities young people are engaged in

Main Economic activities	Challenges faced	Ways to address these challenges
Small scale business/trade	Poor pay and exploitation	Enforce on laws of child labour
Boda boda	Health complications and injuries	Capacity building
Farming	Lack of necessary skills	Creation of employment
Domestic workers	Harassment by authority or employers	Parental support and care
Casual labour		

Low wages, exploitation harassment from employer wages are some of the challenges faced by the youth in employment in addition to health complication arising from poor working conditions. To address these problems, sensitization of communities and employers on dangers of child labour are some of the measures that were proposed to address this problem. It was also proposed that parents should provide support to young people to enable them engage in self-employment. Respondents also urged the government to create more employment opportunities.

“Many youths are unemployed, so they are idle. The government to help us as many youth are educated but lack employment.”

[FGD. Mixed Old People, 35-60, Kakamega]

2.5.3 Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Employment

Table 2.7 illustrates the findings on interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment.

Table 2.7 Interventions and programmes addressing youth employment

Main interventions and programmes	Challenges in accessing these interventions	Ways to address these challenges
Uwezo fund	Corruption	Improve loan application procedure
Youth Development Fund	Lack of information	
Women enterprise fund	Fear to take loans	Training and education
NYS		

Despite the challenges mentioned earlier, the respondents reported that they have heard about intervention like Uwezo Fund, Youth development Fund and NYS but were quick to add that they lacked full information on how to access them. They also felt that corruption was still a big impediment that denied most youths from benefiting from these interventions. Fear to take loans was also cited especially where funding was the intervention of choice. Some of the mitigations proposed are, simplifying the loan application procedures, sensitization of the youth on how to access loans and giving them more roles in managing these interventions.

“Since our leaders are very harsh to youth, to help solve these cases, we need any project coming to be headed by the youth themselves.”

[FGD. Mixed Young people 25-34, Kakamega]

2.5.4 Availability and Access to ICT Services

ICT development is key to the country’s advancement towards technological potential to spur economic growth. Table 2.8 gives ICT services available in Kakamega County.

Table 2.8 Availability and access to ICT services

ICT services available	Challenges in accessing ICT services	Ways of addressing these challenges
Telephone	Cost	Provide electricity
Mass media	Inadequate operation skills	Reduce the cost
Computers	Inadequate ICT centres and services	Training
Resource centres		
Cyber café		

The county’s mobile telephony coverage is high with strong network of leading mobile network providers. Other mains ICT services available were; mass media particularly television and radio, computers, resource centres and cyber cafés.

For the young people out of school, respondents reported that ICT services were used for entertainment, sports, access services on social networking, particularly WhatsApp and Facebook, news and job adverts. For young people in school, they use ICT services to get information, to gain knowledge and skills in computer and it provides employment opportunities.

While accessing these ICT services, respondents highlighted cost, inadequate ICT centers and services and lack of knowledge and skills as the major challenges. To counter these challenges, they proposed establishment of ICT centers, provision of affordable services and ICT training.

2.5.5 Potential Areas to Increase Employment and Income Opportunities

Respondents felt that investing in education sector, farming and trade industry were potential sources of opportunities for youth empowerment and employment.

“Sugarcane harvesting: cutting and loading tractors. Poultry farming, vegetable farming and dairy farming.”

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

2.5.6 Savings and Investment for Old Age

The findings also showed that young people think about the old age with regard to savings and investment. They don't expect to be working in their old age. However, they reported that they want to save and invest in their youth but they are impeded by unemployment, low income and more demands, DSA and high expenditure on investment and luxury. Discussions showed that sensitization on savings and generating sources of income would counter these barriers.

“Most of our youth lack a vision because most are not employed so have given up in life and resorts to taking alcohol.”

[FGD. Mixed older person 35-60, Kakamega]

2.5.7 Organisations Addressing Economy

The main organisations that were identified as addressing economic issues were the Government NGOs and microfinance such as Kenya Women Finance Trust and CDF among others. They were reported for offering loans and training in areas like *bodaboda* repair and tailoring. They were feeling that these organisation had helped improve services but respondents felt that they should focus more on the youth

2.6 Governance and Young People

Governance is described as how public institutions conduct public affairs and manage public resources. This is embedded in Article 21 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 which pin points the national principles of governance. Good governance compares political bodies with viable economies to meet the needs of the society. Various legislations have been enacted in an attempt to influence good governance in Kakamega County. This section presents the findings of the survey on the status of governance and young people and proposes recommendations on improving the same in Kakamega County.

2.6.1 Rule of Law

Rule of law essentially guarantees equality of all individuals in society on the basis of the principle that every person is equal before the law. This implies that where the rule of law is implemented then people have the opportunity to seek equal protection whenever any of their rights are violated. The respondent's discussions focused on justice system, security and cohesion issues in the county.

Justice system

Table 2.9 displays the main key issues affecting service delivery, challenges and ways of addressing the challenges in the judicial system in Kakamega County.

Table 2.9 Justice system

Main cases	Challenges	Ways of addressing the challenges
Land disputes	Corruption	Address corruption
Theft	Bribery	Promote justice
Rape		

Land disputes mainly at the boundaries, theft and rape cases. These disputes are resolved at the chief's place and if not solved then they are taken to the courts. However, bribery among chiefs, corruption and death hails the judicial system in the county. This is attributed to favouritism such that if you lack money and you have a case, you will not be accorded the justice you deserve.

“Land officials and surveyors should be honest and trustworthy and transparent.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized 15-24, Kakamega]

Respondents reported that corruption should be addressed by ensuring that people in leadership are held accountable and by transferring people to work at different locations after a certain period of time.

“Government to put in place measures that will ensure cases are solved without unfair ruling to the poor ones who can’t afford bribes.”

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

Security

Security was reported as an issue attributed to security officers’ failure to execute their duties diligently and instead paying more attention to illicit brewers than real criminals.

“Security officers are there but do nothing. Last night they attacked a girl’s school nearby and also went to another primary school and also attacked there and this is property of the government. So security officers are not working.”

[FGD. Mixed young person 15-19. Kakamega]

To address the insecurity issues, respondents suggested various mechanisms in place such as the *nyumba kumi* initiative, community policing and young people were also assisting the authorities in patrolling the community.

Cohesion

Social status, tribalism and discriminating the disabled were reported to hinder cohesiveness in the county. The interventions reported to promote unity among young people include: participating in games and sport activities where youth play as friends, churches and mosques are used as avenues to preach unity and also through chief *barazas*. They suggested that more can be done to have a cohesive society through promoting justice and equity.

“We youths should embrace one another in love to promote unity and openness (Unity is strength).”

[FGD. Female young person 15-19, Kakamega]

2.6.2 Transparency and Accountability

Among the principles of good governance, transparency and accountability are critical. Respondents mentioned mechanisms the county has put in place to inform young people about planned and on-going activities. These were: suggestion boxes in some ministries, community meetings, service delivery charter and some agencies provide information on accountability and governance. Although some people step aside but once they prove themselves right the case ends there. However, respondents also reported that enforcement of disciplinary measures and public awareness could go a long way in addressing accountability.

“People should be disciplined after repaying for their evil. Also, they should pay first before resigning and step aside after action has been taken in court over the scandal.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized 15-24, Kakamega]

2.6.3 Consensus, Equity, Inclusiveness, Participation and Responsiveness

Respondents gave mixed findings about young person’s involvement in projects, budget process, project identification, design and implementation in the county. They identified manual jobs as a means through which they were involved in project implementation. They also reported that they were not involved in the project identification, implementation and design. In addition, they would like to be involved in decision making in project formulation and implementation.

“Mostly old people are the ones involved, you can’t get even a single youth involved.”

[FGD. Mixed older person, 35-60, Kakamega]

It was felt that the projects and programmes the county is implementing, does not address the needs of the youth adequately because they are not involved. The main challenges young people face during their involvement in project implementation include corruption, poor pay, lack of skills and inadequate funds. Nonetheless, respondents appreciated the need for creating employment opportunities, training and skill development and increased financial support as a remedy to these challenges.

2.6.4 Effectiveness and Efficiency

There were minimum responses from participants on the best mechanisms that would ensure resources are used to achieve expected outcomes. This may be due to lack of information and low participation in previous projects. Transparency from leaders and youth involvement were cited as ingredients to improved efficiency and effectiveness in utilization of resources.

2.6.5 Political Leadership

Majority of young people were of the view that politicians only involve youths during elections when they need votes.

“...Not so much like our MCA after elections we have never seen him. They only do appear when we are about to hold elections and helps only people of their tribe.”

[FGD. Mixed marginalized 15-24, Kakamega]

Some of the areas of support mentioned were; provision of bursaries, books, sponsoring sports activities as roles political leadership play in management of youth affairs

2.7 Population structure

There were mixed views on the effects of the growing population in relation to the economy of the county. Some respondents reported that increase in number of people in the county should not be a problem as long as the youths are well tapped and empowered through training, education, and sensitization. Others reported that there will be high rates of unemployment and that people with disability are not involved in economic opportunities which in turn increases dependency ratio thus slowing economic growth.

“The growth rate is increasing and it will continue but as long as we invest in human capital, the growth should not be a problem.”

[Kil. County director of youth development, Kakamega]

Respondents were of the opinion that increase in population will lead to high cases of insecurity and strain on infrastructure facilities available. In future the country maybe divided as people will be forced to remain in the community they were born in.

2.8 Conclusions and Recommendations

The population of Kakamega County was 1,659,579 in 2009 projected to increase to 2,658,577 in 2030 and to over 3.5 million people in 2050. The county's population is notably youthful with nearly 50 percent comprising of the population below age 15. The county's demographic window will open in 2043 and closes by 2083. Fertility is fairly high in the county; the average number of children per woman is 4.4 which are well above to the national average of 3.9 children per woman. However, this situation is likely to improve as more married women adopt modern methods of contraception. Currently, 62.1 percent of the married women in the county are using contraception

About fifty percent of the births in the county are attended by skilled health worker and 73 percent of the children 12-23 months are fully vaccinated..

The county has high school enrolment rates; the primary school net enrolment rate is 96.0 percent. While the secondary school net enrolment rate is 52.1 percent which implies that nearly half of the secondary school age children are out of school. The figures show that 86,959 secondary school age children do not attend secondary school in the county.

On the economic front, the county economy is agriculture reliant with the youth decriing lack of income opportunities. Low wages, exploitation harassment from employer wages are some of the challenges faced by the youth in employment in addition to health complication arising from poor working conditions. Child labour is also still prevalent. Corruption, lack of skills and lack of access to capital were identified as a key hindrance to access to jobs and other investment opportunities.

Recommendations

To address these issues the following is recommended:

Health

1. Ensure youth access reproductive health information and services: it was noted that there was low coverage and access to basic health care especially in the rural areas.
2. Enhance campaigns on public awareness on disease prevention (malaria, STIs HIV and AIDS).
3. Conduct awareness on the benefits of family planning.
4. Provide child care and maternal services; preventive measures for malaria and diseases that are endemic to the county, adequate health facilities and sustained reproductive and sexual health programmes.

Education

1. Enhancement of bursaries and affirmative education financing mechanisms for OVCs and other vulnerable households.
2. Enforce laws and carry out sensitization on prevention of child labour and importance of education.
3. Expand infrastructure and access to tertiary education.
4. Review education curriculum to ensure relevant education and skills training in relation to the job market trends.

Economic

1. Create awareness among the youth about employment and investment opportunities existing in the county.
2. Facilitate the youth to access business loans.

Governance

1. Enhance youth participation in decision making and address corruption.
2. Promote equality and justice for all including the marginalised and PWDs.
3. Ensure transparency and accountability in the management of county affairs.

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Annex 1: County Demographic Windows

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

Table A1.1 Demographic Dividend Window Opening Year

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

Annex 2: Survey Personnel

Western Region

Table A2.1 Western region survey personnel

Counties	Technical Committee Member	County Coordinator/ Supervisor	Research Assistants	Data Clerk
Bungoma	Corazon Ayoma	Enoch Obuolo	Anne A. Misiko	Carolyne Nzisa Ndunda
Busia	Francis Kundu		Kennedy O. Alwenya	
Kakamega				
Vihiga				

Report Authors

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

Table A2.2 Report authors

County Reports	Author	Institution
Bungoma	Corazon Ayoma	Family Health Options of Kenya (FHOK)
Busia	Melap Sitati	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Kakamega	Melap Sitati	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Vihiga	Corazon Ayoma	Family Health Options of Kenya (FHOK)

Annex 3: List of 2015 NAYS Participants

Steering Committee Members

1. Dr. Josephine Kibaru-Mbae (NCPD - Chairperson)
2. Cecilia Kimemia (UNFPA)
3. Dr. Eliya Zulu (AFIDEP)
4. Dr. Francis Obare (Population Council)
5. Agnes Koori (Ministry of Education Science and Technology)
6. Dr. Patrick Amoth (Ministry of Health)
7. Dr. Anne Khasakhala (Population Studies and Research Institute)
8. David Mbote (Health Policy Project – Futures Group)
9. James M. Munyu (Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services)
10. Margaret Mwangi (NCPD)
11. William Ochola (NCPD)
12. Peter Nyakwara (NCPD)
13. MacDonald Obudho (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics)
14. Fahad Muthee (Ministry of ICT)

Technical Committee Members

1. George Kichamu (NCPD - Chairperson)
2. Ezekiel Ngure (UNFPA)
3. Bernard Onyango (AFIDEP)
4. Eunice Mueni (AFIDEP)
5. Vane Lumumba (NCPD)
6. Dr. Andrew Mutuku (Population Studies and Research Institute)
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11. Melap Sitati (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology)
12. Josephine Mwangi (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology)

cont.

Technical Committee Members (cont.)

13. Patrick Muchai (National Youth Service)
14. Simon Mwangi (Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs)
15. Corazon Ayoma (Family Health Options Kenya)
16. Francis Kundu (NCPD)
17. Mary Kuira (National Organisation for Peer Educators)
18. Catherine Ndei (NCPD)
19. Irene Muhunzu (NCPD)
20. Alex Juma (NCPD)
21. Michael Oruru (NCPD)
22. Reinhard Rutto (NCPD)

County Population Coordinators

1. Millicent Oluteyo (Central)
2. Janet Lunayo (South Rift)
3. Maurice Oduor (Nyanza South)
4. Sammy Tanui (Nyanza North)
5. Margaret Mwaita (Coast)
6. Beatrice Okundi (Eastern North)
7. Enoch Obuolo
8. Bernard Kiprotich (Western)
9. Victoria Mutiso (Eastern South)
10. Ken Lwaki (North Eastern)
11. Moses Ouma (North Rift)
12. Margaret Wambui (Nairobi)

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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.

KAKAMEGA COUNTY