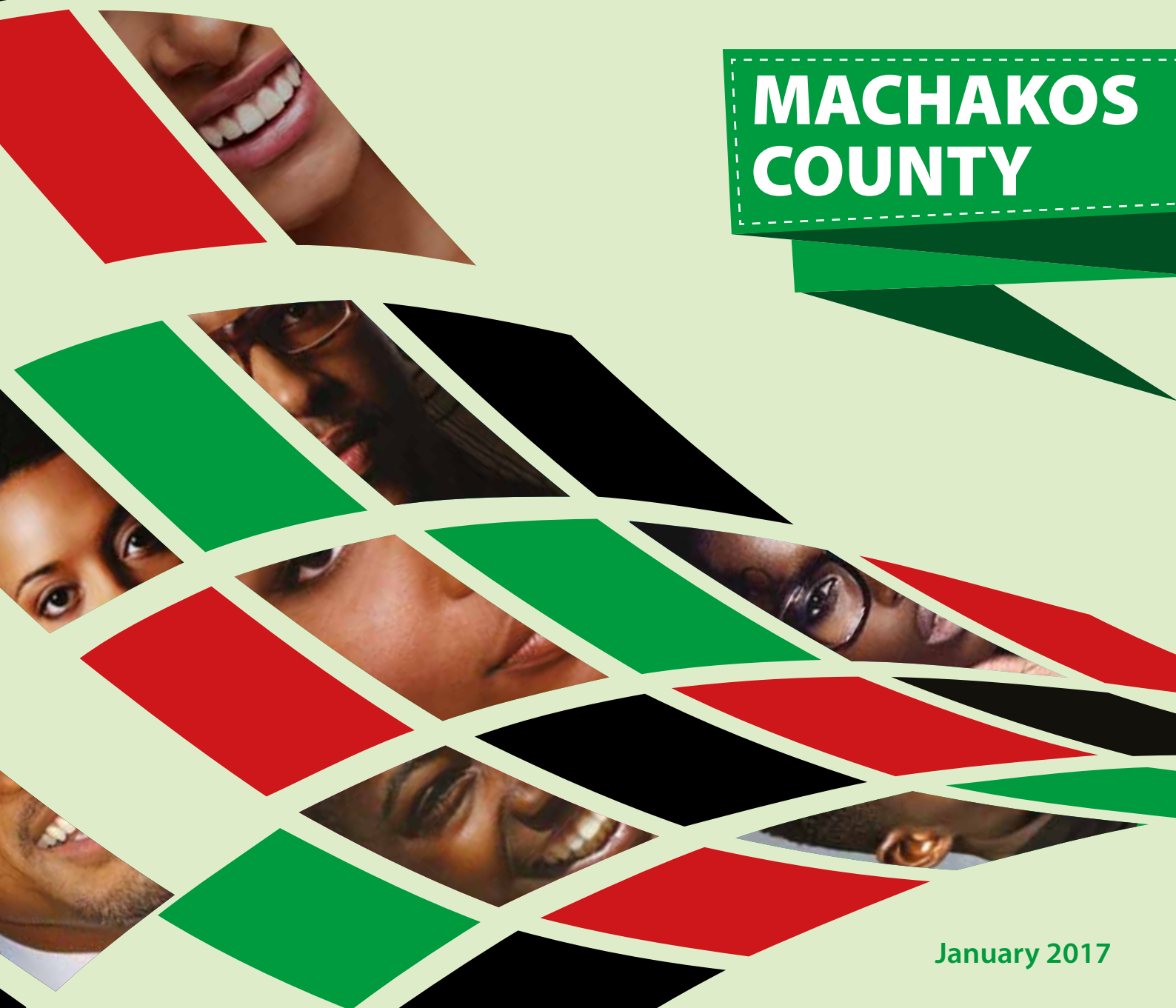




2015 KENYA NATIONAL **ADOLESCENT AND YOUTH** SURVEY (NAYS)

**MACHAKOS COUNTY**



January 2017



Citation:

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

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

National Council for Population and Development  
Chancery Building, 4th Floor, Valley Road  
P.O. Box 48994-00100, Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: 254-20-271-1600/01  
Fax: 254-20-271-6508  
Email: [info@ncpd-ke.org](mailto:info@ncpd-ke.org)  
Website: [www.ncpd-ke.org](http://www.ncpd-ke.org)

©NCPD January 2017



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

2015 KENYA NATIONAL  
ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH SURVEY  
(NAYS)

**MACHAKOS COUNTY**

January 2017



# CONTENTS

<b>Acronyms and Abbreviations</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Glossary of Terms</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Foreword</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Acknowledgment</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>5</b>
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
<b>2 MACHAKOS COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS</b>	<b>12</b>
2.1 Background	12
2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Profile for Machakos County	12
2.2.1 Population Size and Structure for Machakos County	12
2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics for Machakos County	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 issues	17
2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement in Health	17
2.4 Education and Young People	18
2.4.1 The main Education Issues Affecting Youth	18
2.4.2 Opportunities for Young People to Gain Skills	21
2.4.3 Relevance of Courses and the Labour Market Requirements	21
2.5 Economic and Young People	21
2.5.1 Main Employment and Income Opportunities	21
2.5.2 Challenges in Accessing Employment and Income Opportunities	21
2.5.3 Economic Activities Young People are Engaged in	22

2.5.4	Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Unemployment	23
2.5.5	Availability and Access of ICT Services to Young People	24
2.5.6	Organisations Addressing Youth Economic Empowerment	25
2.5.7	Potential areas to Increase Employment and Income Opportunities for Young People	25
2.5.8	Savings and Investment for Old Age	26
2.6	Governance and Young People	26
2.6.1	Rule of Law	26
2.6.2	Transparency and Accountability	28
2.6.3	Consensus, Equity, Inclusiveness, Participation and Responsiveness	29
2.6.4	Effectiveness and Efficiency	30
2.6.5	Political Leadership	31
2.6.6	Population Structure	31
2.7	Conclusion and Recommendations	32
	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>33</b>
	<b>References</b>	<b>35</b>
	<b>ANNEXES</b>	
	Annex 1: County Demographic Windows	36
	Annex 2: Survey Personnel	37
	Annex 3: List of 2015 NAYS Participants	38
	<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	
	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 Population size and structure	12
	Table 2.2 Socio-economic characteristics	13
	Table 2.3 Main health issues affecting young people	14
	Table 2.4 Access and availability of information and services	16
	Table 2.5 Access and availability of SRH/FP information and services	16
	Table 2.6 The main education issues affecting youth	18
	Table 2.7 Economic activities young people are engaged in	22
	Table 2.8 Interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment	23
	Table 2.9 Availability and access of ICT services to young people	24
	Table 2.10 Justice System	27
	Table A1.1 Demographic dividend window opening year	36
	Table A2.1 Lower Eastern Region	37
	Table A2.2 Report authors	37

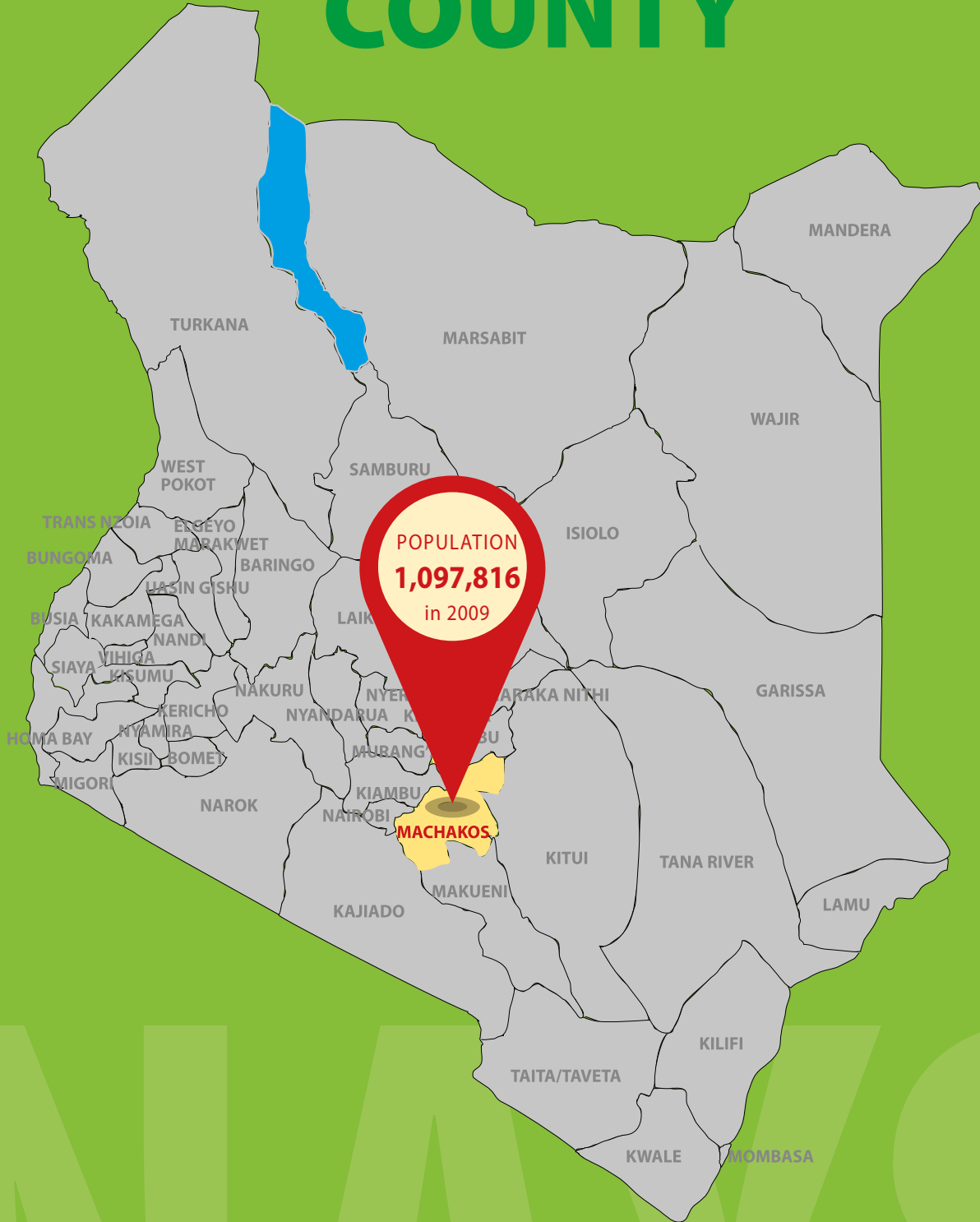
## Acronyms and Abbreviations

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.

# MACHAKOS COUNTY





## Foreword

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

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

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

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

## Acknowledgment

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 Machakos 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 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.

Machakos County demographic profile comprise of 39.2 of the population that is below age 15, 55.8 percent of the population in the working ages and 5 percent of the population that is above age 64.. The dependency ratio of the county is 79 according to the 2009 Population Census. This population structure demands that higher investments to be made education, health and in creating employment and other income generating opportunities. These sectors are the main pillars for harnessing demographic dividend. The Demographic window of opportunity for the County is expected to open in 2031, about fifteen years from now. The dependency ratio is projected to be 45 by the time the county is attaining its window period.

The fertility rate of Machakos County is 3.4 children per woman which are slightly lower than the national average of 3.9 children per woman. This is attributed to the high proportion (75 percent) of married women using contraceptives. In the health sector, access to health medical facilities in the county has really improved in the recent time and prevailing communicable diseases such malaria and HIV AIDs have declined significantly. Young people in this county are faced with drug and substance abuse, sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS, and teenage pregnancies.

Education is one of the pillars of Vision 2030 and hence quality education is critical in equipping youth with competencies and skills required for the achievement of Kenya's development goals. The qualitative survey sought to establish the education issues

affecting youth in Machakos County. The main thematic issues covered included main education issues and how they affect education among young people, ways of addressing the education issues, school dropout, availability and access of education services and opportunities for young people to gain skills. Lack of enough teachers was blamed for the deterioration in the quality of education offered in primary and secondary schools. Increased enrolment has also stretched the available infrastructure in the counties educational facilities.

The main employment and income opportunities for young people in the county were identified as farming/agriculture and *boda boda*. Young people in the county faced numerous challenges while venturing into businesses and other economic activities, corruption being the main issue in deterioration of the economy. The young people were exposed to interventions run by the government and the private sector but only a few were able to exploit these opportunities because of the restrictions in place.

In term of the governance, Machakos County is still affected in terms of justice system and law enforcement. The most prevalent cases are robbery/theft, land disputes and rape as captured in the discussions. The rule of law in this county is very active with the courts being the main ground for settling issues. In the local areas local administration and '*nyumba kumi*' have been very effective managing insecurity among young people.



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

## 1.3 Survey Goal and Objectives

### *Survey goal*

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

## Survey Objectives

The objectives of the 2015 NAYS were:

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

## 1.4 Survey Organisation

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

### 1.4.1 Pre-test

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

### 1.4.2 Trainings

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

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

## 1.5 Survey Methodology and Implementation

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

### 1.5.1 Survey Tools

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

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

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



## 1.5.2 Sampling

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

**Table 1.1 Cluster counties by study regions**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 1.5.3 Data Collection

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

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

Table 1.4 Survey response rates

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

### 1.5.4 Data Processing and Analysis

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

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

# 2

## MACHAKOS COUNTY SURVEY FINDINGS

### 2.1 Background

Machakos County has eight constituencies including Machakos Town, Mavoko, Masinga, Yatta, Kangundo, Kathiani, Matungulu, and Mwala. The County borders Nairobi and Kiambu counties to the West, Embu to the North, Kitui to the East, Makueni to the South, Kajiado to the South West, and Murang'a and Kirinyaga to the North West. Machakos County stretches from latitudes 0° 45' South to 1° 31' South and longitudes 36° 45' East to 37° 45' East. The county has an altitude of 1000 - 1600 meters above sea level. The local climate is semi arid with a hilly terrain covering most parts of the county. The beautiful hilly scenery is perfect for tourist related activities such as camping, hiking safaris, ecotourism and cultural tourism, dance and music festivals among many more.

### 2.2 Demographic and Socio-economic Profile for Machakos County

#### 2.2.1 Population Size and Structure for Machakos County

Table 2.1 Population size and structure

Indicator	2009	2030	2050
Population Size	1,097,816	1,522,868	1,851,106
Proportion of Population Below Age 15	39.2%	30.1%	23.1%
Proportion of Population Above Age 64	5.0%	4.6%	7.8%
Proportion of Population in the Working Ages (15-64)	55.8%	65.3%	69.1%
Dependency Ratio	79.1	53.2	44.8
Year Demographic Window of Opportunity Opens	2031		

The population for Machakos County was 1,097,816 people in 2009 and is projected to increase to 1,851,106 in 2050. The population of the county is youthful, 39 percent of the population is below age 15 and has a dependency ratio of 79. The population below age 15 is projected to decline to 30 percent in 2030 and to 23 percent in 2050 while the population in the working ages (15-64) is

projected to increase to 65 percent in 2030 and to 69 percent in 2050. These combined effects will result to a decline in the dependency ratio from 79 to 45 in 2050. The population of older people above age 64 is also expected to increase to 4.6 percent in 2030 and to about 8 percent in 2050. The Demographic window of opportunity for the County is expected to open in 2031, about fifteen years from now and the window will close in the year 2071.

## 2.2.2 Socio-economic Characteristics for Machakos County

Table 2.2 summarizes the socio-economic profile of Machakos County.

Table 2.2 Socio-economic characteristics

Socio-economic characteristics	Indicators	
Health	Average Number of Children Per Woman	3.4
	Proportion of Married Women Using Contraception	75.9%
	Proportion of Births Attended by A Skilled Health Worker	63.4%
	HIV Prevalence	5.0%
	Children 12-23 months fully vaccinated	90.0%
Education	Primary School Net Enrolment Rate	96.7%
	Primary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	27.2
	Number of Primary School-Age Children Out of School	8,285
	Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate	79.4%
	Secondary School Pupil-Teacher Ratio	19.6
	Number of Secondary School-Age Teenagers Out of School	20,716
Human Development Indicator	Human Development Index	0.5405617

The average number of children per woman in Machakos County (3.4) is slightly lower than the national average of 3.9 children per woman. This low fertility can be attributed to the high proportion (75 percent) of married women using contraception.

Use of unskilled delivery by mothers is one of the risk factors for infant and maternal mortality. The proportion of births attended by skilled providers in Machakos County (63 percent) and is lower compared to the national target of 90 percent. However, 90 percent of the children age 12-23 months in the county are fully vaccinated. This percentage is higher than the national target of 80 percent. The county HIV prevalence (5 percent) is lower than the national HIV prevalence of 6 percent.

The county has good indicators in the education sector. The primary school net enrolment rate is 96.7 percent and similarly, the secondary school net enrollment rate for the County is (79.4 percent) but over 20, 716 secondary-age children out of school.

The Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.540 is an indicative of the County's overall achievement in providing quality education, health care and economic opportunities. The value is slightly higher than the national average of 0.532.

## 2.3 Health and Young People

The qualitative survey sought to establish the health issues affecting youth in Machakos County. The thematic issues raised covered the youth, adults and marginalized groups. This section presents a summary of the findings by sub-themes. The first sub-theme outlines the main health problems affecting Youth in Machakos County, the causes for these health problems, their consequences to youth and the ways of addressing these problems. The second thematic area addresses accessibility and availability of 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 within the county.

### 2.3.1 The Main Health Problems Affecting Youth

Table 2.3 Main health issues affecting young people

Main Health problems	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drug and substance abuse Sexually Transmitted Infections & HIV/AIDS Teenage Pregnancy	Poverty Peer pressure Lack of knowledge Negative cultural practices	School drop out Death Poor health Mental health	Guidance and counselling Public health education

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

Discussions with youth from the county identified drug and substance abuse, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS and teenage pregnancy as the main health problems affecting youth in the county. This was corroborated by key informant interviews with health workers in the facilities. Drug and substance abuse was mostly mentioned by the mixed older people (35-60 years) while STIs and HIV/AIDS were noted to be a common health problem by mixed youth (25-34 years).

These health problems were attributed to poverty, peer pressure, lack of knowledge and negative cultural practices. Poverty was also mentioned as one of the reasons that youth might engage in activities that predispose them to STIs, drug and substance abuse and teenage pregnancy.

The problems of drug and substance abuse and teenage pregnancy were noted by youth who observed the following:

*“Ok, all that you’ve said happens more often here, let’s start with the issue of smoking bhang, cigarettes, all that in English is called drug and substance abuse... bhang, cigarettes, alcohol...all that together... is it so common in this community for the youth?”*

[FGD. Male young person 10-14, Machakos]

Another young person had this to say:

*“Its common and I’m sorry to mention this, but most of the girls, I’d say 80 percent they are doing abortion which is, like it might lead to their death, or they may fail to get another child. And the abortion is not done by the recommended doctor, you find that the person who is doing the abortion is just a person who just got an idea, just let’s say in the bush, in assisting like we saying a neighbour was about to die because of abortion she was given some medicine and the child was six months and then had become half the child, so she had to go to the hospital which lead to her death.”*

[FGD. Male young person 15-19, Machakos]

The consequences of these health problems included school dropout, death, poor health and poor mental health. School dropout was observed to be as a result of substance and drug abuse and teenage pregnancy; poor health, stigmatization especially if they have HIV.

Some of the ways suggested to address health problems among youth included guidance and counselling and public health education.

## 2.3.2 Access and Availability of Information and Services

Table 2.4 tabulates the sources, type and usefulness of the information for young people in Machakos County.

Table 2.4 Access and availability of information and services

Sources of health information & services	Types of Health Information & Services	Usefulness of Information	Preferred Sources
Health Facilities Schools Religious Institutions	STI/HIV/SRH Health Education & Awareness	Behaviour change Increased knowledge	Schools/learning institutions Media Health Facilities

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

The findings show that the main sources of health information for youth in the county were identified as the health facilities, schools and religious institutions while the most preferred sources of information were schools/learning institutions, media, and health facilities. The main type of information received included STI/HIV/SRH and health education and awareness. This information was regarded as useful in terms of behaviour change and increased knowledge for youth in the county.

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

Main SRH/FP information & services available & accessible	Challenges in accessing SRH/FP information & services	Addressing Challenges
Contraceptives mainly pills and condoms	Fear/embarrassment Cost of services	Create more awareness in schools and barazas, create public health awareness and guidance and counselling

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

The main SRH/FP information and services that were reported to be available and accessible to youth were contraceptives mainly pills and condoms. The main challenges faced by youth in accessing these services were fear or embarrassment and the cost of these services. Fear/embarrassment was cited as a challenge by female youth (15-19 years) and mixed youth (20-24 years and 25-34 years). The cost of services was mentioned as a barrier by mixed youth (25-34 years) and male youth (15-19 years). This was noted by some of the youth, who had these to say:

A female youth had this to say about fear:

*“a person can have challenge getting those family planning services because you may find a girl like me I am hiding what I am going to get from the hospital, even I can go and drink juice because my friend has told me when I drink there will be abortion.”*

[FGD. Female youth 15-19, Machakos]



There was also a discussion on the type of information and services for marginalized youth including people with disability (PWDs) and Orphans. The services available included Antiretroviral Viral Therapy (ART) and donations.

Overall the general challenges in accessing health information & services included fear/embarrassment in particular for those seeking reproductive health services and the cost of services affected access to services by youth.

Participants suggested that the general health challenges could be minimised by creating more awareness in schools and *barazas*, creating public health awareness and guidance and counselling of the young people.

### 2.3.3 Organisations Addressing Health issues

The main organisations identified as addressing health issues in this county are health facilities under the county government, Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and religious institutions. These are lauded for contributing to the improvement of the health status of the community and in particular creating health awareness. Some of the organisations include: Kenya Red cross, World vision, Tupange-JPHIEGO, Catholic Church, ABC church, AIC church and individuals like the Muli Children's Family.

One young person had this to say about organisations providing health care services:

*“If things they provide at the health centre, some of them are expired, but when those people come their things are good because let's say the family planning they are good, they don't have effects.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-34, Machakos County]

Another young person added that:

*“I see them doing a good job, because if it's a girl who has given birth they take good care of the baby and even if she doesn't have money they give her flour and such things.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-34, Machakos County]

### 2.3.4 Opportunities for Improvement in Health

From the discussions participants suggested that for health services to be improved in the county there was need to create more awareness in schools on health issues, create public health awareness and guidance and counselling for the youth. Creating awareness and enhancing public health education would ensure that the youth receive information on good health practices and behaviour change. Participants also expressed the need for increased budgetary allocation for the health sector, more health facilities and enhanced partnerships with other organisations providing health services.

A male youth made the following observation regarding the need for more facilities:

*“Those orphans need centres that they can get parental care and the positive ones, they also need a place they can meet often because that will encourage them and we need more places where the youth girls can access family planning.”*

[FGD. Male youth 15-19, Machakos County]

## 2.4 Education and Young People

Education is one of the pillars of Vision 2030 and hence quality education is critical in equipping youth with competencies and skills required for the achievement of Kenya’s development goals. The qualitative survey sought to establish the education issues affecting youth in Machakos County. The main thematic issues covered included main education issues and how they affect education among young people, ways of addressing the education issues, school dropout, availability and access of education services and opportunities for young people to gain skills

### 2.4.1 The Main Education Issues Affecting Youth

Table 2.6 The main education issues affecting youth

Main Education issues	Causes	Consequences	Ways of addressing these problems
Drug and substance abuse	Poverty	School drop out	Provision of bursaries/ education funds
School drop out	Peer pressure	Poor academic results and performance	Guidance and counselling
Child labour	Lack of knowledge		Law enforcement on DSA
Teenage Pregnancy	Negative cultural practices		

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

Discussions with youth from the county identified drug and substance abuse, school dropout, child labour and teenage pregnancy as the main education issues affecting youth in the county. This was corroborated by key informant interviews with other education stakeholders in the county. Drug and substance abuse was mostly mentioned as a key issue by male youth (15-19 years), mixed youth (15-19 years) and by the mixed marginalised youth (15-24 years ) while STIs and HIV/AIDS was noted to be a common health problem by mixed youth (25-34 years). Child labour was identified as an issue by male and female youth (15-19 years) and the mixed marginalised youth (15-24 years) while teenage pregnancy was identified as an issues by male youth (15-19), mixed youth (20-24 and 25-34years) and by the mixed older people (35-60 years).

These education issues were attributed to poverty, peer pressure, lack of knowledge and negative cultural practices. Poverty was also mentioned as one of the reasons why the youth drop out of school, engage in child labour and also lead to teenage pregnancies.

A young person had this to say about drugs:

*“I’m saying that still issue of drugs brings the cases of crime. When the students are involved in the cases of drug abuse, their minds are destructed by the drugs they are taking; therefore they get misled by their friends.”*

[FGD. Male youth 15-19, Machakos County]

Another young observed that:

*“...if you are at home and you found your teacher, or you meet them in a bar, when you go back to school there will be issues, they will victimize you.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 15-19, Machakos County]

On the issue of drugs and substance, one youth had this to say:

*“When the young men starts taking alcohol, sometimes it becomes so addictive such that one cannot do without it, so they don’t come to school and pretends that he is sick and absenteeism is on.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 15-19, Machakos County]

The consequences of these education issues included school dropout, poor academic results and performance. School dropout was linked to drug and substance abuse, child labour and teenage pregnancy. Participants suggested that education issues could be addressed through provision of bursaries/education funds, guidance and counselling and enforcement of laws dealing with drug and substance abuse.

### *Availability and Accessibility of education services*

The findings show that youth in the county do not experience problems accessing primary and secondary schools. These educational facilities were noted to be available and within the reach of youth in the county. However, young people felt that some of the courses taught at the tertiary institutions were irrelevant and not marketable. These views were expressed by mixed youth (20-24 years) and mixed older people (35-60 years). But some of the youth (mixed youth, 25-34 years) felt that the courses taught at the tertiary institutions were relevant.

### *Opportunities for young people to gain skills*

Young people in this county felt that they would be able to gain appropriate skills through apprenticeship. This view was expressed by young female youth (15-19 years), mixed youth (20-24 years) and mixed older people (35-60). They felt that apprenticeship enables them to become employable because of the skills they gain.

This was supported by one older person who had this to say:

*“And it is not a must for attachment to be paid, but what are important are the skills which they get from the attachment.”*

[FGD. Mixed older person, 35-60. Machakos County]

### *Organisations addressing educational issues*

The main organisations identified as addressing educational issues in this county are government of Kenya, County government, Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and religious institutions. These were lauded for contributing to the improvement of the quality of education of the community. Some of the organisations include: Caring Hope, Plan international and ABC church.

### *Opportunities for investing in education and training*

Discussions with participants suggested that for education and training services to be improved in the county there was need to employ more teachers, improve educational infrastructure and conduct public/education awareness. The need for more teachers was expressed by male, female and mixed youth (15-19 years) and mixed older people (35-60 years). Those in support of improved infrastructure in our educational facilities were female and male youth (15-19 years) and mixed older people (35-60 years). Mixed youth (20-34 years) and mixed older people (35-60 years) were of the view that more public awareness was required to improve on the quality of education and training offered in our institutions. Lack of enough teachers has been blamed for the deterioration in the quality of education offered in primary and secondary schools. Increased enrolment has also stretched the available infrastructure in our educational facilities.

One female youth noted that:

*“The government should assist those schools which don’t have boarding facilities, especially for girls, because we waste a lot of time going to school, so b the boarders wake up at 4, and we are competing with them. So the schools should be provided with boarding facilities.”*

[FGD. Female youth 15-19, Machakos County]

## 2.4.2 Opportunities for Young People to Gain Skills

The various groups observed that, in the entire county, there are few attachments, capacity building, mentorship and internship opportunities for young people to gain skills.

## 2.4.3 Relevance of Courses and the Labour Market Requirements

Most of the groups noted that, the courses taught seem to be losing meaning and relevance. According to them, most young people do not even use the knowledge they gain from the education systems as most of them are employed in different fields other than the one they studied. They observed that, under-employment is common among the trainees. One of the respondents noted that:

*“All the youth want to be employed but since there are no jobs, they end up doing self-employment you can have a diploma holder fetching water to sale or doing other work which done not match what he studied so many of them aim at being employed but the jobs are not there”*

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

## 2.5 Economic and Young People

The survey sought to establish economic issues affecting youth in Machakos County. The thematic issues covered the youth, adults and marginalized groups. This section presents a summary of the findings by sub-themes. The main sub-themes covered included: main employment and income opportunities, challenges in accessing employment and income opportunities, economic activities young people engaged in and interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment.

### 2.5.1 Main Employment and Income Opportunities

The main employment and income opportunities for young people in the county were farming/agriculture and *boda boda*. Farming/agriculture and *boda boda* were reported as main employment and income opportunities among mixed youth age (20-24 years).

### 2.5.2 Challenges in Accessing Employment and Income Opportunities

Discussions with young people in the county revealed that the main challenges in accessing employment and income opportunities were corruption, lack of capital, lack of knowledge and skills, and high taxation/levies. Corruption was cited as a major challenge in accessing employment and income opportunities by female youth age (15-19 years), mixed youth age (15-19 years) and mixed older people age (35-60 years). Lack of capital was noted a major challenge by mixed youth age (20-24 and 25-34 years) while the issues of lack of knowledge and skills was cited as an obstacle in accessing

employment and income opportunities by mixed youth (20-24 and 25-34 years). High taxation/levies were observed as a challenge by mixed older person’s age (35-60 years).

A young person had this to say about corruption in the county:

*“Yea, you find there is fee, yea and then those tenders that youth are supposed to apply, you will find old people there who are using the youth to apply for them secretly, so you think the tenders are for the youth but it’s not.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-35, Machakos County]

Another young person from Machakos County observed that:

*“Capital is the main challenge. Also we don’t have knowledge about business planning.”*

[FGD. Mixed older person (35-60), Machakos County]

### 2.5.3 Economic Activities Young People are Engaged In

The main economic activities that young people are engaged in, main challenges that they face and possible solutions to the challenges are summarised in Table 2.7.

Table 2.7 Economic activities young people are engaged in

Main economic activities	Challenges encountered	How to address the challenges
Casual labour/manual labour	Poor pay and exploitation	Create employment
Farming(livestock, crops & poultry farming)	Harassment by authority or employer	Provide government aid/ financial support
Domestic workers	Financial constraints/lack of capital	Enforcement of child laws/ child labour
Boda boda	Sexual harassment and abuse	
Business/Trade& Industry		
Herding		

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

Discussions with youth from the county identified casual labour/manual labour, farming (livestock, crops & poultry farming), domestic workers, Boda boda and business/Trade and Industry and herding, as the main economic activities that the youth were engaged in. The youth also identified the main challenges that they encounter in the course of engaging in economic activities. These were; poor pay and exploitation, harassment by authority or employer, financial constraints/lack of capital and sexual harassment and abuse. For the youth to overcome these challenges, the young people cited the need for more employment opportunities for young people, the need for the government to provide financial support to young people and also the enforcement of child laws to ensure that children do not engage in child labour at the expense of their education.

The findings showed that young people of school going age also engage in economic activities. They observed that they poverty, the desire to earn a living and need for money to pay school fees were the main reasons why they involved themselves in economic activities.

A young person had this to say:

*“The boys work to herd the cattle, from morning to the evening then you are paid a small amount of money.”*

[FGD. Female youth 15-19, Machakos County]

## 2.5.4 Interventions and Programmes Addressing Youth Unemployment

Interviews with young people in the county identified main interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment as shown in Table 2.8

Table 2.8 Interventions and programmes addressing youth unemployment

Main interventions and programmes	Challenges in accessing these interventions	Ways to address these challenges
Uwezo fund	Corruption	Address/eradicate corruption
Youth Development fund	Lack of information/lack of intervention awareness	Ensure easy access to funds/loans
Women Enterprise fund	Program restrictions/bureaucracy	Sensitisation on the interventions
NYS	Fear of loans	
AGPO		

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

Discussions with youth from the county identified Uwezo fund, Youth development fund, women enterprise fund, National Youth Service and AGPO as the main interventions and programmes that address youth unemployment. But, the young people noted they faced the challenges of corruption, lack of information/lack of awareness on the existing interventions, bureaucracy in accessing these interventions and fear of loans. In order to address these challenges the young people felt that there was need to address issues around corruption, ensure easy access to funds/loans and also sensitise young people on the existing interventions.

The main benefits of these interventions to young people were provision of financial support and employment, improvement of the economic status of young people and also improvement of education and/or knowledge and skills of young people.

A young person had this to say:

*“Yea, you find there is fee, yea and then those tenders that youth are supposed to apply, you will find old people there who are using the youth to apply for them secretly, so you think the tenders are for the youth but it’s not.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-3, Machakos County]

## 2.5.5 Availability and Access of ICT Services to Young People

Table 2.9 Availability and access of ICT services to young people

Main ICT services available	Challenges in accessing ICT services	Ways to address these challenges
Telephone/mobile/phones Television Radio Internet	Cost Inadequate operational skills Inadequate ITC centres/ITC equipment Power supply	Provide computers in schools/ provide ITC equipment Establish ITC centres Make ITC services affordable Provide training in ICT

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015

Discussions with youth from the county identified telephones, television, radio and internet as the main ICT services available. Young people cited some of the main challenges they encounter in accessing ICT services as the cost, inadequate operational skills, inadequate ITC Centres and lack of power. In order to address these challenges the young people felt that there was need to provide computers in schools, establish ICT centres, make ICT services affordable and also provide training in ICT. The main types of information sought by young people were job adverts, social networking and news.

A youth had this to say:

*“Some youth don’t know how to use a computer...but when you give him a phone he is good with it”.*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-34, Machakos County]

Another young person had this to say:

*“Maybe we say like electricity. You can get that electricity is not yet distributed accordingly. So you find that computers are rare.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 15-19, Machakos County]



A young person noted that:

*“Cybers are not available everywhere. If someone comes from a place like ....ngumbulyu to here to access a cyber the distance is very far.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-34, Machakos County]

Another young person had this to say:

*“Ok cybers are very few and you are many, you may find there is a certain job that you want to apply and it’s not only you who has seen it alone, when you go there you find that people are many and the computers are few.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-34, Machakos County]

## 2.5.6 Organisations Addressing Youth Economic Empowerment

The main organisations addressing youth empowerment in the county are government and financial institutions/microfinance institutions. These organisations provide financial services and educational support. Their main focus is to create public awareness on economic opportunities available to young people and also offer employment opportunities to young people.

A young person noted the following:

*“we see those CDF in maternity and a school, like in kakuyuni, there was built a maternity using CDF.”*

[FDG. Mixed older person 35-60, Machakos County]

## 2.5.7 Potential areas to Increase Employment and Income Opportunities for Young People

The main potential areas identified by young people to increase employment and income opportunities for young people in this county were agriculture, trade and industry and investment in education.

A young person noted the following:

*“Provision of enough water so that there is enough water so that people like the youth can be planting vegetables, and selling them in the nearby market.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 15-19, Machakos County]

One older person had this to say on trade and industry:

*“The other thing is to be provided with market for our products for example, milk production is high but the market is low. Also we need stadiums for the youths to be playing so that they display their talents and get jobs.”*

[FGD. Mixed older person 35-60, Machakos County]

### 2.5.8 Savings and Investment for Old Age

FGD participants were asked if young people are concerned about investments for their old age. There groups especially the young people were not concerned about investing for their old age. Some of the barriers identified that prevent young people from investing for their old age include; high expenses on DSA and other entertainments, poverty levels and high dependency levels, unemployment and inadequate Earnings/Lack of Money for Savings. A young respondent in an FGD with young people observed that:

*“I think they do not think about it because they use All their money and they don’t help their parents, the boys engage in drugs and the girls in beautifying themselves and they don’t save anything”*

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

To address these barriers and encourage young people to investing for their old age, there is need to sensitize young people on the importance of saving for their old age. There is also need of creating a social security fund tailored to young people who may not be having huge sums of money to start investing for their old ages.

## 2.6 Governance and Young People

The survey sought to establish governance issues affecting youth in Machakos County. The main sub-themes covered included: justice system, security situation, programmes that promote unity, mechanism for accountability and transparency, involvement of young people in projects and programmes and role of political leadership in management of youth affairs.

### 2.6.1 Rule of Law

The key issues covered in this section are the prevalence of cases, security and cohesion. Table 2.10 shows most prevalent cases, challenges encountered and how to address the challenges.

## Justice

Table 2.10 Justice System

Main cases	Challenges in solving cases	Ways to address challenges
Robbery/theft	Corruption	Address corruption
Land disputes	Lack of justice/injustice	Promote justice
Rape		

Source: Analysis of NAYS data, 2015.

The most prevalent cases are robbery/theft, land disputes and rape as captured in the discussions. The respondents cited corruption and lack of justice as the main challenges encountered in their quest to have the cases solved. The ways suggested for addressing the challenges were to address issues of corruption and also promotion of justice for all.

This is what one older person had to say:

*“Also that issue of boundaries is a major problem because we don’t have survey in this area. When you go to the lands department, you are asked for a lot of money. The other thing is that the older people have died and the boundaries are not clear.”*

[FGD. Mixed older person 35-60, Machakos County]

## Security

Security is an important ingredient of socio-economic development. Majority of the respondents across all the age groups cited insecurity as one of the challenges facing the county and only a few in the younger ages felt that there was security. They observed that insecurity was exacerbated by corruption and inadequate security personnel.

Majority of respondents across all age groups were of the view that the *nyumba kumi* initiative was the single most important intervention to curb insecurity. Night patrols and community policing were also suggested as alternative interventions to resolve the issue of insecurity. Night patrols were cited by male young people age 15-19 and mixed youth age 25-34 years while community policing was mentioned by male young people age 15-19 and mixed older people age 35-60. These sentiments were also supported by the key informant who noted that *nyumba kumi* initiative was rolled out in the whole county and the county has embraced community policing.

This is what one had to say about insecurity:

*“Because I usually hear many cases of theft, for example a girl says I washed clothes at night but in the morning I did not find them and the person who stole them is from this area. Then up there are police who are station there.”*

[FGD. Female youth 15-19, Machakos County]

The role of young people in maintaining security was suggested to be reporting suspicious situations, community policing and reporting law breakers.

### *Cohesion*

The unity of a county is important for the achievement of its development goals. Young people cited drug and substance abuse as the greatest threat to the unity of young people in the county. The issue of drug and substance abuse was cited as a threat to the unity of the youth by older people age 35-60.

One older person had this observation to make about youth unity:

*“They are concerned about drinking; they say they are removing the lock (laughter).”*

[FGD. Mixed older person 35-60, Machakos County]

The main programme in the county for promoting unity is sports and formation of youth groups. The issues of sports was mentioned by mixed young people age 25-34 while formation of youth groups was cited by mixed young people age 20-24 and 25-34 years.

## **2.6.2 Transparency and Accountability**

This section focuses on the mechanisms that have been put in place for transparency and accountability in the county.

### *Mechanisms in place to inform young people on planned and ongoing activities*

The main sources of information for young people on planned and ongoing activities in the county are community meeting/public forums/*barazas*, media and service delivery charter boards/notice. Community meetings were cited as a source by female youth age 15-19, mixed marginalised youth age 15-24, mixed young people age 25-34 and mixed older people age 35-60. The media was mentioned as a source by male and female youth age 15-19 and mixed youth age 25-34.

### *Mechanisms in place to ensure accountability and transparency*

Discussions with various groups were of the view that disciplinary action was the best way to ensure accountability and transparency. This was cited by female youth age 15-19, mixed youth age 20-24 and mixed older people age 35-60. They felt that the only way of improving transparency and accountability was to enforce disciplinary action. The need to enforce disciplinary action was expressed by mixed youth age 20-24. However, a section of young people felt that there was no mechanism for ensuring transparency and accountability in the county.

One older person observed that:

*“I support that you should not be brought projects which you don’t know where it was started, then it is being managed by big people and you fear them because you were not there when they were starting.”*

[FGD. Mixed older person 35-60, Machakos County]

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

This focuses on the involvement of young people in project budgeting, planning and implementation.

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

The young people noted that they are involved in the project implementation and their main role was the provision of casual labour for the project. Male young people age 15-19, mixed youth age 25-34 and mixed older people mentioned that youth were involved in project implementation while female youth age 15-19, mixed marginalised youth age 15-24 and mixed older people age 35-60 cited that the youth were involved in projects to provide casual labour.

One youth noted the following:

*“When the contractor gets the contract he goes to the village and gets young people to work and he pays them.”*

[FGD. Mixed marginalised youth 15-24, Machakos County]

#### *Roles young people like to play in projects and programmes*

The young people mentioned that they did not want to do casual work in the projects and programmes but they would like to be involved in the project process and employment in the projects and programmes. Those who mentioned that they wanted to be involved in the project process were female youth age 15-19, mixed marginalised youth age 15-24, mixed youth age 25-34 and mixed older people age 35-60. Male youth age 15-19 and mixed youth age 20-24 mentioned that they would

like the youth to be given casual jobs in the projects and programmes. The main benefit of young involvement in projects and programmes as casual labourers is the money they earn which improves their livelihood.

### *How existing opportunities ensure they serve those who deserve*

Discussions with various groups revealed that there were no mechanisms for ensuring that existing opportunities serve those who deserve them in the county.

### *Challenges young people face during their involvement in project implementation*

Main challenges experienced by young people face during their involvement in project and programme implementation included; poor pay/exploitation and lack of skills/knowledge. Poor pay was mentioned mainly by mixed youth age 25-34 while the issue of lack of skills/knowledge was cited by mixed youth age 20-24.

Discussions revealed that involvement of young in projects can be improved through creation of awareness. The issues of awareness creation was mentioned by mixed marginalised youth age 15-24 and mixed youth age 25-34.

One young person made this observation:

*“Because aahhh.eeh you will never be told that there is something or a meeting somewhere the youth should meet and talk about a project that is to be done, but what we get is that there is a project that is to be done maybe it’s been implemented whereby they want workers- the youth will be paid badly, that is the only place you will get the youth but, if its planning and other things that is not for the youth.”*

[FGD. Mixed youth 25-34, Machakos County]

## **2.6.4 Effectiveness and Efficiency**

### *How Available Resources are allocated to Target the Young People*

Young people noted that allocated resources do not address the needs of the youth and that in addition, they are discriminated against. They observed that this can be corrected by involving the young people during the budgeting process. This view was mainly expressed by mixed older people age 35-60.

The groups suggested that in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness in utilisation of resources, the youth should be involved and a clear follow up mechanism established to monitor the utilization of resources. These views were mainly expressed by mixed young people age 20-24.

## 2.6.5 Political Leadership

### *Role Political Leadership Play in Management of Youth Affairs*

The political leadership especially at the county level was noted for their role in creating more employment opportunities, allocation of funds to education and fund raising. The issues of creation of employment was cited by male youth age 15-19 and mixed marginalised young people age 15-24 while issues pertaining to allocation of resources to the education sector were mentioned by male, female youth age 15-19, mixed marginalised youth age 15-24 and mixed older people age 35-60. Fund raising was cited by female youth age 15-19.

Participants were of the view that an increase in population increases would lead to high crime rate because the young people have no jobs.

## 2.6.6 Population Structure

The various groups were asked on their thoughts about the growing population of young people with regard to provision of health, education services, economic empowerment and governance issues touching on young people. The views from the various groups point at a picture where this growing population poses more negative consequences both in the short and long run.

In terms of the growing population of young people with regard to provision of health services, the various groups noted that, this situation is likely to lead to overworking of health personnel because of the un-proportional doctor patient ratio and in some cases deteriorating quality of health service, inadequate supplies in hospitals to match the growing population, congestion in health facilities due to many people and few health facilities, Others noted that, there will be increased diseases transmission rates due to huge population and neglect of patients by service providers. One of the participants in an FGD with young people observed that:

*“Most of the doctors will neglect their duties because the youth increase, because you will find that he is in the hospital, his time is up, and they are still coming in. so what he will do, he will neglect them.”*

[FGD. Male young person 15-19, Machakos]

Most groups observed that, the growing population of young people with respect to provision of education services may affect access and quality of education. Some of the key points noted are that, with increase in population, there will be congestion in schools, unbalanced pupil-teacher or student-teacher ratio, inadequate learning equipment and facilities and deteriorating quality of education.

*“You will find that due to high number of students when a teacher is teaching in class, the ones at the back will not hear, due to interruptions.”*

[FGD. Male young person 15-19, Machakos]

With regard to the increasing population of young people and their economic status, most groups observed that, it is likely to negatively affect their economic prospects. They stated that, increasing population of young people is likely to result in straining of the available resources, environmental degradation due to over-consumption, increase in prostitution due to high poverty levels, inflation to due high demand and low supply of goods and services and high unemployment in the county. One of the participants in an FGD with older people noted that:

*“... Many will be jobless, so the economy is bad and income is low, so the youth are suffering”*

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

Contrary to the above observation, there are a fewer groups which however stated that, the increasing population would create a huge workforce which can contribute positively to the county economy. The assumption of the group is that, all young people are able to contribute to the labour-force requirements of the county.

On governance, the growing population of young people is generally viewed and associated to with negative repercussions. Most of the groups observed that, the growing population of young people would create a huge chunk of unemployed youth which predisposes them to engaging in crime leading to insecurity in most places which create challenges in the administration and maintenance of law and order as the administrators are fewer than the population of the people. There is likelihood of increasing level of corruption as resources are very limited to share equality and equitably.

## 2.7 Conclusion and Recommendations

The results of the survey show that the county has made substantial progress in health, education, economy and governance sectors. This is demonstrated by the positive demographic, health and education indicators. However, a number of concerns need to be addressed in these sectors for the county to take full advantage of the demographic window of opportunity which opens fifteen years from today. In the health sector, there is need to tackle the issues of STIs/HIV/AIDS, drug and substance abuse, sexual and gender based violence, access to family planning, and maternal and child health issues among young people. For the education sector, the issues of drug and substance abuse, school dropout, child labour, teenage pregnancies, need for more schools and teachers and equipping learners with appropriate and skills need to be addressed.



In the economic sector, the key issues that need to be addressed include; more employment opportunities, corruption, lack of capital for young people, lack of knowledge and skills, high taxation/levies for small businesses, poor pay, sexual harassment and abuse, availability and access of ICT services. The main issues that require attention in the governance sector are; promotion of justice, insecurity, promotion of cohesion, transparency and accountability, and involvement of young people in project and programme design and implementation.

## Recommendations

The following are the key recommendations for Machakos County based on the findings of the survey.

### Health sector

1. Need to invest in appropriate interventions and strategies to tackle the issues of drug and substance abuse, STIs/HIV/AIDS, sexual and gender based violence among young people.
2. Increase budgetary allocation for family planning to ensure access and availability of family planning.
3. Need for allocation of more resources in maternal and child health programmes so as to increase number of deliveries by skilled birth attendants and the proportion of children fully vaccinated.
4. Increase public awareness on health issues especially among young people in schools and through public *barazas*.
5. Intensify guidance and counselling on health issues among young people.

### Education sector

1. Ministry of education and other stakeholders should address the issues of drug and substance abuse among school going youth.
2. Address/eradicate corruption in all sectors.
3. County governments should provide more financial support/bursaries to school going youth to minimise school dropouts.
4. Appropriate interventions should be put in place to ensure that the large number of out of school youth is taken back to school.
5. Child acts and other relevant legislations should be enforcing to eradicate child labour.
6. Guidance and counselling should be intensified in schools to address the issue of teenage pregnancies.
7. There is need to build more schools and post more teachers to schools to cater for the increasing number of young people that require education.

8. County government in conjunction with the national government should invest in more technical/vocation training institutions that provide relevant skills and knowledge to young people.

### *Economic sector*

1. Intensify efforts to create more employment opportunities for young people.
2. Provide young people with ease access to financial resources to do business.
3. Address the issue of high taxes/levies for small businesses.
4. Ensure fair compensation for work done by young people.
5. Address the issue of sexual harassment and abuse of young people.
6. Provide affordable, accessible and quality ICT services to young people.

### *Governance sector*

1. Promote justice for all including the marginalised in the county.
2. Ensure there is adequate security in the county.
3. Promote cohesion and peaceful co-existence among all groups in the county.
4. Ensure transparency and accountability in the management of county affairs
5. Involve young people in project design and implementation.

## References

Government of Kenya, 2010. *Constitution of Kenya (2010)*, Nairobi

Kenya Bureau of Statistics, 2010. *2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census*, Nairobi

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, ICF Macro, 2014, *Kenya Demographic and Health Survey, 2014*

Ministry of Devolution and Planning, 2015. *2015 Kenya Economic Survey*, Nairobi

Ministry of Devolution and Planning, UNDP, 2013. *2013 Kenya Human Development Index Report*, Nairobi

Ministry of Education Science and Technology, *2014 Basic Education Statistical Booklet*, Nairobi

Ministry of Health, 2014. *Kenya HIV County Profiles*, Nairobi

Ministry of Planning and National Development, *Kenya Vision 2030*, Nairobi

National AIDS and STI Control Programme, 2012. *Kenya AIDS Indicator Survey (KAIS)*, Nairobi

National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) Health Policy Project (HPP), 2014. *Demographic Dividend Opportunities for Kenya*, Nairobi

National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), 2014. *PADIS Population Projections for Kenya*, Nairobi

National Council for Population and Development, 2012. *Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2012 on Population Policy for National Development*, Nairobi

## 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

### Lower Eastern Region Survey Personnel

Table A2.1 Lower Eastern Region

Counties	Technical Committee Member	County Coordinator/ Supervisor	Research Assistants	Data Clerk
Kitui	Josephine Mwangi	Victoria Mutiso	Peter M. Musyimi	Grace Njeri Kariuki
Makueni	Dr. Andrew Mutuku		Stellamaris Mumbua	
Machakos				

### Report Authors

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

Table A2.2 Report authors

County Reports	Author	Institution
Kitui	Andrew Mutuku (Dr)	Population Studies and Research Institute (PSRI)
Makueni	Andrew Mutuku (Dr)	Population Studies and Research Institute (PSRI)
Machakos	Andrew Mutuku (Dr)	Population Studies and Research Institute (PSRI)

## 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)
7. Phares Mugo (Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis)
8. Dr. Jeanne Patrick (Ministry of Health)
9. Hambulle Mohamed (Ministry of Health)
10. Lissel Mogaka (Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services)
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)

### Report Editor

1. Prof Lawrence Ikamari (Population Studies and Research Institute)









National Council for Population and Development

PO Box 48994 - GPO, Nairobi 00100, Kenya

Tel: 254 20 271 1600/01

Fax: 254 20 271 6508

Email: [info@ncpd-ke.org](mailto:info@ncpd-ke.org)

[www.ncpd-ke.org](http://www.ncpd-ke.org)

NCPD is a semi-autonomous government agency that formulates and promotes population policy and coordinates related activities for sustainable development in Kenya.

**MACHAKOS COUNTY**