



## **Inclusive Futures**

Promoting disability inclusion

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# **Kakamega county disability-inclusive budget tracking**

FY2016–17 to FY2020–21

Briefing | June 2021



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The Inclusive Futures programme is made up of disability and development specialists and global leaders from 16 organisations, coming together under one initiative funded by UK aid from the UK government. Our goal is to ensure opportunities for persons with disabilities and a future that's disability inclusive.

The briefing also benefits from the insights of partners including United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK) and the Western Disability Network.

# Executive summary

This briefing tracks the inclusivity of Kakamega county budgets towards persons with disabilities from financial year (FY) 2016–17 to 2020–21. It begins with an overview of disability prevalence in the county, and then looks at county investments on disability inclusion. It concludes by looking at the critical financial gaps in the disability sector and providing actionable recommendations to be taken up by both the county government and persons with disabilities.

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## Key findings

- A total of six budget lines under three different departments have disability-inclusive components across the period under review. Of these, four are under the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports, one is under the Department of Health and the other is under the Department of Education.
- Of the total disability budget, 75.0% went to social services, youth and sports. The rest of the budget was shared between the Department of Education (15.0%) and the Department of Health (11.0%).
- Out of a total county budget of KES 71.2 billion for the period under review, only KES 67.0 million has been appropriated to include and support persons with disabilities. This is less than 0.1% (0.094% to be exact) of the total budget for Kakamega county.
- Apart from the disability mainstreaming budget line in the Department of Health, the rest of the budget lines marked as disability inclusive have not consistently allocated funds for the entire period under review.
- The disability budget shrank in FY2017–18 by 80.0%, from KES 15.2 million in FY2016–17 to KES 3.0 million in FY2017–18, before significantly increasing in FY2018–19, FY2019–20 and FY2020–21. However, this increase, especially in FY2020–21, comes with a caveat: budget lines are not disaggregated by sub-programmes, and it is difficult to know the number of programme budgets that are disability inclusive.
- Across the different departments where we have disability-inclusive budget lines, share in both programme and department budget has been relatively low, ranging between 0.04% and 22.5% for programmes and 0.02% and 2.6% for departments.
- While substantial allocations supporting disability are made each year in the annual development plans (ADPs), the actual budget estimates in the programme-based budgets have increased slightly for a few budget lines, and then either reduced or been totally removed for the majority of the budget lines due to budget constraints and competing priorities.

# County disability prevalence rates

The reported disability prevalence rate in 2019 in Kakamega county had reduced by almost half compared with what was reported in 2009. Though the 2009 figures are widely disputed by UDPK, comparing the disability prevalence rate in the last two censuses (2009 and 2019) reveals that disability prevalence stood at 2.9% in 2019, which is a reduction from the 4.8% rate reported in 2009. With a slightly higher prevalence rate than the national average of 2.2%, Kakamega's disability prevalence rate in 2019 ranks the county at second highest disability prevalence, behind Vihiga county, when compared across the counties under review (Kakamega, Vihiga, Busia, Trans Nzoia and Bungoma)<sup>1</sup>. There are various possible reasons for the lower rate in 2019, mainly related to different methodological approaches, which have been highlighted in Development Initiatives' paper on **Status of disability in Kenya: Statistics from the 2019 census**. Additionally, lack of proper training of enumerators on the Washington Group Questions module and poor involvement and awareness creation of disabled persons' organisations (DPOs) prior to the census might have contributed to the low disability rates. Unlike the overall disability prevalence rate, for which the figures are available in both the 2009 and the 2019 censuses, the prevalence rate of disability by type is only available in the 2019 census. Analysis shows that prevalence of disability by type ranges between 0.4% and 1.1% across the six disability types. Communication and self-care disability had the lowest prevalence rate at 0.4%, followed by hearing disability, with a prevalence rate of 0.5%. Cognition, visual and mobility disabilities had the top three prevalence rates at 0.7%, 1.1% and 1.2% respectively.<sup>2</sup>

## County investments in disability inclusion

Dedicated county budget lines on disability inclusion are few in Kakamega county. There are years that have only one or two budget lines supporting persons with disabilities. This could be attributed to competing priorities in the county budgets, lack of proper sensitisation of county officials on inclusive budgeting and lack of education of persons with disabilities on the value of engagement in county government, especially at the planning stages of the budgets. The few budget lines in Kakamega county are intended for mainstreaming disability across the various departments in the county, supporting persons with disabilities with assistive devices, economic empowerment and provision of special needs schools.

The budget lines that are disability-inclusive are found across the Department of Health, the Department of Education and the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports. None of the budget lines marked as disability-inclusive have consistently appropriated funds across the period under review except 'Disability mainstreaming' under the Department of Health. The rest of the budget lines have funds appropriated intermittently over the period under review.

Kakamega county allocated a total of 0.094% (KES 67.0 million) of its budget across this period to support persons with disabilities. Funds were allocated to six budget lines benefitting persons with disabilities.

The bulk of the total disability budget in the period under review went to the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports, which received 74.6% of the total disability budget. The

rest of the budget was shared between the Department of Education (14.9%) and the Department of Health (10.5%).

Disability budgets shrank in FY2017–18 by 80.0%, from KES 15.2 million in FY2016–17 to KES 3.0 million in FY2017–18, before increasing dramatically in FY2018–19, FY2019–20 and FY2020–21. However, this increase, especially in FY2020–21, comes with a caveat: budget lines are not disaggregated by sub-programmes, and it is difficult to know the number of programme budgets that are disability inclusive.

The decrease in FY2017–18 was due to there being no allocation to programmes under the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports or the Department of Health, both of which had been allocated funds in the previous year. The budget increased by 83.0% from KES 3.0 million in FY2017–18 to KES 5.5 million in FY2018–19, 9.0% in FY2019–20 to KES 6.0 million and by slightly more than six-fold in FY2020–21 to KES 37.3 million. The significant increase in FY2020–21 was due to the inclusion of the Youth, Disability and Gender Empowerment and Mainstreaming programme, which was not disaggregated to the activity or sub-programme level, making it difficult to separate the amount intended to support persons with disabilities.

Across the departments that have disability-inclusive budget lines, the share of disability budget in programme and department budgets has been relatively low, ranging between 0.04% and 22.5% for programmes and 0.02% and 2.6% for departments. The highest share of allocation in the total programme and department budgets came from the Social Services programme in FY2020–21.

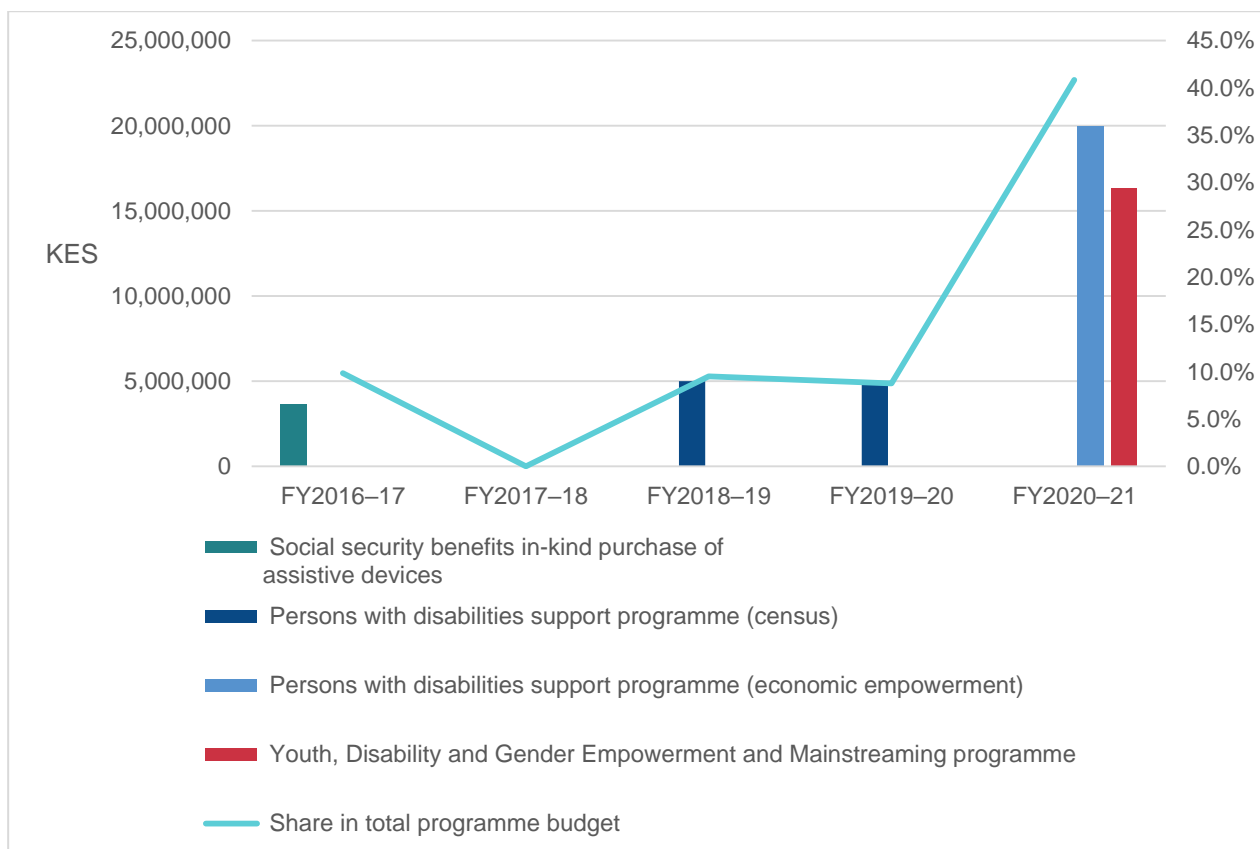
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## Investments in the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports

While the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports has a total of eight programmes, across the period under review, disability-inclusive budget lines are marked for the Social Services and Youth Development programme only. The budget lines are aimed at supporting persons with disabilities through economic empowerment, the purchasing of assistive devices, the creation of awareness of the census in FY2019–20 and the provision of social protection. Additionally, these programmes are intended to create awareness of disability and ensure disability mainstreaming across the department.

Kakamega county invested KES 50.0 million in the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports in the period under review (Figure 1). Analysis shows that while there was no disability-inclusive allocation in FY2017–18, allocations increased by 36.4% in FY2018–19 and remained at a similar level through FY2019–20, before making a four-fold increase in FY2020–21. This was brought about by the introduction of a KES 20.0 million fund to support the economic empowerment of persons with disabilities and KES 16.0 million allocated to the Youth, Disability and Gender Empowerment and Mainstreaming programme; this was not disaggregated up to the activity level, making it difficult to know how much went to disability inclusion alone (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. The Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports allocation to disability inclusion, FY2016–17 to FY2020–21**



Source: Development Initiatives based on Kakamega county budgets

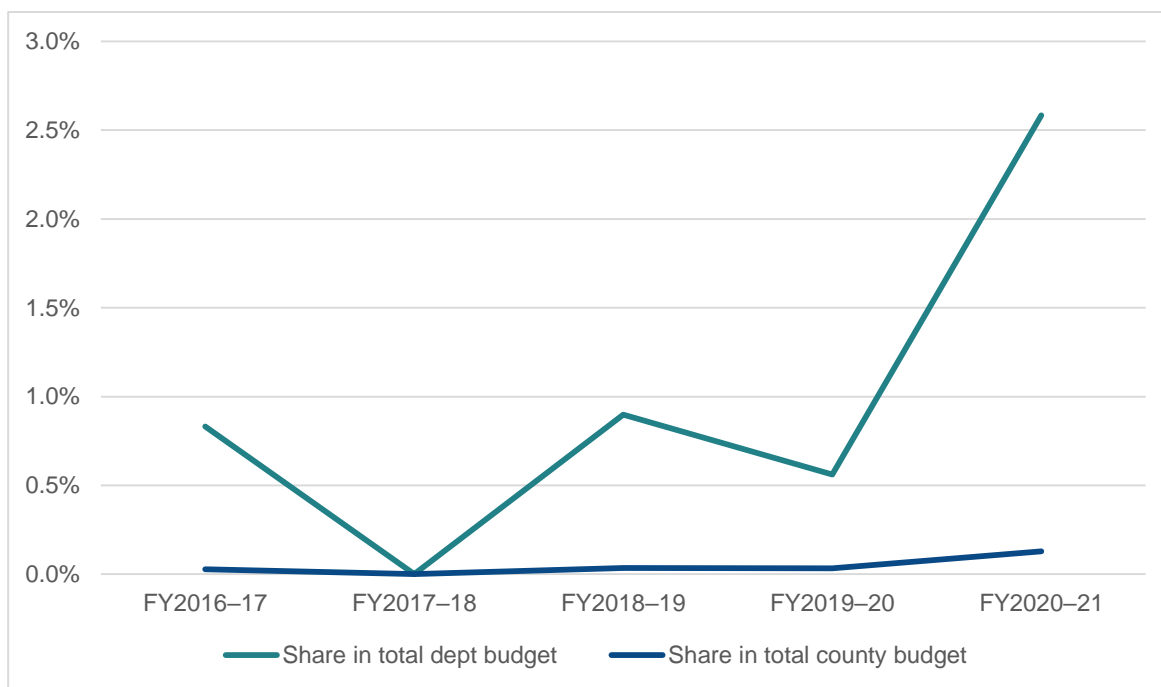
The aggregate share of the disability budget in the total programme allocation across the period under review is less than a fifth of the total programme budget (17.9%). Analysis of yearly shares in the total programme budget shows that the shares largely remained the same due to there being no allocation to disability-related expenditure in FY2017–18. In FY2020–21 the share increased more than four-fold from FY2019–20, due to the introduction of KES 16.0 million allocated to the Youth, Disability and Gender Empowerment and Mainstreaming programme and KES 20.0 million appropriated to the Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities programme.

In the period under review, the cumulative share of the disability budget in the total department budget was 1.7%. The annual share of the disability budget in the total department budget remained below 1.0% in the first four years, only surpassing this in FY2020–21 with the introduction of the Economic Empowerment for Persons with Disabilities programme and the Youth, Disability and Gender Empowerment and Mainstreaming programme.

The cumulative share of the disability budget in the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports in the total aggregate county budget in the period under review was 0.07%. Yearly shares of disability budget in county budgets were less than 0.04% on average across the period under review, with figures ranging between 0.03% and 0.23%. These shares point to the fact that, while there are allocations to some budget lines supporting

disability inclusion, it has not been mainstreamed across all programmes in the department and there are years that do not have allocations at all (Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Share of total disability budget in the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports, in total department and county budgets, FY2016–17 to FY2020–21**



Source: Development Initiatives based on Kakamega county budgets

## Investments in the Department of Health

The health sector had only one budget line – disability mainstreaming – marked as disability inclusive. Out of all the budget lines marked as disability inclusive across the county, it was only disability mainstreaming under the Department of Health that had allocation for the entire period under review. This programme is intended to carry out disability outreach and sensitisation across the county.

In the period under review, this budget line was allocated KES 7.0 million, with the highest allocation in FY2017–18. Allocation increased by 50.0% in FY2017–18, before taking an 83.3% cut in FY2018–19 (Figure 3). Allocations then increased by 50.0% in FY2019–20, before levelling off in FY2020–21. County budget documents do not clarify the reason for the variations in budget allocation in the period under review, but it could be due to competing priorities in the annual budgets.

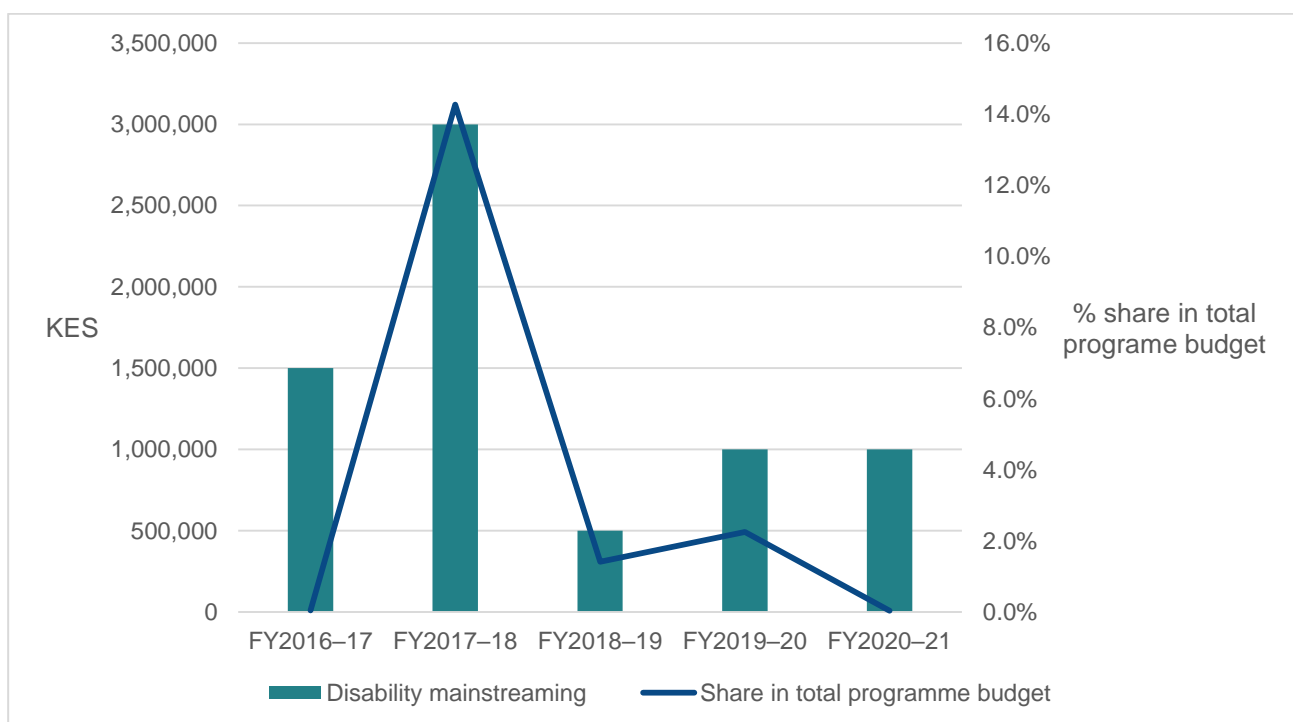
The share of allocations in the total programme budget remained relatively low across the period under review, with a slight increase in FY2017–18 due to the change in programme from Health Services to County Health Management Team. It is important to note that the ‘Disability mainstreaming’ budget line has been moved around across different programmes; in FY2016–17 it was under the Health Services programme, then it moved to the County Health Management Team programme. In FY2018–19 and FY2019–20, the budget line was



under the County Medical Services Operation programme, before moving to the General Administrative and Support Services programme in FY2020–21. It will be crucial for Kakamega county to allocate the budget line to one programme in future to avoid mismatch or confusion, particularly for tracking and monitoring disability-inclusive budgets.

While the cumulative share in the total programme budget was 0.1%, the yearly shares across the period under review ranged between 0.04% and 14.3%. The dramatic increase in the share in FY2017–18 was brought about by the 100.0% increase in funds in FY2017–18, which has not been explained in the budget documents (Figure 3).

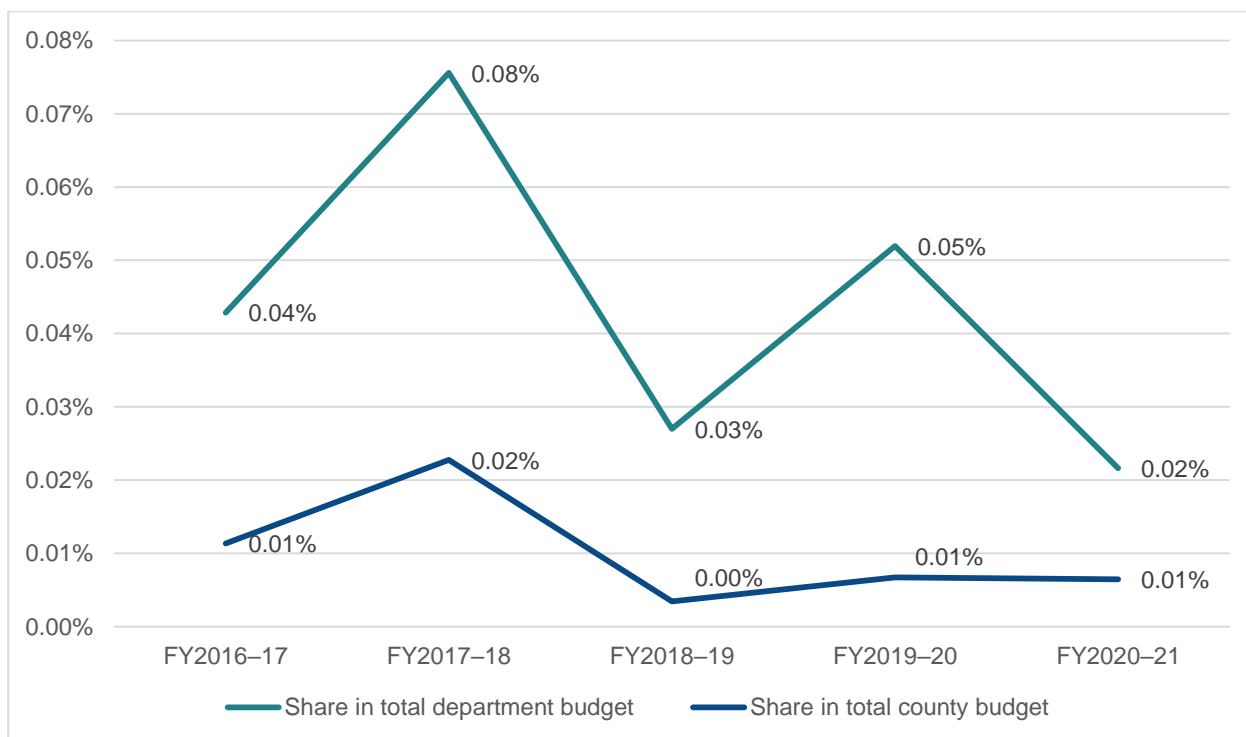
**Figure 3. Health sector allocation to disability inclusion, FY2016–17 to FY2020–21**



Source: Development Initiatives based on Kakamega county budgets

Shares in both department and county budgets were negligible. The cumulative share over the period under review was less than 0.01% (rounded off from 0.0098%) in county budgets and 0.044% in the Department of Health budgets. The annual share of disability allocation in the total department budget ranged from 0.02% to 0.08%, while that of county budgets was between 0.003% to 0.02% (Figure 4).

**Figure 4. Share of total disability budget under the Department of Health in the total department and county budgets, FY2016–17 to FY2020–21**



Source: Development Initiatives based on Kakamega county budgets

## Investments in education programmes that support persons with disabilities

Kakamega county has a total of 1,631 Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres, 1,136 primary schools and 408 secondary schools.<sup>3</sup> Out of these, only 10 schools in the county are registered as providing special needs education to students with disabilities. The special needs schools are meant to ensure that all Kenyans have access to education, regardless of their special needs or disabilities. However, having a specially designated school for children with disabilities is not disability-inclusive as defined and recommended by the UN.<sup>4</sup>

Funds were only allocated to the special needs budget line in FY2016–17 (KES 10.0 million), with no allocations across the rest of the period under review. Due to the nature of disaggregation of the budget documents, it was impossible to separate the amount of funds allocated to primary and secondary schools. The share of total disability allocation in this sector in the total programme budget was 1.7% in FY2016–17 and zero across the rest of the period under review. The budget document does not explain this, and neither does the ADP.

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Allocation to the special needs budget line only received funds in FY2016–17, with no allocations across the rest of the period under review. Allocation was KES 10.0 million, or 1.7% share in total programme budget

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While the share of the allocation in the total department budget was a little higher than the share in the total county budget, both were negligible and only available in FY2016–17.

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Share of disability budget in total department budget – 3.0%

Share of disability budget in county budgets – 0.09%

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## Critical funding gaps

For the period under review, there are programmes or budget lines that were not allocated funding in the county ADPs, despite funds being allocated in the annual budget estimates. Conversely, there are other budget lines that were mentioned in the ADPs but are not available in the programme-based budget documents.

It is, therefore, important to note that while we can provide an analysis of the critical funding gap component, it is difficult to provide a wider overview of the funding gaps due to lack of data.

According to the county ADPs, the budget line that was consistently funded across the period under review was disability mainstreaming in the Department of Health. A review of all estimates in the ADP reveals that, while substantial funding is allocated to the budget lines, the actual budget document shows money allocated in the programme-based budgets have either increased slightly for a few budget lines or reduced and in some cases been removed entirely for the majority of the budget lines due to budget constraints, as mentioned in the ADPs. An example is the ‘Disability mainstreaming’ budget line in the Department of Health. It was estimated that KES 10.0 million was to be allocated for this programme in FY2016–17 in the ADP; however, only KES 1.5 million was allocated in the actual budget. In FY2018–19, KES 6.0 million was planned and only KES 0.5 million allocated. Similar to FY2018–19, both FY2019–20 and FY2020–21 experienced significant budget cuts, which prompts the question whether Kakamega county is doing enough to support persons with disabilities.<sup>5</sup>

It remains to be seen whether the county government will heed calls to not only improve allocation to programmes meant for disability inclusion, but also support disability mainstreaming across the various departments.

# Conclusion

The cumulative disability-inclusion budget across the period under review as a percentage of the aggregate county budget is only 0.094%. Key challenges in disability inclusivity of the county budget are as follows:

- **Few disability-inclusive budget lines across various county departments.** Apart from the Department of Health, the Department of Education and the Department of Social Services, Youth and Sports, departments in Kakamega county do not have a disability component in their budget lines. The county government should prioritise the inclusion of more budget lines supporting persons with disabilities.
- **Low budget allocations to disability-inclusive budget lines.** Budget lines that are considered disability-inclusive have either experienced budget cuts or have improved only slightly from the ADP estimates. Notably, allocations to some budget lines have not been consistent in the period under review.
- **Inconsistency between the ADPs and programme-based budgets.** Allocations included in the ADPs have increased slightly for a few budget lines but have been reduced or removed entirely for the majority of the budget lines due to budget constraints. Allocations in the ADPs should be consistent with the allocations in the programme-based budgets.
- **Poor disaggregation and unavailability of data.** Some budget lines, as mentioned above, do not clearly indicate the amount of funding allocated to disability-inclusive activities due to poor disaggregation of the budgets. In some cases, the ADPs for specific years were not available online, making trend analysis impossible. Making properly disaggregated budget documents available will help future analysis.

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## Recommendations for DPOs and the county government

- There is a need for capacity building for the two women with disabilities representing persons with disabilities in the Kakamega County Assembly. This could go a long way in ensuring that the unique needs of women with disabilities are included in county planning and budgeting cycles.
- Focus on continuous sensitisation of all county departments (including county executive officials, Members of County Assemblies (MCA), heads of departments, the clerk and other county assembly officials) on disability-inclusive legislation, planning, budgeting and implementation processes and language.
- Introduce monitoring and evaluation frameworks that are inclusive of disability indicators to ensure that data is disaggregated in terms disability, gender and age as per the WHO standards. This will ensure that counties are able to plan and be accountable to persons with disabilities and DPOs.

# Notes

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<sup>1</sup> Spotlight on Kenya. Available at [https://devinit.org/data/spotlight-kenya?t=kenya\\_population&i=spotlight\\_on\\_kenya\\_2017.kenya\\_total\\_pop&y=2025](https://devinit.org/data/spotlight-kenya?t=kenya_population&i=spotlight_on_kenya_2017.kenya_total_pop&y=2025) (accessed 27 October 2020).

<sup>2</sup> Spotlight on Kenya. Available at [https://devinit.org/data/spotlight-kenya?t=kenya\\_population&i=spotlight\\_on\\_kenya\\_2017.kenya\\_total\\_pop&y=2025](https://devinit.org/data/spotlight-kenya?t=kenya_population&i=spotlight_on_kenya_2017.kenya_total_pop&y=2025) (accessed 27 October 2020).

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of education. Available at <https://www.education.go.ke/> (accessed 2 November 2020).

<sup>4</sup> UN, 2017. Toolkit on Disability for Africa. Available at: <https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/disability/Toolkit/Inclusive-Education.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Kakamega county annual development plans. Available at <http://kakamega-assembly.go.ke/budget-documents/> (accessed 30 October 2020).



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