THE NEED

Health and nutrition indicators in Bomet County reveal a need for investment and improvement, which the County government has committed to providing. The prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women is a persistent challenge in the county, particularly in the rural areas, where 51% of pregnant women are anaemic. Only 30% of pregnant women make the recommended four antenatal care visits, well below the national average of 58%, and only 51% of women seek postnatal care within two days of birth, missing opportunities for counselling and support for early and exclusive breastfeeding. The Bomet County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022 has made improving maternal health care a primary focus. Nutrition International is supporting the County in implementing multi-faceted programs focused on improving nutrition and health services and outcomes for women, children and adolescents.

OUR APPROACH

Nutrition International has been working closely with the County Government of Bomet since 2017 to help improve the nutritional status of its population. This requires involvement, leadership and coordination of county officials from various sectors including health, education, finance, agriculture, gender and social protection. Planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of program activities is led by the County Health Management Team (CHMT), which includes the County Health Director, County Nutrition Coordinator, Reproductive Health Coordinator, Health Accountant, County Child Health Services Coordinator, County Health Promotion Officer and County Community Services coordinator. At the sub-county level, the implementation team consists of departmental heads who work closely with the CHMT, Community Health Extension Workers and Community Health Volunteers (CHVs). Nutrition International’s County Program Coordinator oversees program implementation and facilitates the provision of technical support from the national office.
Programs Supported by Nutrition International in Bomet County

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<th>Program</th>
<th>Key Result(s)</th>
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| Maternal and Newborn Health and Nutrition (MNHN)      | • 40 health managers and 150 health care providers trained on antenatal care (ANC), iron and folic acid supplementation (IFAS) and birth package interventions  
• 170 CHVs trained on ANC, IFAS and birth package interventions  
• 40 traditional birth attendants trained as birth companions to promote skilled delivery  
• Kangaroo Mother Care units established at 3 hospitals |
| Infant and Young Child Nutrition (IYCN)               | • 40 health managers trained on the Baby Friendly Community Initiative (BFCI)  
• 24 health care providers trained on BFCI  
• 100 community health volunteers trained on BFCI  
• 50 community support groups formed |
| Vitamin A Supplementation (VAS)                       | • Provision of vitamin A capsules to cover all children 6-59 months  
• 81,805 children under 5 reached with VAS in 2018  
• Technical and financial support for the implementation of Malezi Bora (Child Health Days)  
• Routine data quality audits on VAS data conducted to ensure improved documentation and reporting |
| Advocacy for budget allocations for nutrition         | • Budgetary allocation for nutrition increased to KSh 5.5 million in 2019  
• Established a Multi-sectoral Coordination Platform for Nutrition |

About Nutrition International

Founded in 1992, Nutrition International is a global organization dedicated to delivering proven nutrition interventions to those who need them most. Working in partnership with countries, donors and implementers, our experts conduct cutting-edge nutrition research, support critical policy formulation, and integrate nutrition into broader development programs. Since 2006, Nutrition International Kenya has worked with government (national, and sub national) to support research, policy development and implementation of nutrition interventions. [www.NutritionIntl.org](http://www.nutritionintl.org)

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