

KIAMBU

COUNTY PROFILE

≡ KENYA



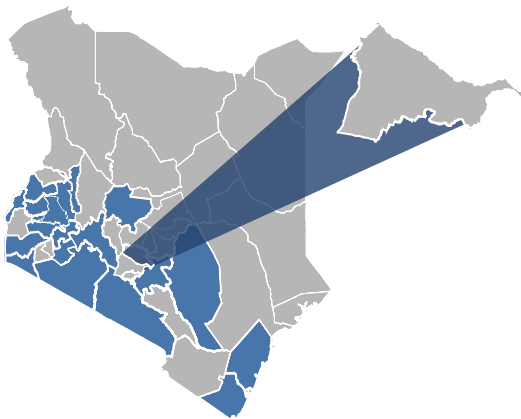
THE NEED

Though Kiambu County as a whole has generally reported good performance on nutrition indicators, the county is faced with urban versus rural disparities, with rural areas having poor coverage across all nutrition indicators. For instance, urban Thika and Kiambu Sub-counties, which often serve populations from nearby Nairobi and Machakos Counties, report skilled birth attendance rate of above 100%, while rural Juja and Kabete Sub-counties report coverage of 35.4% and 36%. Stunting in children under five is increasing, rising from 2.3% in 2017 to 3.2% in 2018 and 2.7% in 2019. Iron and folic acid supplementation coverage went from 44.8% in 2017 to 60.1% in 2019. As of October 2020, it sits at 77.2%.

In addition, due to the high population, even low percentages result in large absolute numbers, meaning many people are still being left behind. The health priorities that have been set in the Kiambu County Health Strategy and Investment Plan for 2019-2023 focus on reducing morbidity and preventable deaths from infectious and non-communicable diseases, improving the efficiency and quality of services, and adopting healthcare innovation. In this context, Nutrition International is supporting the county in implementing a multi-faceted program focused on improving the nutrition and health outcomes for women, adolescent girls and young children.

OUR APPROACH

Nutrition International has been working closely with the County Government of Kiambu since 2016 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.



KIAMBU COUNTY AT A GLANCE

Total population: 2,476,788

Poverty Index: 27.2%

Main economic activity:

Agriculture

Number of health facilities:

505

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY NUTRITION INTERNATIONAL IN KIAMBU COUNTY

Program	Key Result(s)
<p>Maternal and Newborn Child Health and Nutrition (MNCHN)</p> <p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve provision and uptake of key MNCHN services and improve nutrition and health outcomes for women and newborns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 78 health managers and 276 health service providers trained on antenatal care, iron and folic acid supplementation, birth package interventions, postnatal care and high-impact nutrition interventions 40 local leaders sensitized on the importance of MNCHN interventions 300 CHVs sensitized on effective delivery of nutrition key messages Two Kangaroo Mother Care units established Performance/data review meeting to review progress against the set targets for the quarter held Support supervision also completed
<p>Infant and Young Child Nutrition (IYCN)</p> <p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build the capacity of health service providers and community health volunteers to deliver optimal IYCN care at the facility and community levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 frontline healthcare workers and community extension workers trained on the Baby Friendly Community Initiative (BFCl) CHVs trained on improved delivery and quality assurance of BFCl intervention packages Lactation station established at Gatundu level 5 hospital 50 health service providers trained on MNCHN in the context of COVID-19 Support supervision also completed
<p>Vitamin A Supplementation (VAS)</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase coverage of children aged 6 to 59 months to contribute to the survival and thriving of children under 5 Strengthen health systems to support delivery of vitamin A and other maternal, child health and nutrition services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 health managers and 300 frontline health workers trained on VAS financial and technical support for the implementation of Malezi Bora (Child Health days) Nutrition International's advocacy efforts resulted in Kiambu County allocating funds to support VAS VAS coverage for children 6 to 59 months improved from 40.7% in 2016 to 91.3% in 2019 VAS coverage for children 12 to 59 months, usually a hard to find group, improved from 35.4% in 2016 to 89.4% in 2019 40 nutritionists, public health officers and community leaders/stakeholders were involved in planning for VAS in the context of COVID-19, followed by supplementation together with supportive supervision
<p>Advocacy for budget allocations for nutrition</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure commitments from political leaders for increased investments in nutrition Lobby county management for inclusion of nutrition activities in county strategic plans to ensure sustainability of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-level advocacy forum conducted with county executives and political leaders to advocate for increased budget allocation for nutrition 14 new nutrition officers recruited and deployed since 2016 Through the technical and financial support from Nutrition International, the county started the MNCHN program with an introduction meeting between Nutrition International and the new executive county management, which was key in bringing the new county management on board to run the program CNAP development process included virtual planning/inception meetings and a writing workshop and CNAP draft has since been validated and submitted to the consultancy team awaiting Nutrition International review Kiambu County Nutrition Technical Forum was established and one meeting held, this is part of both advocacy and enabling environment

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 subnational) to support research, policy development and implementation of nutrition interventions. www.NutritionIntl.org

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