



The County Treasury,
Baringo County Government.

Attention: County Planning Unit

31st August 2022.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

RE: MEMORANDUM ON FORMULATION OF BARINGO COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023/24 BY THE BARINGO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS FORUM SUBMITTED ON 31ST AUGUST 2022

BACSO is a network of civil society organizations operating in Baringo with a shared vision of promoting effective county governance and participatory development. BACSO was established in the year 2015 to provide a coordinated framework for civil society organizations to undertake activities, projects and programs that further and enhance effective and participatory county governance and development. Among the interventions of the forum are: civic education; capacity building of various stakeholders in governance and development process; mobilizing citizens to participate in key county governance process; initiating social accountability initiatives such as community social audits; Community Score Card, participatory budget analysis and Public Expenditure Tracking.

Pursuant to the call for submissions dated **21st August 2022** , and in fulfilment of our mandate BACSO hereby presents our submission for your consideration in the formulation of the Baringo County Annual Development Plan for FY 2023/2024.

This memo has been prepared through a joint analysis and consultations with BACSO members and select Budget Champions (see annex 1 for the list of participants).

SECTOR SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

Sector	Challenges/ Emerging Issues/ Justification for resource allocation	Proposed Intervention
<p>Water Sector</p>	<p>The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics in her 2019 Census Report¹ established that only 34.7 % of residents of Baringo have access to improved sources of water. The rest of residents of Baringo rely on unimproved sources including: i.e. unprotected springs, streams/rivers, unprotected wells, ponds, lakes and water vendors</p> <p>Through public participation, the county has prioritized several development projects in the water sector including boreholes, pipeline extension, water pans, spring protection etc., but most of these projects are INCOMPLETE.</p> <p>The main factor that accounts for slow change in water access in Baringo is poor budget performance in the Water and irrigation Department. Social audit and Budget research has revealed the following causative factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is an acute shortage of technical staff in the water sector which has slowed down implementation of water projects (<i>Data collection, project design, procurement and supervision, inspection and acceptance of works and handing over</i>) of project 2. Low budget allocation to operations and maintenance budget limiting the 	<p>Adequate budget allocation to all water projects. For example for a borehole development project, there should be enough money for <i>hydrological survey, drilling, equipping and water distribution</i>.</p> <p>CEDGG has supported the Department of Water and Irrigation to Develop a Water Projects Cost Reference which should inform identification of viable water projects and adequate budget allocation. For a new borehole project, at least Ksh. 5M should be allocated in order for the project to deliver on its objective within one year.</p> <p>There is need to capacitate technical personnel in the water sector for effective and efficient implementation if the budget i.e. <i>Increase their numbers, equip them (avail adequate vehicles and other requisite machinery) and finance their operations</i>.</p> <p>There is need to strengthen the Operations and Maintenance Budget for the Water and Irrigation Department which is a key determinant not only for sustaining service delivery but also facilitating absorption of development budgets</p> <p>Water Project Management Committees should be trained on sustainable management practices. As a stop gap measure, the department of water should set aside a significant amount of money should as a vote to cater for arising issues of repairs and maintenance of water projects.</p> <p>Consider an RRI approach to revive the water projects broken down.</p> <p>Emphasis for the planning period should be completion of water projects and water</p>

¹ <https://www.knbs.or.ke/?wpdmp=2019-kenya-population-and-housing-census-volume-iv-distribution-of-population-by-socio-economic-characteristics>

	<p>department's capacity to operate efficiently</p> <p>3. Inadequate budget allocation to water projects by citizens during public participation</p> <p>4. Weak feasibility studies resulting in technical challenges during implementation</p> <p>5. Hundreds of boreholes in Baringo County have broken down thus reversing the gains made in terms of access to clean, safe and adequate water.</p>	<p>distribution to household level.</p>
<p>Health Sector</p>	<p>As per the County Health Strategic Plan 2018-2020, the department of health services undertook a comprehensive quantification exercise in March 2017 using and extrapolating data collected from 25 county health facilities (5 hospitals, 9 health centres and 11 dispensaries) and established that the annual commodity requirements² for Baringo County is Ksh. 430 million.</p> <p>According to Citizens feedback consolidated through Community scorecards and community conversations, there is perennial shortage medical drugs and commodities across health facilities in Baringo County.</p> <p>While the Previous allocations to drugs and non-pharmaceuticals have been increasing (e.g. 193 M was allocated for medical drugs in 2021/22), it's still far below the required amount. This accounts for persistent shortage of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals in health facilities.</p>	<p>The county to allocate adequate funds for procurement Drugs and non-pharmaceuticals- at least a minimum Ksh. 430 M as per the requirement established through the department's scientific quantification exercise,</p> <p>Recruitment of more medical staff in Baringo County remains a key priority; Need to consider reviving the internship programme as a stop gap measure for understaffing in the sector.</p> <p>There is need for the health sector to provide technical advice on which facilities ought to be upgraded so as to plan efficiently for equipping, staffing and relevant health commodities. In the medium term, there should be a CAVEAT on construction on new health facilities and focus on equipping and operationalization of existing health facilities including the maternity wings</p> <p>Emergent diseases and trends in health seeking behaviour calls for strengthening of community units. Provision of stipends for CHVs, PPEs and other equipment and training should be prioritized</p> <p>Installation of more solar direct driven refrigerators in health facilities without electricity</p> <p>There is need for the health sector to provide technical advice on which facilities ought to be upgraded so as to plan efficiently for equipping, staffing and relevant health commodities.</p>

² https://www.baringo.go.ke/index.php?option=com_jdownloads&view=summary&id=1:baringo-health-sector-strategic-plan&catid=2

	<p>As per social audits and community scorecards by BACSO members, most primary health care facilities (dispensaries) are served by one nurse affecting the quality and range of services offered. Even worse when these officers are out of their work stations health services are paralyzed.</p> <p>According to the County Health Strategic Plan 2018-2020, at least 191 nurses and 104 clinical officers are needed in order to meet the health standards prescribed in policy documents.</p> <p>An rapid assessment by the Baringo News³ listed over 30 health facilities that have been constructed but are not functional due to lack of staff or requisite commodities. Investment in infrastructure at the ward level has been spreading thin and has not brought value for money</p> <p>The Community Health Strategy has been highly dependent on donor funding and thus not sustainable; Weak community units have contributed to poor health-seeking behaviors among the residents of Baringo.</p> <p>Social audits have also found out that there are several facilities without electricity. This affects availability and consistency of critical service such as immunization services.</p> <p>Through community scorecard, CEDGG has documented complaints among citizens on the efficiency and effectiveness of the ambulance services characterized by late response, unclear charges etc. Low budget allocation for fuel and maintenance of the</p>	<p>A policy for emergency services should be formulated and publicized. This should provide for: <i>Proper zoning and strategic positioning of the existing ambulances, strengthening services within the ambulance to the required standards, stipulating clear entitlements for users and their requirements etc.</i></p> <p>Investment in health prevention and promotion programmes will go a long way in reducing cost incurred in the health curative programme i.e. treating diseases or health conditions that could otherwise be prevented</p> <p>There is need to capacitate all health facilities, implement NHIF programmes, especially the subsidies such as Linda Mama Scheme, to improve health financing in Baringo County</p> <p>Immunization programme should prioritize sub-counties and wards with low immunization coverage to promote equity in service delivery.</p> <p>Staffing deployment</p>
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	<p>ambulances has also emerged.</p> <p>As per Census 2019 report 74% of births recorded in the last 12 months took place at a health facility. This implies that close to a third of birth are</p> <p>The perennial malaria outbreak in Tiaty and Baringo South sub-counties points to weakness in the Malaria prevention and case management in Baringo County. Health facilities are ill-equipped to handle upsurge of Malaria cases.</p> <p>Data on immunization level shows that there are inequalities from one sub-county to another</p> <p>WHO recommends the nurses patient ratio at 83:10,000. As per the Kenya Health Project statistics⁴ in 2015 Baringo had 70 nurse per 100,000 patients</p> <p>A research by IBPK and CEDGG in 2022 show that not all eligible public health facilities in Baringo County claim funds under the Linda Mama Scheme. According records with the NHIF office Kabarnet, only 26 out of 188 health facilities claim the funds. Baringo County Government is yet to put in place administrative measures for the coordinated and harmonized implementation of the Linda Mama Scheme across all eligible facilities. The scheme's performance has relied heavily on individual service providers' efforts and a huge opportunity to improve health financing is lost.</p>	
<p>Social Protection</p>	<p>According to the National Crime Research Centre report for 2018, rape cases in Baringo county were 20% against the national prevalence of 42%; FGM county prevalence rate stood at 13.5 as compared to the</p>	<p>Monthly Grants and NHIF for elderly and PWDs currently benefiting 370 people should be increased from Ksh. 12.1 M to at least Ksh. 15 M - to benefit more people and to ensure that the health service are not interrupted.</p>

⁴ <https://www.healthpolicyproject.com/pubs/291/Baringo%20County-FINAL.pdf>

	<p>national rate of 1.35; GBV reported cases were 5.2% against the national average of 9.2% and defilement cases stood at 3.9% in the county against the 7.1% national average.</p> <p>Baringo County is mapped as a hotspot in FGM.</p> <p>There is high unemployment rates among youth, women and PWDs.</p> <p>While the citizens have variously prioritized youth, women and PWDs empowerment programmes i.e. <i>poultry project, galla goats, car wash, salon etc.</i>, most of these projects fail to achieve the intended objectives due to lack the requisite skills among the beneficiaries.</p> <p><i>‘Hiyo Project ilinyonya pesa zetu sana hadi tukaamua kugawana hao kuku, na wengine wetu walifika mahali wakagive up.’</i> a young lady in Eldama Ravine FGD on impact of county government social protection programmes</p> <p><i>‘When Government was designing this poultry project, did they ask questions such as do these groups have technical capacity to manage it, did they have shelter for the chicks , did they have the knowledge required, did they have feeds?’</i> a comment by a social development officer on the county government subsidy programmes for women, youth and PWDs.</p>	<p>Establishment of a GBV Rescue Centre in Baringo County is urgent.</p> <p>Funding to marking and celebration of international gender days needed e.g. <i>the International women’s day , Zero tolerance against FGM, International Peace Day, International youth Day, Day of the African Child and the 16 days of activism against gender based violence that has within the campaign, international Aids Day, International Day for persons with Disability , Elimination of violence against Women and Girls</i>, all which offer an opportunity to create awareness and sensitize the public on merging gender concerns. Such activities have hitherto been funded by CSOs and the county needs to allocate a fund for the same for sustainability.</p> <p>In formulating the ADP 2023/24, the county treasury should ensure that all social protection programmes are linked with the relevant departments for sustainability e.g. for poultry projects proposed in various wards should be linked to the department of livestock for extension and veterinary services, department of trade and industry for enterprise training and market linkages etc.</p>
<p>Education and Vocational Training</p>	<p>Standardization of construction and equipping of ECDE centres is yet to be achieved</p> <p>There are several ECDE classrooms construction projects that have stalled some dating back to the FY 2014/15</p> <p>There has been very low absorption of the development budgets by the department of education, particularly in the FY 2019/2020. Non utilization of about 80% of the development budget implies that there are several ECDE/ VTC</p>	<p>There is need to continue equipping Vocational Training Centres to improve the quality of training. The allocation of 12 M in the 2022/23 budget too small specially noting that the collapse of the conditional grant Rehabilitation of Village Polytechnics which Baringo had been receiving up to 35 M.</p> <p>Staffing levels in VTCs and ECDEs should be enhanced- Recruitment of new ECDE teachers should give priority to individuals with expertise in special education to help carter for the interest of special needs learning institutions in the county,</p> <p>The department of education should prioritize</p>

<p>classrooms that were not constructed or equipped</p> <p>Low budget allocation to the ECDE meals and nutrition programmes which leads to overreliance on donor funding. The ADP 2022/23 estimated the funding requirement for the ECDE meals to 550 schools at Ksh. 75 M and thus the previous allocation of Ksh. 15 M is far below the requirement.</p> <p>Understaffing in ECDE centres is still evident – the ratio standing at about 1:30 as per citizens-led social audits. There are no assistants as per policy</p> <p>According to Public Expenditure Trucking Survey conducted by Baringo Civil Society Organization and Institute in 2019, it was established that Secondary Schools and Tertiary Education Students, which is a national government function, still benefit from County Education Bursary Fund. The fund is also distributed equally across the ward and thus does not consider demand/ need- contrary to the principles provided in the regulation</p> <p>Generally there is very low enrolment in VTCs. A survey conducted by CEDGG established that enrolment is hardly 20% of the institutions' capacity. Some VTCs have a population of less than 10 students.</p> <p>The process of has been very slow mainly due inadequate budget allocation and political good will i.e. the problem of spreading resources thinly persist.</p> <p>Social accountability supported by CSOs (social audit, public expenditure trucking survey) has established an acute shortage of staff in Vocational Training Centres.</p> <p>Majority of instructors are employed by BOM, also some instructors are</p>	<p>completion and equipping of tens of stalled ECDE classrooms across the County. There should be a caveat on construction of new structures pegged on advice from the technical staff.</p> <p>Where necessary, the county government should budget for both construction and equipping for ECDE centres, simultaneously.</p> <p>Structures constructed in all ECDE Centres should be child friendly as well as disability friendly.</p> <p>Feeding programme should be a priority in Baringo County especially in ASAL areas not only as a requirement of the Basic Education Act/ National ECDE policy but also to boost enrolment and retention rates in the County.</p> <p>As a sustainability measure, the county government should encourage ECDE centres to set up kitchen gardens as a sustainability mechanism for the ECDE meals and nutrition programmes.</p> <p>Recruitment of ECDE teachers should be done progressively to cater for the rising population. There is need to implement the scheme of service to ensure that the ECDE teachers are motivated.</p> <p>The county should consider scrapping off the bursary scheme and reallocate the monies to county functions e.g. ECDE feeding programme and capitation for VTCs students.</p> <p>There is need to allocate adequate funding to modernize equipment and training approaches in Vocational Training Centres.</p> <p>Need for recruitment of more instructors in Vocational Training Centres and exposure to modern training approaches.</p> <p>The department of VTC proposes recruitment of at least 10 instructors on permanent and pensionable and 40 interns.</p> <p>Expedite the process of policy formulation and adoption inform programming</p> <p>The County Government should consider allocating funds for VTCs rebranding through facelift and popularization of courses offered in VTCs.</p> <p>Backward and forward linkages should be established with the County Government Departments, National Government MDAs and private sector to create demand/ market for the</p>
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	<p>yet to be issued with teaching license which may compromise the quality of learning</p> <p>Lack of a policy has affected the quality of programmes as well as financing of Vocational Training Centres</p> <p>Poor community perception is the main contributing factor for low enrolment. VTCs are viewed as subordinate to other learning institutions thus students take up courses offered at VTCs only as a last option.</p>	<p>graduates of VTCs.</p>
<p>Agriculture and Livestock</p>	<p>The livestock sub-sector contributes to the food and cash needs of the citizens and provide employment to over 60 % of the population of in Baringo.</p> <p>According to the 2019 Census report 80,426 Household in Baringo County practice livestock farming.</p> <p>Social audit and livestock production sensitization programs conducted in 14 wards in Baringo County by CEDGG and CRECO in 2019 revealed the following challenges in the livestock sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate deployment of livestock extension officers across the County. • Inadequate facilitation of existing livestock extension officers such as insufficient motorbikes and fridges (cold chain & cool boxes) for storage of livestock vaccines. • Stalled and unoperational livestock projects such as cattle dips, slaughter houses, hay stores and sale yards • Inadequate livestock extension education for livestock keepers across the county resulting in low capacity among communities/ project 	<p>Completion and operationalization of Livestock flagship projects initiated to promote value addition i.e. Abattoirs, Milk Processing Plants and Tanneries</p> <p>Recruitment of more extension officers, availing at least a motorbike each and facilitating their operations.</p> <p>The County government should consider adopting digital platforms for provision extension services</p>

	<p>management committees to manage projects sustainably.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weak disease surveillance and unpreparedness in prevention of animal diseases such as Lumpy Skin Disease for cattle and Newcastle in poultry; and • Inadequate drought mitigation, response and adaptation strategies 	
<p>Environment Protection and Natural Resources</p>	<p>In the CIDP The department targeted to increase tree and vegetation cover from 33% in 2018/19 to 39% in 2021/22 Even then subsequent Budget Estimates 2022/23 there is no allocation to this end.</p> <p>The department of environment has been among the least prioritized despite Baringo County facing the adverse effects of climate change associated with environmental degradation i.e. swelling of lakes, rising temperatures, prolonged drought and reduced rainfall levels.</p> <p>Our observation during public participation is that citizens are not clear about viable activities to prioritize in the sub-sector while many others do not see the sector as a priority.</p>	<p>Budget allocation for protection of rivers and streams and reforestation should commensurate to the level of environment destruction in Baringo County.</p> <p>Mainstreaming of green economy and climate change financing – The allocation of Ksh. 12 M, to County Climate Change Fund (Financing climate change actions in the county) in the budget 2022/23 was a good start but too small to cater the demand for the interventions. Each sector should mainstream climate change mitigation in their programmes to guarantee sustainability intervention.</p> <p>There is needed for strengthening of the Emergency Fund building on lessons from COVID-19 pandemic, the swelling of lakes, prolonged drought, floods and insecurity in Baringo County.</p> <p>There is need for a rapid response initiative to support communities that were affected by swelling of Lake Baringo and Lake Borogio. This should include reconstruction or relocation of Health Facilities, ECDE Centres and Water Sector Projects that submerged. (<i>Lamalok, Chemoonge, Mbaricho, Lusua ECDE centres, Ngambo Health Centre , Loropil Water Pan, Sintaan Water Pan, Bunyaki Water Pan, Ngambo and Sintaan Well, Lobo Health Centre etc</i>)</p>

KEY CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

1. IMPROVING EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE

Increasing Roll Over/ Slow Budget Implementation:

In 2020/21, Baringo County spent Ksh. 887 Million out of Ksh. 3.261 billion earmarked for development i.e. **27% of the total development budget**. Thus approximately Ksh. 2.4 billion was not spent. Even worse, the 2nd quarter budget implementation report for FY 2021/22 indicated that budget absorption was at 23% as at December 2021.

This implies delayed implementation or stalled development projects and programmes, which continues to deny the people of Baringo the much needed services.

Key Asks to County Treasury:

1. Therefore as the County Government plans for FY 2023/24, a strategy to improve budget absorption should be **a top priority** for Baringo County.
2. Adequate allocation to the operations and maintenance budget-line to facilitate technical staff to design and supervise implementation of development projects in an efficient manner. **At least 25 % of the departmental budget should go to O&M.**
3. Adequate allocation to ensure timely completion of all development projects informed by feasibility studies, historical costs and departmental project cost reference documents.

2. STRENGTHENING THE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET FOR SUSTAINED SERVICE DELIVERY

Service delivery is highly dependent on Operations and maintenance budget. However continuous over expenditure on personnel emoluments constrains the O& M budget thus limiting the counties' ability to provide services.

In 2020/21 overall expenditure on personnel emoluments was 2.674 Billion out of a total expenditure of 4.596 Billion, translating to about 59 % of the total expenditure and 36.5% of the revenue. Clearly, this contravenes the PFM regulation section 25 (1) (a)(b)- *"...the County Executive Committee Member with the approval of the County Assembly shall set a limit on the county government's expenditure on wages and benefits for its public officers pursuant to section 107(2) of the PFM Act.. the limit set under paragraph (a) above, shall not exceed thirty five (35) percent of the county government's total revenue.* This has been consistently flagged by the evaluation reports of the auditor general and controller of budget.

In the Water and Irrigation Department, low budget allocation to O&M, coupled with the low numbers of technical staff, leads to slow completion of development projects, low budget absorption and ultimately derailed service delivery. In 2020/21, the department absorbed **only 20% of its development budget** compared to **100% absorption of the recurrent budget**, as per the County Budget Implementation Reports.

In the 2022/23, we note that the Department of Water and Irrigation has been allocated Ksh. 47 M for operations and maintenance. Out of this a whopping **27 M goes to payment of electricity bills** (In the first place, is this sustainable?), about Ksh. 10 M goes to office supplies/ meetings/ workshops, about Ksh. 5 Million is allocated for routine maintenance and **only Ksh. 5 M is left to facilitate technical officers** to implement the Ksh. 506 M development budget, rolled over projects notwithstanding. This limits capacity of the department for *timely design (data collection), quality control (supervision) and routine maintenance*.

In the Budget Estimates 2022/23, the County Executive allocated **Ksh. 166 M for health commodities** (i.e. 156 M for medical drugs and 10 M dressings and other non-Pharmaceutical medical items) which is only **39%** of the estimated requirement. This was also drawback compared to Ksh. 193 M allocated in the approved budget 2021/22 and implies that the **perennial shortage of drugs** in Baringo County as observed through social audits and community scorecard will persist.

Information shared by the department Health Services shows that **71 Health facilities in Baringo County** are not operational due to **lack of staff, drugs and equipment**. **The 9 M allocated as flagship project to equip of 28 health facilities is not viable**. Some of these facilities are in locations where their services are needed and therefore their operationalization is not only necessary but urgent. However BACSOFF also notes **arbitrary allocation** to construction of new dispensaries, construction of laboratory building and maternity wings, under the ward resource envelope, which not only ties up capital but also strains the limited health personnel in the county.

74 M has been allocated to Facility Improvement Fund. If the spirit of the recently FIF law was to plough back all the revenue from health facilities to support service delivery, why are we not allocating the full amount of Ksh. 123 M expected of hospital revenue? *How is the department of health services going to sustain the services that were supported under the conditional grant, 'user-fee foregone'- that was collapsed into the equitable share?*

Several cattle dips are non-operational exposing livestock keepers to vector-borne disease which is a major cause for low productivity in Baringo County. The same applies to water sector where **over 100 boreholes are not operational**.

On page 237, the ADP 2022/23 estimates the funding requirement for the ECDE meals to 550 schools at **Ksh. 75 M** and thus the budget allocation of **Ksh. 13 M** is far below the requirement.

Key Asks to the County Treasury:

1. Strengthen budget allocation to operations and maintenance Budget especially for the water, health and agriculture sectors to sustain service delivery. Specifically the County Treasury should ensure that **a balance between development/capital projects budgets and the needed operation and management across departments**.
2. The County Treasury should increase allocation to procurement of drugs and medical commodities **to at least 250 M if not the Ksh. 430 M required annually**.
3. Liaise with the department of Health Services to develop **for a costed plan for equipping, operationalization of health facilities and expansion of existing health facilities based on data for demand for services and the WHO norms and standards for health service delivery**. This should be the basis budget allocation both at the ward level and departmental level.

4. Sustain the budget line for repair of boreholes in Baringo County allocated Ksh. 11.5 M in the Budget Estimates 2022/23. This should be accompanied by a **list of boreholes to be repaired, the required amount for each borehole, the location and target number of beneficiaries.**
5. BACSOFF also commends the allocation of Ksh. 18 M in the Budget Estimates 2022/23 for operationalization of the drilling rig. In promoting equity and budget transparency, the County Treasury should liaise with the Department of Water and Irrigation to provide for a **schedule of movement of the rig, in order of priority and the justifications.**

3. REVENUE PERFORMANCE

Until 2018/2019, there had been steady increase in the own source revenue in Baringo County as indicated in table 1. While COVID-19 accounts for decline of revenue in the last 2 years, the County Government is still **far from reaching its potential.** According to CRA Own Source report⁵ 2019, Baringo County raised about 50% of the total revenue potential in last 6 years i.e. between 2013/14 and 2019/20.

Table 1: Analysis performance of own source revenue in Baringo County

Local Revenue Performance in Baringo County

FY	Target (Ksh.M)	Actual (Ksh. M)	Variance (Ksh. M)	Growth
2015/2016	300	279	(21.00)	
2016/2017	330	286	(44.00)	3%
2017/2018	350	308	(42.00)	8%
2018/2019	371	359	(12.00)	17%
2019/2020	393	301	(92.00)	-16%
2020/2021	346	205	(141.00)	-32%
2021/2022	258			
2022/2023 (Target)	312			
Source: OCOB/ CBIRs				

⁵ <https://cra.go.ke/download/counties-efforts-towards-revenue-mobilisation-report/?wpdmdl=2411&refresh=6218e052035ec1645797458>

Key Asks to the County Treasury:

1. Put in place measures to address the **under-collection, non-collection and under-estimation** for specific sources which have featured in the Office of the Auditor General Reports for Baringo County since FY 2013/14- 2018/19 including:
 - Under performance of property revenue – especially the Marigat AMS
 - Non-collection of Business Permits and Land rates
 - Untapped ready revenue sources e.g. Lake Baringo
 - Underestimation of land rates due to use of old valuation role dating back to 2009 developed by the defunct county council
2. Game park being a key source of revenue for Baringo, **renovation of Lake Bogoria Game Park Gate, offices as well as diversification of the products therein**, should be our top priority in terms of strategic revenue generation projects.
3. County Treasury should consult citizens/ stakeholders to identify innovative and impactful projects to be implemented under the programme **‘Revenue Services Development’** that receives budget allocation every year.
4. County Treasury should implement citizens’ recommendations on revenue raising measures as suggested during formulation of the previous County Fiscal Strategy Papers.
5. Service delivery in health facilities should be improved accompanied by public sensitization and **training of front-line service providers on NHIF requirements** in order to increase the hospital revenue.

4. PROMOTING EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

2. Development of major rural water supplies

The sector has categorised areas in terms of water resource availability and reliability. **There are locations that lack the essential resource in quantity and quality. Therefore needs an affirmative action in allocation of funds and development of available water resources to promote equality in water service provision and socio-economic development**

Figure 1: Water Sector Flagship Projects- CIDP 2018-2022 pg. 192

With the practice of equal allocation of resources across wards observed in the last 8 years, then the situation may have remained the same and in some sectors worsened. Data by KNBS from Census 2019 on water access shows glaring inequalities in water access among sub-counties in Baringo County.

Table 1: Distribution of population by sources of water in Baringo County as at 2019

Subcounty	Piped into dwelling	Piped to yard/ plot	Public Tap/ stand pipe	Borehole	Protected Well	Protected spring	Rain/ Harvested Water	Bottled Water	Total Improved sources (%)	Pond	Dam/ Lake	Stream/ River	Unprotected spring	Unprotected well	water vendor	Total unimproved sources (%)
BARINGO	3.60	9.10	3.40	10.10	3.20	1.60	3.40	0.30	34.70	2.20	10.40	46.50	1.90	1.20	3.20	65.40
BARINGO CENTRAL	8.10	20.80	3.60	3.60	0.50	2.60	4.10	0.30	43.60	1.00	2.40	49.10	2.80	0.30	1.00	56.60
BARINGO NORTH	0.80	1.60	1.40	7.00	0.70	2.20	3.30	0.20	17.20	1.60	8.10	68.70	3.30	0.40	0.90	83.00
EAST POKOT	0.40	0.40	0.30	6.30	1.60	0.70	0.60	-	10.30	8.10	11.00	65.70	1.40	1.50	2.00	89.70
KOIBATEK	7.40	20.50	8.20	6.70	11.50	1.40	5.10	0.90	61.70	0.20	1.80	29.20	1.20	1.80	4.20	38.40
MARIGAT	1.10	2.30	3.50	20.50	1.30	1.10	0.80	0.30	30.90	0.50	7.80	49.50	1.50	1.10	8.70	69.10
MOGOTIO	2.40	4.00	1.30	22.30	1.00	0.90	6.60	0.30	38.80	5.60	13.60	36.30	0.60	0.90	4.10	61.10
TIATYEAST	0.20	0.50	1.60	6.60	0.30	1.90	0.40	-	11.50	2.10	51.30	29.90	2.10	2.90	0.30	88.60

Source: 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census- Volume IV: Distribution of population by socio-economic characteristics

KNBS-SID 2013 survey established that only 0.2 % of the residents of Silale had access to clean water. While the County Government has made effort to address this problem, the residents of Silale continue to suffer. This is largely due to *weak feasibility studies, low allocations and other environmental factors*.

A rapid survey by BACSOF to profile inequalities at Silale Ward (in October 2021) established that most of the boreholes drilled in the ward are hot and with very high concentration of metal components (Fluoride, magnesium etc.). Examples include: *Toplen, Natan, Napeikore, Nalekat, Nasorot and Riongo Borehole* whose yield have been declared not fit for human and animal consumption. This has been attributed to location of the ward along the geothermal belt. A borehole that was recently *drilled at Nakoko Centre* was also found to be dry.

While we boast of almost achieving the 5kms radius to the nearest health facilities, there are locations where residents still travel for long distances etc. *Insecurity along Tiaty, Baringo South and Baringo North borders has led to closure of some facilities worsening situation.*

Key Asks to the County Treasury:

1. The County Treasury should interrogate the status of **the affirmative action programme committed in the CIDP 2018-2022** (page 192) and how the ADP 2022/23 promotes the principle of equity especially as regards access to clean safe and adequate water.
2. BACSOF notes a huge investment in excavation of water pans in and desilting existing water pans in Tiaty Sub-county – this only provides water for livestock and thus should be accompanied by other **strategic water projects** to ensure that the residents have access to **clean and safe water**.
3. **Operationalization (equipping and staffing) and expansion of services (including upgrading) and deployment of more staff in remote health facilities** will go a long way in promoting equitable access to health care. The technical teams in the health sector should be consulted in identifying **strategic health facilities for upgrading**.

4. For **all flagship projects**, the respective department should provide the criteria for distribution and the justifications for the same.

5. BUDGET TRANSPARENCY

Baringo County has been inconsistent in publishing budget information. For instance even as the County Government called for public input in the formulation ADP 2023/24, the ADP 2021/22 which as due on 1st September 2020, and the 4th Quarter County Budget Implementation Report which was due on July 30th were not published. Therefore *citizens do not have adequate information about the previous year development priorities, how far we are in budget implementation and lessons from the 2021/22 budget implementation.*

The County Budget Transparency Survey 2021 report⁶ show that despite scoring the highest among counties in terms the quality of information in the County Budget Implementation Report, the overall budget transparency index for Baringo County dropped from 47 out 100 points to 30 out of 100 points. **A key gap has been inconsistency in publishing budget information.**

BACSO analysis of budgets has several budget-lines that lack details of the specific locations, the scope of works and unit costs. For example there are budget lines usually marked as '*all wards*'. **Without details of the project location, number of projects, unit cost and scope of work, how will the citizens monitor this budget line during implementation?** There is also a risk of duplication and diversion of funds since there several similar projects at the ward level.

Key Asks to the County Treasury:

1. The County Treasury should build the capacity of departments in developing of a **Programme Based Budget** in the format prescribed in law and in the **Baringo budget circular for MTEF period 2022/23-2024/25 dated 17th August 2022- paragraph 13- 15 and Annex 4A.** This should start with identification of clear programmes, targets and indicators under each department.
2. The County Treasury should ensure that all budget lines are detailed enough to facilitate official and civilian oversight i.e. *with details of the specific project location, unit cost, scope of work etc.* Where need be, e.g. for county-wide programmes such as operationalization of the drilling rig, repair of boreholes, equipping of ECDEs etc., this should be accompanied by annexes of lists of *specific projects, the locations, amount allocated and the justification.*
3. The County Treasury should adhere to the legal requirements for publishing and publicizing budget documents. As a matter of urgency, the ADP 2021/22 and the 4th Quarter County Budget Implementation Report for FY 2021/22 should be published.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Building on the lessons learnt on facilitating participation during COVID 19 times, the County Government of Baringo should invest on creative mechanisms **to promote public consultations and participation and information sharing** on a continuous basis.

⁶ <https://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/CBTS-2021-County-Summaries-FINAL.pdf>

BACSOF asks of the County Treasury:

- Given that the emphasis on written submission the County Treasury should put in place mechanisms for **receipt, analysis and provision of feedback on memoranda by citizens**.
- Due to decline in COVID-19 infections, the County Government should revert to public participation forums at the ward level. -Holding the meeting at the sub-county level constricts the space and creates room for elite capture of the process.
- Where the county relies on Sub-locational Development Committees and Budget Champions as the main vehicle for public participation– there should be mechanisms to ensure that they constantly consult with their communities.
- County Treasury should adhere to the requirement of at least 7 to 14 days provided in law in notifying the public about budget consultative forums.
- Utilize new and emerging media including YouTube channels, twitter, WhatsApp, Facebook and radio to share information with the public. Invest more to strengthen its technical capacity to uptake new technologies across departments – *Digital Studio? ICT hubs?*
- Strengthen technical guidance during public consultation forums **-Encourage technical officers in water, health, agriculture and environment sectors to attend public participation forums**.
- Participation during budget implementation has been very weak. Beyond, the Project Management Committees and the county government should consider holding public forums to review budget implementation.
- The **county civic education unit should be resourced** to be able to deliver on its mandate.

Conclusion:

Submission of this memorandum to you is in good faith and in the best interest of the people of Baringo County. It is therefore our prayer that you deem it necessary to incorporate our input in the formulation of the Baringo Annual Development Pan 2023/2024. Baringo County Civil Society Organizations Forum shall continue to support the County Treasury in executing your budgeting mandate through Civic Education, dissemination of budget information, monitoring of the budget processes and analysis of the Budget Documents and proffering of feedback.

Annex 1: List of BACSOF Members consulted

	Working Group	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT	EMAIL
1.	Education and Vocational Training	Baringo Youth Forum	Evans Kangwony	0720041439	evanskangwony@gmail.com
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6.		Radio Alpha	Sam Nyachiro	0723517424	samnyachiro@gmail.com
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11.		Mogotio Citizen Voice and Action	Geofrey Tuitoek	0725202669	tuitoekgeoffrey@yahoo.com
12.		Lembus Forest Community Integrated Conservation Project	Mathew Birir	0722743335	mbirir@hotmail.com
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