

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE PRESIDENCY

MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND PLANNING

PARTICIPATORY POVERTY ASSESSMENT PPAV

KWALE COUNTY

MLACHAKE CLUSTER



OCTOBER 2014

FOREWORD	4
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	7
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	9
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	10
1.1 BACKGROUND OF PPA V.....	10
1.2 COUNTY PROFILE.....	10
1.3 PPA V OBJECTIVES.....	11
1.4 SELECTION OF THE CLUSTER.....	11
1.5 FIELD LOGISTICS.....	12
1.6 PPA V METHODOLOGY.....	13
1.7 REPORT ORGANIZATION/OUTLINE.....	13
2.1 DEFINITION OF POVERTY.....	14
2.2 CLASSIFICATION OF POVERTY.....	14
2.3 CHARACTERISTICS OF POVERTY.....	14
2.4 CATEGORIZATION OF POVERTY.....	15
2.5 CAUSES OF POVERTY.....	15
2.6 IMPACT OF POVERTY.....	15
2.7 COPING STRATEGIES.....	15
2.8 MAIN ASSETS IN THE COMMUNITY.....	16
2.9 POVERTY AND GENDER.....	16
2.10 POVERTY TRENDS OVER TIME.....	16
2.11 INTERVENTIONS TARGETING THE POOR.....	16
2.12 RECOMMENDATIONS.....	16
CHAPTER THREE: FINDINGS ON PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES	18
3.1 HEALTH CARE.....	18
3.1.1 <i>Introduction</i>	18
3.1.2 <i>Provision of Health Service</i>	18
3.1.3 <i>Intervention to improve health services</i>	19
3.1.4 <i>Decision Making on Health in the Family</i>	19
3.1.5 <i>Ideal family Size</i>	19
3.1.6 <i>Household Size and poverty</i>	19
3.1.7 <i>Access and decisions on family planning</i>	19
3.1.8 <i>Status of health services overtime</i>	19
3.1.9 <i>Conclusion and Recommendations</i>	20
4.2 BASIC EDUCATION.....	21
3.2.1 <i>Introduction</i>	21
3.2.2 <i>Status of education facilities</i>	21
3.2.3 <i>Provision of Education Services</i>	21
3.2.4 <i>Status of education Services</i>	22
3.2.5 <i>Improvement of education</i>	22
3.2.6 <i>Relationship between Education and Poverty</i>	22

3.2.7	<i>Status of education over time</i>	22
3.2.8	<i>Conclusion and Recommendations</i>	22
4.3	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES.....	23
3.4.1	<i>Introduction</i>	23
3.4.2	<i>Agricultural services and inputs</i>	24
3.4.3	<i>Relationship of Poverty and Agriculture</i>	24
3.4.4	<i>Status of the agriculture overtime</i>	24
3.4.5	<i>Conclusion and Recommended</i>	24
4.4	WATER AND SANITATION.....	25
3.4.1	<i>Introduction</i>	25
3.4.2	<i>Sanitation Facilities in the Community</i>	26
3.4.3	<i>Environmental Degradation and Water</i>	26
3.4.4	<i>Opinion on water and sanitation over time</i>	26
3.4.5	<i>Conclusion and recommendations</i>	26
4.5	HOUSING.....	28
3.5.1	<i>Introduction</i>	28
3.5.2	<i>Types of Building Materials</i>	28
3.5.3	<i>Housing and household head</i>	28
3.5.4	<i>Status of Housing overtime</i>	28
3.5.5	<i>Conclusion and Recommendations</i>	28
	CHAPTER FOUR: PRO-POOR AND DEVOLVED FUNDS INITIATIVES	29
4.1	CASH TRANSFERS.....	29
4.2	KAZI KWA VIJANA (KKV).....	30
4.3	YOUTH FUND.....	30
	CHAPTER SIX: RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION	32
6.1	RECOMMENDATIONS.....	32
6.2	CONCLUSION.....	32
	ANNEX I: MOOD BAROMETER	33
	ANNEX II: SOCIAL MAP	34

FOREWORD

Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) is a mechanism through which identified communities give their own definition and understanding of poverty. This PPA covered 47 counties unlike previous one which covered selected sub counties .

The main objective of this exercise was to establish the impact of various Government policies, strategies, programmes and projects aimed at reducing poverty. It further sought for capture of voices of the poor in the communities with special focus on social protection initiatives. In particular the study covered the following broad issues: poverty dynamics and indicators provisions of government services on; health, education, agriculture, housing, water and sanitation, pro-poor initiatives and devolved funds.

This study found out that level of poverty from community perspective has been rising despite various pro-poor initiatives undertaken by the government over the years. It is worthy to note many at the clusters visited did not understand how the pro-poor initiatives operate. On Cross-cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, drug and substance abuse, gender disparity on property ownership degradation and poor governance on devolved funds and pro-poor initiatives were reported to be on the rise.

These findings from the study will be used as lessons learnt. They will be a reference point in designing current and future interventions on reducing poverty and regional disparities. I call upon our internal and external stakeholders to utilize the respective PPA V county reports to inform policy and decision-making.

Ann Waiguru, OGW
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Devolution and Planning

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Kwale County Participatory Poverty Assessment Report is the first of its kind as the key reference point on poverty profiling since the promulgation of COK, 2010 and ultimately the formation of County Governments after the general elections of 2013. It is derived from the 5th National Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPAV) Report whose findings have been published simultaneously with the 47 County Reports.

Foremost, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank and acknowledge all individuals and institutions who collectively contributed their time and resources towards the production of this Report. In particular, valuable leadership and policy guidance was provided by Stephen Wainaina, the Economic Planning Secretary and Moses Ogolla, the Director Social & Governance Directorate. The Directorate of S&G provided the secretariat that was charged with the responsibility of undertaking the exercise and finally the production of both the National Report and the County specific Reports covering the 47 Counties,

The following team of officers without whose dedication and enthusiasm, the production of this Report would have been much more challenging deserve mention; Samuel Kiptorus (Chief Economist), James M. Kirigwi (Chief Economist), Leonard Obidha (Secretary, Poverty Eradication Commission), Cosmas Muia (Principal economist), Joseph Njagi (Senior Economist), MichealMwangi (Senior Economist), Kimote (Senior Economist), Kiilu (Senior Economist), Christatos Okioma (Economist I) and Douglas Manyara (Economist I).

The Ministry also recognizes varied support provided from time to time by the following officers; Director, KNBS (for cluster sampling and identification), Florence Juma (Secretary), Matilda Anyango (Secretary), Florence Natse (Secretary), Tallam (driver), Dequize (Driver) and Alphine (Office Assistant).

The ministry is also indebted to the team of dedicated consultants comprising Munguti K. Katua as the lead assisted by J.T Mukui. Their experience and policy guidance was instrumental in the production of key documents and tools that were utilized during the field exercise as well as in the finalization of both the National Report and individual 47 County Reports.

The ministry is also indebted to the team of dedicated consultants comprising Munguti k. katua as the lead assisted by J.T Mukui. Their experience and policy guidance was instrumental in the production of key documents and tools that were utilized during the field exercise as well as in the finalization of both the National Report and individual 47 County Reports.

Finally, the Ministry is grateful to the respective County Governments and their staff, National Government staff in the Counties, communities and their leaders as well key informants especially in their role in community mobilization and laying of logistics for a successful poverty assessment exercise within their areas of operation. Specifically, we thank targeted communities for turning up in large numbers and participating with enthusiasm during Focused Group Discussions (FGD) sometimes often late into the evenings thus making the work of our facilitators a success.

Engineer Mangiti
Principal Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) is a mechanism through which identified groups of people give their own definition and understanding of poverty based on their own perspectives. There has been a series of PPAs conducted in the past as follows; PPA I in 1994, PPA II in 1996, PPA 3 in 2001 and PPA IV in 2005/06.

Between November 3rd November 2013 and February 2014, the National Government conducted PPA V whose overall objective was to contribute to Kenya's poverty reduction strategy, by providing a richer and more informative database on the living standards, aspirations and needs of the poorer sections of the population. In particular, the survey sought the communities' perspectives on poverty dynamic diagnostics and the provision and impact of selected wellbeing services including agriculture, education, health social protection and other devolved funds. Perspectives of the community were sought on the awareness of the availability of these services, accessibility and affordability.

This report presents the findings of the PPA V survey in **Mlachake Cluster of Kwale County** which was conducted in December 2013. Information from the cluster was provided by the community members through Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) and the administration of a household questionnaire that was also complemented by the information from key informants who were mainly sub-county experts in specific issues of the survey.

Mlachake cluster is a rural community in Msambweni sub-county. The county's economic activities include livestock keeping, agriculture farming, fishing and tourism. Poverty levels are high at 74.9 percent; well above the national average. Additionally, 71.1 percent of the population in the county is food insecure.

Mlachake community defined poverty in the local language as (**Uchiya**) meaning being in a situation where one has no access to the basic needs i.e. food, clothing and shelter. Women defined poverty as living without the ability to cater for the basic needs, unemployment and lack of social amenities like good housing, livestock and personal liberties.

Healthy wise, the community mostly suffers from stomach upsets which they attributed to poor and unsafe water. Other ailments are; malaria, diarrhea, and gastrological problems. They noted that health services have improved over time though they have only one dispensary within the village.

On education they noted that the status of education has improved over time since they have benefited from some government interventions on education. They recommended

that the only secondary school in the community should be well equipped and staffed to be able to offer quality services to members of the community.

For the last ten years, Mlachake community said they didn't experience any changes in access to agricultural services. Though the county/ community has a big potential to engage in agriculture this was found to be curtailed by lack of title deed for the residence, poor weather condition, lack of water for irrigation and use of traditional farming methods

Lastly the community of Mlachake had benefited from other pro-poor interventions both from the government and NGOs. They however recommended that the devolved funds should be enhanced to enable them access cheaper loans to start income generating activities. They also lacked proper fishing tools and market for their catch a factor that is limiting the potential of the fishing sub sector.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ART	Ant-Retroviral Treatment
CDF	Constituencies Development Fund
CT	Cash Transfer
DC	District Commissioner
DDO	District Development Officer
DEO	District Education Officer
DPHO	District Public Health Officer
DSDO	Divisional Gender and Social Development Officer
DSO	District Statistics Officer
DWO	District Water Officer
DYO	District Youth Officer
FGD	Focused Group Discussions
FPE	Free Primary Education
GDI	Gross Domestic Income
HDI	Human Development Index
HDR	Human Development Report
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research institute
KKV	Kazi Kwa Vijana
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
LATIF	Local Authority Transfer Fund
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NASSEP	Fifth National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
PLWD	People Living With Disability
PPA	Participatory Poverty Assessment
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
RAs	Research assistants
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendants
URTI	Upper Respiratory Tract Infections
USAID	UNITED STATE AID
WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of PPA V

Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) is a mechanism through which identified communities give their own definition and understanding of poverty based on their own discourse. Hence PPAs are aimed at understanding poverty from the perspectives of poor people including gaining a clearer notion of what their priorities are for improving their livelihoods. There is need to conduct regular PPAs in order to inform policy makers on decision making process regarding various interventions that help to get the poor out of poverty.

Participatory approaches add value in policy formulation and planning by enriching understanding of the realities of poverty and formulation of policies which address the plight of the poor. They increase the confidence and 'voice' of the poor while also acting as a learning process for the non-poor and often resulting in the creation of new networks. In addition, participatory approaches influence the images of poverty and public debate.

1.2 County Profile

Kwale County Development Profile (KCDP 2013) shows that Kwale county is located in the South coast of Kenya, it borders Tanzania to the South West, and Taita Taveta County to the West, Kilifi county to the North and North East, Mombasa to the East and the Indian Ocean to the East and South East. Kwale County has three constituencies namely Msambweni, Matuga and Kinagop. The county covers an area of 8,270.2 square kilometers square and has a population of 649,931 (male 49% and female 51%). The population density for the county is 79 people per square kilometer with an annual growth rate of 2.6%. People living below the poverty line is estimated at 74.9% as compared to the national levels of 46%.

The road network for the county is composed of 212.5 Km bitumen, 120 km gravel and 1,695.5 km earth. On education the county has 349 primary schools, 41 secondary school with an enrollment of 157,454 and 15,561 pupils respectively. The prevalent diseases are malaria, skin disease and disease of the track system. The main health providers are Msabweni and Kwale hospitals.

Geographical characteristic- The County has monsoon type of climate which is characterized by hot and dry weather condition between January and April, and cool weather between June and August. This kind of climate is favourable for livestock rearing which is the main economic activity in some part of the county. The county is also criss-crossed by rivers and streams some of which are seasonal and have water

resources giving the county huge agricultural potential. The average temperature is 24.2 degree Celsius and rainfall amount range from 400mm and 1,680 mm per annum.

Economic activities- Kwale County is home to Shimba Hills National Game Reserve which is endowed in biodiversity, Tsavo National Park, Kisite/Mpunguti National Park and reserves.

Fishing plays a major role in the economy of the county, accounting for more than half of the income of the households along the coast line.

1.3 PPA V Objectives

The overall objective of PPA-V study was to contribute to Kenya's poverty reduction strategy, by providing a richer and more informative data base on the living standards, aspirations and needs of the poorer sections of the population especially with regard to social protection and social security. More specifically, the participatory assessment sought to:

- i. To gain a deeper understanding of the impact of the pro-poor initiatives based on the perceptions of the people themselves, especially the poor and vulnerable groups;
- ii. To broaden the process through which policies will be developed by engaging ordinary citizens in real debates to come up with the best ways of reducing poverty and preventing people from falling into poverty;
- iii. To identify and prioritize policies, strategies, programmes and projects which would support poor communities in their escape from poverty, focusing on social protection initiatives;
- iv. To integrate the respective contributions of participatory and qualitative approaches in the M&E strategy for Kenya;
- v. To evaluate impact and identify what outcomes are important to those affected by policy interventions themselves to help untangle complex processes of individual and community change;
- vi. To enrich the understanding of the lived realities of poverty and arriving at policies which make sense to those affected to ensure equity and improvement of wellbeing in a clean and secure environment; and
- vii. To respond to the Bill of Rights and other articles (public participation) enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

1.4 Selection of the Cluster

The sampling process was guided by the Fourth National Sample Survey and Evaluation Programme (NASSEP IV) maps (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics) which was used to demarcate the boundaries of each of the selected cluster.

A sample of one cluster per county was selected for the detailed study in which all specially designed participatory assessment tools were implemented. Specifically in Kwale County, Mlachake community community (Urban cluster) was selected to represent the views of the county. Household survey was also undertaken and a household questionnaire administered to about 15 households, especially those benefiting from cash transfers.

1.5 Field Logistics

The PPA-V study in Kwale County was conducted on November/December, 2012. Information from the clusters was provided by the community members through Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) and household questionnaire and was complemented by the information from key informants who are the technical experts in the subject areas of the survey. The main policy areas of focus were Health Care, Basic Education, Agricultural Services and Inputs, Water and Sanitation, Housing, Cash Transfer (CT), Roads 2000, Devolved Funds such as Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) and Kazi Kwa Vijana (KKV).

In preparation for the study, the supervisors were introduced to the use of survey tools by the consultant. Advertisement for Research Assistants (RAs) was done one week prior to recruitment through the District Development Officer's (DDO) and District Statistics Officer's (DSO) office. The recruitment interviews were conducted for two days. Out of the applicants who were interviewed, six (6) research assistants per county were selected to assist in data collection in that specific county.

The training for researchers ran for two (2) days and data collection and report writing was done in two (2) days. During the training, RAs were taken through the introduction to Participatory Poverty Assessment and methodologies, guiding principles for participatory data collection and the data collection instruments.

To ensure the data collection instruments/tools were thoroughly understood, the research assistants conducted role plays. They were taken through the roles they were expected to play while in the field which included note taking, facilitating, observing and administration of the household questionnaires.

Other key areas covered during the training included data collection logistics, data storage, compilation of the site reports and the format of the cluster report.

The Major challenges encountered during the study, includes; inadequate vehicle to transport the large team during the FGD, sometimes FGD could end at late hours hence the RAs had to be transported to their homes and also, some of the KI had a tight

schedule hence the interviews could take long than the initial plan as per the study programme. In addition, some KI could keep on postponing the meetings hence the team was unable to interview them for instance the local government.

1.6 PPA V Methodology

This field study used PPA tools and instruments including semi-structured oral interview questionnaires, focus group discussions, key informant interviews and observations. Specific tools which were used included; resource mapping, wealth ranking, Venn/chapatti diagrams, the mood barometer and pair wise ranking. The Village Resource Map was introduced before the introduction of other PPA tools, and Wealth Ranking was used to establish how the community categorizes itself economically. There was an attempt to identify households which were benefiting from the cash transfers so that they could participate during the administration of the specific data collection check lists so that accurate information was received to inform the discussions.

The checklist was mainly used to elicit specific information on selected policy areas from the community. It was divided into two sections namely Poverty Diagnostics and Assessment of the Impact of pro-poor initiatives. The trained RAs administered the tools/instruments under the guidance of the supervisors to ensure quality of the data collected. The data collection process was similar for all selected sample sites as well as the format for data recording and analysis. This standardization was critical for overall data analysis and report writing.

The Key informant provided technical information about their particular areas of operation. Those interviewed included officers responsible for Public Health/Medical Services, Water, Agriculture/Livestock, Gender and Social Development, Basic Education, opinion leaders, DDO, Youth officer and CDF manager.

1.7 Report organization/Outline

This report therefore presents the PPA V study findings for Kwale County. The report is divided into six (6) chapters including chapter one (1) which covers introduction, Chapter two (2) highlights the poverty dynamic and indicators, chapter three (3) presents findings on provision of services in the selected policy areas (health care, basic education, agricultural services and inputs, water and sanitation and housing). Chapter four (4) covers the findings other pro-poor initiatives and Devolved Funds (policies and programmes) such as Cash Transfers (CT), Kazi Kwa Vijana (KKV), Roads 2000, and devolved funds such as CDF, Women Enterprise Fund (WEF), and Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF). Chapter five (5) covers outlines the findings on cross cutting areas & other emerging issues and lastly, chapter six (6) which outlines the recommendations and conclusion

CHAPTER TWO: POVERTY DYNAMICS AND DIAGNOSTICS

2.1 Definition of Poverty

According to the Kwale County profile KCDP 2013 and the Basic Report on well-being in Kenya, 2007, the level of poverty in the county was recorded at 74.9 percent while 71.1 percent of the population was considered as food poor.

The Mlachake community referred poverty in the local language as (**Uchiya**) which translated means being in a situation where one has no access to the basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter. Women defined poverty has living without the ability to cater for the basic needs, unemployment, poor or lack of social amenities like good housing, livestock and extreme dependency.

2.2 Classification of poverty

The community observed that poverty prevalence is high in their cluster. They classified the community in three social groups, And by consensus categorized the poor as "**fukara**" "**masikini**" and "**tajiri**" translated to mean; very poor, the poor and the rich.

Fukara: These are the very poor who cannot afford a single meal a day. They wake up hopelessly not having any plans for the day and not knowing what to do to get any income. They do not own any valuable assets and have no place to call home.

Masikini: These were described as those who can afford at least a cup of tea in the morning and one meal per day mainly in the evening. They at least own a bicycle and other assets like goat or cattle, traditional fishing nets and utensils. These categories use traditional means of storing subsistence harvests and food in a "**ghala**"; a kind of basket shaped hut supported by stones or tree stubs and slightly raised from the ground.

Tajiri: The rich were described as those who own shops and large herds of livestock and have the ability to lend money (shylock) to other members of the community.

2.3 Characteristics of Poverty

When the community was asked to give the characteristics of poverty, they said the poor exhibit the following attributes: in ability to afford balanced diet, inability to cater for three meals a day; hardships in accessing water (clean and safe water), have poor health, lack quality education, have poor dwellings (houses) and lack means of transport such as bicycles and others.; and are characterized by low access to education.

2.4 Categorization of Poverty

While administering the wealth ranking tool, the community approximated that 97 percent of the members are very poor, 2 percent of the community are poor and 1 percent are perceived to be rich.

2.5 Causes of poverty

The community gave causes of poverty among Mlachake villagers as unreliable rainfall affecting the main source of water for domestics and irrigation on subsistence farming, unemployment, lack of adequate land, lack of farm inputs, poor road network, diseases and lack of fishing nets.

On the other hand, **Mlachake youth** felt that poverty in the community is more caused by lack of fishing equipment like boats and fishing nets. They claimed that majority of the people in the community use mosquito nets as fishing nets which results to poor and low fish catch and hence levels of income.

2.6 Impact of Poverty

During the FGD, the community were of the opinion that high levels of poverty has impacted negatively to their society by: increased level of crime, reduced the levels of farm output, increased number of school drop-outs and worsened disease attacks among the community.

Specifically, the youth felt that poverty has led to the increase in cases of early child marriages and making the young people look older than their real age.

2.7 Coping Strategies

Most of the members of Mlachake community undertake subsistence farming and preserve the farm produce using traditional methods as a way of coping with poverty. Maize harvested from the farms is stored in granaries called "**ghala**" after being preserved by smoking. Cassava is preserved through drying into "**makopa**". The produce is preserved not only to last longer but also for use during periods of famine and drought.

Women said that they engage in small businesses like selling "**mahamri**" and fried potatoes "**Viazi Karai**". Men (mis) use mosquito nets provided by health officers to catch fish. The fish is sold at the local markets to generate income. They also sell "**madafu**" in the nearby markets.

In the FGD, women narrated how occasionally some households have to result to having one meal in a day because of poverty. To them a balanced diet was unimaginable. In addition, other households tend to avoid costly though important

expenses like education especially the secondary school education and choose to engage in casual labor.

2.8 Main assets in the community

Administration of the Gender analysis tool during the FGD indicated that the Mlachake community practiced joint ownership of assets and resources between husband and wife. They justified this by saying that it is culturally believed that once bound by marriage, the ownership of any assets is shared between the couple.

However, the husband is taken as the head of the household and purchases most of the assets although joint decisions are made in the event of asset disposal. The common assets in the households are coconut trees, land including plots (though getting titles is a big problem in the area), bicycles, utensils and the ghala.

2.9 Poverty and Gender

In the FGDs the community said that poverty mostly affected the children since they are deprived from going to schools to help in generating income for the family. Women are also overburdened with household chores which includes providing for the young ones in the family.

2.10 Poverty trends over time

Mlachake community compared the status of poverty for the last ten years, and noted that they have not experienced any change in their wellbeing. Some members perceived the poverty to have deteriorated slightly. They associated this to poor housing, persistent water problems, compromised fishing nets and low access to education. The prevailing hot weather conditions in some parts influences lower productivity and contributes to rise of diseases that affect both animals and humans.

2.11 Interventions targeting the poor

At the FGDs, it was pointed out that the pro-poor programmes that exist in the community were started long time ago by NGOs. A notable project was a borehole drilled in the village by a local NGO which ceased operations sometimes back.

2.12 Recommendations

The community recommended that:

- More wells and borehole be dug to increase water supply;
- More land to be put under commercial agriculture;
- Offer training on livestock production;
- Provide community with improved fishing equipment including nets, and boats;
- Link fish catch to a ready market
- Equip public primary and secondary schools with appropriate tools and TSC teachers;

- Improve roads by tarmacking the Vanga road which is linking the village to the main Lunga Lunga highway to ease transport challenges between Mombasa and Lunga Lunga; and
- Government should improve access to affordable loans through current government devolved funds and microfinance organizations to enable people to venture into small scale enterprises such as commercial agriculture ,carry out trade in coconuts, fish among others.

CHAPTER THREE: FINDINGS ON PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

3.1 Health Care

3.1.1 Introduction

According to Kwale (CIDP 2013), the County has a total of 3 government hospitals, 8 health centers and 64 dispensaries located in Msambweni, Kwale and Kinango constituencies. In addition, the county has 2 private hospitals both located in Diani town. The average distance to the nearest health facility within the County is seven (7) kilometres.

However, Mlachake cluster has only one health centre, and a dispensary located along the Vanga murrum road which is connecting the village to the main highway (Lunga Lunga road)

The 5 most common diseases as recorded in the health facilities within the county are malaria, flu, respiratory diseases, diarrhea and stomach-ache with a prevalence rate of 37.7 percent, 16.4 percent, 5.0 percent, 4.6 percent and 3.1 per cent respectively.

Immunization coverage in the county stands at 77 per cent of the children under-one year compared to the national average of 85 per cent. Family planning and contraceptive use for the fertile age cohort of between 15- 49 years is still very low recorded at 38 per cent.

Mlachake Community defined good health as the state of being free from illness or absence of diseases. They admitted that poor living conditions and poor hygiene are major causes of diseases in the area.

The main health concerns of Mlachake community are; stomach upsets which were attributed to use of poor and unsafe water followed by malaria, diarrhea, and gastrological problems.

3.1.2 Provision of Health Service

There is only one dispensary in the community which is managed by the government though it was constructed through a donor. The facility is built in an accessible place but most times has no drugs. It has also no a laboratory. The facility has one attendant who comes twice or thrice a week. Community members felt that the cost incurred while seeking services are sometimes high and they are not standard and depend with the attendant on what he is willing to charge.

3.1.3 Intervention to improve health services

On effort to improve health standards, the community said that they received free mosquito nets and CHWs go round educating them on good health practices. They noted that they have not benefited from any other government program.

3.1.4 Decision Making on Health in the Family

Decisions regarding health are made by both men and women at the household level. They gave an account that making decision together makes the couple aware of the dangers that would arise if they do not seek proper advise.

3.1.5 Ideal family Size

The Mlachake Community agreed that an ideal family size was about 3 children, saying that many children would put pressure in demanding for basic needs such as food, education, and shelter together with health services. In this regard they commended the services on family planning offered at the nearby dispensary.

3.1.6 Household Size and poverty

During the FGD, Mlachake community noted that it was afraid of having large families for they are associated with numerous problems. To them the bigger the families size the higher the chances of being poor. This is because it is difficult to provide the basic needs to a larger family.

3.1.7 Access and decisions on family planning

Women in Mlachake community acknowledged that they are the ones who seek family planning services in the household. However, both parties are involved in making the decision. This was because of the perceived danger of complications that may arise from this service. They said the joint decision makes both parties aware in case of any problems. They said these services are offered in the village dispensary.

3.1.8 Status of health services overtime

Regarding the status of health on the study area, the community said that for the last 10 years, health services have generally improved because for example they now receive free mosquito nets to combat malaria in their community. They also attributed this to the availability of cheap transport services offered by *boda boda* where sick members of the society can be taken to the main Mombasa-Lunga Lunga road to catch *Matatus* to either visit Vanga public hospital or Msambweni sub-county hospital.

3.1.9 Conclusion and Recommendations

The community recommended that:

- The government should support expansion of the local dispensary by putting up a laboratory, provision of more nurses, and drugs;
- Sensitize the community to build latrines and to stop using bushes and shallow holes which make them vulnerable to diseases especially during rainy seasons;
- Improve the road network to ease travelling to nearby hospitals like Msambweni sub county Hospital; and
- The women yearned for improved maternal care for expectant mothers. They lamented that during labor, they incur difficulties in accessing good maternal care and often ended up delivering at homes or in the community dispensary which is not well equipped.

4.2 Basic Education

3.2.1 Introduction

The CDP 2013 indicates that literacy levels in the county have been increasing over the last few years. Currently the literacy levels have reached an average of 57 per cent.

The County has a total of 820 ECD centres spread evenly in the county with total enrolment of 43,874 pupils. The teacher pupil/ratio is at 1:32 with the average ECD attendance age being 4.5 years.

The County has total of 415 primary schools comprising 363 and 52 public and private primary schools respectively with a total enrolment of 167,318 pupils which constitute a gross enrolment rate of 99.7 per cent. The total number of primary school teacher is 3,192; which translate to a teacher/pupil ratio of 1:52. The county has a total of 54 secondary schools with a total enrolment of 19,194 students comprising 10,037 and 9,157 boys and girls respectively.

Tertiary institutions in the county include the Kenya School of Government (KSG) at Matuga, Kenya Medical Training College and 4 registered youth polytechnics. There are a few commercial colleges mostly at Ukunda/Diani area that offer courses related to hospitality, salon and beauty, computer and IT training among others.

In specific terms, Malachake community has only 1 secondary school located within their village. There are no nursery and primary schools located within the village. The community has to take their children to the nearby village schools.

3.2.2 Status of education facilities

The only secondary school in the community has modern classrooms although some have not been completed. However, it lacks a laboratory, a library and some teachers. This has forced the parents to employ teachers through the PTAs.

3.2.3 Provision of Education Services

The secondary school is easily accessible to the members of the community since on averages a 5-minute walk from their homes. Parents who take their children to this school pay for the PTA teachers, exams and games; Kshs. 150 per term for the untrained teachers; Kshs. 70 for games fee per student, Kshs. 50 for exams and Kshs. 600 for educational trip.

When asked whether it was affordable to the community they said it was a challenge to many parents due to their low levels of income. Lack of ECD centres and primary schools within the community has affected the number of children attending school.

3.2.4 Status of education Services

With insufficient teachers and equipment, the performance of the only secondary school has not been good. The community opinion is that education services have not been satisfactory and asked the government to provide teachers and equipment.

3.2.5 Improvement of education

The community indicated that it had not benefitted from some educational interventions like bursaries and the school feeding programme. It added that even orphans, the disabled and the vulnerable children were also excluded from these interventions.

3.2.6 Relationship between Education and Poverty

The members of Mlachake community affirmed that education is very much related to poverty. They said that if one is not well educated, the chances of becoming poor are high.

3.2.7 Status of education over time

For the past ten years education has improved due to the FPE which has led to high primary-secondary transition rate. It has also improved the girl child education although the community complained that current government programs are not helping much especially in ensuring adequate education facilities.

3.2.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

- The secondary school in the village should be staffed with trained teachers and available facilities improved;
- Set up of a primary, and a nursery school in the village and establish a school for the elderly within the village and
- Assist with bursaries and support the construction of facilities such as laboratories and libraries.

4.3 Agricultural services

3.4.1 Introduction

The county CDP 2013 notes that the main food crops grown in Kwale County are maize, cassava, beans, peas, green grams and semi-commercial crops like coconuts and mangoes. The cash crops grown are cashew nuts, sugarcane, cotton, simsim, bixa and tobacco. The average farm size is 4.4 acres and 100 acres for small Scale and large scale respectively. Agricultural produce are stored in traditional granaries and at NCPB stores in Kwale town.

The Nyika Plateau covers about two thirds of the County. Livestock production is the main economic activity of the Nyika Plateau which receives rainfall of below 700mm. According to the 2009 Census the population of livestock stood at 255,143 cattle, 349,755 goats, 83,133 sheep and 433,827 indigenous chicken. The main cattle breeds are Zebu and Boran for beef and crosses of Ayrshire and Sahiwal for dairy. There are also 13 ranches in the County with an average size of 15,055 hectares mostly in Kinango sub-county.

Kwale County has abundant fishery reserves along the coastline. The major fish reserves include: Shimoni, Vanga, Msambweni, Diani, and Tiwi. There are 40 landing sites wher fish catch such as rabbit fish, scavengers, Jack Fish and King Fish are landed.

The District Agricultural Officers (DAO), Msambweni sub-county noted that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries offers several programmes to the farmers within the County. These programmes include , extension services, NAAIAP, Purchase for progress, NALEP, SHEP-UP, Njaa Marufuku, Nerica Rice, Cashew nut/ and Coconut rehabilitation .

The District Livestock Officer, Msambweni sub-county also noted that the livestock department offers programmes such as Kenya Agricultural Productivity Project (KAPP), NALEP and Broiler project supported by Plan International for people with HIV/AIDS. He noted that all the programmes target farmers regardless of gender, sex or religion.

The Mlachake community saw agriculture as growing of crops and rearing of domestic animals. They practice subsistence farming, poultry and livestock keeping within their cluster. Crop growing is done twice a year and only when there are good rains are being expected. There are no irrigation facilities in the area.

3.4.2 Agricultural services and inputs

The community said it is aware of agricultural services offered by the government but it does not have access to these services since the agricultural offices are located far from their village. They added that agricultural officers do not pay any visits to their village for interventions or extension services provision.

3.4.3 Relationship of Poverty and Agriculture

The key informant noted that there is relationship between agriculture and poverty since agricultural sector contributes significantly to the total GDP of the country. Further, those who engage in agricultural activities are at an advantage of improving their livelihoods through the sale of various agricultural produce. On the other hand a key sub-sector like livestock if not well managed can impoverish the community especially during droughts when herds are exposed to death thus leaving farmers destitute.

The Mlachake Community agreed that agriculture is related to poverty, since one needs money to practice modern methods of agriculture which results in good harvests. It was noted that traditional methods of agriculture have led them to poor harvests and a cycle of poverty; unreliable rainfall being a key factor to reduced productivity especially on major staple food like cassava and maize. Additionally, the prevalence of low quality seeds was also faulted for low productivity.

3.4.4 Status of the agriculture overtime

The community indicated that there is no change in access to agricultural services. This status of farm productivity is attributed to use of poor agriculture methods where the *Jembe is* s still preferred as the tool to cultivate all land sizes; small and big which otherwise might be better cultivated using modern farm equipment like tractors and ploughs.

In addition, the use of traditional means of storing grains and food including smoking, and drying often results in significant losses owing to termite invasion and destruction by other pests.

3.4.5 Conclusion and Recommended

The key informant recommended that:-

- The government should carry out capacity building to dairy groups in the area, promote upgrading of breeding stock, promote value addition in the dairy sector, and expand water projects in the area;
- The government should train farmers on value addition techniques especially in perishable products;

- The government should also focus on post-harvest management techniques for instant cereal banking; and
- The government should consider constructing a NCPD sub-deport in the area.

The Mlachake community recommended that:-

- An agricultural office be built within the village to improve services offered to the community;
- The community should be considered for subsidized farm inputs i.e fertilizers, seeds, pesticides;
- The community should be sensitized on modern farming and storage techniques; and
- The government should consider promoting irrigation schemes by construction of dams.

4.4 Water and Sanitation

3.4.1 Introduction

According to the County CDP, 2013, the main water resources in Kwale County are seven (7) rivers, 693 shallow wells, 54 protected and unprotected springs, water pans, 6 dams and 110 rock catchments and numerous boreholes. These sources apply to the Mlachake community where the average distance to the nearest water point is 2 kilometres.

The key **informant** said that there are 3 major water projects within Msambweni sub-County. These projects are; drilling of boreholes by the Ministry of Water, piped water supply project at Kikoneni which serves 4 locations, and Mwanani Water project funded by the CDF. In these projects, the community is actively involved in the generation of proposal and management through project management committees. The PMCs are first trained on projects management before the projects are handed over to the community. The community helps in the construction of the wells and maintaining the projects and it do not therefore pay for the water services.

The community termed it as a joint family effort to fetch water from the nearest source that could normally take about 5 hours covering a distance of about 2 km from their homes. Both men and women are involved in fetching water although in many cases it is the women who pump the water from the boreholes then men carry it in jerrycans using bicycles or motorbikes. The majority described the water as unsafe for drinking, although to some water people the water was safe to drink regardless of the scent and colour.

3.4.2 Sanitation Facilities in the Community

The **District Water Officer (DWO)** pointed out that majority of community members lacked sanitation facilities such as toilets and sewages systems were non-existent in the sub-county. However, to alleviate part of the problem, Plan International (NGO) had initiated and implemented some sanitation projects in the area including digging of toilets in schools and at dispensaries.

The main sanitation facility in the County is the pit latrine serving about 34.7 per cent of the population, followed by uncovered pit latrine at 33.5 per cent. Generally, the latrine coverage in the county is at 41.4 per cent when other types are included but is still below the national target of 90 per cent.

The community felt that they have only slightly benefited from water and sanitation interventions by government.

3.4.3 Environmental Degradation and Water

In his opinion, the **KI** said that due to poor sanitation facilities, the community is at great risk of polluting water sources in rivers, open water pans and earth dams. Additionally, this aggravates poverty as the community spends most of the time looking for the water thus foregoing the opportunity to engage fully in income generating activities. Moreover, the untreated water more often was a cause of water borne diseases that drain family finances during treatment.

3.4.4 Opinion on water and sanitation over time

The community saw no improvement for the last ten years on water and sanitation facilities and services since they still experience inadequate water supply. In addition, they are still forced to wake up very early in the morning to commence journeys to the wells and other water points. Due to the large number of households in the community, someone can queue for more than three hours awaiting their turn. The end result is that the school dropout rates for both boys and girls is high since the students are tasked with looking for water by their parents.

3.4.5 Conclusion and recommendations

The **KI** recommended that:-

- To improve the sector, water service providers should be trained on water and sanitation management and that the community should be sensitized on the need of selecting literate members for the PMCs.

The **community** however recommended that:-

- More boreholes and dams to be drilled and constructed in the area;

- Need to provide piped water programme especially for the towns within the county;
- Revive disused and broken down boreholes; and
- Government should to facilitate rainwater harvesting in areas where underground water is salty.

4.5 Housing

3.5.1 Introduction

Through observations, and Focused Group Discussions, and during the administration of the Household questionnaire, the status of houses in the community were evidently traditional. Most of the households own temporary traditional houses which lacked proper maintenance.

3.5.2 Types of Building Materials

The community of Mlachake utilizes locally available materials to construct houses. These materials include makutis, grass for roofing, sticks and mud for plastering walls. Most of these materials are locally available. For example makutis are obtained locally from coconut trees and for those without trees they buy the materials from those who own coconut trees. However, makutis needed to be changed annually and the mud walls require a lot of water and do not last for long. Men are the ones responsible for building houses.

The community said that it cannot afford most materials used to construct permanent houses.

3.5.3 Housing and household head

Many households are headed by males and a few by elderly women.

3.5.4 Status of Housing overtime

The community members in the cluster were of the view that the status of housing has been the same for the last ten years. They associated this to the high cost of building stones and iron sheets which they associated with the rich households.

3.5.5 Conclusion and Recommendations

During the FGD, the community recommended that:-

- Strengthening of microfinance organizations so as to enable them access grants and loans not only to improve their lives generally but more specifically to enable them put up permanent housing structures.

CHAPTER FOUR: PRO-POOR AND DEVOLVED FUNDS INITIATIVES

4.1 Cash Transfers

According to District Children Officer (DCO), Msambweni sub-county supported by UNICEF has facilitated access to cash transfers to Orphans and Vulnerable children (CT-OVCs).

The beneficiaries of the above are located in Msambeni (185 families), Mwereri (395 families) and Diani (285 families) locations respectively. The beneficiaries receive Kshs. 2,000 on monthly basis which is paid through the post office. The care givers of the Orphans and Vulnerable children receive cash from the post office on behalf of the OVCs and sign the pay-roll.

On the selection of the beneficiaries, the **KI** pointed out that the Ministry conducts a rigorous exercise which involves 4 phases namely; targeting of the beneficiaries, and enrollment of the beneficiaries, validation and payment. On the targeting phase, the community selects a Local Community Vulnerable Children's Committee which identifies the needy households. Upon the selection of the beneficiaries, a public meeting is held to discuss the status of the selection.

He noted that the care givers are involved on other sources of livelihoods such as casual jobs and small businesses, but the government supplements their income since they live with OVCs.

However, during the FGD the Mlachake Community said they were not aware of the cash transfer programme in their community.

Recommendations:-

- To improve on the cash transfers, the government should scale up the fund in the rest of the locations since the status of the other 8 sub counties is equally needy;
- Revise the rate from Kshs 2,000 to Kshs 3,000 to compensate for the high cost of living;
- Ensure regular and timely payment of the cash transfers; and
- Create awareness on CT especially on the time-frame of the programme; whether it is a temporary or permanent and regular intervention by the government.

4.2 Kazi Kwa Vijana (KKV)

The government **Youth Officer** (YO) for Msambweni sub-county informed that the KKV programme was launched in the county in the 2009-2010 financial year and was used to engage the youth between the ages of 18-35 in labour intensive activities including planting and nurturing of trees. The youth are selected based on the project location and mainly targets organized groups although individuals are considered on a case-by-case basis.

The youth are paid Kshs. 250 per day after every two weeks. They sign against the payments. The daily payment was however considered too low given the prevailing local rates and also the rising cost of living. Other youth survival activities though not covered under the KKV includes beach activities, fishing and subsistence farming.

In the opinion of the YO, the KKV has, to some small extent, impacted positively on the livelihood of the youth despite its short-term arrangement. From the KKV earnings, majority of the youth buy consumables and a few invest in small scale businesses e.g in goats and poultry projects and running vegetable kiosks.

He recommended that to improve on the above programme, the government should build the capacity of the youth by training them on entrepreneurial skills. In addition, it would be desirable to review the KKV funding levels and the KKV daily rates from kshs. 250 to perhaps Kshs. 400.

4.3 Youth Fund

The YO explained that the youth programme was initiated in the 2007-2008 financial year and is still ongoing. The programme is supported by the GOK with some banks being engaged to administer the programme by offering affordable loans to the youth.

He noted that the youth are sensitized on the programme so as to organize themselves into groups where they generate proposals for the projects they would wish to venture into. The proposals are vetted by **Constituency Youth Enterprises Development Fund committee** which is largely composed of community leaders.

The **key informant** noted that the fund has positively improved the welfare of the youths since some have been able to start up small businesses such as *boda-boda* operations and vegetable kiosks. The loan repayment has also improved meaning that the youth can now generate more income from their small enterprises.

According to the informant, the youth in the sub county have also benefited from other programmes including the **Yes Youth Can, Youth Empowerment centers, Youth Polytechnics** and **Afya plus Talents** programmes. Specifically the **Yes Youth Can** that is funded by USAID, the youths have initiated youth '*bunges*' where they are entitled to grants amounting to Kshs 40,000. **Youth Empowerment centers** and

Polytechnics have also been instrumental in improving ICT skills, entrepreneurial skills, business management and life skills among the youth.

Recommendations:-

- Revise the maximum loanable amount from Kshs. 50,000 to Kshs. 100,000;
- Approved project proposals should be funded within the shortest time possible; at most within a month, since most of the youth target seasonal businesses; and
- Loaning criteria should be flexible to allow for individual loans.

CHAPTER SIX: RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Recommendations

The following recommendations were made

- Unsettled issues of **land ownership** was cited as the principal reason for prevailing poverty in the county since the community does not legally own the land they are settled on (squatters). They recommended that the community be given the ancestral land with title deeds being issued to those who are occupying the land. Again large tracks of land in private hands remain idle where commercial agriculture and livestock production could have taken place.
- On issues of **health** the community recommended the expansion of community dispensary services by deploying additional nurses and birth attendants and equipping health laboratories. Women in particular wanted maternal health facilities and services improved.
- On **education**, the community requested support for school equipment and hiring of more TSC teachers.
- On **credit access**, the community requested for the strengthening of microfinance organizations so as to facilitate easier access to loans.
- The **Key Informant**, livestock sector, suggested that the government should carry out capacity building for dairy milk groups in the area, promote upgrading of breeding stock, promote value addition in the sector, expand water projects in the area by digging water pans in dry zones and training and be sensitizing farmers on the need to preserve pasture for use during dry seasons.
- In addition, improved fishing equipment including nets, boats, and hooks and local infrastructure are crucial in the fight against poverty.
- To improve the **agriculture sector**, the **key informant** in agriculture was of the opinion that the government should focus on post-harvest management techniques for instant cereal banking, and consider to construct a NCPD sub depot in the area.

6.2 Conclusion

Kwale County identified land as the main causes of poverty in the areas. The problem of land ownership and lack of title deeds in the areas limits the community on land usage. Therefore to reduce empower the communities in the County and be able to reduce poverty the government should consider proper land adjudication and issuing title deeds to the right land owners to develop.

ANNEX I: MOOD BAROMETER

Happy	Normal	Sad
		
		Health
		Water and sanitation
		Agricultural services and inputs
		Education bursaries and access
		Devolved funds
		KKV
		Road 2000

ANNEX II: SOCIAL MAP

MLACHAKE COMMUNITY SOCIAL MAP

