



POLICY BRIEF

ASSESSMENT OF THE INTEGRATION OF
SMALLHOLDER FARMERS' PRIORITIES INTO
2024/2025 AND 2025/2026 COUNTY ANNUAL
DEVELOPMENT PLANS (ADPS) AND BUDGETS

KILIFI COUNTY

OCTOBER 2025

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Key messages

- FY 2024/25, farmers submitted various proposals, of which 63.6% were fully included and 36.4% were partially included. In FY 2025/26, 77.8% of the proposals were fully included, while 22.2% were partially included, with none being entirely excluded
- Budget allocations indicated increased investment in sustainable agriculture and water, though gaps persisted in fully integrated priorities which include seed systems and post-harvest handling.
- Significant allocations in sustainable agriculture and water reflect high county commitment, though future budgets should scale up funding for seed systems, soil health, and household-level adaptation to strengthen agricultural sustainability and resilience.
- Public participation forums should be undertaken at the very local levels where many people can attend and participate.

Background

Kilifi County is located along Kenya's coastal region, covers approximately 12,609.7 km² and borders the Indian Ocean to the east. According to the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census, the county has a population of 1,453,787 people (704,089 males, 749,673 females, and 25 intersex persons). Poverty incidence is relatively high at 46.4%, reflecting substantial socio-economic challenges. Agriculture, livestock, and fisheries are the key economic drivers.

Methodology

PAMIC Consulting and Investment limited adopted a mixed method design that included qualitative and quantitative approaches to undertake this assessment.

The approach included:

- Detailed literature review of: Documented priorities from farmers' organizations, Public participation reports, 2024/25 and 2025/26 ADPs; County approved budgets for FY 2024/25 and 2025/26; Memoranda and Petitions; Public participation reports; and Programme Based Budgets.
- Interviews: With 6 relevant county officials from (Agriculture, Environment, Water, Climate Change, Finance and Economic Planning Department, Public Participation) and partner organizations (Kilifi Citizen Forum (KCF), Institute of Participatory Development (IPD), Anglican Development Services (ADS-Pwani), Kwetu Training Centre)
- Focused Group Discussions were held with a total of 14 representatives from (Kilifi Citizen Forum (KCF), Institute of Participatory Development (IPD), Anglican Development Services (ADS-Pwani), Kwetu Training Centre from Kilifi County.
- A comparative analysis of the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 ADPs and budgets was conducted to assess how smallholder farmers' priorities in sustainable agriculture, water, climate change, and agroforestry were included.
- In-depth analysis to determine the extent to which smallholder farmers' proposals and priorities were reflected in the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 ADPs and budgets by comparing planned allocations across the two financial years

Key findings

Status of farmers priorities and proposal inclusion into the ADP.

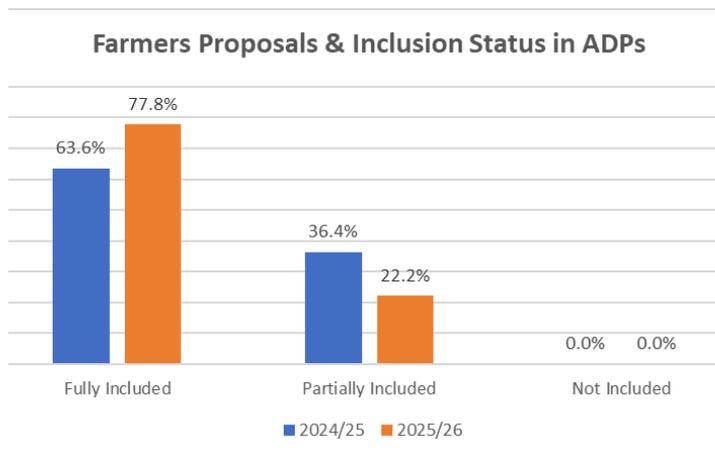


Figure 1: Farmers proposals and inclusion status in ADPs

Observations and remarks

Figure 1 shows that there is an improvement in the inclusion of farmers' proposals, with full incorporation rising from 63.6% in 2024/25 to 77.8% in 2025/26, while partial inclusion declined from 36.4% to 22.2%, with none being entirely excluded, reflecting stronger alignment between farmer priorities and county planning.

Sustainable Agriculture

Kilifi County allocated KES 970.2 million in FY 2024/25 and 1.462 billion in 2025/26 to sustainable agriculture. Fully included priorities comprised subsidized farm inputs, mechanization services, extension training, value addition, and livestock support. Soil testing, crop protection, lime application, development of policies to safeguard key crops from exploitation, reviving of cashewnuts factory, extend Wezesha fund to community groups for aggregation and start-up funds for youth-owned agro-vet shops were partially included.

Climate change

The county allocated KES 57 million in FY 2024/25 and 160 million in 2025/26 to climate change programs. Farmer priorities such as farmer training in climate-smart practices and energy-saving technologies were fully integrated. While facilitation of youths to start tree nurseries and provision of seedlings were partially included. In addition, household-level adaptation strategies and post-disaster recovery initiatives require stronger financial commitments to strengthen resilience.

Agroforestry

Agroforestry received KES 140 million in FY 2024/25 and 82 million in 2025/26 to support tree nurseries, seedling production, and community-based reforestation. Farmer proposals were fully included, but funding levels remain moderate compared to the scale of land degradation and climate challenges in the county.

Water

Water programs received KES 974 million in FY 2024/25 and 1.8395 billion in 2025/26, covering irrigation, borehole rehabilitation, and water harvesting infrastructure. Most farmer proposals were fully included, though gaps persist in governance frameworks and maintenance funding for water systems

Key recommendations

- Make public participation localized and closer to the people.
- Sensitization on budget timelines to allow early community input,
- Build farmer leaders' capacity, and ensure transparent feedback on inclusion of farmer proposals.



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