



OCT
2025

POLICY BRIEF

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

NAROK COUNTY

OCTOBER 2025

Key messages

- In both financial years, farmers submitted a number of proposals and priorities, out of which 80% were fully included, while 20% were partially included. The priorities focused on regulating harmful farming practices, climate-smart agriculture, and agroforestry.
- Environmentally sound practices and agroforestry were well captured; however, budget transparency and the depth of allocations remain unclear.
- Addressing gaps in market access infrastructure and expanding investment in water systems and climate adaptation interventions will be critical to sustain productivity and resilience.

Introduction

Narok County lies between latitudes 0°50' and 1°50' South and longitudes 35°28' and 36°25' East, covering 17,950.3 km², making it Kenya's eleventh-largest county. It borders Tanzania to the south and several counties including Bomet, Kisii, and Kajiado. According to the 2019 census, the county had a population of 1,157,873 people, with a near-equal gender distribution (578,805 males and 579,068 females). Poverty incidence stands at 32.9%, slightly below the national average of 38.6%.

Approach and Methodology

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

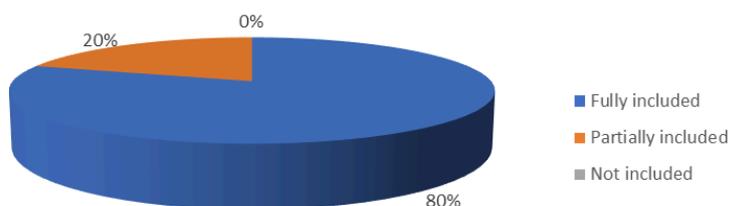
The approach included:

- 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 (Paran Women Group)
- Focused Group Discussions were held with representatives from Paran Women Group and farmers from Narok 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.

Farmers Proposals & Inclusion Status for both 2024/25 and 2025/26



Observations and remarks

In both financial years, 80% of farmers' proposals were fully integrated, while 20% were partially included, with none absolutely excluded. This indicates strong integration of farmer priorities into county planning.

Sustainable Agriculture

Narok County allocated KES 1.27 billion in FY 2024/25 to sustainable agriculture. Farmer priorities such as regulating harmful herbicide use by large-scale wheat farmers, supporting climate-smart agriculture (CSA) training, and promoting energy-saving technologies were fully included. Improvement of rural roads for market access was partially included, reflecting gaps in funding infrastructure that directly links farmers to markets and value chains.

Climate change

Narok County allocated KES 490 million in FY 2024/25 to climate change programs. Climate-smart agricultural practices and energy-saving technologies were fully included, emphasizing the county's commitment to resilience and adaptation. However, the absence of specific budget to specific programs raises concerns over the depth of investment, particularly in early warning systems and water harvesting measures.

Agroforestry

Narok County allocated KES 77.4 million in FY 2024/25 to agroforestry interventions. Proposals for tree seedling distribution, farmer training, and land conservation were fully included in the ADP. However, lack of clear budget allocations to specific interventions limits the potential for scaling agroforestry and restoring degraded landscapes.

Water

Narok County allocated KES 1.745 billion in FY 2024/25 to water programs. There were no direct farmer proposals and priorities submitted for water sector. However, regulation of farming along rivers and sand harvesting were included, indirectly addressing watershed management. In addition, investments in boreholes, dams, and pipelines were not prioritized, indicating a gap in long-term water access for agricultural use.

Key recommendations

There is need to promote civic education and awareness on the county planning and budgeting process and the place of public participation. Promote public disclosure of budget allocations to enhance accountability. Enhance inclusion of women, youth, and marginalized groups in planning and monitoring of agricultural and environmental programs.



PELUM KENYA ADDRESS

PARTICIPATORY ECOLOGICAL LAND USE
MANAGEMENT (PELUM) KENYA COUNTRY
SECRETARIAT,
KU BOMA ESTATE, HOUSE NUMBER 114 ALONG
KENYATTA ROAD,
OFF THIKA SUPERHIGHWAY EXIT 14
P.O. BOX 6123 – 01000 THIKA, KENYA
+254 709 746 939
INFO@PELUMKENYA.NET
CONNECT WITH US:
INSTAGRAM: @PELUM KENYA
FACEBOOK: PELUM KENYA
TWITTER: @PELUMKENYA

