



MINISTRY OF GENDER, CULTURE AND CHILDREN SERVICES

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN SERVICES

VOTE NO.: 1186

SUB-SECTOR REPORT

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CCIs	Charitable Children Institutions
FY	Financial Year
GoK	Government of Kenya
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
KShs.	Kenya Shillings
MDAs	Ministries/Departments/Agencies
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Frame Work
MTP	Medium Term Plan
NCCS	National Council for Children Services
OVC-CT	Orphans and Vulnerable Children – Cash Transfer
PAD	Program Appraisal Document
PAS	Performance Appraisal System
PE	Personal Emoluments
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
SAGA	Semi-Autonomous Government Agency
TNA	Training Needs Assessments
UNCCR	United Nation Convention for Children Rights
CBO	Community Based Organization
ICT	Information Communication Technology
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
SFRTF	Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Children Services Sub-Sector priority areas are child protection; care and services for children; family promotion and protection; rescue, rehabilitation, resocialization and re-integration of street families. These priority areas are key in the achievement of Kenya's Vision 2030, Medium Term Plan IV (MTP IV) and the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). The Sub-sector programmes are geared towards the achievement of social pillar of the vision 2030 and are focused on reducing poverty among the vulnerable groups in the society especially the children.

The identified programmes for implementation in FY 2026/27 and the Medium-Term Budget are: Child Protection and Safeguard, Child and Family Welfare Support Services, Child Rights, Governance and Participation Services and General Administrative Planning and Support Services.

The Sub-Sector key mandates are derived from Executive Order No. 1 of June 2025 and include: Administration of Family Policy and Family Protection Policies; Promotion of policies to safeguard the family as the natural and fundamental unit of Kenyan society; Promote children's welfare, rights, and social development; Administration of policies for the protection of children; Enforcement of children's right to parental care and protection, including equal responsibility of both mother and father whether married or not; Liaison with the Ministry of Health to publicise and promote guidelines on child nutrition; Collaboration with the Ministry of Education to support curriculum development for Early Learning, Basic Education, and Early Childhood Development Programmes; Coordination with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Interior (through NGAO) to facilitate uninterrupted access to basic and compulsory education for all children; Foster partnerships to expand early learning opportunities, especially for children with special needs; Collaboration with the Ministry of Education to embed child counselling services into schools to nurture children's emotional well-being; Promote media content that strengthens family values, child welfare, and traditional Kenyan values; Partnership with the Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB) and stakeholders to regulate film/broadcast content and safeguard children from harmful material; Provide legal and rehabilitative support for children in conflict with the law; Coordination with the State Department for Correctional Services to support children serving in borstal and other juvenile institutions; Combat trafficking in persons and protect vulnerable minors; Rehabilitate street families and reintegrate them into society; Oversee foster care systems for safe child placements; License and regulate childcare facilities and charitable children's institutions; Establish guidelines for workplace lactation stations to support breastfeeding employees; Partner with Public Benefits Organizations and community groups to strengthen child welfare services; Administration of the National Programme for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC); Coordinate Kenya's reporting obligations on compliance with international

conventions on children's rights; Administer the Children Act (Cap. 141, Laws of Kenya) and; Support the administration of Matrimonial and Succession Laws and Policies. Among the emerging issues that have led to increased vulnerability are: increased online child abuse and exploitation; child radicalization and violent extremism; increased incidences of human trafficking, smuggling and child abduction; limited access to Social Protection programmes for the poor and vulnerable, mental health challenges, domestic violence, and upsurge of street families.

The main challenges faced by the sector during implementation of programmes and budget execution include: stigmatization of street families which will result in relapse after reintegration; lack of a government run shelter house for victims of trafficking and rescued street persons; increase in the number of violence against children; increase in the number of child pregnancy, child marriages, child headed households; inadequate resources and capacity to address increased demand for Orphans and vulnerable children and; rising migration and urbanization have increased the number of children living in informal settlements.

In promoting and enhancing the socio-economic development of our country, there is need to provide adequate funding to Children Sub-Sector to implement the key programmes and projects coupled with the increased mandates through the Executive Order No. 1 of June 2025. Key areas of additional funding include recruitment of required staff for effective delivery of its strategic mandate, strengthening County Advisory Committee for child protection, establishment of government run shelter house for victims of trafficking and rescue home; fast track the approval of the key policies and legislations already in Parliament and cabinet, strengthening of National Council for Children Services and upscaling of Cash Transfers to Orphans and Vulnerable Children and Enactment of Family Protection policies and full implementation of Children Act of 2022.

Successful delivery of the key programmes by Children Services Sub-Sector during the MTEF Budget period 2026/27 –2028/29 will require **KSh. 21,118.14 Million** in FY 2026/27, **KSh. 21,504.54 Million** in FY 2027/28 and **KSh.22,184.64 Million** in 2028/29 in the Recurrent Budget. In the Development Budget, the Sub sector will require **Ksh. 1,598 Million** in FY 2026/27, **Ksh.1,626.35 Million** in FY 2027/28 and **Ksh.1,734 Million** in FY 2028/29.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

The Kenya Vision 2030 Blueprint aims to make Kenya a newly industrialized Middle-income Economy by the year 2030. The 2030 Vision for gender, Youth and vulnerable groups is equity in power and resource distribution between sexes, improved livelihoods for all vulnerable groups and responsible, globally competitive and prosperous youth and to expand access across different dimensions including increasing school enrolment for girls and children from nomadic communities and poor rural and slum communities and reducing social inequalities across all the economic and social initiatives.

1.1 Background

The State Department for Children Services is mandated with the responsibility of ensuring implementation of the Constitution especially under Chapter 4 Article 53 of the Constitution of Kenya recognizes the rights of children, including the right to a name and nationality, free and compulsory basic education, basic nutrition, shelter, and health care, and protection from abuse, neglect, child trafficking, violence, and exploitation. It emphasizes that a child's best interests are of paramount importance in all matters concerning them. Article 45 (1) states that the family is the natural and fundamental unit of society and the necessary basics of social order and shall enjoy the recognition and protection of the State.

In line with this, the Department focuses on improving the livelihoods of vulnerable groups including orphans and vulnerable children and street families. It develops and enforces family and child protection policies to safeguard children's rights and welfare, protect them from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and harmful cultural practices, child trafficking and ensure parental responsibility in care and protection. Working closely with the health, education, and justice sectors, it also promotes child nutrition, inclusive education, counselling, and rehabilitation.

In addition, the Department regulates children's institutions and foster care, rehabilitates and reintegrates street families, and provides legal and rehabilitative support for children in conflict with the law. It coordinates Kenya's compliance with international child rights obligations and administers laws relating to children, family, and succession. Overall, the Department plays a pivotal role in advancing Kenya's transformation agenda as articulated in the Constitution, Kenya Vision 2030, Medium -Term Plan IV (MTP IV), the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), and the Nanyuki Priorities. Its programmes and projects are implemented within a robust Monitoring and Evaluation framework, guided by performance indicators to track progress and achievements under

the FY 2022/23–2024/25 review period and the 2026/27–2028/29 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework.

The mandate of the State Department is anchored in key legislation, principally the Children Act, 2022, which harmonizes laws relating to children and aligns them with the Constitution, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC). Other relevant statutes and frameworks include the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010; the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2003; the Basic Education Act, 2013; and the regulations of the National Council for Children's Services (NCCS), which provide coordination and oversight across the children's sector.

Aligned with Kenya Vision 2030, the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV), the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), the State Department prioritizes interventions that improve the welfare of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs), children in street situations, children with disabilities, and those in need of care and protection.

The Sub-Sector's 2026/27 – 2028/29 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) reports have been prepared in line with guidelines from the National Treasury and Economic Planning. Implementation of programmes and projects will be guided by a robust Monitoring and Evaluation framework, with clear performance indicators developed to measure progress towards national development goals, constitutional obligations to children, and Kenya's commitments under regional and international child rights instruments.

1.2 Sub-Sector Vision and Mission

Vision

"A society where children enjoy their rights responsibly."

Mission

To safeguard the rights of all children in Kenya through effective implementation of relevant laws, policies, regulations, guidelines and rules; coordination and partnerships in the delivery of quality service.

1.3 Strategic Goals/Objectives of the Sub-Sector

The strategic objectives of the Sub-Sector are:

To safeguard and promote the rights, welfare, and holistic development of all children, including orphans, vulnerable children, child trafficking and those with disabilities.

- i. To strengthen child protection systems through prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration, reunification, family care, and effective coordination with state and non-state actors.
- ii. To manage and oversee Charitable Children Institutions (CCIs) and services,
- iii. To promote positive parenting and family support programmes to nurture safe, supportive, and enabling environments for children.
- iv. To establish, manage, and oversee statutory children's institutions and services
- v. To enhance child participation and inclusion in matters affecting their lives, in line with constitutional, regional, and international obligations.
- vi. To promote evidence-based planning and accountability through data collection, research, monitoring and evaluation, and efficient support functions for effective service delivery
- vii. To provide institutional and support functions for efficient and effective service delivery.

1.4 Sub-Sector Mandate

The Sub-Sector's mandate is derived from Executive Order No. 1 of June 2025 and includes:

- i. Administration of Family Policy and Family Protection Policies;
- ii. Promotion of policies to safeguard the family as the natural and fundamental unit of Kenyan society;
- iii. Promote children's welfare, rights, and social development;
- iv. Administration of policies for the protection of children from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of female genital mutilation, defilement, all forms of violence, inhuman treatment and punishment, child pregnancies, child marriages, and hazardous or exploitative labour;
- v. Enforcement of children's right to parental care and protection, which includes equal responsibility of the mother and father to provide for the child, whether they are married to each other or not;
- vi. In liaison with the Ministry of Health, publicise and promote guidelines on child nutrition;
- vii. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, support in development of the curriculum for Early Learning, Basic Education, and Early Childhood Development Programmes;

- viii. In co-ordination with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Interior and National Administration through the National Government Administration Officers (NGAO), facilitate un-interrupted access to basic and compulsory education for all children;
- ix. Foster partnerships to expand early learning opportunities to meet the unique developmental needs of children with disabilities;
- x. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, embed public child counselling services into the school support system to enhance emotional well-being of all children;
- xi. Promote media content that promotes strong family values, children welfare and traditional Kenyan values;
- xii. In partnership with the Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB) and other stakeholders, develop guidelines for regulating film and broadcast content and enforce classification standards to safeguard children from inappropriate material;
- xiii. Provide legal and rehabilitative support for children in conflict with the law;
- xiv. In coordination with the State Department for Correctional Services, develop a framework for support of children serving in borstal and other Juvenile Institutions;
- xv. Combat trafficking in persons and protect vulnerable minors;
- xvi. Rehabilitate Street families and reintegrate them into society;
- xvii. Oversee foster care systems for safe child placements;
- xviii. License and regulate childcare facilities and charitable children's institutions;
- xix. Establish guidelines for workplace lactation stations, fostering a supportive environment for breastfeeding employees;
- xx. Partner with Public Benefits Organizations and other community organizations to strengthen child welfare services;
- xxi. Administration of the National Programme for Orphans and Vulnerable Children;
- xxii. Co-ordinate reporting obligations of Kenya's compliance with international conventions on children rights;
- xxiii. Administer the Children Act (Chapter 141, Laws of Kenya); and
- xxiv. Support for the administration of Matrimonial and Succession Laws and Policies.

1.5 Autonomous and Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies

The State Department has two Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies and two Trust Funds.

A. Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs)

The SAGAs are: National Council for Children Services (NCCS) and Child Welfare Society of Kenya (CWSK). Their overall contribution in executing the State Department's mandate is highlighted below.

i) National Council for Children's Services (NCCS)

The National Council for Children's Services is established under Section 41 of the Children Act 2022. The Council draws its mandate from Section 42 of the Act. It is categorised as a State Corporation by the State Corporation Advisory Committee (SCAC) on 22nd January, 2020.

The National Council for Children's Services (NCCS) is a statutory State Corporation established under the Children Act, 2022, to regulate, coordinate, and provide oversight of children's services in Kenya. Its mandate, derived from Section 42 of the Act, includes advising the Government on all matters concerning child welfare and rights. Guided by the vision "*a protected and empowered child*" and a mission centered on effective coordination of child services, NCCS operates on seven core values: Child First, Professionalism, Integrity, Transparency, Accountability, Inclusiveness, and Partnership. Its multi-sectoral Council includes representatives from key government ministries, civil society, the private sector, and faith-based organizations.

NCCS functions across several thematic areas: policy advisory, standards regulation, public education, data management, guardianship support, and adoption oversight. As Kenya's Central Authority under the Hague Convention on Inter-Country Adoption, NCCS accredits agencies, declares children free for adoption, and maintains critical adoption-related databases.

(ii) Child Welfare Society of Kenya (CWSK)

CWSK is the National Welfare Society for Kenya. The Child Welfare Society of Kenya is a membership society for the care, protection, welfare and adoption of children. The government agency was established and gazetted in 1955 as an approved society gazette notice 1768 of 27/12/1955, an exempt society gazette notice 1536 of 04/11/1955, Certificate of Exemption number 455 and the Adoption Society for Kenya, gazette notice No. 1356 of 28/04/1969. CWSK is governed by an irrevocable Trust Deed of 1970/ CWSK promotes, protects and secures the rights of children, thus ensuring a safe environment for them to lead happy, fulfilling and fruitful lives. CWSK does this by providing for the welfare needs of children and supporting families through rescue of children in distress, family tracing and reintegration, alternative family care (foster care, guardianship and adoption), pregnancy crisis support, emergency preparedness and response, education and skill building, family strengthening, mediation and empowerment, counselling, prevention of child labour and commercial sexual exploitation of children, prevention of child trafficking, prevention of HIV/AIDS, promoting adolescent reproductive health, promoting child participation, capacity building of duty bearers, protection of OVC

(Orphaned and Vulnerable Children), among others. The agency has set-up offices/branches and works throughout the county to reach children and vulnerable young persons.

B. Trust Funds

The two Trust Funds are: the Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund (SFRTF) and National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking (NATFVT). Their contributions to the State Department's mandate are as highlighted below:

i) Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund (SFRTF)

The Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund was established through Gazette Notice No. 1558 of **11th March 2003** to address the concerns of homeless, destitute, and vulnerable persons in Kenya. It was registered as a body corporate in **August 2010** under the Trustees (Perpetual Succession) CAP 164 Laws of Kenya. The mandate of the Trust Fund is to coordinate rehabilitation activities targeting children living or on the street and persons living in the streets, with emphasis on safeguarding the welfare of children. It also conducts public education on issues affecting them, mobilizes resources, receives and disburses donations, funds rehabilitation programmes, monitors expenditure, and advises the government and other agencies on matters relating to their rehabilitation and protection.

ii) National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking (NATFVT)

The National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking was established by the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act (CTIP) No. 8 of 2010 Part V under Section 22. The mandate of the Fund is to assist victims of trafficking in persons that happens internally in Kenya and cross border through support and protection. This is in line with Section 15 of the CTIP Act on the areas of return to and from Kenya, resettlement, reintegration, appropriate shelter and other basic needs, psychosocial support, appropriate medical services, legal assistance and any other necessary assistance.

1.6. Role of Sub-Sector Stakeholders

The Children Services Sub-Sector has a wide range of stakeholders who contribute to achievement of the Sub-sector's goals. The following stakeholders play important roles in the sub-sector:

S/No.	Stakeholder	Role
i.	The National Treasury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides budgetary support for the implementation of activities in the sub-sector Provide policies and guidelines on budget preparation and implementation

S/No.	Stakeholder	Role
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake negotiation and signing of contracts in the sub sector Provides budgetary support for the implementation of Social Risks and Impact Management under the Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA)
ii.	The State Department for Planning	Provides policy guidelines on planning, development and coordination of government programmes and projects.
iii.	The Ministry of Health	Provides medical interventions and assessment for children including issuance of disability registration cards, medical treatment for child survivors of violence and preparation of , court reports and rehabilitation services.
iv.	Ministry of Education	Provides assessment, placement and quality assurance in the implementation of the children's rights to education. -Provide assessment through Early Assessment Resource Centre, Assessment for Learning Disability.
v.	The Judiciary	Conferring child rights through the juvenile justice system and making judgments that uphold the Rights of Vulnerable groups.
vi.	Ministry of Interior and National Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate delivery of child protection at the grassroots. Issuance of birth certificates and identity documents Support enforcement of child rights and investigate matters pertaining to children in contact and in conflict with the law Provide travel documents for children
vii.	Office of the Attorney General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafts and advises on policies and bills that are relevant to the sub-sector. Provides advisory opinions on contractual obligations and legal representation.
viii.	Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulation and approval of policies and enactment of Bills. Provide an oversight role in the budget making process.

ix.	Children	The right to express their views freely in all matters affecting them, with those views being given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity. By embracing children as active partners in their own protection, we not only uphold their fundamental rights but also build stronger, more effective, and more sustainable systems for safeguarding all children.
x.	Members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides oversight and feedback in the design, implementation and review of the sub sector's programmes and projects through public participation. Provide care and protection to vulnerable groups in the society.
xi.	Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	Represent special interests in all relevant issues and complement government efforts in the sub-sector.
xii.	Development partners	Provide financial, technical and material support to various programmes in the sub-sector.
xiii.	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS)	Provides data and technical expertise for programme implementation and production of customized reports in the sub-sector.
xiv.	Public Service Commission	Provides policies and guidelines for Human Resource Management and Development.
xv.	County Governments	Provide partnerships for implementation of county specific programmes.
xvi.	Council of Governors	Provide liaison services with the county governments
xvii.	Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)	Issuance of tax exemptions for child focused institutions and organizations Mobilizes revenue for financing child protection and welfare programmes.
xviii.	Office of Director of Public Prosecution	Prosecute child related offences including trafficking in person, defilement, child labour and abuse cases.
xix.	Financial Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide platforms for disbursement of funds to beneficiaries and payments to internal and external clients of the sub-sector. Promote financial literacy in the Sub-Sector.

xx.	Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs	Coordinates reporting on international child rights obligations and facilitates repatriation of victims of trafficking and children in distress
xxi.	Office of the Data Protection Commission	Ensures compliance with data protection standards in the management of children information, including the Enhanced Single Registry database
xxii.	Academic Institutions	Universities and colleges play crucial roles in research, development of human resources among others.
xxiii.	NGO's (Non-Governmental Organizations)	Partner in implementation of Child protection services.
xxiv.	Financial Institutions	<p>Provide platforms for disbursement of funds to beneficiaries and payments to internal and external clients of the sub-sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote financial literacy in the Sub-Sector. • Promote corporate social responsibility initiatives that are child centred

CHAPTER TWO: PROGRAMME AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2022/23 – 2024/25

The review of Sub-Sector Programme Performance in terms of delivery of outcomes, outputs, KPIs and target attainment has been undertaken under the Social Protection and Senior Citizen Affairs Sub sector.

CHAPTER THREE: MEDIUM TERM PRIORITIES AND FINANCIAL PLAN FOR THE MTEF PERIOD 2026/27 – 2028/29

3.1 Prioritization of Programmes and Sub-Programmes

The chapter provides information on indicative Programmes, Sub-Programmes, Expected Outcomes, Outputs, Key Performance Indicators and budgetary requirements for the MTEF period 2026/27–2028/29 for the Sub-sector.

3.1.1 Programmes and Their Objectives

	Programme	Objective	Strategic Contribution
1.	Child Protection and Safeguarding	To protect and safeguard children against all forms of violence;	Improved child safety in institutions, communities, and digital environments.
2.	Child and Family Welfare Support Services	To promote family-based care and reintegration for vulnerable children;	Family care and vulnerable children re-integration
3.	Child Rights, Governance and Participation	To strengthen legal, policy, and institutional frameworks for child rights enforcement;	Enhanced legal and regulatory environment, data systems, M&E, and evidence-based programming
4.	General Administration, Planning and Support Services	To enhance the support functions for the State Department, ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of services.	Effective and efficient and well-coordinated service delivery

3.1.2 Programmes, Sub- Programmes, Expected Outcomes, Outputs and Key Performance Indicators

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
Programme 1: Child Protection and Safeguarding									
Programme Objective: To prevent and respond to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect and harmful practices against children, while ensuring access to justice and legal safeguards that uphold their rights									
Programme Outcome: Children growing up in violence free families and communities in Kenya.									
Sub-Programme 1: Protection, Prevention and Response Services	Child Protection Department	Children Protected from technology facilitated exploitation and abuse services	Number of manuals developed	-	-	2	-	-	-
			Number of parents trained	-	-	-	400	500	600
			Number of children trained	-	-	660	660	745	1000
			Number of social service workforce professionals trained	-	-	250	300	350	400
			Number of Children Advisory Committee members trained	-	-	225	9000	11000	13500

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
	Child Protection Department	Children Protected from Violence and Exploitation	The number of children protected from violence (CoIPs/Refugee Children/Missing Children/Child Labour/Harmful Cultural Practices)	180,200	184,400	186,700	190,500	201,700	220,800
			Number of child protection cases resolved	160200	164400	166700	170500	180700	200800
			Number of children reunited with their families	2000	3000	5200	7200	7400	8000
Sub-Programme 2: Children in Emergencies	Strategic Intervention for child protection in emergencies	Protection of children in emergencies	Number of children separated during emergencies reunified/placed in families.	2,000	2,500	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000
			Number of children and caregivers provided with	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000	6000

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			psychosocial support.						
			Number of dignity kits distributed to children.	-	-	23000	23000	23000	23000
	Kenya Child Helpline 116	Child Protection concerns reported	Number of calls referred for intervention	90,000	125,000	120,000	125,000	130,000	140,000
		Child Protection concerns managed	Number of children cases managed	85,000	100,000	110,000	120,000	125,000	130,000
Sub-Programme 3: Counter-Trafficking in Persons Services	Counter Trafficking in Persons Secretariat	Review of the CTIP Act Finalized	Revised CTIP Act	1	0	1	-		
		Regulations of the Counter Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) Act developed and revised	CTIP General Regulations NATF Regulations revised Shelter Regulations	-	-	-	3	-	-

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
		Awareness on Prevention of TIP created	No. of Public awareness on Trafficking in persons in hotspot counties	6	3	6	8	10	12
			No. of Law enforcement and Criminals Justice Officers, service providers trained on Identification, Investigation and Prosecution of TIP	500	780	500	800	900	1000
			World Day Against Human Trafficking marked	1	1	1	1	1	1
			National Guidelines on Foreign Travel Clearance for Children developed	-	-	1	1	-	-

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			No. of Stakeholders from schools, Clubs, Churches the National Guidelines on Foreign Travel Clearance for Children disseminated	-	-	100	100	200	300
		Coordination of the National Referral Mechanism to assisting Victims of Trafficking Strengthened	No of Counties TIP National Integrated Information Management System piloted.	2	0	2	2	-	-
			No of Counties TIP National Integrated Information Management System Rolled Out.	-	-	-	5	8	10
	National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of	Protection and Support of Victim of Trafficking in	No. of Presumed victims of trafficking in Persons	300	358	300	600	700	800

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
	Trafficking in Persons	Persons provided	Rescued and screened.						
			% of Victims of trafficking rescued, identified repatriated, re-integrated, resettled, provided with shelter, rehabilitated, legal and medical support	100	100	100	100	100	100
			No. of government run shelters operational	1	1	1	2	2	2
	Child Protection Department	Safe, quality and responsive childcare services for children in Kenya	Number of registered childcare centers meeting national safety and quality standards	-	-	-	5000	5500	6000
			Number of children aged 0-5 years from	-	-	-	75000	82500	90000

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			vulnerable households enrolled in safe and affordable childcare programs						
Programme 2: Child and Family Welfare Support Services									
Programme Outcome: Families strengthened to provide a safe, nurturing and stable environment for children to thrive.									
Programme Objective: To promote family-based care services									
Sub-Programme 1: Family Promotion Services	Alternative Family Care Services	Children reunified and placed back into families from children homes.	Number of children prevented from separation, reunified and placed into family-based care by type of care (i.e. biological, foster, adoption, kinship, Guardianship, Kafaala, SIL, and SCHH).	-	-	186,454	120,000	70,000	50,000

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
		Parents and caregivers trained on the National Positive Parenting Programme to prevent separation.	Number of parents trained on the National Positive Parenting Programme.	-	-	23,000	500,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
		Families sensitised on succession and matrimonial laws	Number of families sensitized on succession and matrimonial laws	-	-	23,000	500,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
		Children in alternative care receiving support from Child Welfare Fund	Number of children in alternative care assisted by the Child Welfare Fund.	600,000			600,000	2,000,000	
Sub-Programmes 2:	Street Families	Street families rehabilitated							

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
Social Assistance to Vulnerable Children and Families	Rehabilitation Trust Fund	No. of street persons rescued		6000	5747	5000	6000	7000	7500
			No of partner institutions undertaking rehabilitation of streets families institutions supported	40	24	30	40	50	50
			No. of street persons provided with psychosocial support services	6500	6479	5500	6500	7500	8000
			No. of street persons supported for education and vocational skills training	6000	6029	5000	6000	7000	7500
			No. of persons reintegrated to families and the community	6000	4903	4000	5000	5500	6000
			No. of families supported to ensure	500	416	500	550	600	650

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			retention of reintegrated persons						
		Capacity of duty bearers undertaking rehabilitation of street families strengthened	No. of duty bearers trained	175	177	175	260	290	310
		County Chapters to co-ordinate street families rehabilitation operationalized	No. of county chapters established	12	12	12			
			No. of county chapters operationalized	35	35	47	47	47	47
		Resources mobilized	Develop Resource mobilization strategy	-	-	1	-	-	-

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
Sub-Programme 3: Child Care, Custodial and Rehabilitation Services	Renovation for the 30 SCIs	% of SCIs renovated	% completion of	-	-	12	18	18	18
	Fencing of the 30 SCIs	% SCIs fenced	% completion of	-	-	4	26	26	26
	Securing land Titles for 10 Statutory Children Institutions	10 SCIs Titled	No of SCIs	-	3	3	4	-	-
	finalization of land registration processes for 20 SCIs	20 SCIs with finalized land registration processes	No of SCIs	-	-	-	20	-	-
	Replacement of Asbestos Roofing & Renovation of Statutory Children Institutions	10 SCIs with replaced asbestos	No of SCIs	-	-	7	10	-	-

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
	Institution Services Headquarters	Care and Protection of children in need of care and those in conflict with the law	No of children in SCIs with valid health insurance coverage	900	900	3000	3000	3500	4000
			No of SCIs implementing MoH-approved nutrition improvement programmes	-	-	1	29	-	-
			No of staff in SCIs and CCIs trained on disability inclusion and special needs care	-	-	80	200	250	300
			No of children in SCIs accessing safe custody and basic care services	-	80	200	200	300	300
		Children in Conflict with the Law	No of children in conflict with the law who successfully	-	0	200	250	300	350

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
		committed to SCIs rehabilitated	complete rehabilitation programmes						
			No of reintegrated children to family/community care			200	300	350	400
			No of children in SCIs enrolled in formal education or vocational training programmes		100	200	300	350	400
		Rehabilitation Programmes for Children in Conflict with the Law strengthened	No of SCIs inspected annually	-	30	30	30	30	30
			No of SCIs meeting revised national standards of care	-	30	30	30	30	30
			No of staff in SCIs and CCIs with enhanced capacity on child protection	-	-	100	200	250	300

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			systems and rehabilitation guidelines						
			No of CCIs compliant with statutory reporting and supervision requirements	-	-	200	200	200	200
Programme 3. Child Rights, Governance and Participation									
Programme Outcome: Increased Enforcement of Child Rights through Strengthened Frameworks									
Programme Objective: Strengthen legal, policy, and institutional frameworks for child rights enforcement									
Sub-Programme 1: Child Policy and Legal Reforms	National Council for Children Services	Legal and Policy Frameworks	Number of policies and regulations developed and implemented to guide child rights enforcement	18	0	11	11	4	4
			Number of stakeholders sensitized on new child rights policies and	200	200	1200	2000	2500	3000

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			legal frameworks						
		International and Regional Legal Obligations	Commemorate key international and regional children's days to raise public awareness	2	2	2	2	2	2
			Engage with international committees and disseminate their concluding observations to stakeholders	1	1	1	1	1	1
			Develop and submit all required consolidated state party reports to the UNCRC & AU			1	2	2	2
		Children's Institutions,	Number of children's institutions monitored and	120	186	200	250	300	350

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
		and Services Regulated	certified for compliance						
			Number of children's officers and other stakeholders trained on compliance and child welfare programs	120	120	240	500	650	800
		Adoption Services	Number of adoption stakeholders sensitized on adoption	100	100	400	600	800	1000
			Number of adoption societies registered and regulated	7	3	3	3	3	3
		NCCS Program Coordination and Governance	National Children data Base established and operationalized	-	-	1	1	1	1
			Number of staff recruited to	25	4	21	25	25	25

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			enhance NCCS operational capacity						
			Annual Children Service Providers Conference	-	-	-	1	1	1
			No. of Children Advisory Committees strengthened	-	-	120	454	454	454
Sub-Programme 2: Data and Research Services	Field Services, Research and Policy (BETA)	Enhanced functionality, interoperability, and use of CPIMS in 407 sub counties	No of Child protection cases uploaded into CPIMS for timely digital case management.	165,000	178,000	178,000	185,000	200,000	230,000
			No of interventions provided for child protection cases.	150,000	153,000	160,000	165,000	185,000	200,000
			% of case data verified through routine data quality	2	3	5	5	5	5

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
			assessments (RDQAs).						
			4 quarterly CPIMS data bulletins published annually with data	4	4	4	4	4	4
		CPIMS data quality improved by expanding users from 2,182 to 2,532	CPIMS active users increased		2182	2532	2700	2800	3000
			% of newly registered users have active logins	100	100	100	100	100	100
		CPIMS integrated with VuruguMapper, IPRS, ESR,116, TIP and NICHE for Interoperability	No of Systems integrated with CPIMS	1	1	1	3	2	1
		Operational research	No of operational		1	2	2	2	2

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
		studies completed and disseminated	research studies completed and disseminated to national stakeholders						
		Accessible knowledge management system for children	No of concepts and knowledge products reviewed and uploaded	70	100	100	100	100	100
			Resource Centre upgraded		0	1	1	1	1
			No of Research TWG meetings held annually	4	6	4	4	4	4
		Strategic partnerships.	No of partnerships formalized through MoUs/agreements	0	0	0	2	2	2
		Resource mobilization and financing	Annual resource mobilization report produced			1	1	1	1

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
		strategies implemented	and disseminated to stakeholders						
			Resource mobilization strategies developed and operationalized			1	1	1	1
			% of child protection interventions reflected in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and annual budgets		100	100	100	100	100
PROGRAMME 4. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES									
Programme Outcome: Efficient and Effective Service Delivery									
Programme Objective: To enhance the support functions for effective and efficient delivery of services.									
SP 1.1: General Administration, Planning	Headquarters Administrative Services	Administrative services	% compliance with service charter commitments	-	-	100	100	100	100

Programme	Delivery Unit	Key Outputs	Key Performance Indicators	Target 2024/25	Actual Achievement 2024/25	Target (Baseline) 2025/26	Target 2026/27	Target 2027/28	Target 2028/29
and Support Services	Finance and Procurement Services	Financial services	Quarterly and annual budget implementation reports	-	-	4	4	4	4
	Central Planning and Project Monitoring Department (CPPMD)	M&E services	Quarterly and annual M&E reports	-	-	4	4	4	4

Programmes by Order of Ranking

S/No.	Programmes	Sub-Programmes
1.	Child Protection and Safeguarding	S.P 1. Child Protection, Prevention and Response Services
		S.P. 2 Children in Emergencies
		S.P.3 Counter-Trafficking in Persons
2.	Child and Family Support Services	S.P 1. Child Care, Custodial and Rehabilitation Services
		S.P. 2 Social Assistance to Vulnerable Children and Families
		S.P.3 Family Promotion and Support Services
3.	Child Rights, Governance and Participation	S.P 1. Child Policy and Legal Reforms
		S.P. 2 Child Participation Services
		S.P.3 Data and Research Services
4.	General Administration, Planning and Support Services	S.P.1 Administrative Services

Resource Allocation criteria

As guided by the National Treasury Circular No. 8/2025 dated 8th August, 2025, the following criteria will serve as a guide for allocating resources: -

- i. Contributions to BETA and MTP IV Priorities;
- ii. Completions of ongoing and stalled projects;
- iii. Job Creations, poverty reduction and core mandate of MDAs;
- iv. Climate Change mitigations;
- v. Cost effectiveness, efficiency and Sustainability and
- vi. Constitutional, Presidential and Cabinet directives.

3.1.3 Analysis of Sub-Sector Resource Requirement versus Allocation by:

TABLE 3.1.3 Subsector Recurrent Requirements / Allocations (Ksh Million)

Vote Details	Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Requirement				Allocation		
		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	
Vote 1186: State for Department Children Services		12,074.08		21,504.54			-		
	Gross		21,118.14		22,184.64	-		-	
	AIA	0.96	0.96	0.96	0.96				
	NET	12,073.12	21,117.18	21,503.58	22,183.68	-	-	-	
	Compensation to Employees	1,167.87	1,207.31	1,243.53	1,319.26	-	-	-	
	Grants &Transfers	10,249.70	15,819.04	16,104.30	16,435.09	-	-	-	
	Other Recurrent	656.51	4,091.78	4,156.71	4,430.29	-	-	-	
	of which								

	<i>Utilities</i>	32.65	75.05	76.41	77.82			
	<i>Rent</i>	28.61	106.27	108.04	108.86			
	<i>Insurance</i>	-	-	-	-			
	<i>Subsidies</i>	-	-	-	-			
	<i>Gratuities</i>	-	-	-	-			
	<i>Contracted guards and cleaners</i>	-	10.40	10.80	10.80			
	<i>Others</i>	595.25	3,900.06	3,961.46	4,232.81	-	-	-

TABLE 3.1.4: SUB-SECTOR DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS/ALLOCATIONS (AMOUNT KSH MILLION)

Sub-Sector Name: State Department for Children Services

Vote 1186

Description	Approved Allocation	Budget	Requirement		Allocation		
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
Gross	244.00	1,598.00	1,626.35	1,734.00			
GOK	244.00	398.00	246.35	294.00			
Loans	-	1,200	1,380	1,440			
Grants							
Local AIA	-	-	-	-			

TABLE 3.1.5: Analysis of Programmes and Sub-Programmes (Current and Capital) Resource Requirements (Ksh. Million)

Programme Details	Approved Budget			Projection (Requirement)								
	Approved Estimates			2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
	2025/26											
	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total
Programme 1: Child Protection and Safeguarding												
Sub-Programme 1: Child Protection, Prevention and Response Services	8.00	-	8.00	435.62	-	435.62	528.67	-	528.67	608.78	-	608.78
Sub Programme 2: Children in Emergencies	330.00	-	330.00	921.47	-	921.47	984.45	-	984.45	1,048.32	-	1,048.32
Sub Programme 3: Counter-Trafficking in Persons Services	15.52	-	15.52	74.19	-	74.19	83.47	-	83.47	93.78	-	93.78
Total Programme 1	353.52	-	353.52	1,431.28	-	1,431.28	1,596.59	-	1,596.59	1,750.88	-	1,750.88
Programme 2: Child and Family Welfare Support Services												
Sub-Programme 1: Child Care, Custodial and Rehabilitation Services	472.16	244.00	716.16	1,082.14	398.00	1,480.14	1,094.79	246.35	1,341.14	1,133.13	294.00	1,427.13
Sub Programme 2: Social Assistance to Vulnerable Children and Families	9,310.74	-	9,310.74	14,555.02	-	14,555.02	14,726.11	-	14,726.11	14,944.53	-	14,944.53
Sub Programme 3: Family Promotion and Support Services	3.88	-	3.88	169.22	-	169.22	167.71	-	167.71	174.40	-	174.40
Total Programme 2	9,786.78	244.00	10,030.78	15,637.16	398.00	16,204.38	15,820.90	246.35	16,234.96	16,077.66	294.00	16,546.05
Programme 3: Child Rights Governance and Participation												

Programme Details	Approved Budget			Projection (Requirement)								
	Approved 2025/26		Estimates	2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total
Sub-Programme 1: Child Policy and Legal Reforms	1,770.21	-	1,770.21	2,977.51	-	2,977.51	3,130.89	-	3,130.89	3,285.18	-	3,285.18
Sub Programme 2: Child Participation Services	6.30	-	6.30	302.00	1,200.00	1,502.00	305.46	1,380.00	1,685.46	322.14	1,440.00	1,762.14
Sub Programme 3: Data and Research Services	-	-	-	35.40	-	35.40	30.45	-	30.45	31.97	-	31.97
Total Programme 3	1,776.51	-	1,776.51	3,314.91	1,200.00	4,514.91	3,466.80	1,380.00	4,846.80	3,639.30	1,440.00	5,079.30
Programme 4: General Administration, Planning and Support Services												
Sub-Programme 1: Administrative Services	157.27	-	157.27	565.58	-	565.58	452.55	-	452.55	542.40	-	542.40
Total Programme 4	157.27	-	157.27	565.58	-	565.58	452.55	-	452.55	542.40	-	542.40
			-									
Total Vote 1186	12,074.08	244.00	12,318.08	20,948.93	1,598.00	22,716.14	21,336.84	1,626.35	23,130.89	22,010.24	1,734.00	23,918.64

TABLE 3.1.6: Analysis of Programmes and Sub-Programmes (Current and Capital) Resource Allocation (Ksh Million)

Programmes	Approved Budget			Allocation								
	2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total
Programme 1: Child Protection and Safeguarding												

Programmes	Approved Budget			Allocation								
	2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total
Sub-Programme 1: Child Protection, Prevention and Response Services	8.00	-	8.00									
Sub Programme 2: Children in Emergencies	330.00	-	330.00									
Sub Programme 3: Counter-Trafficking in Persons Services	15.52	-	15.52									
Total Programme 1	353.52	-	353.52									
Programme 2: Child and Family Welfare Support Services												
Sub-Programme 1: Child Care, Custodial and Rehabilitation Services	472.16	244.00	716.16									
Sub Programme 2: Social Assistance to Vulnerable Children and Families	9,310.74	-	9,310.74									
Sub Programme 3: Family Promotion and Support Services	3.88	-	3.88									
Total Programme 2	9,786.78	244.00	10,030.78	15,637.16	398.00	16,204.38	15,820.90	246.35	16,234.96	16,077.66	294.00	16,546.05
Programme 3: Child Rights Governance and Participation												
Sub-Programme 1: Child Policy and Legal Reforms	1,770.21	-	1,770.21									
Sub Programme 2: Child Participation Services	6.30	-	6.30									
Sub Programme 3: Data and Research Services	-	-	-									
Total Programme 3	1,776.51	-	1,776.51	3,314.91	1,200.00	4,514.91	3,466.80	1,380.00	4,846.80	3,639.30	1,440.00	5,079.30
Programme 4: General Administration, Planning and Support Services												

Programmes	Approved Budget			Allocation								
	2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total	Current	Capital	Total
Sub-Programme 1: Administrative Services	157.27	-	157.27									
Total Programme 4	157.27	-	157.27									
			-									
Total Vote 1186	12,074.08	244.00	12,318.08									

TABLE 3.1.7: PROGRAMMES AND SUB-PROGRAMMES BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION (KSH MILLION)

Sub-Sector: Children Services

Vote: 1186

Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Resource Requirement			Resource Allocation		
	2025/26	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
PROGRAMME 1: CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING							
Current Expenditure	353.52	1,431.28	1,596.59	1,750.88	-	-	-
Compensation of Employees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Use of Goods and Services	2.02	921.15	1,012.16	1,085.14	-	-	-
Grants And Other Transfers	351.50	482.00	555.00	635.00	-	-	-

Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Resource Requirement			Resource Allocation		
	2025/26	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Other Recurrent	-	28.13	29.43	30.74	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants to Government Agencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Programme 1:	353.52	1,431.28	1,596.59	1,750.88	-	-	-
PROGRAMME 2: CHILD AND FAMILY WELFARE SUPPORT SERVICES							
Current Expenditure	9,786.78	15,806.38	15,988.61	16,252.05	-	-	-
Compensation of Employees	246.33	253.72	261.33	269.17	-	-	-
Use of Goods and Services	228.49	1,744.77	1,774.16	1,838.99	-	-	-
Grants And Other Transfers	9,310.74	13,793.20	13,937.70	14,127.70	-	-	-
Other Recurrent	1.22	14.69	15.43	16.20	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	244.00	398.00	246.35	294.00	-	-	-
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	244.00	398.00	246.35	294.00	-	-	-
Capital Grants to Government Agencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Programme 2:	10,030.78	16,204.38	16,234.96	16,546.05	-	-	-
PROGRAMME 3: CHILD RIGHTS, GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION							
Current Expenditure	1,776.51	3,314.91	3,466.80	3,639.30	-	-	-
Compensation of Employees	904.90	932.04	960.00	988.81	-	-	-
Use of Goods and Services	283.80	825.02	884.85	967.21	-	-	-
Grants And Other Transfers	587.46	1,543.84	1,611.60	1,672.39	-	-	-
Other Recurrent	0.35	14.00	10.34	10.90	-	-	-

Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Resource Requirement			Resource Allocation		
	2025/26	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Capital Expenditure	-	1,200.00	1,380.00	1,440.00	-	-	-
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants to Government Agencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Development	-	1,200.00	1,380.00	1,440.00	-	-	-
Total Programme 3:	1,776.51	4,514.91	4,846.80	5,079.30	-	-	-
PROGRAMME 4: GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES							
Current Expenditure	157.27	565.58	452.55	542.40	-	-	-
Compensation of Employees	16.64	21.55	22.20	61.29	-	-	-
Use of Goods and Services	96.57	348.42	394.92	447.91	-	-	-
Grants And Other Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Recurrent	44.05	195.60	35.43	33.20	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants to Government Agencies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Programme 4:	157.27	565.58	452.55	542.40	-	-	-
TOTAL VOTE	12,318.08	22,716.14	23,130.89	23,918.64	-	-	-

TABLE 3.1.8: Analysis of Recurrent Resource Requirements Vs Allocation for SAGAs (Ksh Million)

Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Requirement			Allocation			REMARKS
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	
Name of SAGA 1: NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CHILREN SERVICES								
GROSS	81.11	372.53	395.95	415.26				
AIA	0	0	0	0				
NET								
Compensation to Employees	46.5	47.9	49.34	50.94				
Other Recurrent								
of which								
Insurance	7	8.6	9.6	10.66				
Utilities	0	0	0	0				
Rent	0	15	15	15				
Subscriptions to International Organizations								
Subscriptions to Professional Bodies								
Contracted Professionals (Guards & Cleaners)								
Gratuity								
Others	27.61	301.03	322.01	338.66				
Name of SAGA 2: STREET FAMILIES REHABILITATION TRUST FUND								
GROSS	180	253.2	259.45	387.7				
AIA		-	-	-				
NET	180	252.3	259.45	387.7				
Compensation to Employees		-	-	-				
Other Recurrent								
of which		-	-	-				
Insurance	5	5	5	5				

Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Requirement			Allocation			REMARKS
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	
Utilities	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.3				
Rent	7.87	8	9.5	9.5				
Subscriptions to International Organizations		-	-	-				
Subscriptions to Professional Bodies	0.6	1	1.6	2				
Contracted Professional (Guards & Cleaners)	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.7				
Gratuity								
Others	162.33	235	276.7	366.2				
Name of SAGA 3: CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY OF KENYA								
GROSS	600.04	1246.39	1283.65	1322.13				
AIA	0	0	0	0				
NET	600.04	1246.39	1283.65	1322.13				
Compensation to Employees	380.5	398.61	410.57	422.89				
Other Recurrent								
of which								
Insurance	4.98	5.13	5.28	5.44				
Utilities	12.4	12.36	12.73	13.11				
Rent	17.34	17.86	18.39	18.95				
Subscriptions to International Organizations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Subscriptions to Professional Bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Contracted Professional (Guards & Cleaners)								

Economic Classification	Approved Estimates	Requirement			Allocation			REMARKS
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	
Gratuity								
Others	184..82	812.43	836.68.	861.74				
Total Vote	861.15	1,872.12	1,939.05	2,125.09				

CHAPTER FOUR: CROSS-SECTOR LINKAGES AND EMERGING ISSUES/CHALLENGES

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS), advances child protection and development through close collaboration with other sectors in line with the value chain approach of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). By linking with health, education, agriculture, Tourism, Immigration, Law enforcement agencies, Judiciary, environment, ICT, tourism, and urban development, the Sub-Sector ensures children benefit from nutrition and healthcare, quality education, food security, digital literacy, and safe urban spaces.

Beyond direct service delivery, SDCS plays a cross-cutting role by integrating child-sensitive priorities into national planning, while also championing gender equality, disability inclusion, and the protection of vulnerable and marginalized children. Through these synergies, the State department not only strengthens the effectiveness of the Social Protection Culture and Recreation sector but also reinforces the impact of other Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) sectors, positioning children and families at the center of Kenya's sustainable social and economic growth.

1. Health Sector

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS) plays a critical role in linking vulnerable households to healthcare while supporting children's mental health, wellness, and social cohesion. In collaboration with the health sector, the SDCS implements nutrition initiatives such as the *Nutrition Improvement through Cash and Health Education Program* and develops guidelines on child nutrition.

The department also promotes immunization, disability assessments, and psychosocial support to enhance children's overall well-being. Through its partnership with the health sector, SDCS ensures that children who have experienced harm including physical and sexual violence, female genital mutilation (FGM), and unsafe or forced male circumcision receive timely clinical services. This collaboration further extends to providing healthcare and rehabilitation support to pregnant adolescents and child mothers.

Importantly, the sector prioritizes outreach to marginalized communities, ensuring equitable access to quality healthcare and rehabilitation services. These efforts strengthen child protection systems while promoting the holistic development and well-being of all children.

2.Education Sector

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS) works closely with the education sector to ensure that vulnerable children not only gain access to school but are also supported to stay in school, thrive, and succeed. To break down the social, economic, and protection barriers that often lead to school dropouts, the SDCS provides interventions such as Cash Transfers to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (CT-OVC), bursaries, rescue and rehabilitation services, as well as implement the Adolescent Programme under the Kenya Social and Economic Inclusion Program, and provision of psychosocial support.

Together with the Ministry of Education, the SDCS contributes to curriculum development for Early Learning, Basic Education, and ECDE, while also facilitating uninterrupted access to compulsory education for all children.

The education sector further strengthens this collaboration by integrating digital literacy and online safety into the school curriculum. This includes training teachers and learners on responsible internet use and building effective reporting and referral mechanisms for online abuse within schools.

Through this partnership, Violence Against children is prevented and responded to effectively in school and at home.

3.Governance, Justice, Law and Order (GJLO) Sector

The Government Justice, Law and Order (GJLO) sector works closely with the State Department for Children Services (SDCS) to strengthen child protection and ensure access to justice. The National Police Service investigates child abuse cases and refers survivors to SDCS for rescue and placement, while the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions prosecutes offenders with SDCS support in evidence and psychosocial care. The Judiciary collaborates with Children Officers in custody, adoption, and diversion cases, and Probation and Aftercare Services support rehabilitation and reintegration in partnership with SDCS. Prison and Borstal institutions coordinate with SDCS to provide education and vocational training for child offenders, while oversight bodies such as KNCHR and NCAJ promote child-friendly justice and rights monitoring. Together, GJLOs provide enforcement, prosecution, and rehabilitation, while SDCS ensures welfare, psychosocial support, and reintegration, creating a comprehensive child protection and justice system.

4.National Security Sector

The National Security Sector reinforces child protection by enforcing laws, maintaining safe environments, and addressing threats that endanger children's rights and welfare. It also promotes prevention through awareness creation and community sensitization on violence against children, while providing critical response services such as investigations,

rescues, and arrest of perpetrators. Working in close collaboration, the State Department for Children Services (SDCS) complements these efforts by offering psychosocial support, case management, and rehabilitation services for affected children. Together, the two entities ensure a coordinated approach that prevents violence, responds effectively to abuse, and safeguards children's overall well-being.

5. Public Administration and International Relations (PAIR) Sector

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS) works with the Public Administration and International Relations (PAIR) sector by implementing child protection laws at the national and county level thus strengthening accountability through public participation, and generating child Protection data to inform policy and resource allocation. Internationally, SDCS fulfills Kenya's obligations under child rights conventions and treaties, contributing to reporting and cooperation with global partners. In turn, PAIR provides governance, funding, and diplomatic linkages, creating a framework where SDCS

delivers frontline child protection while PAIR enables effective coordination and international credibility in child welfare. The sector works on redefining staff establishment.

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS/ADCS) collaborates with the Energy, Infrastructure & ICT (EI&ICT) sector to expand access, protection, and opportunity for children, especially in digital spaces. Safe public infrastructure parks, libraries, transport and electricity help ensure child protection services are reachable and functional. The *Disrupting Harm in Kenya* report found that between 5-13% of internet-using children aged 12-17 in Kenya experienced *online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSEA)* in the past year. Less than 5% of those affected made formal reports to police or national helplines. About 7% had personal sexual images shared without consent; 7% had been offered money or gifts in exchange for sexual images or videos; and 4% faced threats or blackmail online.

These findings make digital infrastructure, connectivity, and safe ICT platforms essential. SDCS and EI&ICT work together to support digital literacy, secure reporting mechanisms, content regulation, safe internet use education, and data protection—all aimed at reducing the risk of online harm, ensuring children are safer both online and in their everyday environments.

6.Agriculture, Rural and Urban Development (ARUD) Sector

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS) collaborates with the Agriculture, Rural and Urban Development (ARUD) sector to strengthen child protection by addressing poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition. Through initiatives such as Cash Transfers for OVCs, Nutrition Improvement through Cash and Health Education and provision for child protection facilities, children benefit from improved nutrition, education retention, and safe spaces for growth. ARUD also supports youth agribusiness projects that enhance family resilience, while its data on vulnerable households guides SDCS planning. Together, these efforts tackle root causes of vulnerability and place children at the center of social and economic transformation.

7.General Economic and Commercial Affairs (GECA) Sector

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS) strengthens the GECA sector by implementing the Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (CT-OVC), which in 2024 supported over 1.1 million beneficiaries (Kenya Economic Survey 2024), boosting household welfare and stimulating local economic activity. By protecting children from labour exploitation and reinforcing safety standards, SDCS contributes to building a healthier, skilled, and socially stable future workforce that underpins Kenya's economic growth. In turn, GECA creates opportunities for trade, employment, and enterprise that sustain families and reduce child vulnerability. Together, SDCS and GECA collaborate to break cycles of poverty, safeguard children, and drive inclusive national development.

8.Environmental Protection, Water and Natural Resources (EWNR) Sector

The State Department for Children Services (SDCS) and the Environment Protection, Water and Natural Resources (EWNR) Sector collaborate to promote environmental conservation, child welfare, and community resilience. EWNR supports SDCS by ensuring access to clean water, sanitation, and safe environments in child care institutions, schools, and statutory institutions, while advancing climate resilience and disaster risk reduction to protect vulnerable children. SDCS has programs to build resilience for communities and families in areas affected by shocks such as Nutrition Improvement through Cash and Health Education and also encourages child participation in climate awareness activities such as The African Children Climate Summit. EWNR complements this by providing policy direction, facilitating trans-boundary cooperation, coordinating multilateral agreements, and sharing data with the Social Protection, Culture and Recreation (SPCR) Sector. Together, the two sectors conserve forests, harness natural resources, and strengthen community-driven approaches for inclusive and sustainable environmental practices.

EMERGING ISSUES

1. Online Child Abuse

While the internet and advancement in technology offer immense opportunities for children's learning, creativity, and social interaction, it also exposes them to a growing range of risks such as cyberbullying, online grooming, sexual exploitation, radicalization, exposure to harmful or age-inappropriate content, online scams and fraud, identity theft, privacy violations, misinformation, digital addiction, and encouragement of self-harm or suicide. Technology advances faster than laws and safeguards, leaving many children online without adequate knowledge, protection, or supervision. According to the *Disrupting Harm* survey (2021) in Kenya, between 5% and 13% of internet-using children aged 12–17 experienced some form of online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSEA) in the past year, yet less than 5% reported these incidents to police or a helpline. This underscores how widespread but hidden the problem is. These challenges demand continuous investment in digital literacy, online safety awareness, child-friendly reporting mechanisms, and stronger regulatory measures to keep pace with emerging online threats.

2. Religious extremism

Religious extremism, such as the *Shakahola tragedy* where children were among victims of cult-related indoctrination, strains the State Department for Children Services (SDCS) budget. It drives up costs for rescue, rehabilitation, psychosocial support, and reintegration of affected children, while also requiring intensified preventive programs like awareness campaigns and community sensitization. Extremism further creates demand for secure child care institutions and coordinated action with security agencies, diverting resources from core child welfare services. Religious extremism is compounded by widespread underreporting and inadequate data to track and address it effectively.

3. Climate Change and Environmental Shocks.

Climate shocks such as floods and droughts strain the State Department for Children Services (SDCS) budget by increasing demand for emergency rescue, shelter, food, and medical care for affected children, while also driving up costs for rehabilitation and reintegration. They push more families into poverty, requiring expanded social protection programs geared towards resilience such as Anticipatory Action in Shock responsiveness. This often overload child care institutions, creating unplanned expenses for repairs and climate-resilient upgrades. These shocks also divert funds from routine child welfare programs, limiting service delivery.

4. Growing Mental Health Concerns. Rising mental health challenges among Kenyan children—affecting 26% in Nairobi and Coast, 58.9% in Makueni, and 44.8% in Kakamega (CAPMH, 2023; Daystar, 2022; EAMJ, 2024)—strain the limited child protection budget. With services underfunded and largely inaccessible, the State Department for Children Services (SDCS) struggles to stretch resources for psychosocial support and rehabilitation. Weak integration of mental health into program-based budgeting (PBB) leaves service gaps, underscoring the need for dedicated funding to match the scale of need.

5. Rising Demand for Social Protection

Economic shocks, high cost of living, and unemployment have deepened household poverty, increasing demand for social safety nets and cash transfer programs. More children are falling into vulnerability due to school dropouts, malnutrition, and engagement in child labor to supplement family incomes.

6. Migration, Displacement, and Rapid Urbanization

Rising migration and urbanization have increased the number of children living in informal settlements, refugee camps, and border communities, where access to protection and basic services is limited. This has heightened vulnerabilities to child labor, street involvement, and exploitation.

CHALLENGES

- 1. Inadequate Financial and Human Resources.** Limited budget allocations and staffing shortages undermine the effectiveness of program-based budgeting by restricting the scope of child protection interventions and preventing achievement of set outputs such as rescue, rehabilitation, and psychosocial support. Most sub-counties in the state department are manned by one Officer with a single officer covering more than one subcounty thus affecting the quality of service.
- 2. Weak Institutional Coordination.** Fragmented coordination among agencies leads to duplication, gaps, and weak accountability, which in turn compromises PBB's efficiency by scattering budget allocations and reducing the clarity of results. This is more highlighted by the fact that child protection services are multisectoral with the agencies having mandates while their budgets are not child centered.
- 3. Limited Public Awareness and Community Engagement.** Low awareness and entrenched harmful practices weaken demand for child protection services, making budgeted prevention and early intervention programs underperform in PBB evaluations, even when funds are allocated.

- 4. Enforcement Gaps in Legal and Policy Frameworks.** Weak enforcement, corruption, and poor training result in poor performance against legal protection targets, making resources allocated under PBB show minimal results and undermining accountability for justice-related spending.
- 5. Weak Data and Monitoring Systems.** The absence of reliable child protection data makes evidence-based planning and budgeting difficult. This leads to misallocation of resources, weak tracking of outcomes, and poor performance measurement in PBB. Though captured in CPIMS other agencies have their own reporting structures.
- 6. Cultural Practices and Social Norms.** Deep-rooted harmful practices, despite allocated funds, reduce the effectiveness of interventions. This weakens Program Based Budgeting's results framework, as program outcomes like reduction of FGM or child marriage fall short of targets.
- 7. Impact of Emergencies and Disasters.** Emergencies divert resources from planned programs to crisis response, disrupting budget execution. This undermines PBB's predictability and continuity while inflating unplanned expenditures.
- 8. High Case Backlogs and Delays in Justice.** Overburdened courts and delays mean that budget allocations for justice yield few timely outcomes, distorting performance indicators in PBB and eroding public trust in resource use.

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION

The Children Services sub-sector is critical in the achievement of Kenya's Vision 2030, MTP IV and the Bottom-up Transformation Agenda BETA as its programmes and projects are focused on children protection and family welfare support. As outlined in Chapter One, the Sub-sector priority areas are protection, safety, care and services for children, family promotion and protection, rehabilitation & re-integration of street families, provision of assistance to Victims of Trafficking, Cash Transfers to Orphans and Vulnerable Children. However, the sub-sector may not be able to effectively deliver its mandate due to underfunding.

In view of the above, there is a need to adopt a paradigm shift at the national level to prioritize funding to the sub-sector, which is critical in spearheading implementation of interventions geared towards realization of the sub sector's mandate. There is also need to identify areas that require vertical & horizontal linkages in order to enhance synergy towards efficient and effective service delivery.

Key priority areas of additional funding include recruitment of required staff for effective delivery of its strategic mandate, strengthening County Advisory Committee for child protection, establishment of government run shelter house for victims of trafficking and rescue home; fast track the approval of the key policies and legislations already in Parliament and cabinet, strengthening of National Council for Children Services and upscaling of Cash Transfers to Orphans and Vulnerable Children and Enactment of Family Protection policies and full implementation of Children Act of 2022.

Successful delivery of the key programmes by Children Services Sub-Sector during the MTEF Budget period 2026/27 –2028/29 will require **KSh. 21,118.14 Million** in FY 2026/27, **KSh. 21,504.54 Million** in FY 2027/28 and **KSh.22,184.64 Million** in 2028/29 in the Recurrent Budget. In the Development Budget, the Sub sector will require **Ksh. 1,598 Million** in FY 2026/27, **Ksh.1,626.35 Million** in FY 2027/28 and **Ksh.1,734 Million** in FY 2028/29.

CHAPTER SIX: RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. In order to realize the targeted outputs/outcomes for the Sub-sector during this 2026/27-2028/29 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework, the sub sector will endeavor to implement various interventions to improve the performance of the sub sector and address the challenges that may hinder effective service delivery. To realize this, the following recommendations are made:
- b. Fast track the approval of the key policies and legislations already in Parliament and Cabinet.
- c. In order to ensure the sustainability of programmes and projects, the Government needs to increase budgetary allocations to fill the financing gap left by development partners.
- d. Secure sub sector's parcels of land through involvement of top leadership in relevant agencies for fast tracking registration and acquisition of title deeds.

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