

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MURANG'A



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC PLANNING

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (ADP)

FINANCIAL YEAR 2027/2028

"Let Your Voice Count in Shaping the Murang'a Development Agenda!"

Prepared by:

Directorate of Economic Planning

Murang'a County Government

August 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	5
1. INTRODUCTION	7
2. LEGAL AND POLICY BASIS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	7
3. METHODOLOGY.....	8
3.1 Process, from Preparation to Reporting.....	8
3.2 Institutional Arrangements and Team.....	9
3.3 Public Notification and Mobilization	10
3.4 Data Collection Tool	10
3.5 Data Management, Cleaning and Quality Assurance	11
4. PARTICIPATION OVERVIEW	12
4.1 Written Memoranda	13
4.2 Verified Physical Attendance (Sign-In Registers).....	14
4.3 Register vs. Questionnaire Coverage.....	15
5. RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE.....	17
6. AWARENESS OF, AND EXPERIENCE WITH, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	18
7. TIME TAKEN TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE.....	19
8. REVIEW OF PAST PROJECTS (FY 2025/26 AND PRIOR YEARS)	20
9. PRIORITY NEEDS BY SECTOR	21
10. COUNTY FLAGSHIP PROJECTS FY 2027/2028	22
An emergent, unprompted priority: Home-Based Child Care (HBCC) providers	22
11. WARD / LOCAL PROJECT PROPOSALS.....	24
12. PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA	24
13. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION, OWNERSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY	26
14. SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT SERVICE DELIVERY	26
15. GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.....	28
16. DATA LIMITATIONS.....	28
17. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	30
On the ADP FY 2027/2028 content	30
On future public participation processes	30
ANNEX A: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE AND VENUES.....	32
ANNEX B: DATA CLEANING LOG	34
B1. Non-consenting respondents removed (4)	34
B2. Duplicate resubmissions removed (4 records, from 4 respondent pairs).....	34
B3. Blank / abandoned responses removed (3)	34
B4. Field-level normalization applied	34
ANNEX C: VERIFIED PHYSICAL ATTENDANCE REGISTER (FULL DATA)	36

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to Articles 10, 174(c)-(d), 201(a) and 232 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010; Sections 87, 91, 104–109 and 115 of the County Governments Act, 2012; and Sections 125–126 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, the Directorate of Economic Planning in the Department of Finance and Economic Planning conducted county-wide public participation forums between 4 and 17 August 2026 to inform the Murang'a County Annual Development Plan (ADP) for Financial Year 2027/2028. This report documents the process followed, the profile of participants reached, and the findings of the exercise, to guide the Directorate, the County Executive Committee and the County Assembly in finalizing the ADP and the FY 2027/2028 County Budget.

A total of 160 questionnaire responses were logged in the data system across all nine sub-counties of Murang'a. Following a structured data-cleaning process described in Section 3.6 — removing non-consenting entries, duplicate resubmissions and blank/abandoned forms — a clean analytic dataset of 149 valid responses was retained for analysis (a data-retention rate of 93%). Cross-checking each respondent's sub-county against the published forum schedule showed that 108 (72%) were collected in person at the nine sub-county forums, of which 61 were entered into the system on the same day and a further 47 were only transcribed into the system by Directorate staff on a later date; the remaining 41 (28%) were submitted offsite/online through the County's public KoboCollect link ahead of the forum week. A further seven written memoranda were received directly by the Directorate over the same period, separately from the questionnaire (see Section 4.1).

Key findings from the exercise include:

- **Reach and inclusion:** Respondents were drawn from all nine sub-counties, with women comprising 62% of respondents against 38% men, and 6 respondents (4%) and 8 respondents (5%) self-identifying as persons with disability (PWD) or as members of a minority/marginalized community, respectively.
- **Verified attendance exceeded questionnaire coverage:** Official sign-in registers recorded 172 verified physical attendees across the nine forums — substantially more than the 108 valid in-person questionnaire responses in the analysed dataset (62.8% coverage). Combined with the 41 online/offsite responses, the exercise reached at least 213 individuals in total. Coverage varied sharply by venue, from 100% (Kigumo) to 31% (Kangema) and 33% (Ithanga, despite recording the single largest crowd of any venue at 42 attendees) — see Sections 4.2–4.3.
- **Awareness gap:** While 79% of respondents said they were aware of the ADP and its role in guiding the County Budget, only 37% had ever participated in a County public participation forum before this one — and 49% felt the current mode of public participation is "not adequate" for reaching all residents, including PWDs, women and youth.
- **Top sector priorities:** Health Services (82% rating "High" priority) and Education — ECDE/Bursaries/TVET (78%) topped the eleven sectors rated, followed by Roads & Infrastructure and Security & Disaster Risk Management.
- **Flagship project support:** All sixteen proposed county flagship projects received majority support (78% or higher). The Education Bursary Fund (93%), Murang'a Youth Service (91%) and KangataCare (90%) recorded the highest support levels.
- **An emergent, unprompted priority — Home-Based Child Care (HBCC):** When asked what additional flagship projects should be considered (an open, unprompted question), 39 of 125 respondents who answered (31%) — the single largest theme by a wide margin — specifically called for the recognition, regulation and financial support of home-based child care/day-care providers who look after children

aged 0–3 years. This theme recurred independently across multiple sub-counties, was echoed again under general comments (Part J), and was further corroborated by a majority of the seven written memoranda received separately by the Directorate.

- **Prioritization criteria:** When asked to rank what should matter most in selecting which projects to fund, respondents rated "Number of people benefiting" as most important (mean rank 2.28 of 5, where 1 = most important), followed by "Urgency/severity of the problem" (2.51). "Equity for marginalized/underserved areas" was ranked least important on average (3.62), a finding the County should weigh carefully against its constitutional equity obligations.
- **Community ownership:** 66% of respondents said they would willingly contribute labour, land, materials or cash toward proposed projects, and 114 respondents (84% of those who answered) volunteered to serve on a Project Monitoring Committee (PMC).
- **Service satisfaction lags on roads and waste:** Satisfaction was lowest for Roads, Infrastructure & Drainage (33% satisfied; 25% dissatisfied) and Waste Management/Environment (35% satisfied), consistent with "Delayed funding" (64 mentions, 43%) and "Poor contractor performance" (34 mentions) being the most cited reasons past projects under-performed.

The report recommends that the Directorate of Economic Planning: and the County Government (i) explicitly consider a Home-Based Child Care support programme in the ADP FY 2027/2028 and subsequent CIDP review; (ii) diversify public participation notification beyond chief's barazas and posters to include church/mosque announcements and SMS/bulk messaging, which respondents identified as the most effective channels; (iii) strengthen contractor supervision and cash-flow predictability to address delayed funding and poor contractor performance; and (iv) institutionalize feedback loops so that participants can see how their input was used, in line with Part 6 of the County Public Participation Guidelines, 2025. Full details, disaggregated findings and the data-cleaning log are presented in the sections that follow.

1. INTRODUCTION

Article 174(c) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 identifies the enhancement of public participation in the exercise of the powers of the State, and in decisions affecting citizens, as an object of devolution. For county government planning specifically, Section 115 of the County Governments Act, 2012 requires that county planning be based on a system of participatory governance. The Annual Development Plan (ADP) is the single-year operational plan derived from the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) and forms the basis upon which the County Budget for a given financial year is prepared under Section 126 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012.

This report documents the public participation exercise conducted by the Department of Finance and Economic Planning, Murang'a County Government, to inform the ADP for Financial Year 2027/2028. It sets out the legal basis, methodology, and detailed findings of the exercise, and is intended to (a) provide an evidentiary record that public participation was undertaken in a manner that is "real and not illusory", consistent with the standard set by the High Court and reiterated in the County Public Participation Guidelines (May 2025); (b) inform the County Executive Committee, Sector Working Groups and the County Assembly's Budget and Appropriations Committee as they finalize the ADP and Budget; and (c) provide a baseline against which future participation cycles can be benchmarked and improved.

2. LEGAL AND POLICY BASIS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The exercise, and the questionnaire administered, were anchored on the following legal and policy framework:

- **Constitution of Kenya, 2010:** Article 1(2) (sovereign power belongs to the people); Article 10(2)(a) (national values including participation of the people); Article 174(c)–(d) (objects of devolution); Article 201(a) (principles of public finance: openness, accountability and public participation); and Article 232 (values and principles of public service, including timely access to information).
- **County Governments Act, No. 17 of 2012:** Section 87 (principles and framework for citizen participation); Section 91 (county government to facilitate modalities and platforms for citizen participation); Sections 94–96 (public communication and access to information); Sections 100–101 (civic education); and Section 115 (county planning to provide for citizen participation).
- **Public Finance Management Act, No. 18 of 2012:** Sections 125–126 (public participation in the county planning and budget process) and Section 207 (county governments to establish structures, mechanisms and guidelines for citizen participation), which by extension apply to the Annual Development Plan as the basis of the County Budget.
- **County Public Participation Guidelines (State Department for Devolution / Council of Governors, May 2025):** which set out minimum standards on notification timelines (information to be shared with the public at least 7 days, and popular versions of documents 14 days, before a forum), venue selection, inclusion of PWDs/women/youth/marginalized groups, and feedback obligations after participation.
- **Urban Areas and Cities Act, No. 13 of 2011:** participation of residents in the affairs of urban areas and cities within the County, where applicable.
- **Data Protection Act, 2019:** governing the collection, consent, storage and use of respondents' personal data collected under Part K of the questionnaire.

Data collected was used solely to inform the CIDP mid-term priorities, the ADP FY 2027/2028, and the FY 2027/2028 County Budget, consistent with Article 35 of the Constitution and the Data Protection Act, 2019.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Process, from Preparation to Reporting

The ADP FY 2027/2028 public participation exercise followed the County's standard ADP road map, which mirrors the sequence used for the FY 2026/2027 ADP (compilation of a zero draft, departmental consultative forums, public participation, and report-back), adapted to the dates below:

No.	Activity	Date / Period	Lead
1	Compilation of zero-draft ADP FY 2027/2028 and priority sector projects, based on CIDP 2023–2027 mid-term review	July 2026	Director, Economic Planning / Departmental Economists
2	Departmental (internal) consultative forum on sector proposals	Late July 2026	Director, Economic Planning / Departmental Economists
3	Design and pre-testing of the public participation questionnaire (physical and Kobo online versions)	Late July–early August 2026	Directorate of Economic Planning
4	Publication of the public notice/advert, with schedule of sub-county venues, dates and times, and the online questionnaire link	Tuesday, 4 August 2026 (The Standard, p.6) and County notice boards / website	CECM Finance & Economic Planning / Director, Economic Planning
5	Online/offsite responses begin arriving via the KoboToolbox link (ahead of the physical forums)	4–11 August 2026	Members of the public (self-administered)
6	Sub-county public participation forums (Murang'a East/Kiharu, Kangema, Mathioya)	Wednesday, 12 August 2026, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Director, Economic Planning / Departmental Economists / Sub-county administration
7	Sub-county public participation forums (Kandara, Gatanga, Ithanga)	Thursday, 13 August 2026, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Director, Economic Planning / Departmental Economists / Sub-county administration
8	Sub-county public participation forums (Kigumo, Kahuro, Maragua)	Friday, 14 August 2026, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Director, Economic Planning / Departmental Economists / Sub-county administration
9	Deadline for written/virtual memoranda (email, post, or the Kobo link)	Friday, 14 August 2026	Directorate of Economic Planning
10	Data entry of remaining hard-copy questionnaires collected at forums	15 & 17 August 2026	Directorate of Economic Planning (office-based data entry team)

No.	Activity	Date / Period	Lead
11	Data cleaning, analysis and report compilation (this report)	17–21 August 2026	Directorate of Economic Planning
12	Incorporation of findings into the draft ADP FY 2027/2028; submission to the County Executive Committee and County Assembly	Late August–September 2026	CECM Finance & Economic Planning / Director, Economic Planning

Table 1. Public participation process timeline, ADP FY 2027/2028.

The exercise was conducted through two complementary channels running in parallel, both required under the County Public Participation Guidelines' principle of "providing multiple opportunities for public participation":

1. **In-person forums:** a physical, enumerator-administered questionnaire read out and completed at nine sub-county venues (one venue per sub-county, at St Mary's Parish Hall Murang'a, Social Hall Kangema, DCC Hall Mathioya, Kandara Children's Home Hall, NG-CDF Hall Gatanga, Catholic Church Hall Ithanga, CDF Hall Kigumo, Social Hall Kahuro and Catholic Church Hall Maragua — see Annex A).
2. **Online/offsite submission:** an identical questionnaire hosted on KoboToolbox (<https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/AqLnXoNn>), for residents unable to attend in person, including those in the diaspora, per the invitation in the published notice to "attend in person or submit written proposals" or register "virtually".

Both channels fed into a single combined dataset used for this analysis (see Section 4 for the resulting split).

3.2 Institutional Arrangements and Team

Consistent with Section 30(3)(g) of the County Government Act (the Governor's duty to promote and facilitate citizen participation) and the County's institutional option of housing public participation coordination within a lead technical department, the exercise was coordinated by the Directorate of Economic Planning under the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance and Economic Planning. The following officers and structures were involved:

- **Director, Economic Planning:** overall coordination, questionnaire design, scheduling, and report compilation and management of the KoboToolbox online form and consolidation of submissions into the master dataset used for this report.
- **Departmental (Sub-County) Economists:** one economist assigned per sub-county forum to facilitate proceedings, brief participants on the ADP process, administer/supervise the physical questionnaire, and respond to technical questions on planning and budgeting.
- **Sub-county and ward administration:** mobilization of residents, venue arrangements, and maintenance of attendance registers.
- **Civic education partner — URAIA Trust:** a small complement of civic educators from URAIA Trust, a national civic education non-state actor, supported selected forums with light-touch civic education on citizens' rights and duties in public participation (per Part X of the County Government Act) ahead of questionnaire administration. This support was limited in scale (a marginal, supplementary input rather than a full parallel civic education programme) and did not extend to every venue; the Directorate's own staff carried the bulk of civic-education messaging. The County should consider a more deliberate, resourced partnership with URAIA Trust and similar civil society organizations for future cycles,

consistent with Section 3.7 of the County Public Participation Guidelines on collaborating with CSOs to manage scarce civic-education resources.

3.3 Public Notification and Mobilization

In line with the requirement that the public be given adequate and timely notice, the exercise was publicised through:

- -page public notice published in The Standard newspaper (national circulation) on Tuesday, 4 August 2026, page 6, titled "Public Participation on the Murang'a County Annual Development Plan (ADP) for the 2027/28 Financial Year", giving the legal basis, the full sub-county venue/date/time schedule, the postal and email addresses for written submissions, and the KoboToolbox link for virtual submission.
- Notices at sub-county offices.
- Mobilization through ward administrators, chiefs' barazas, community and religious leaders, and social media.

Respondents themselves were asked how they learned of the forum (Question B3); results are presented in Section 6. Ward administrators (35 mentions), social media (34) and community leaders (32) were the most commonly cited channels, while church/mosque announcements and posters were comparatively under-used relative to the volume of responses that later identified them, in open comments, as the channel respondents most wanted the County to use more (see Section 15).

3.4 Data Collection Tool

A structured questionnaire developed by the Directorate of Economic Planning was administered in both physical and online form. The instrument comprised eleven parts:

- Part A – Respondent's information (location, gender, age, education, occupation, special-interest category, tenure in ward);
- Part B – Awareness of, and prior experience with, public participation, and how the respondent learned of this forum;
- Part C – Review of projects implemented under the ADP FY 2025/26 and prior years, and challenges affecting their implementation;
- Part D – Priority rating (High/Medium/Low) of eleven county sectors, plus an open question on the single highest-priority sector;
- Part E – Level of support (Support/Neutral/Oppose) for sixteen proposed county-wide flagship projects, plus open questions on the most transformative project and any additional projects desired;
- Part F – Ward/local project proposals, ranked by the respondent, with the problem the top-priority project would solve and land-availability status;
- Part G – Ranking (1=most important to 5=least important) of five project-prioritization criteria;
- Part H – Willingness to contribute resources (land, labour, materials, cash) and to serve on a Project Monitoring Committee (PMC);
- Part I – Satisfaction (Satisfied/Neutral/Dissatisfied/N/A) with current service delivery across ten service areas;
- Part J – General open-ended comments; and

- Part K – Voluntary consent declaration and optional contact details, consistent with the Data Protection Act, 2019.

The questionnaire was estimated to take 10–15 minutes; actual completion times varied by channel and are analysed in full in Section 7. Enumerators were instructed to read out each question in the language the respondent understood best (English, Kiswahili, or a local language), to record responses without leading the respondent, and to give particular attention to the inclusion of women, youth, PWDs, minorities and marginalized groups, consistent with Articles 100 and 232(1)(i) of the Constitution.

3.5 Data Management, Cleaning and Quality Assurance

All responses — physical and online — were consolidated into a single dataset of 160 submissions. Before analysis, the Directorate applied the following data-quality checks, consistent with good survey-data practice, to arrive at a clean analytic sample:

Step	Cleaning rule applied	Records removed	Running total
1	Raw submissions received (physical + online, all sub-counties)	—	160
2	Respondents who did not give voluntary consent (Part A declaration = "No") were excluded entirely, in line with the Data Protection Act, 2019	4	156
3	Duplicate resubmissions removed — identified by an identical respondent phone number appearing on two consecutive, back-to-back submissions (same enumerator session); the more complete/most recent entry in each pair was retained	4 (4 pairs)	152
4	Blank/abandoned responses removed — respondent consented but answered only the location/demographic fields (Part A) with no engagement with the substantive questionnaire (Parts B–K)	3	149

Table 2. Data cleaning steps and record counts.

In addition to record-level exclusions, the following field-level normalization was applied:

- Category labels were harmonized across two questionnaire/form versions that used different underlying codes for the same answer (e.g., "high" and "High Priority" were both mapped to "High"; "45_59" and "45-59 yrs" were both mapped to "45-59").
- Ward names were harmonized where the same ward was recorded with different punctuation or spelling across submissions (e.g., "Kimorori_Wempa" and "Kimorori/Wempa" were merged into one ward category; "Kakuzi_Mitubiri" and "Kakuzi/Mitumbiri" were merged).
- Open-ended text responses were coded into themes for quantitative summary; where two or more respondents used different wording for what was clearly the same idea (for example, "nurturing talent" and a phonetic/typing variant such as "naturing talent" appearing in the same response, or "HBCC", "Home Based Child Care", "H.B.C.C." and "day care providers" all referring to the same proposal), these were combined under a single theme rather than counted separately, to avoid understating how frequently an issue was raised.
- The sub-county name used in the published advert ("Murang'a East") corresponds to the sub-county recorded in the questionnaire and CSV data as "Kiharu" (the constituency within which Murang'a Town falls); the two are treated as the same geography throughout this report.

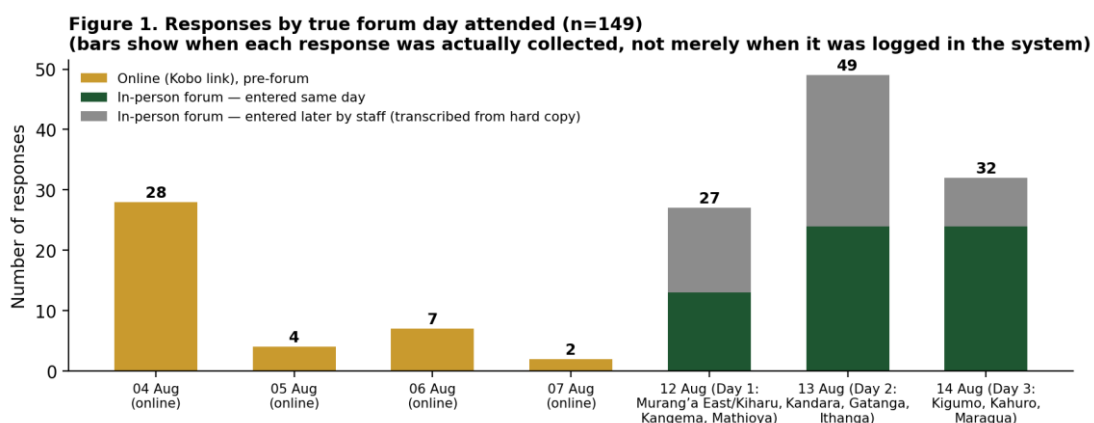
- **Venue-vs-entry-date reconciliation:** for each in-person response, the respondent's stated sub-county was cross-checked against the published forum schedule (Annex A) to determine the forum day they actually attended, and compared against the date the response was logged in the system. This revealed that 47 of 108 in-person responses were logged under a later date than the respondent's true forum day — consistent with Directorate staff transcribing hard-copy forms from an earlier venue once time or connectivity allowed. These responses were re-attributed to their true forum day (see Section 4) for all analysis in this report, and were additionally excluded from the questionnaire-timing analysis in Section 7, since a transcription session timed by an already-informed member of staff does not reflect genuine respondent completion time.

The resulting clean dataset of 149 responses is the basis for all findings, tables and charts in Sections 4–15 of this report, unless otherwise stated. Where a specific question was left blank by a respondent who otherwise completed the questionnaire (ordinary item non-response, as opposed to wholesale abandonment), that respondent is excluded only from the denominator for that specific question, and the applicable "n" is stated alongside each chart.

4. PARTICIPATION OVERVIEW

After data cleaning (Section 3.6), 149 valid responses were retained for analysis. During analysis, the Directorate cross-checked the sub-county recorded by each respondent against the published forum schedule (Annex A) and found that the date a response was logged in the system did not always match the day the respondent actually attended. Specifically, of the 108 responses collected in person, 47 (44% of in-person responses) were recorded under a later date than the respondent's own sub-county's scheduled forum day — consistent with Directorate staff subsequently transcribing hard-copy questionnaires from the 12 and 13 August venues into the online system on 14, 15 and 17 August, once connectivity or time allowed. Where this occurred, the response has been attributed in this report to the sub-county's true scheduled forum day (determined from the respondent's stated sub-county, a more reliable indicator than the system entry date), not to the date it happened to be typed in. This reconciliation is applied throughout Sections 4–7; Section 7 additionally excludes these transcribed entries from the questionnaire-timing analysis, for the reasons explained there.

Figure 1 shows the resulting pattern: an initial wave of online/offsite responses followed publication of the advert on 4 August 2026, then attendance across the three forum days, split into responses entered into the system on the same day versus those entered later by staff from hard-copy forms. Day 2 (Kandara, Gatanga, Ithanga — 13 August) recorded the highest true attendance of the three forum days once transcribed entries are correctly attributed to it, despite fewer than half of its responses having been digitised on the day itself.



As shown in Figure 2, 108 responses (72%) were captured in person at the nine sub-county forums — 61 of them entered into the system the same day and 47 entered later by Directorate staff — while 41 responses (28%) came in through the online/offsite KoboToolbox channel ahead of the forum week, close to the ~44 offsite responses initially logged before duplicate/blank-response cleaning.

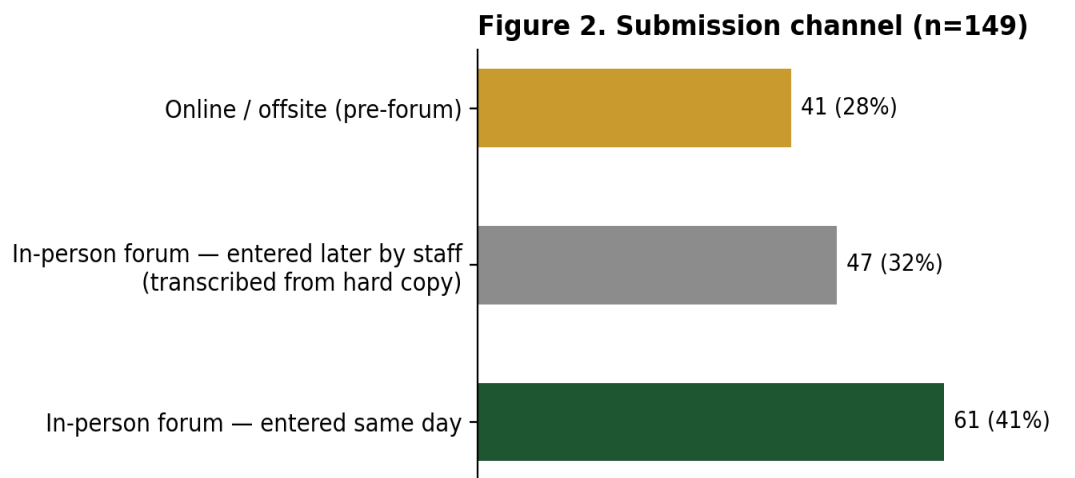
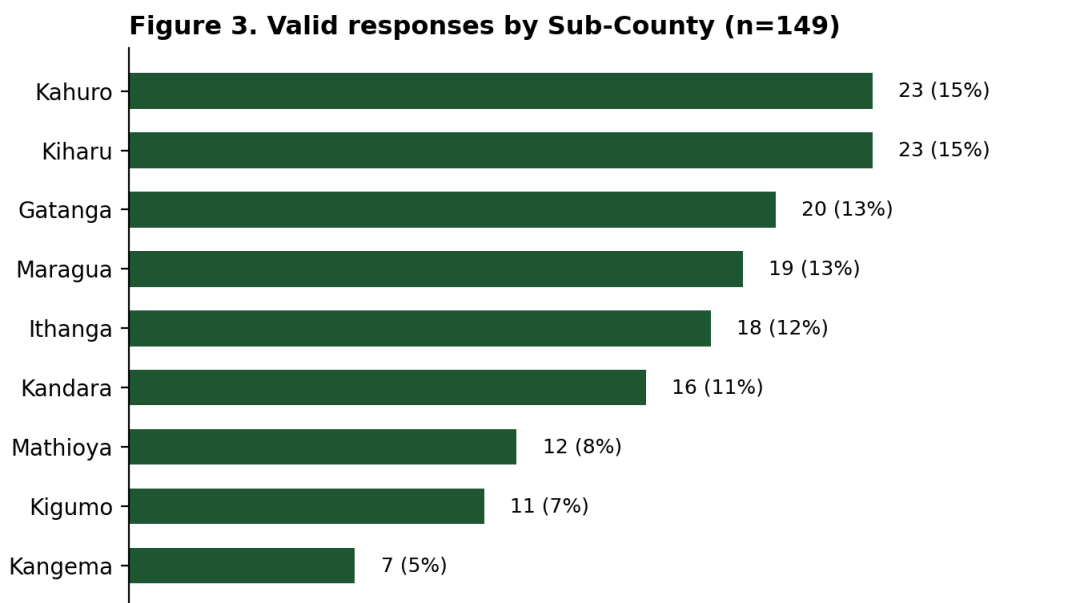


Figure 3 shows the distribution of valid responses across Murang'a's nine sub-counties (using each respondent's stated sub-county, unaffected by the system entry-date issue described above). Coverage was broadly proportionate to the forum schedule, with Kahuro and Kiharu (Murang'a East) recording the highest numbers of respondents and Kangema the lowest, a gap the Directorate should note when planning mobilization intensity for the next cycle.



4.1 Written Memoranda

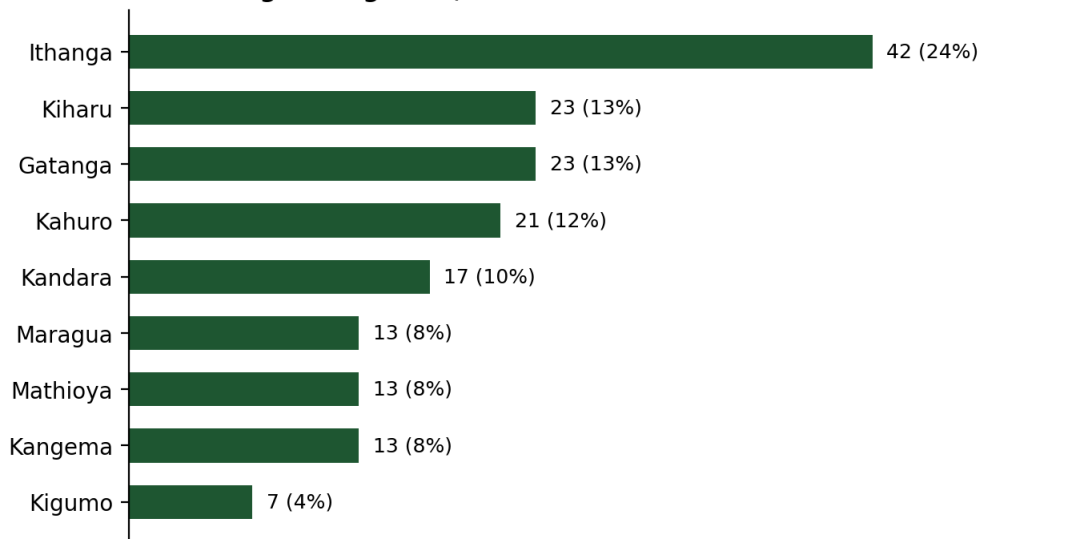
In addition to the questionnaire responses analysed in this report, the public notice invited residents to submit written memoranda directly to the Directorate of Economic Planning — by post, email, or in person — as an alternative channel for those who preferred to articulate their views in their own format rather than through the structured questionnaire, consistent with Section 15 of the County Governments Act, 2012 on the right of the public to petition and make representations to the County Government. Seven (7) such memoranda were received by the submission deadline of Friday, 14 August 2026. The majority of these memoranda were

submitted by, or on behalf of, Home-Based Child Care (HBCC) providers, formally requesting County recognition, registration and financial support — corroborating, through an entirely independent channel, the same priority that emerged organically from the open-ended questionnaire responses analysed in Section 10. These memoranda are retained in full by the Directorate as part of the official record of this public participation exercise and should be read alongside this report when the ADP FY 2027/2028 is finalized.

4.2 Verified Physical Attendance (Sign-In Registers)

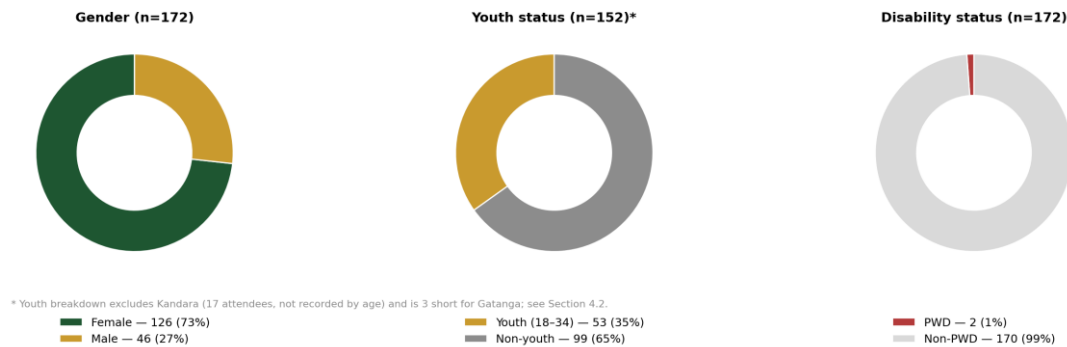
Following the forums, the Directorate reconciled the questionnaire dataset against the official sign-in registers maintained at each of the nine venues — the primary legal record of who physically attended, independent of whether that person went on to complete a questionnaire. The registers recorded 172 verified physical attendees in total, against 108 valid in-person questionnaire responses in the clean dataset (Section 3.6) — confirming that turnout at the forums was materially higher than the number of completed questionnaires alone would suggest, and providing an authoritative, independent headcount for the exercise as a whole.

Figure 21. Verified physical attendance by sub-county (official sign-in registers, n=172)



Ithanga recorded by far the highest physical turnout of any venue (42 attendees, 24% of all verified attendance), consistent with it being one of the larger, more accessible venues on the schedule; Kigumo recorded the smallest (7).

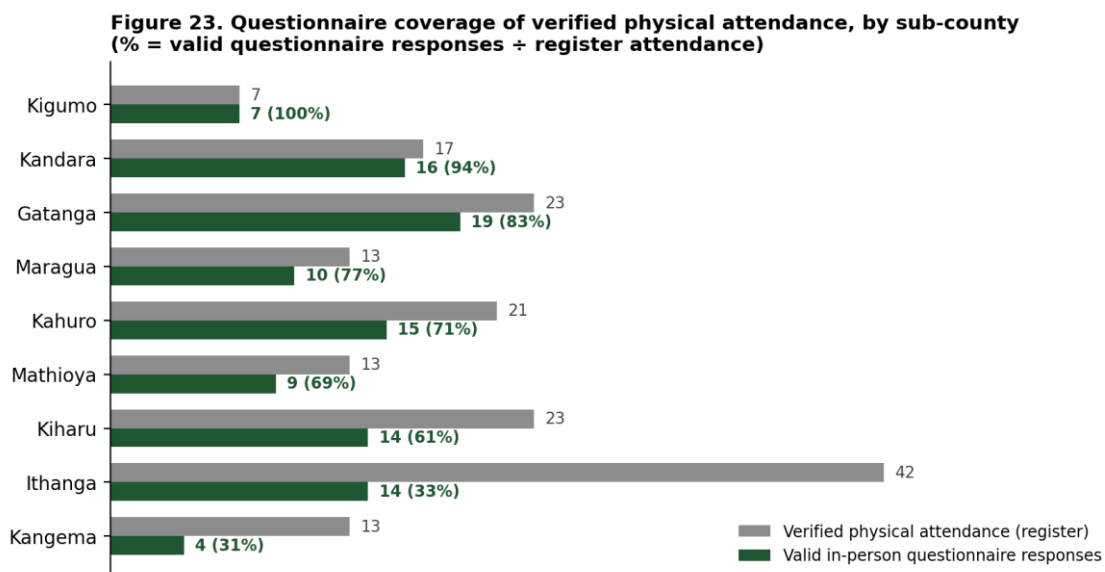
The registers also captured attendees' gender, youth status and disability status at the point of sign-in (Figure 22). Two data-quality gaps should be noted: the youth/non-youth breakdown was not recorded at all for Kandara (17 attendees) and is short by 3 for Gatanga (20 of 23 accounted for); both gaps are excluded from the youth totals below rather than assumed. Gender and disability status are complete for all nine venues.

Figure 22. Verified attendee demographic profile (official sign-in registers)

Attendance skewed strongly female (73%) — close to, and slightly higher than, the 68% female share seen among the in-person questionnaire respondents themselves (Section 5 reports 62% female across the full 149-responder dataset, which blends in the somewhat less female-skewed online channel) — confirming that the strong female turnout reported elsewhere in this document reflects genuine attendance patterns rather than a quirk of who chose to complete a questionnaire. Youth (18–34) made up 35% of attendees where recorded, closely matching the 33% youth share seen among in-person questionnaire respondents in the same age brackets — a useful cross-check that the questionnaire sample was not obviously skewed relative to the room. Persons with disabilities remained a very small share of attendance (2 of 172, 1.2%), reinforcing the recommendation in Section 17 for more deliberate PWD outreach in future cycles.

4.3 Register vs. Questionnaire Coverage

Comparing register attendance against valid in-person questionnaire responses venue-by-venue (Figure 23) shows coverage was uneven — not every attendee completed, or had digitised, a questionnaire. Kigumo achieved full coverage (100%) and Kandara near-full (94%), while Kangema (31%) and Ithanga (33%, despite having the single largest crowd) recorded the weakest coverage. Overall, 108 of 172 verified attendees (62.8%) are represented by a valid questionnaire response in this report's findings; the views of the remaining 64 attendees were not individually captured in the dataset, most plausibly because the venue ran out of forms, time constraints cut discussion short before every attendee could be reached, or some completed hard-copy forms were not subsequently located for digitisation.



This gap does not invalidate the findings elsewhere in this report — 108 in-person respondents remains a substantial, broadly representative sample — but it does mean the sector-priority, flagship-project and satisfaction findings in Sections 9–14 should be read as representing the recorded views of attendees, not a literal headcount of everyone who attended. It also points to a clear, low-cost operational fix for the next cycle: ensuring each venue is stocked with a number of questionnaire forms comfortably above its typically expected turnout, with a real-time tally against the sign-in register so that shortfalls can be topped up mid-session rather than discovered afterwards.

Combined reach across all channels: adding the 41 online/offsite questionnaire responses (which are not physical attendees and so do not appear in any venue register) to the 172 verified physical attendees gives a combined minimum reach of 213 individual Murang'a residents engaged by this public participation exercise across all channels, of whom 149 (70%) are represented by a valid, analysed questionnaire response in this report.

5. RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Part A of the questionnaire captured the demographic profile of respondents. As Figure 4 shows, women made up 62% of respondents (92 of 149 who stated their gender) against 38% men — a notable achievement in reaching women, who are frequently under-represented in public forums. The largest age brackets were 25–34 years and 45–59 years (30% each), with young people aged 18–24 comprising only 5% of respondents, suggesting continued under-representation of youth voices that future mobilization should target more deliberately. Respondents were relatively well educated (56% having attained tertiary/college or university education), and the largest single occupation category was formal employment (23%), followed closely by farming/livestock and other occupations (19% each).

Figure 4. Respondent demographic profile

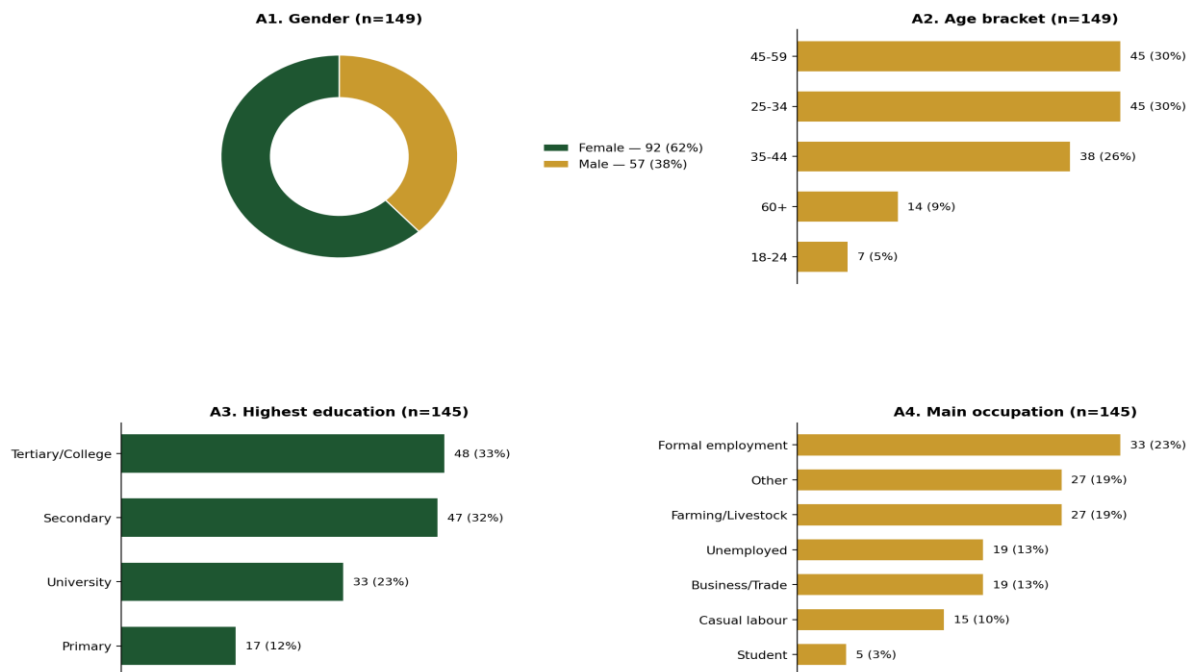
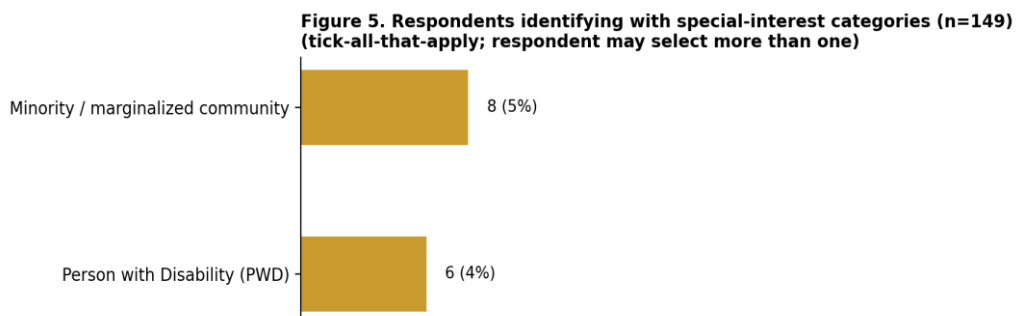


Figure 5 shows respondents who self-identified with special-interest categories under Question A5 (tick all that apply): 6 respondents (4%) identified as persons with disability (PWD), and 8 (5%) as members of a minority or marginalized community. While these numbers indicate that PWDs and minority/marginalized groups were represented, they remain a small share of total respondents; the recommendations in Section 17 address how future cycles can widen this reach, including through targeted focus-group sessions as envisaged in the County Public Participation Guidelines.

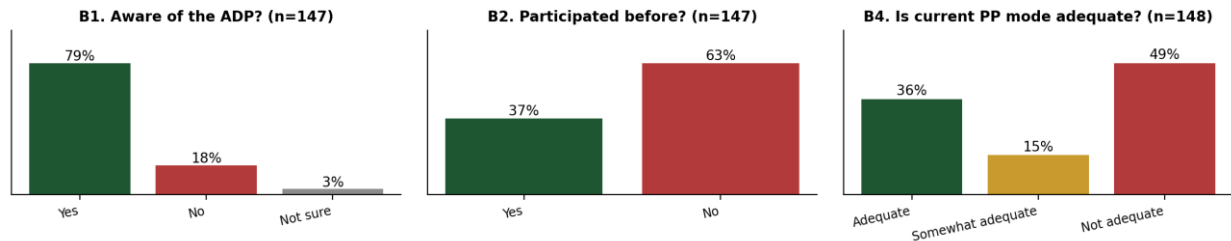


On tenure, 74% of respondents had lived in their ward for over 10 years, indicating that the exercise predominantly reached long-term, rooted residents well placed to comment on the performance of past County projects (Section 8), rather than more recent arrivals.

6. AWARENESS OF, AND EXPERIENCE WITH, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

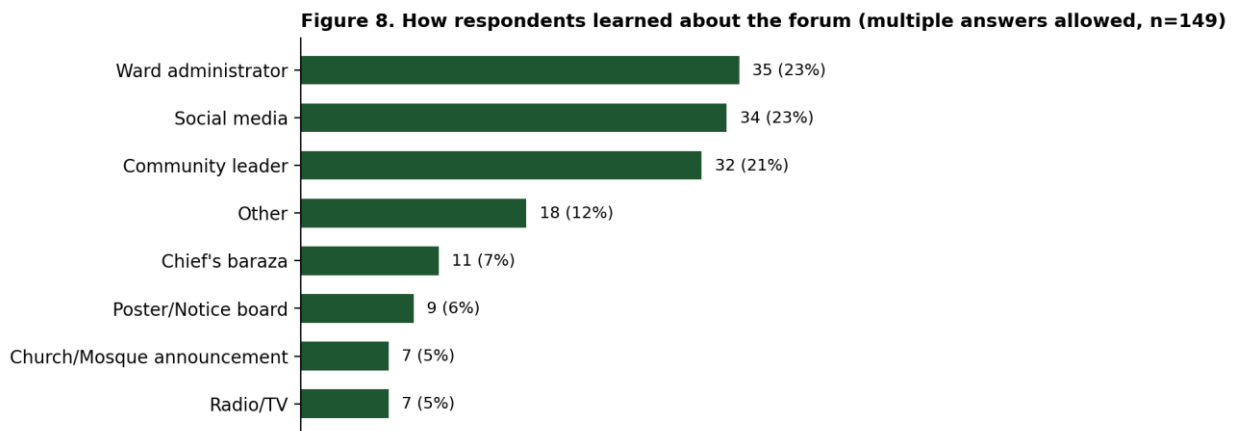
Figure 7 summarizes responses to Part B. While a substantial majority (79%) said they were aware of the ADP and its role in guiding the County Budget, most respondents (63%) had never before participated in a County public participation forum of any kind (CIDP, ADP or Budget). This gap between general awareness and actual prior participation points to a persistent access or mobilization barrier rather than a lack of interest.

Figure 7. Awareness of, and experience with, public participation



Among the 93 respondents who said they had never participated before, the most common reason was that they had simply "never heard of" such forums (48 mentions), followed by distance (8), inaccessible venues (7) and time constraints (5). This reinforces that awareness-raising and venue accessibility, rather than disinterest, are the primary barriers to be addressed.

Figure 8 shows how respondents actually learned about this specific forum/questionnaire (Question B3, multiple answers allowed). Ward administrators, social media and community leaders were the three most-cited channels, ahead of more traditional channels such as chief's barazas and posters.

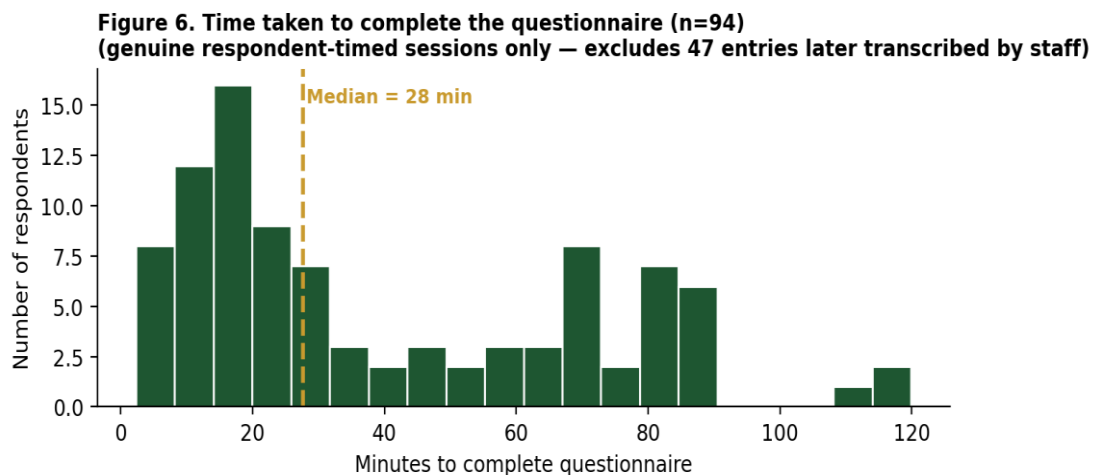


Notwithstanding this turnout, 49% of respondents rated the current mode of public participation as "not adequate" for reaching all residents — including PWDs, women and youth — versus 36% who found it adequate and 15% who found it "somewhat adequate" (see Figure 7, rightmost panel). Section 15 presents respondents' own, largely consistent, suggestions for closing this gap.

7. TIME TAKEN TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire cover page estimated a completion time of 10–15 minutes. As noted in Section 4, 47 in-person responses were only entered into the system some days after the respondent was actually interviewed, once Directorate staff transcribed the hard-copy forms from an earlier venue. For those records, the recorded start-to-end interval measures how quickly a staff member — already familiar with the questionnaire and typing in answers already written on paper — could complete the data entry, not how long the original respondent actually took to answer; including them would systematically and misleadingly pull the reported completion time toward the shorter end. These 47 records are therefore excluded entirely from the analysis in this section (though they remain fully included in every other section of this report, since the reconciliation in Section 4 confirms they are genuine, valid responses — only their timing is unreliable).

Based on the remaining 102 genuinely respondent-timed sessions — comprising same-day in-person forum entries and self-administered online/offsite entries — with plausible single-sitting durations (durations beyond two hours, most likely reflecting a device left open overnight or across an offline sync gap rather than continuous completion, were treated as data artefacts and excluded — 8 such records), the median time taken was 27.7 minutes, with the middle 50% of respondents (the interquartile range) taking between 14.8 and 68.7 minutes.

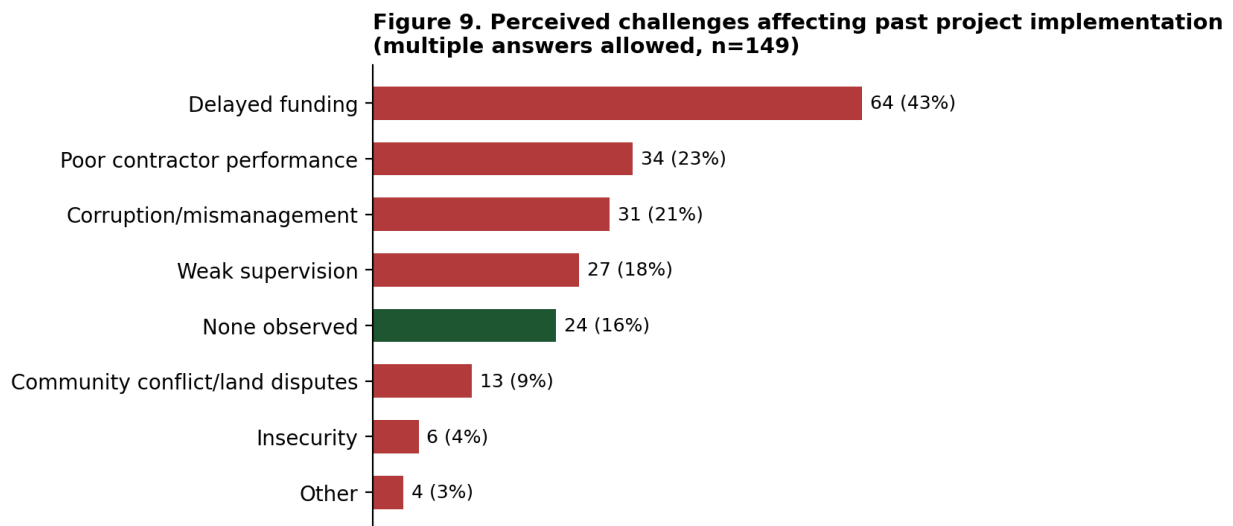


The two channels differ markedly, and are worth reporting separately: enumerator-led, in-person forum sessions took considerably longer (n=58, median 56.1 minutes, interquartile range 18.2–78.8 minutes) than self-administered online/offsite sessions (n=36, median 19.3 minutes, interquartile range 11–29 minutes). This is plausible: forum sessions involved group discussion, translation, and waiting for facilitator guidance on open-ended questions, while online respondents worked through the form independently at their own pace. It also confirms the importance of the exclusion above — the transcribed entries had a median of only 17.9 minutes, far closer to (and in some cases faster than) the online median, despite representing forum attendees whose actual interviews would have taken considerably longer; retaining them would have understated true in-person completion time by roughly half.

This confirms the instrument was reasonably well-calibrated for a self-administered questionnaire, but that enumerator-led forum sessions substantially exceeded the stated 10–15-minute estimate. The Directorate should revise the stated estimate for future cycles — perhaps quoting 15–25 minutes for online/self-administered completion and up to an hour for a facilitated in-person forum session — to better set participant and facilitator expectations, particularly given the number of open-ended questions in Parts B, D, E, F and J.

8. REVIEW OF PAST PROJECTS (FY 2025/26 AND PRIOR YEARS)

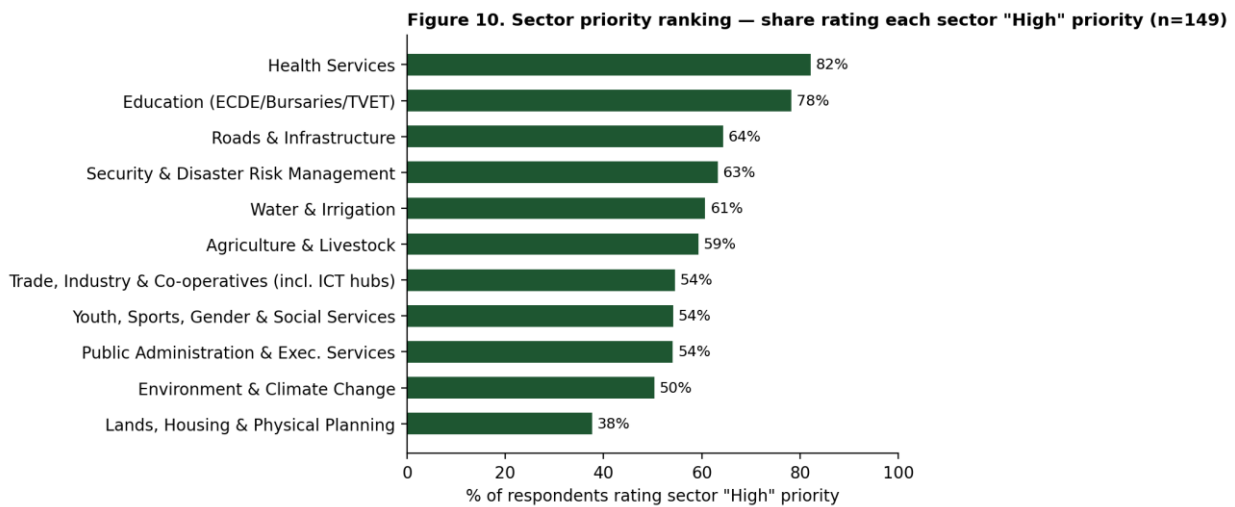
Part C asked respondents to reflect on the performance of projects implemented under the current/previous ADP, to inform re-prioritization for FY 2027/2028. Question C1 asked what challenges, in the respondent's view, most affected project implementation in their ward (multiple answers allowed). As Figure 9 shows, delayed funding was by far the most cited challenge, named by 43% of respondents — nearly double the next most common challenge, poor contractor performance (23%), followed closely by corruption/mismanagement (21%) and weak supervision (18%). Only 16% of respondents reported observing no challenges at all.



This pattern — funding delays compounding weak contractor and supervisory performance — is corroborated by the comparatively low satisfaction ratings for Roads, Infrastructure & Drainage recorded under Part I (Section 14), and should inform the Directorate's cash-flow planning and contract-management practices for FY 2027/2028 projects, in line with the "Good practices during budget implementation" highlighted in the County Public Participation Guidelines (e.g., publishing Quarterly Budget Implementation Reports and strengthening Project Management Committees).

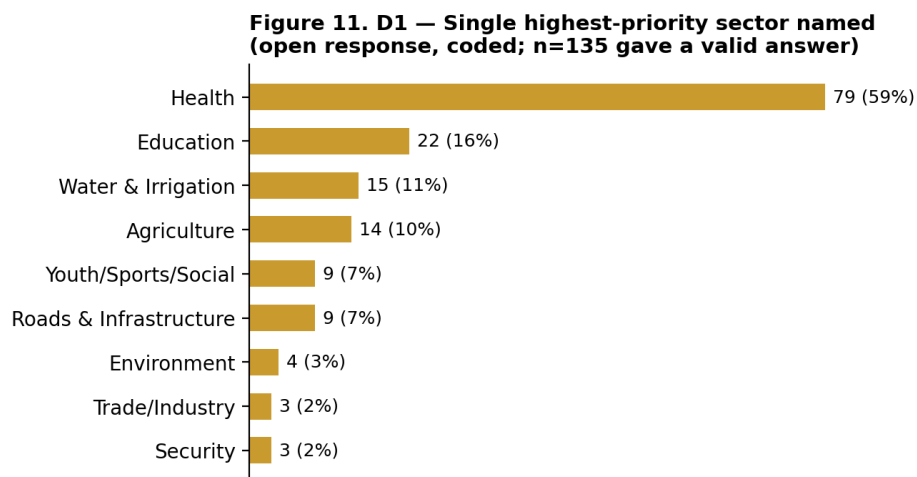
9. PRIORITY NEEDS BY SECTOR

Part D asked respondents to rate eleven County sectors as High, Medium or Low priority for FY 2027/2028. Figure 10 ranks the sectors by the share of respondents rating each "High" priority.



Health Services was the clear top priority (82% "High"), followed by Education – ECDE/Bursaries/TVET (78%). Roads & Infrastructure (64%) and Security, Disaster Risk Management & Peacebuilding (63%) formed a second tier, ahead of Water & Irrigation and Agriculture & Livestock. Lands, Housing & Physical Planning received the lowest "High" priority rating (38%), though it should be noted this sector also drew a comparatively high "Medium" rating, suggesting it is seen as important but not the most urgent.

Question D1 asked respondents to name, in their own words, the single sector they consider the highest priority. Of the 135 respondents who gave a valid open-text answer, responses were coded into sector themes as shown in Figure 11; consistent with the closed-question ratings above, Health dominated (named by 79 respondents, 59%), well ahead of Education (22, 16%) and Water & Irrigation (15, 11%).

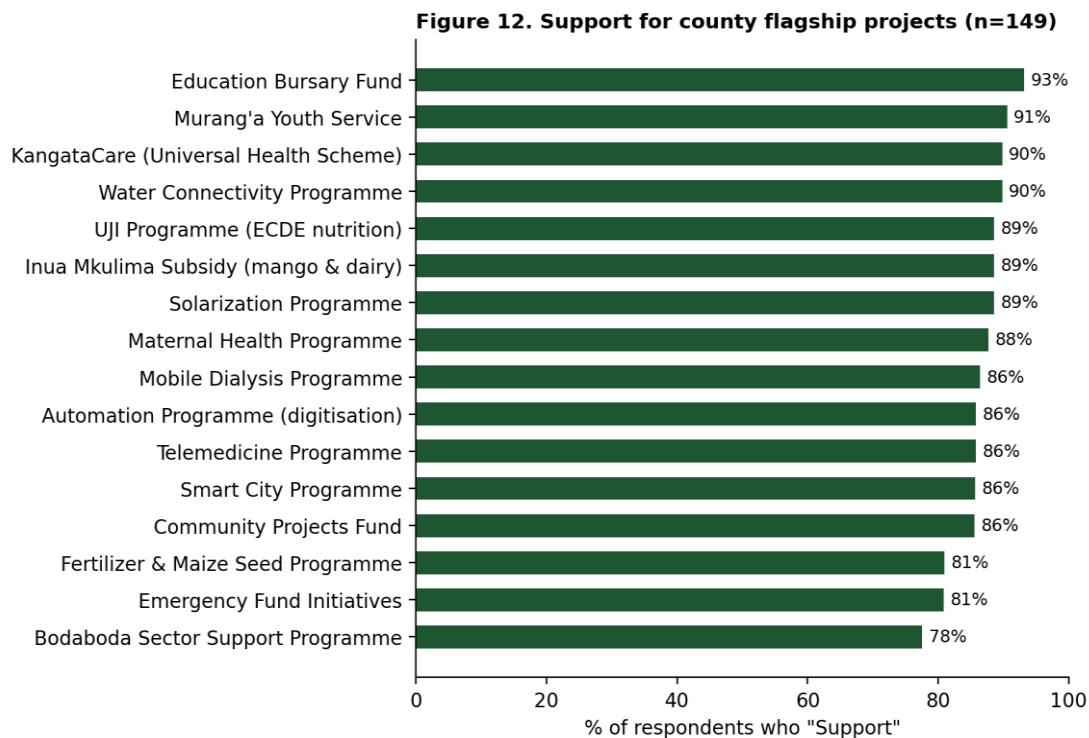


"Health should be the county's highest priority because it directly affects the well-being, productivity, and quality of life of all residents. Investing in healthcare improves access to essential medical services, reduces preventable illnesses and deaths, strengthens emergency response, and promotes healthier communities." — respondent, Question D1

"[Agriculture] directly empowers the vast majority of rural households, unlocks economic growth through value addition and agro-processing, and creates a sustainable foundation that makes every other sector — from roads to health — more viable." — respondent, Question D1

10. COUNTY FLAGSHIP PROJECTS FY 2027/2028

Part E presented sixteen proposed county-wide flagship projects and asked respondents to indicate their level of support. Figure 12 shows the share of respondents who "Support" each project.



Every proposed flagship project received support from at least three-quarters of respondents, indicating broad public buy-in for the County's flagship agenda overall. The Education Bursary Fund (93%), Murang'a Youth Service (91%), KangataCare (90%) and the Water Connectivity Programme (90%) recorded the highest support. The Bodaboda Sector Support Programme, while still commanding majority support (78%), recorded the lowest support of the sixteen projects and may benefit from clearer public communication on its objectives and expected beneficiaries.

Question E1 asked respondents which single flagship project they consider most transformative. KangataCare was named far more often than any other project (37 of 138 respondents who answered, 27%), followed by the Education Bursary Fund (12, 9%) and, tied, the Murang'a Youth Service and the Inua Mkulima Subsidy Programme (11 mentions each).

"KangataCare... my sister is a cancer patient [and] it has really helped my family with the cost of treatment." — respondent, Question E1 (paraphrased)

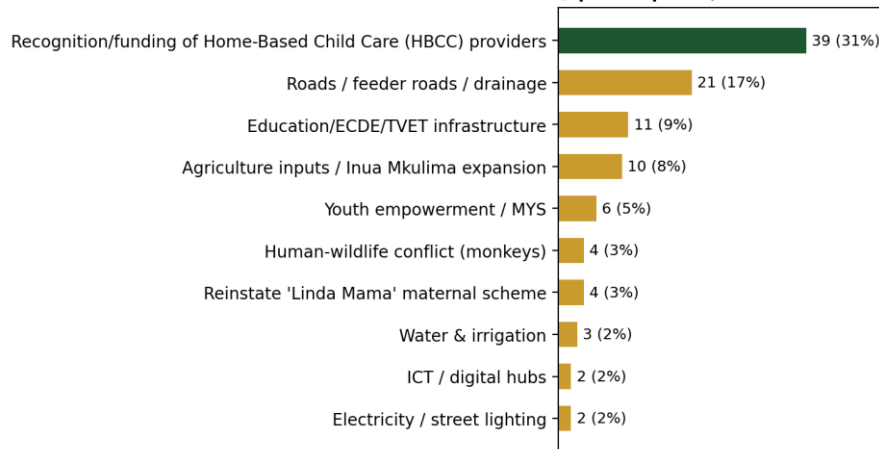
"Water Connectivity Programme – this is the most transformative because water scarcity affects every aspect of life in our ward, from farming and livestock keeping to health and household chores." — respondent, Question E1

An emergent, unprompted priority: Home-Based Child Care (HBCC) providers

Question E2 asked, without prompting, whether there are additional flagship projects respondents would like considered. This open question surfaced the single most striking finding of the entire exercise: recognition, regulation and financial support for Home-Based Child Care (HBCC) providers — caregivers who look after children aged 0–3 years, often before they are old enough to join formal ECDE centres — was raised by 39 of the 125 respondents who answered this question (31%), making it by far the largest single theme — well ahead

of the next most common theme, roads/feeder roads/drainage (21 mentions, 17%). Responses on this theme used varied wording — "HBCC", "Home Based Child Care", "H.B.C.C.", "day care providers" and "care givers" — which were combined into a single theme for this analysis, as they clearly refer to the same proposal.

Figure 18. E2 — Additional flagship projects proposed (unprompted) (open response, coded into themes; n=125 gave a valid answer)



"If you will consider HBCC providers we will really appreciate. We take care of children below 3 years, from 0–3 years." — respondent, Question J1

"Recognition and Licensing of home-based child care providers in Murang'a county." — respondent, Question E2

Because this theme recurred independently, in the respondents' own words, across multiple sub-counties and resurfaced again in general comments (Part J, Section 15), the Directorate should treat it as a credible, organically expressed community priority worth formal consideration for the ADP FY 2027/2028 — for example, as a component of the existing UJI or Maternal Health programmes, or as a standalone registration/subsidy scheme for HBCC providers, subject to technical and fiscal appraisal by the relevant sector.

Notably, this finding is independently corroborated outside the questionnaire dataset: of the seven written memoranda received directly by the Directorate over the same period (see Section 4.1), the majority were submitted by or on behalf of HBCC providers. That the same, highly specific request surfaced unprompted through three separate channels — an open questionnaire question, spontaneous general comments, and formal written memoranda — substantially strengthens the case that this is a genuine, well-organized community priority rather than an artefact of survey design.

11. WARD / LOCAL PROJECT PROPOSALS

Part F invited respondents to list and rank specific projects for their own ward or village. Because this was administered as a repeatable table (allowing respondents to list several projects), the itemized project list itself is retained separately by the Directorate as raw planning input for sector working groups and ward-level compilation, rather than summarized statistically in this report. However, two structured follow-up questions on respondents' top (No. 1) priority project were captured and analysed below.

Question F1 asked respondents what specific problem their No. 1 priority project would solve. The 125 valid responses received span a wide range of hyper-local concerns, reflecting the ward-specific nature of this question; the most recurring problem types were: unreliable access to domestic water and irrigation; poor or impassable feeder roads limiting transport of farm produce and access to markets, schools and health facilities; distance to, or inadequate staffing/equipment at, health facilities (including maternity services); food insecurity and low agricultural incomes; and youth unemployment linked to drug and substance abuse. A sample of verbatim responses illustrates the range:

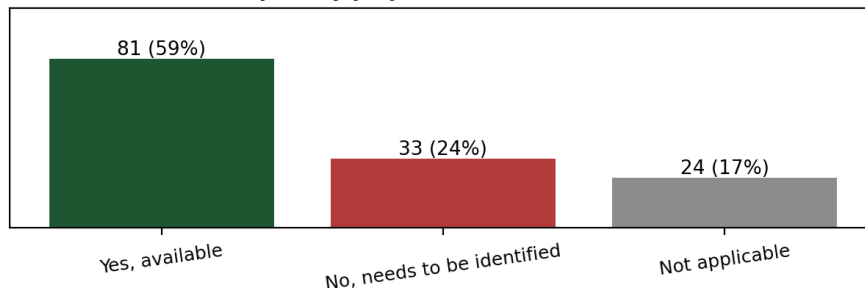
"Time wastage while fetching water" / "Unreliable domestic water supply" — multiple respondents, Question F1

"Drug and substance abuse continues to affect young people, families and communities... can contribute to school dropout, unemployment, violence [and] family conflict." — respondent, Question F1

"Reduce distance travelled... and seeking maternity services from private hospitals that are expensive." — respondent, Question F1

Question F2 asked whether community/ward-level land is already identified and available for the respondent's No. 1 priority project, an important pre-implementation readiness indicator. Figure 20 shows the results.

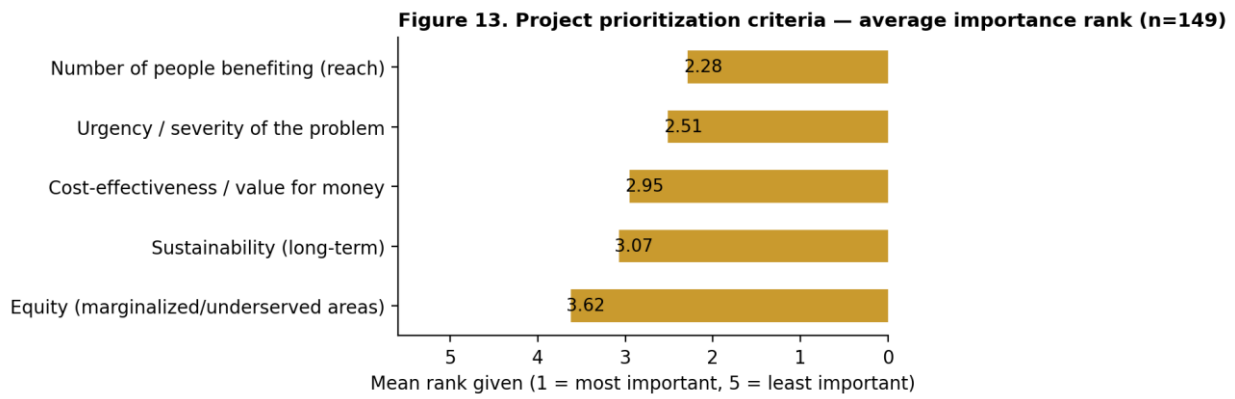
Figure 20. F2 — Is land already identified for the No.1 ward priority project? (of 138 who named a priority project)



Of the 138 respondents who answered, 59% reported that land is already available for their proposed project, a positive readiness signal that should reduce implementation lead time once such projects are approved and funded; 24% indicated land still needs to be identified, which the Directorate should flag to Lands, Housing & Physical Planning early in project appraisal to avoid delays of the kind identified as the top implementation challenge in Section 8.

12. PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

Part G asked respondents to rank five criteria from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important) to guide the County in selecting which projects to fund given limited resources. Figure 13 shows the average (mean) rank assigned to each criterion — the lower the average, the more important respondents considered that criterion.

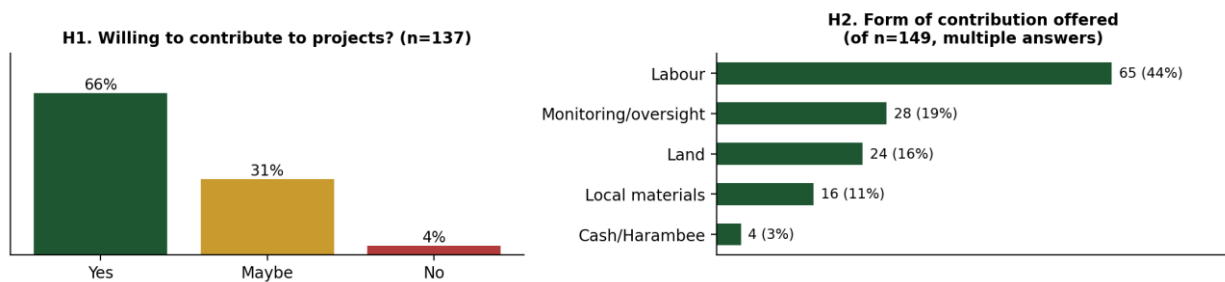


Respondents placed the greatest weight on reach — "Number of people benefiting" received the lowest (best) mean rank of 2.28 — followed closely by "Urgency/severity of the problem" (2.51). "Cost-effectiveness/value for money" and "Sustainability" clustered in the middle. Notably, "Equity (benefits marginalized/underserved areas)" was ranked least important on average (3.62). This is a finding the Directorate should treat with care: while it reflects genuine public sentiment on how to prioritize scarce resources, Article 10(2)(b) and Article 232(1) of the Constitution, together with the County Public Participation Guidelines' principle of "protection and promotion of the interests and rights of minorities, marginalized groups and communities", require the County to safeguard equity considerations in final project selection even where they are not the public's top preference — equity is a constitutional floor, not merely one competing preference among five.

13. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION, OWNERSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY

Part H assessed community willingness to co-invest in proposed projects, an important sustainability and ownership indicator highlighted throughout the County Public Participation Guidelines (e.g., the Makueni participatory budgeting model and community-led Project Management Committees). As Figure 14 shows, 66% of respondents who answered said they would willingly contribute resources, with a further 31% saying "maybe, depending on the project"; only 4% said no. Combined, 132 of the 149 respondents in the clean dataset (89%) expressed at least conditional willingness to contribute.

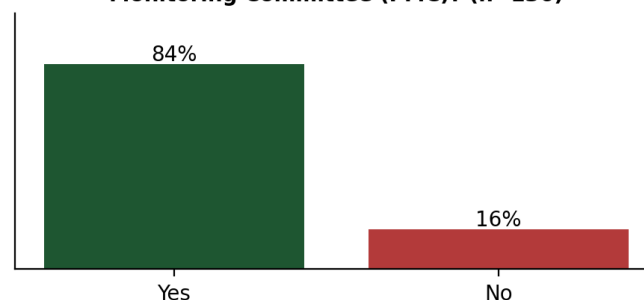
Figure 14. Community resource mobilization & ownership



Among those willing to contribute, labour was overwhelmingly the preferred form of contribution (65 mentions, 44% of all 149 respondents), followed by willingness to serve in monitoring/oversight roles (28, 19%) and land contributions (24, 16%). Cash/harambee contributions were the least commonly offered form (4 mentions), consistent with the predominantly rural, land- and labour-rich profile of respondents.

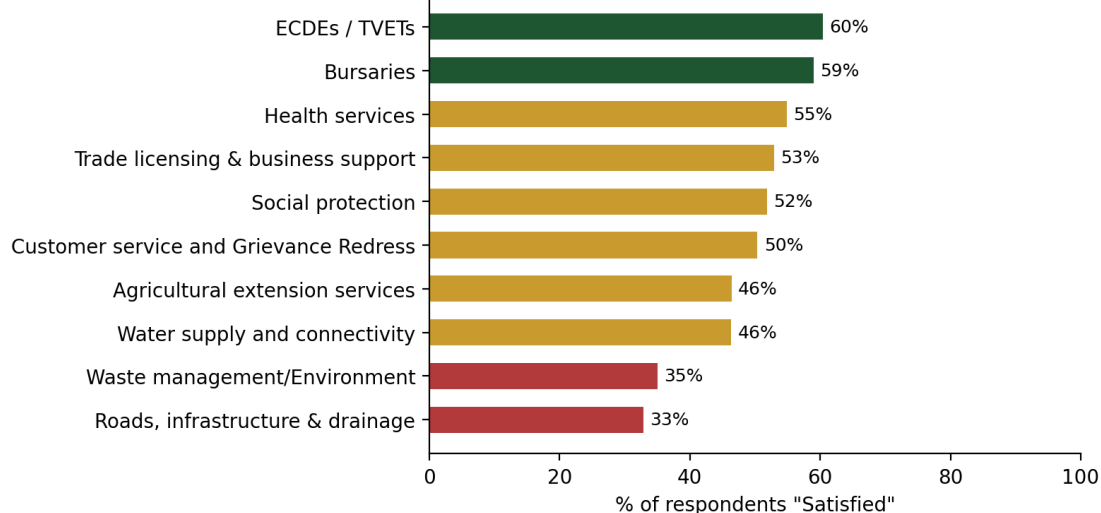
Question H3 asked whether respondents would be willing to serve in, or support, a Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) for a project in their area — a concrete, actionable form of civic engagement the County can follow up on directly. As Figure 15 shows, 84% of respondents who answered said yes, and 114 respondents in total volunteered their names for this purpose. This represents a substantial, ready pool of community volunteers the Directorate should formally register and route to the relevant ward-level PMCs once specific projects are approved, consistent with the Guidelines for Community-Led Project Management Committees issued by the Council of Governors.

Figure 15. H3 — Willing to serve on a Project Monitoring Committee (PMC)? (n=136)



14. SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT SERVICE DELIVERY

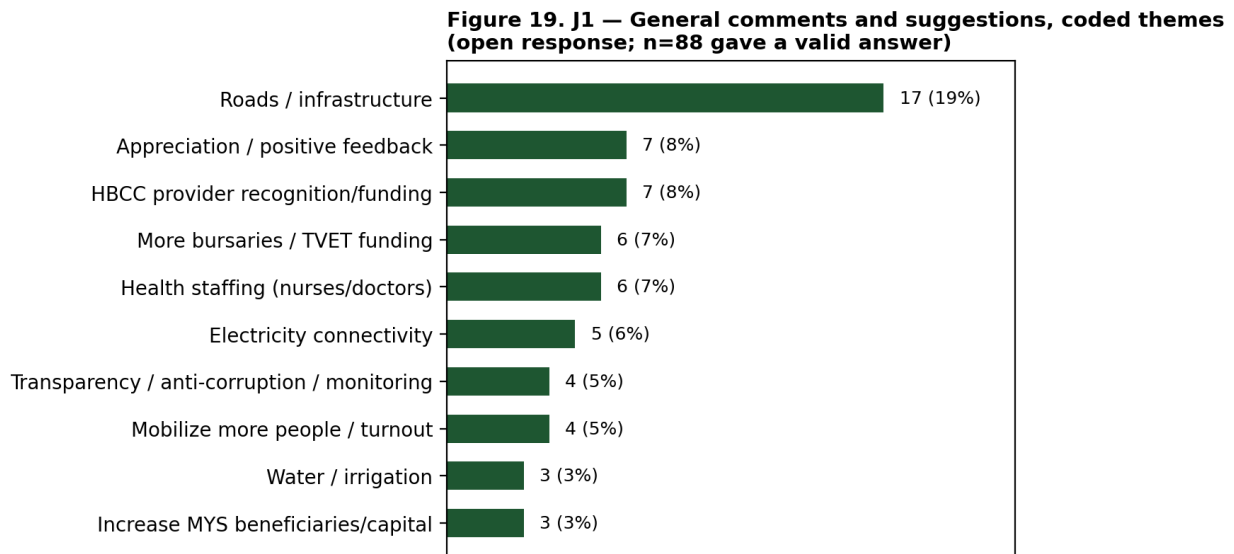
Part I asked respondents to rate their satisfaction with current County service delivery across ten service areas. Figure 16 ranks these by the share of respondents who reported being "Satisfied".

Figure 16. Satisfaction with current County service delivery (n=149)

Satisfaction was highest for ECDEs/TVETs (60%) and Bursaries (59%), and lowest for Roads, Infrastructure & Drainage (33% satisfied, and the highest dissatisfaction of any service area at 25%) and Waste Management/Environment (35% satisfied, 38% dissatisfied). This is consistent with, and mutually reinforcing of, the findings in Section 8 that delayed funding and poor contractor performance were the most cited reasons past projects under-performed, and in Section 9 that Roads & Infrastructure was rated a high priority sector by 64% of respondents — residents are not merely asking for more roads spending in the abstract, they are responding to a demonstrably under-performing current service. This combination of high stated priority and low current satisfaction marks Roads, Infrastructure & Drainage as the single sector most in need of visible improvement in FY 2027/2028 to rebuild public confidence.

15. GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Part J invited any other comments, concerns or suggestions. Of 88 respondents who left a substantive comment, the themes in Figure 19 recurred most often.



Three points stand out. First, roads/infrastructure complaints recurred here independently of Parts C and I, reinforcing that this is the sector most in need of visible, well-supervised delivery in FY 2027/2028. Second, the Home-Based Child Care (HBCC) theme identified in Section 10 resurfaced unprompted in general comments, further corroborating it as a genuine, cross-cutting community priority rather than an artefact of a single question. Third, a meaningful number of respondents used this open space simply to express appreciation for the participation process itself, while a smaller number specifically asked the County to address nursing/health-staffing shortages — both useful signals for the Directorate and the Health department respectively.

"The process should be more inclusive and transparent, with early public engagement, regular updates on project implementation, equitable distribution of resources, and timely completion of approved projects to maximize community benefit." — respondent, Question J1

"I appreciate the survey as it helps to get more opinions and ideas from different people in different communities and also helps to identify the current problems they are facing and how they would like them solved." — respondent, Question J1

"The county should involve residents more in identifying and prioritizing projects, and priority should be given to projects that have direct impact on the lives of residents." — respondent, Question J1

16. DATA LIMITATIONS

The following limitations should be borne in mind when using this report:

- **Non-probability sample:** respondents self-selected into attending a forum or completing the online form; the sample is therefore not a random, statistically representative sample of Murang'a's population, and findings describe the views of those who participated rather than the County as a whole.

- **Skew toward long-term residents and the more educated:** 74% of respondents had lived in their ward over 10 years and a majority had post-secondary education, which may under-represent newer residents, informal settlement dwellers and less-educated households.
- **Uneven sub-county coverage:** response counts ranged from 7 (Kangema) to 23 (Kahuro and Kiharu); findings by sub-county should be read with this in mind, and are not separately disaggregated in this report given the smaller cell sizes involved.
- **Item non-response:** not every respondent answered every question, particularly the open-ended items in Parts B, D, E, F and J; percentages for each question are calculated against the number of respondents who answered that specific question ("n"), which is stated alongside each chart, and not against the full clean sample of 149 in every case.
- **Repeat-group project list not summarized:** the itemized Part F project table (project name, exact location, estimated beneficiaries, sector) was captured as raw planning input for ward-level compilation and sector working groups, and is not summarized statistically in this report; only the two structured follow-up questions (F1, F2) are analysed above.
- **Open-text coding involves judgement:** thematic coding of open-ended responses (Sections 9, 10, 15) necessarily involves interpretive judgement in grouping similar wording under a common theme; the coding rules applied are described in Section 3.6, and the underlying verbatim responses remain available to the Directorate for independent review.
- **Timestamp artefacts:** a small number of records showed implausible multi-day gaps between "start" and "end" timestamps, most likely reflecting an offline device left open rather than a genuinely multi-day completion; these were excluded only from the specific completion-time calculation in Section 7 and were retained for all other analysis.
- **Forum day inferred, not directly observed:** for the 47 in-person responses identified as entered later by staff (Section 4), the true forum day attended was inferred from the respondent's stated sub-county matched against the published one-sub-county-per-day schedule, not observed directly. This is a reasonable and highly probable inference given the schedule design, but cannot be independently verified for each individual form; a small number of these 47 responses could in principle have been collected through an alternative arrangement (e.g. a resident attending a neighbouring sub-county's forum) rather than transcribed later, which would not change their validity but would change which day they should be attributed to in Figure 1.
- **Register coverage gap:** the sector, flagship-project, prioritization and satisfaction findings in Sections 9–14 reflect the 108 in-person attendees who completed a valid questionnaire, not all 172 verified attendees recorded in the sign-in registers (Sections 4.2–4.3). Coverage fell as low as 31–33% at two venues; the 64 uncaptured attendees relate to participants who shared questionnaires and some who left early before filling out. We acknowledge that the findings in this report could understate or overstate the true strength of consensus at those specific venues. The Directorate has no way to test this directly since, by definition, no responses were collected from the uncaptured attendees.

17. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The ADP FY 2027/2028 public participation exercise reached 149 valid respondents across all nine sub-counties, through a combination of in-person forums and online/offsite submission, in fulfilment of the constitutional and statutory requirements set out in Section 2. Respondents demonstrated broad support for the County's proposed flagship agenda, identified Health and Education as their top sector priorities, and were, on balance, willing to co-invest their own labour, land and time in County projects. At the same time, the exercise surfaced clear, actionable gaps — in participation reach, in past project implementation, and in current service satisfaction — that the Directorate should carry into the ADP finalization process. Based on the findings above, the Directorate of Economic Planning recommends that the County Executive Committee and relevant sector departments:

On the ADP FY 2027/2028 content

1. **Give explicit consideration to a Home-Based Child Care (HBCC) support component** (recognition/registration and financial support for HBCC providers) in the ADP FY 2027/2028, given that this was the single largest unprompted theme raised under Question E2 (31% of respondents who answered), and recurred again under general comments — referring the matter to the relevant sector (Health / Youth, Sports, Gender & Social Services) for technical and fiscal appraisal.
2. **Prioritize funding predictability and contractor supervision for road and drainage projects** given that Roads, Infrastructure & Drainage combines a high stated sector priority (64%) with the lowest current satisfaction (33%) of any service area, and that delayed funding and poor contractor performance were the two most cited implementation challenges county-wide.
3. **Maintain and adequately resource all sixteen proposed flagship projects** given the broad-based support recorded (78% or higher for every project), while considering clearer public communication on the objectives of the Bodaboda Sector Support Programme, which recorded relatively the lowest (though still majority) support.
4. **Apply the constitutional equity principle as a floor in final project selection**, notwithstanding that respondents ranked "equity for marginalized/underserved areas" as the least important of five prioritization criteria on average — the County's obligations under Articles 10 and 232 of the Constitution, and the County Public Participation Guidelines' principle on protecting minority and marginalized interests, are not simply one preference to be weighed against public opinion.

On future public participation processes

1. **Diversify and rebalance notification channels** to make greater, more deliberate use of church/mosque announcements and SMS/bulk messaging — the two channels respondents most frequently proposed in their own words (Question B5) — alongside the ward-administrator and social-media channels that already dominate current outreach.
2. **Bring forums closer to villages**, not only ward headquarters, and give at least 14 days' advance notice consistent with the County Public Participation Guidelines' recommended timelines, to address the "never heard of it", distance and time-constraint barriers cited by respondents who had not previously participated.
3. **Broaden deliberate outreach to youth (18–24 years), PWDs and minority/marginalized groups**, who remained a comparatively small share of respondents in this cycle, including through the focus-group

approach and use of sign-language interpreters and braille materials envisaged in Part 4 of the County Public Participation Guidelines.

4. **Institutionalize and resource a feedback loop** so that participants receive a report, within 14–21 days of forum closure, on which of their proposals were adopted, partially adopted, or not adopted and why, as several respondents explicitly requested and as required under Section 6.1 of the County Public Participation Guidelines.
5. **Formalize a deeper civic-education partnership with URAIA Trust and similar civil society organizations** for the next cycle, moving beyond the light, marginal support provided in this round to a planned, resourced collaboration across all nine sub-counties, consistent with Section 3.7 of the County Public Participation Guidelines on partnering with CSOs to extend scarce civic-education capacity.
6. **Register and deploy the pool of PMC volunteers** identified in this exercise (114 respondents) to ward-level Project Management Committees as specific FY 2027/2028 projects are approved, providing a ready-made, community-rooted oversight mechanism.
7. **Match questionnaire form supply, and enumerator capacity, to expected turnout at each venue, and reconcile against the sign-in register in real time.** Register-verified attendance (172) exceeded valid in-person questionnaire responses (108) by 64 (Sections 4.2–4.3); coverage fell as low as 31–33% at Kangema and Ithanga, the latter despite recording the single largest crowd of any venue. Pre-positioning forms and staff in proportion to each venue's typical or expected turnout, with a running tally against the register during the session, would close this gap in future cycles.
8. **Revise the questionnaire's stated completion-time estimate** upward to approximately 15–25 minutes for the next cycle, based on the observed median of 27.7 minutes, to better set participant expectations.

This report, together with the underlying cleaned dataset, is submitted to inform finalization of the Murang'a County Annual Development Plan for FY 2027/2028 and the accompanying FY 2027/2028 County Budget.

ANNEX A: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE AND VENUES

The public notice below was published as "RE: Public Participation on the Murang'a County Annual Development Plan (ADP) for the 2027/28 Financial Year" in The Standard newspaper, Tuesday, 4 August 2026, page 6 (National section), and is reproduced here in its original form.

MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT



RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE MURANG'A COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (ADP) FOR THE 2027/28 FINANCIAL YEAR

Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, the County Governments Act, 2012, the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, the Murang'a County Government invites members of the public, stakeholders, and other interested parties to participate in the formulation of the Murang'a County Annual Development Plan (ADP) for the 2027/28 Financial Year.

Public consultative forums will be conducted to ensure inclusivity and transparency in the planning and budgeting process. These forums will help inform the policies and programs that will guide the County's development agenda. Members of the public, stakeholders, and other interested groups are invited to attend the forums in person or submit their written proposals. Written submissions should be addressed to the Directorate of Economic Planning, P.O. Box 52-10200, Murang'a or emailed to cdpomuranga@gmail.com. The submissions can also be registered virtually via <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/AqLnXoNa>. All submissions must be received on or before **Friday, 14th August 2026**.

Sub-county	Venue	Date & time
Murang'a East	St Mary's Parish Hall, Murang'a	12 th August 2026 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Kangema	Social Hall, Kangema	
Mathioya	DCC hall, Mathioya	
Kandara	Kandara Children's Home Hall	13 th August 2026 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Gatanga	NG-CDF Hall, Gatanga	
Ithanga	Catholic Church Hall, Ithanga	
Kigumo	CDF Hall, Kigumo	14 th August 2026 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Kahuro	Social Hall, Kahuro	
Maragua	Catholic Church Hall, Maragua	

"Let Your Voice Count in Shaping the Murang'a Development Agenda!"

CECM, FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING
MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Figure A1. Original public notice as published in The Standard, 4 August 2026, p.6.

For ease of reference, the venue and schedule details from the notice above are also transcribed in Table 3 below.

Sub-County	Venue	Date & Time
Murang'a East (Kiharu)	St Mary's Parish Hall, Murang'a	12 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Kangema	Social Hall, Kangema	12 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Mathioya	DCC Hall, Mathioya	12 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Kandara	Kandara Children's Home Hall	13 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Gatanga	NG-CDF Hall, Gatanga	13 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Ithanga	Catholic Church Hall, Ithanga	13 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Sub-County	Venue	Date & Time
Kigumo	CDF Hall, Kigumo	14 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Kahuro	Social Hall, Kahuro	14 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Maragua	Catholic Church Hall, Maragua	14 August 2026, 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Table 3. Published public participation venues and schedule (transcribed from Figure A1).

Written and virtual submissions were accepted, addressed to the Directorate of Economic Planning, P.O. Box 52-10200, Murang'a, or emailed to cdpomuranga@gmail.com, or registered virtually via <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/AqLnXoNn>, with all submissions required to be received on or before Friday, 14 August 2026. As reported in Section 4, seven written memoranda were received through this channel, in addition to the questionnaire responses analysed in this report.

ANNEX B: DATA CLEANING LOG

The table below itemizes the specific records removed at each data-cleaning step described in Section 3.6, for audit purposes.

B1. Non-consenting respondents removed (4)

Four respondents reached the consent question and indicated "No" (did not consent to participate); per the Data Protection Act, 2019 and the voluntary-participation principle stated on the questionnaire cover page, these respondents were routed directly to the exit screen in the original instrument and their (essentially empty) records were excluded in full from analysis.

B2. Duplicate resubmissions removed (4 records, from 4 respondent pairs)

Four pairs of submissions were identified where the same respondent phone number appeared on two consecutive submissions, timestamped back-to-back (the second beginning within seconds of the first ending) — consistent with an accidental double submission during a single enumerator session (for example, a form being re-opened and partially re-completed). In each pair, the more complete and/or most recently submitted entry was retained, and the redundant partial entry was removed, to avoid double-counting the same individual's views. Respondent names in Table 4 below are anonymized (each name-part masked to its first and last letter only, e.g. "Cxxxt Mxxxi Nxxxe") to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned, consistent with the Data Protection Act, 2019; full names and phone numbers are retained in the Directorate's restricted-access source file for audit purposes only.

Respondent (anonymized, phone-matched)	Record kept	Record removed	Reason
Cxxxt Mxxxi Nxxxe	Row 36	Row 37	Row 37 was a short, largely blank re-submission immediately following the complete Row 36
Rxxxa Nxxxi Nxxxe	Row 66	Row 67	Row 67 was a short, largely blank re-submission immediately following the complete Row 66
Jxxxe Wxxxi Nxxxe	Row 98	Row 99	Both substantially complete; later, corrected submission (Row 99) retained
Jxxxa Mxxxi Wxxxe	Row 132	Row 131	Both substantially complete; later, more complete submission (Row 132) retained

Table 4. Duplicate submissions identified and resolved (names anonymized).

B3. Blank / abandoned responses removed (3)

Three respondents consented and recorded only their location and basic demographic details (Part A: sub-county, ward, gender, age) before abandoning the questionnaire, with no answers recorded anywhere in Parts B through K. These records carried no substantive information for analysis and were excluded; this is a clear, natural break in the data — the next least-complete valid record in the clean dataset had engaged with 18 separate questionnaire fields, compared to 6–7 for the three excluded records.

B4. Field-level normalization applied

The public participation exercise used two versions of the data-collection form (reflecting a mid-exercise update to the KoboToolbox instrument), which encoded some answer categories differently (for example "high" vs. "High Priority"; "45_59" vs. "45-59 yrs"). All such variants were mapped to a single canonical category before analysis; the mapping tables are retained by the Directorate of Economic Planning and are available on request.

ANNEX C: VERIFIED PHYSICAL ATTENDANCE REGISTER (FULL DATA)

The table below reproduces, per sub-county venue, the attendance figures recorded in the official sign-in registers maintained at each of the nine public participation forums, as subsequently compiled and provided by the Directorate. See Section 4.2 for analysis and Section 4.3 for a comparison against valid questionnaire responses.

Sub-County	Male	Female	Youth (18–34)	Non-Youth	PWD	Non-PWD	Total
Gatanga	5	18	20	0*	0	23	23
Kangema	3	10	2	11	0	13	13
Maragua	1	12	2	11	0	13	13
Kahuro	10	11	4	17	2	19	21
Mathioya	0	13	4	9	0	13	13
Kiharu	11	12	11	12	0	23	23
Kandara	2	15	n/a**	n/a**	0	17	17
Kigumo	1	6	4	3	0	7	7
Ithanga	13	29	6	36	0	42	42
TOTAL	46	126	53	99	2	170	172

Table 5. Verified physical attendance by sub-county, gender, youth status and disability status (source: sign-in registers).

* Gatanga's youth/non-youth breakdown as recorded sums to 20, three short of its total attendance of 23; the discrepancy is unexplained in the source register and is noted here rather than estimated.

** Kandara's youth/non-youth breakdown was not recorded in the source register; its 17 attendees are excluded from all youth-status totals and percentages in this report.

— End of Report —