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## **MEMORANDUM TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NANDI ON THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/23**

**A submission of Nandi Youth under the Umbrella of Youth  
Bunge and Nandi Civil Society Network.**

**ATTENTION: CLERK OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NANDI**

**Submitted on Thursday, 26 May 2022.**

# Introduction

The memo has four main sections. In the first section, the memo presents a summary of the proposals and relevant recommendations to the County Assembly to consider while the 2022/2023 Budget Estimates. In the second section, the memo discusses an analysis of the Nandi County budget trends and key issues from 2017/18 to 2020/21 while the third section presents the details of the proposal. The proposal identifies an overarching goal in the form of shared Aspiration of the young people in Nandi County. It also discusses the barriers and limitations that prevent the realization of the Aspiration and proposes probable solutions (interventions) - which are budget and policy in nature - to address the barriers and limitations. In the fourth section, the memo presents additional information to support the various arguments made the memo.

## Preface

This memorandum carries the Aspiration which defines a life that the youth of Nandi desire to live, and proposed interventions for the realization of the Aspiration. It aims at securing the inclusion of viable and transformative projects and programs that have the potential to create jobs and facilitate self-employment for young people in Nandi County. Through this memo, young people are pleading with the elected members and the leadership of the County Assembly and County Executive to consider, while reviewing the budget estimates for 2022/2023 FY, the contained proposals and take into consideration the arguments relating to budget credibility issues, inadequacies of execution and imbalances that collectively weaken and misalign the budget to the social and economic needs of young people. This memo also calls on the County Assembly to provide leadership in ensuring that the budget serves as an instrument for the translation of policy and political promises as well as economic plans into tangible economic transformation. To facilitate the County Assembly in providing leadership, the memo contains a budget brief that explores the extent to which the County budget is sensitive to the needs of young people. We present an analysis of the County's budget and presents budget and expenditure trends and performance over the last five financial year. In the analysis, we discuss funded programs that are relevant to the needs of young people as well as the portion of the budget that is earmarked for those specific projects and programs. Lastly, changes to the budgetary allocation to items as salaries, subsistence and welfare. The main objective of the analysis and budget briefs is to dissect and synthesize complex budget information, connect to the needs and preferences of young people, and put forth practical recommendations that can inform the County Assembly while debating the budget for the 2022/2023 financial year and to

make sound financial decisions that better respond to the needs of young people in Nandi County over the long-term. Through the technical and financial support of the Open Governance Institute, the memo is one of the first budget submissions done by young people in the County as a means of meaningfully participating in the budget making and related process of setting the budget and policy priorities with the aim of aligning the budget to the needs and preferences of young people. In essence, young people feel that their prior participation in the budget is inadequate and inconsequential thus, the submission of a memorandum is used as a means of participation of young people to engage in the budget-making process. It is on this note that we, the youth of Nandi County make this submission to the County Assembly for consideration and inclusion of the proposed interventions contained in this submission, in the budget for the financial year 2022/2023.

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# Section 1: Summary of the Alternative Proposals and relevant recommendations for consideration by the County Assembly for inclusion in the 2022/2023 Budget Estimates.

We submit in summary, that the County Assembly has a responsibility to provide leadership, both as legislative and oversight institution and the house of representatives, in ensuring that the county's budget and policy priorities are sufficiently aligned to explore the county's economic potential and meets the needs of the electorates. This includes the facilitation of the creation of enabling environments and establishing support systems that facilitate young people to create jobs, venture into business, and other self-employment initiatives as well as building household economic resilience. Similarly, the County Assembly has a responsibility to safeguard the county's resources by ensuring that the resources are prudently managed and applied in a transparent, accountable and efficient manner.

Through this submission, members of the County Assembly have an opportunity to restore the faith, hope, and trust of young people and citizens of Nandi in the goodwill and ability of the County Government of Nandi to meet their needs, and safeguard their interests and uplift families out of poverty.

In the summary of this submission, the young people of Nandi are asking their elected members and the leadership of the County Assembly to consider the following proposals:

1. **Recommend the establishment of Ksh. 100 million Youth Agricultural and Business Enterprise Fund and allocation of 20 Million for the hiring of at least four qualified Agricultural Extension Service Officers to stimulate higher agricultural productivity.** The Fund will be dedicated to Agriculture and Trade sectors through a robust policy to be formulated to provide the basis from which the fund will be established. The policy will provide for the administration of the Fund including the application process to the fund by young people to venture into business in the identified sectors and value chains that have been vetted through research to have the highest economic potential to transform the economy by creating jobs throughout the value chain for young people and others.
2. **Recommend budgetary allocation of Ksh. 20 million to upgrade the current ICT Centre in Kapsabet to a fully equipped Nandi County Digital Centre 2023** under

the Department of Administration, Public Service, and e-Government. By upgrading and fully equipping<sup>1</sup> the current ICT Centre, qualified young people will take up digital jobs and access other youth empowerment opportunities that are available in the digital job market.

3. **Recommend an allocation of Ksh. 50 million to construct and operationalize a Nandi County Modern Arts and Music Complex** under the department of Tourism, Culture, and Social Services, to provide for the construction of the County Arts Complex, a music training, and recording studio, and a fine art and exhibition centre for showcasing art and music.
4. To Finance the proposals above, we recommend the County Assembly review the submitted Budget Estimates by adjusting downwards the proposed budget for Operations and Maintenance to save approximately Ksh. 600 million from the proposed increase of 67% from the actual expenditure incurred in the previous complete financial year (2020/2021) as argued in section two especially finding #2 and the last part of that section. Other adjustments to save further resources include the suspension of the establishment of the Nandi County Veterinary and Agricultural Revolving Fund which further saves Ksh. 25 million. Out of the finances saved from this proposed adjustment, young people are requesting the County Assembly the allocation of Ksh. 190 million for youth-sensitive projects as contained in this submission.
5. Recommend the simplification of the procurement procedure and reduction in inequalities in the access to the e-procurement platforms by equipping existing ICT centers to provide access to digital platforms from which participation in procurement is now recommended, to improve access to self-employment through procurement. Similarly, the County Assembly in its oversight responsibility must demand for the publication of procurement records including tenders and tender evaluation, contract awards and management.
6. **The County Sectoral Assembly Committees on Public Investment and Accounts Committee, Sports, Culture and Social Services, and Finance review the investments in and progress made in the construction of the various sports facilities to establish the cause of delays.** This includes a review of the Bills of Quantities (BQ), establishing the overall project value, and assessing payments made against the progress of the ongoing projects below, before allocating additional resources for the 2022/2023 FY. Specifically, we desire that the sporting facilities should feature changing rooms for sportspersons, running track, football, volleyball, and basketball pitches, and terraces in order to support talent development for economic and social gains properly.

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<sup>1</sup> High-speed internet, an adequate number of functional and effective computers, idea innovation and incubation space, and instructors.

S.No.	Project	Total Allocation (2017/18 - 2021/22)
5.1.	Kipchoge Keino Stadium	113,800,000
5.2.	Youth Empowerment Centre	89,000,000
5.3.	Nandi Hills Stadium	15,000,000
5.4.	Nandi Modern Training Camp	41,800,000

Source: Nandi County Executive

7. **We recommend the County Assembly hold the Executive Accountable, as part of its constitutional mandate, for inadequate implementation of the Public Participation and Civic Education Act 2020 to provide for sufficient notice, decentralized participatory structure, and access to relevant documents and information for informed participation.** In particular, we are asking for the decentralization of public participation to the Ward level by 2023 and to the village level by 2024, integration of interactive digital platforms to foster e-participation, issuance of a seven-day notice before the first public participation forum is held or submission is made, a seven-day advance publication of the subject matter in which public participation is called, including a budget, policy, and relevant data and information necessary for informed and quality participation.

## Other proposals and Recommendations

We, the youth of Nandi, are calling on the County Assembly to offer leadership in strengthening the credibility of the budget. Elected representatives of the people of Nandi - collectively and individually must deliberately interrogate the budget for the following issues:

1. Finding 1 and 4: Obtain adequate justification for the inadequate absorption of the development budget vote and recommend actions to improve the absorption in the future.
2. Finding 2: Obtain adequate justifications for the substantive increase in the budget for salaries and the recorded fluctuation in the allocation and spending of O&M. Subsequently, any new budget in 2022/2023 Budget Estimates that is above the approved budget for O&M in the financial year 2021/2022 while taking into account a normal increase to cater for inflation to be reallocated to increase the budget allocation for development vote for new projects for 2022/2023. Such projects must be viable and transformative and have the potential to spur the county's economic growth, create jobs, and build the economic resilience of

households through household income including the proposals contained in this submission.

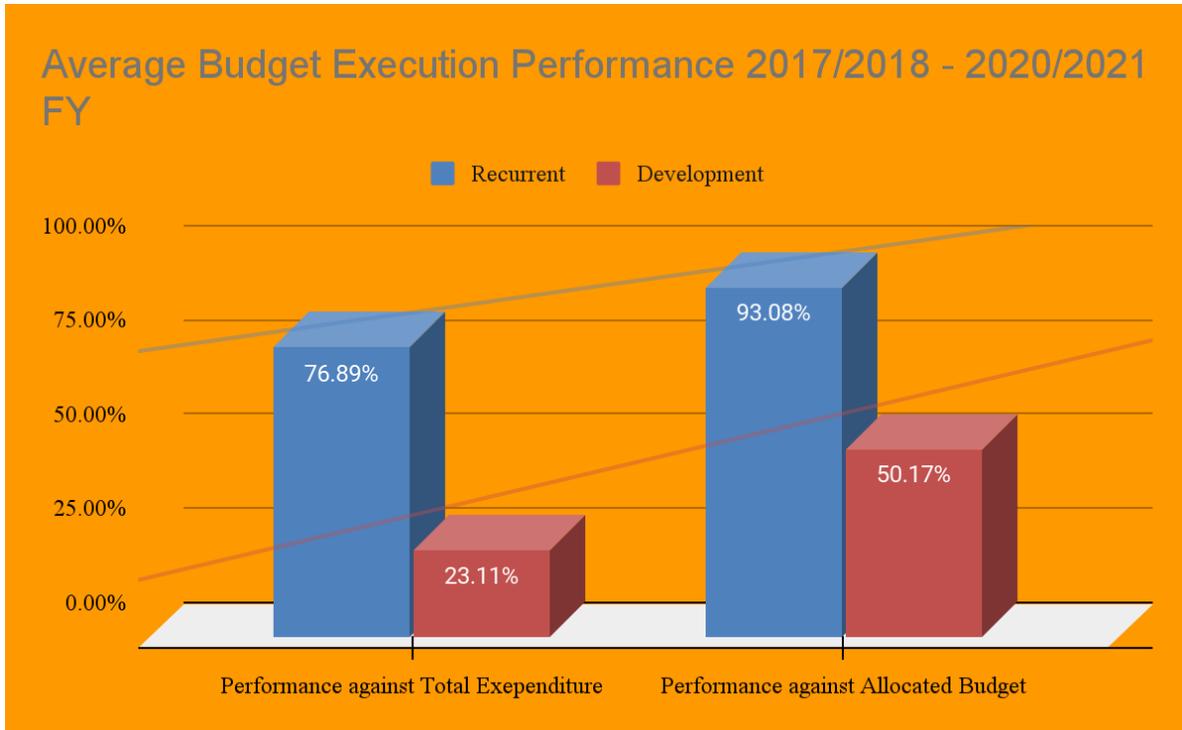
3. Finding 5: Obtain clarity on the similarities or differences in the budget lines for "work in progress" and Pending Bills and budgetary allocation for the completion of existing ongoing projects that were started in the previous years. For projects with no proper justification, the County Assembly must reallocate the proposed budget appropriately while also recommending a clearer presentation of the budget to reduce ambiguities in the future. Further, obtain a breakdown of the budget line allocated to "work in progress" under the County Department of Executive Confirm, obtain a breakdown, and only approve payment of genuine Pending Bills.
4. Finding 6: Suspend the proposed allocation to and the creation of the Veterinary and Agricultural (Revolving) Fund under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperative Development, on the account of lack of clarity and taking into consideration the arguments made in this submission. Subsequently, reallocate the proposed budget estimate of Ksh. 25 million to the hiring of at least four (4) Agricultural Extension Service officers per Ward and facilitate the mobility to increase Agricultural Extensions and Technical Services for greater agricultural productivity.
5. To strengthen budget execution and reduce wastage/ misappropriation. Young people in Nandi are offering to work with the County Assembly and the elected representatives in the County Assembly, collectively and individually, to tighten the oversight role. Over the next term of the County Assembly, we, the young people in Nandi, are recommending quarterly public hearings in which the relevant committees of the County Assembly and the public review and evaluate the executive's performance in the execution of the budget.

## Section 2. Analysis and discussion of the Nandi County budget trends and key issues from 2017/18 to 2020/21

In this section, we present a budget analysis brief that covers an assessment of the budget trends over the last four financial years from 2017/18 to 2020/2021. This brief highlights relevant credibility issues of the budget and imbalances relating to allocations and spending performance.

### Finding 1: Inadequate absorption of development budget vote relative to the recurrent vote.

The analysis unearths several budget credibility issues. The first issue relates to budget performance. Over the four-year period beginning 2017/18, the county had a budget of Kshs. 32 billion out of which 64% went to recurrent and 36% to development vote. Although the budgetary ratio for development and recurrent is within the PFM Act threshold of 30/70 (PFM Act 2012), the fiscal responsibility balance is discounted by dismal budget execution performance in development spending. Over this period, the county government absorbed 93% of the allocation to the recurrent vote and only 50% of the development vote i.e. actual expenditure against the allocated budget, as shown below. Detailed analysis of budget execution is annexed to the memo.

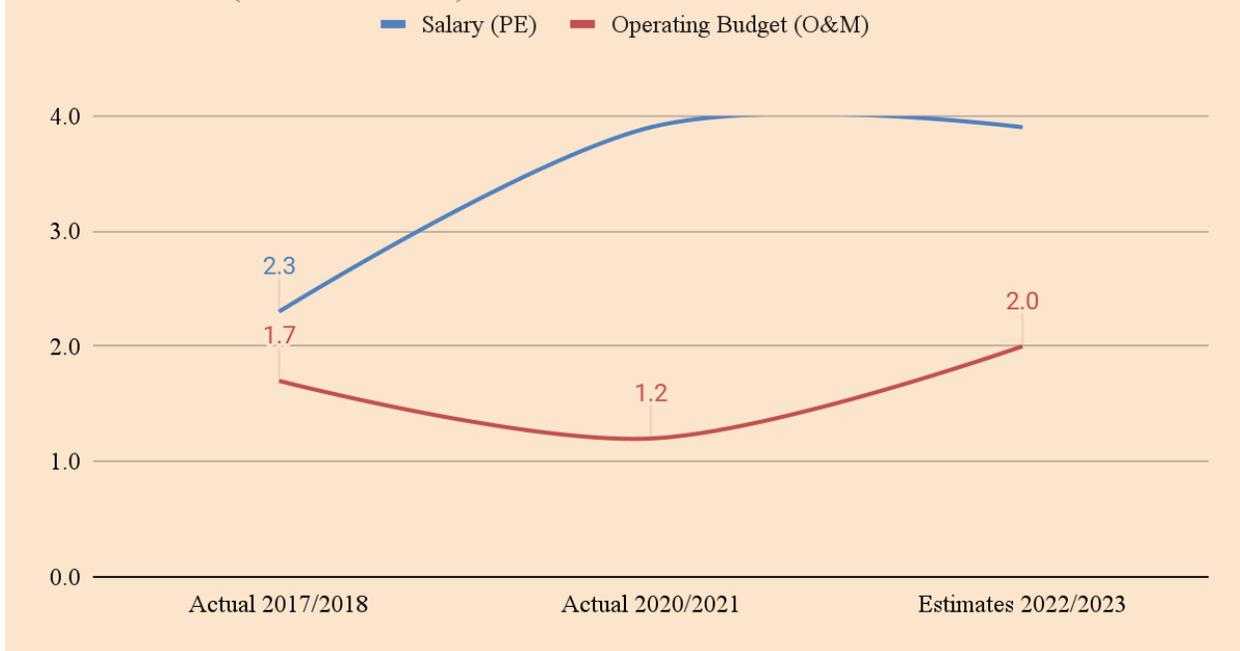


Source: Controller of Budget Reports

### Finding 2: Unsubstantiated budget changes in salary and Operations and Maintenance.

The second budget credibility issue relates to the substantive increase in the cost of Personnel Emoluments (PE) or Salaries by 66%. Over the period under review, the portion of the budget spent on salaries recorded an increase of Ksh. 1.6 Billion from Ksh. 2.3 billion in 2017/2018 to 3.9 billion in 2020/2021. In 2022/2023, the County Government has proposed to retain the budget estimates for Personnel Emoluments (PE) or Salaries at Ksh. 3.9 billion. On the other hand, the trends of the Budget and Expenditure for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) fluctuated over the period under review. In 2017/18, the County Government spent Ksh. 1.7 billion to O&M which reduced by about a half a billion to Ksh. 1.2 billion in 2020/2021. In 2022/23, the County Government has proposed a 67% increase in the allocation to O&M from Ksh. 1.2 Billion actual expenditure in 2020/2021 to Ksh. 2 Billion.

## Trends of Budget and Expenditure: Salary and O&M 2017/18 and 2022/2023 (Ksh. Billions)



Source: Controller of Budget Reports

Although budget changes are an acceptable practice in financial management and not a concern in and by itself, a huge change in budget within a short time frame must be substantiated with adequate justifications. The increase in the cost of salaries which almost doubled in a span of four years is an unreasonable and of grave concern in a developing county. Similarly, the fluctuation in the actual spending on O&M and the proposed 67% increment in 2022/2023 must be justified before the approval of the budget. Otherwise, without adequate reasons for the change in the budget for O&M, we expect the County Assembly to reduce and reallocate the proposed budget for O&M.

**Finding 3: Less than one percent of the budget is allocated to youth-relevant projects and programs over the four-year period while only Ksh. 23 million is proposed for 2022/2023 FY.**

Our analysis establishes that only less than 1% (equivalent to Ksh. 310 million) of the total budget of Ksh. 31.6 Billion can be directly traced to relevant projects and programs targeting young people in the county. Below is a summary of relevant projects. We demonstrate, from this analysis, that the budget falls short of the expectations of young people. In essence, a sensitive and equitable budget must reflect the population's needs. Thus, it is discriminatory for the budget to allocate an insignificant share to

programs and projects targeting to benefit a significant (75%) constituent of the population.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Allocation (2017/18 - 2021/22)</b>
Kipchoge Keino Stadium	113,800,000
Youth Empowerment Centre	89,000,000
Nandi Hills Stadium	15,000,000
Nandi Modern Training Camp	41,800,000
Work In Progress	50,665,558
<b>Total</b>	<b>310,265,558</b>

In 2022/2021, a total of Ksh. 23 Million worth of projects under the department of Sports, Culture and Social Services has been proposed. The table below presents relevant proposed projects for the coming year.

<b>Proposed relevant project</b>	<b>Budget Estimates 2022/2023</b>
Maintenance of Kipchoge Complex Field	2,000,000.00
Purchase of Sports Equipment	4,000,000.00
Maintenance of Kaptumo Stadium	1,299,290.00
Improvement of Community Fields	12,000,000.00
Purchase of Car Wash Machines	4,000,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,299,290.00</b>

#### **Finding 4: Unreasonable delays on the execution of relevant projects exacerbates discrimination against young people.**

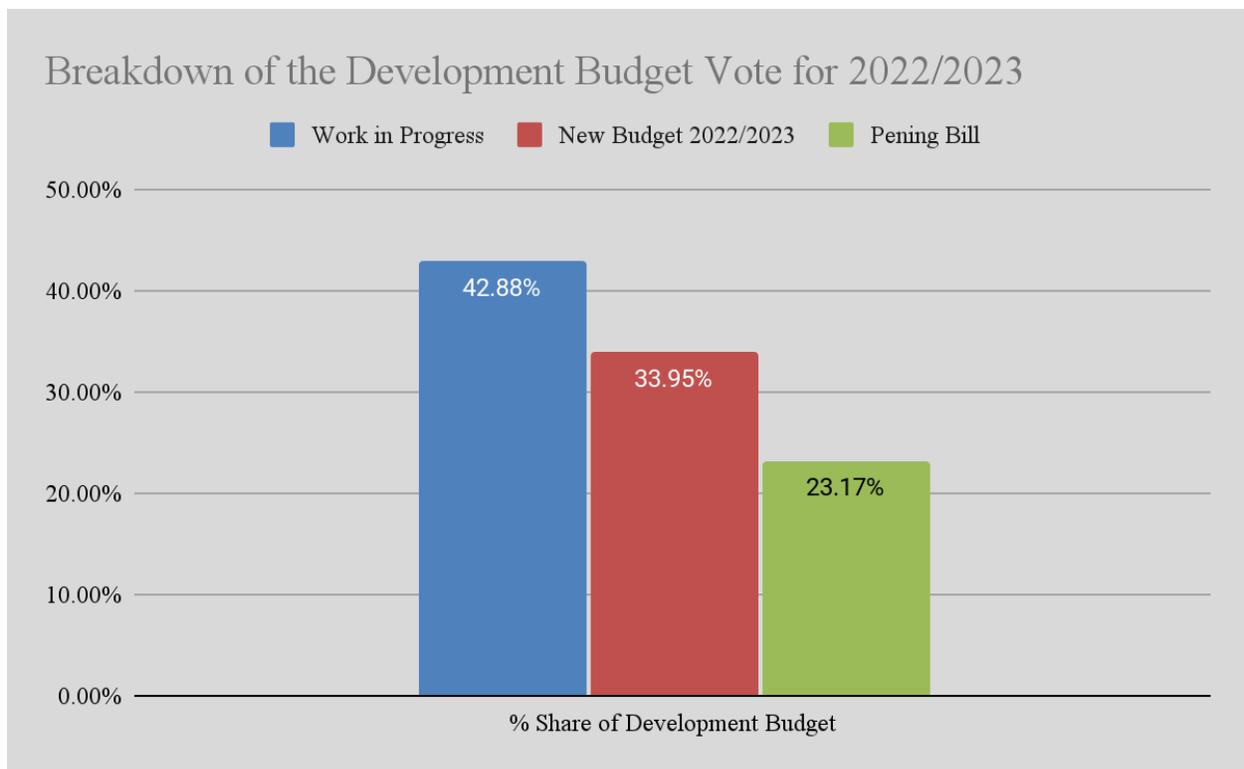
The second budget credibility issue arises in delays in project implementation and inadequate progress updates. While the inclusion of projects that are relevant to the needs of young people is commendable albeit dismal, the budget inclusion efforts are made irrelevant by inadequate execution.

Although the budget estimates for 2022/2023 distinguish between ongoing and new projects, the budget is inadequate in explaining the progress made, and implementation phases of these projects including start and expected completion dates. Consider Kipchoge Stadium whose construction began in 2015/16 and has since received over Ksh. 100 million in budget allocation, however, it is yet to be complete with ongoing works worth Ksh. 23 million as presented in the budget estimates for FY 2022/2023.

Furthermore, according to the budget estimates, it is possible that some of the incomplete projects have been allocated additional resources for the coming financial year 2022/2023.

### Finding 5: Inadequate clarity of share of development allocated to “work in progress” and completion of existing projects for 2022/2023 FY Budget Estimates.

The County Government has proposed budget estimates for the 2022/2023 financial year out of which 26% (Ksh. 2.1 Billion) is proposed for development (capital) projects and programs. A breakdown of the development budget shows that the budget is divided into three categories: Work in progress, new projects for 2022/2023, and pending bills. 42% of the development budget vote is allocated for “work in progress” as shown below. We have three concerns over the proposed portions of the budget estimates.



1. First and foremost, our analysis of what constitutes the “work in progress” category is confusing, thus, it is clear what this budget is for. Some projects are grouped under the “work in progress” category in some departments, while in

others such as the County Department of Executive, the budget line for “work in progress” has no breakdown.

2. Secondly, there is no clarity on how the budget line for “work in progress” differs from budget lines for completing existing projects. Furthermore, it is not clear whether the budget line for “work in progress” constitutes a carryforward budget for projects whose implementation could not be completed within the financial year or is a new budget for phased projects. Using the same example of the County Department of Executive above, the department has allocated Ksh. 35 million for the completion and equipping of the County Governors’ Office Complex and has another allocation of Ksh. 25 million for “work in progress”. The case of having both a budget for completing an existing project and a separate budget line for “work in progress” applies to the Department of Administration, Public Service, and e-Government.

## **Finding 6: Faulty in the proposed creation and allocation of Ksh. 25 million to Nandi Veterinary and Agricultural Fund.**

The County Government proposes an allocation of Ksh. 5 million for the Nandi County Veterinary and Agricultural Fund in 2022/2023 which adds to another Ksh. 20 million budgetary allocations from 2021/2022. According to a County Assembly’s motion held in the afternoon of July 1, the objective of the fund was to promote access to veterinary and agricultural services. Ideally, the delivery of veterinary and agricultural services is done through public officials hired in the position of extension service officers to provide technical support to farmers. It is therefore not clear why the creation of a fund has been proposed at the expense of hiring extension officers to deliver Agricultural services. Consequently, the relevant Assembly Committee failed to approve a bill in which the fund was to be created on the account of a lack of clarity on the purpose of the fund and an inadequate management framework.

Furthermore, the proposal to create a fund adds to the questions and concerns about the substantive increases in personnel emoluments. If the reasons for that increase do not include the hiring of Agricultural Extension Officers, then, in which positions were personnel increased that impacted the budget for salaries? County Assembly must get an adequate answer to this question while approving the budget.

## Section 3: The Aspiration of young people in Nandi and proposed Alternative Budget Proposals to realize the Aspiration.

**The Aspiration:** We, the youth of Nandi County aspire to live a dignified life in a safe, secure, and enabling environment where all young people have access to opportunities for self-employment, and can engage in gainful business, and explore and develop talents and skills. We expect to have access to free and secure platforms to meaningfully engage in decision-making processes and advance our political participation.

In order to fully explore the identified opportunities, the county budget must be adjusted to align more closely and facilitate the development of the opportunities. We are therefore presenting the following proposals for interventions that will aid the realization of the Aspiration.

### Specific Interventions

1. Recommend the establishment of a Ksh. 100 million Youth Agricultural and Business Enterprise Fund and allocate ksh. 20 million for the hiring of at least four qualified Agricultural Extension Service Officers to stimulate higher agricultural productivity.

**Challenge.** Nandi County is an agricultural county with huge under-explored potential for economic transformation. Other than a few large-scale practicing farmers, the majority of the population practice subsistence farming (*for household food*). Farmers, especially, young farmers have inadequate access to credit financing for agricultural ventures including successful startups and scaling of existing and successful agribusinesses to commercial farming. This challenge is compounded by an existing negative perception among young people that farming is not attractive. Farmers in general face inadequate access to extension and technical agricultural services which are necessary for optimum productivity and profitability of farming. Inadequate access to market linkages and poor prices of farm produce demotivates young people from venturing into farming as a commercial business venture.

**Proposal to address the challenge:** Establish a Youth Agricultural and Business Fund to facilitate young people to venture into strategic business undertakings in the agriculture, trade sectors, and procurement value chains. In agriculture and livestock, we

recommend the fund to support technically sound and viable business proposals that explore opportunities in dairy and poultry, and fish farming. Opportunities across the value chain include value addition, market linkages, and transportation. To realize the purpose of the fund, we recommend a formulation of a robust policy to operationalize the fund and the hiring of at least four qualified economists per ward as well as investing in agricultural research to generate and disseminate relevant information on quality agricultural extension and technical support services, and relevant productivity and market information to young farmers.

## 2. Simplify and promote transparency in the tender award procedure

**Challenge:** Although 30% of the procurement is required to be reserved for special interest groups including youth, the absorption stands at approximately 13% of the reserved procurement. Part of the challenge that young people and other special interest groups face includes a lack of transparency in the bidding process. Young people are not certain the tender award process is sufficiently open to inspire confidence for participation. Other challenges include inadequate capacity, technicality, and complexity of the procurement process (whether real or perceived) and inadequate financing of LPOs and LSOs.

**Proposed intervention:** We recommend the simplification of the procurement procedure especially the bidding and award of the reserved tenders, facilitation of young people to access credit facilities to implement and deliver on the terms of the awarded contracts, and transparency of the tender publication, bidding, evaluation, and award. To facilitate access to the e-procurement platforms, we recommend the equipment of existing ICT centers to reduce inconveniences caused by inadequate technology to access the e-procurement platforms. Further, we recommend the implementation of a capacity development program to improve the capacity of local contractors to fully take advantage of the economic opportunities in public procurement as a career.

## 3. Recommend budgetary allocation of Ksh. 20 million to upgrade the current ICT Centre in Kapsabet to a fully equipped Nandi County Digital Centre by 2023.

**Challenge:** Today, online writing, transcription, research, and teaching have grown to be a multimillion business opportunity internationally. However, despite there being thousands of qualified young graduates and writers in Nandi to take advantage of job opportunities in the digital space, they are hindered by limited access to the operating space, necessary digital tools, and ICT-related enablers to explore the opportunities in this sector.

**Proposed intervention:** Whereas there is an existing Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Centre in Kapsabet Town, our assessment of the facility shows it is inadequately structured and poorly equipped to facilitate young people to access and take up digital jobs. We are therefore proposing the inclusion of an initial budget line of Ksh. 20 million in the budget for 2022/2023 and enter into partnership with the National Government to upgrade and fully equip<sup>2</sup> the ICT Centre to facilitate qualified young people, who are not otherwise able to obtain ICT equipment and technology, to take up digital jobs and access other opportunities that are available in the digital job market including important information on youth empowerment. In our proposal, the upgrading and equipment include high-speed internet, an adequate number of functional and effective computers, idea innovation, and incubation space and instructors. The management of the ICT Centre will develop transparent criteria for admission, utilization, and sustainability of the Centre to promote equity and fairness.

#### 4. Recommend an allocation of Ksh. 50 million to construct and operationalize a Nandi County Modern Arts and Music Complex.

**Challenge:** Although the entertainment industry is a multimillion-dollar business, talented young artists (*musicians, painters, and entertainers among others*) in Nandi have inadequate access to the necessary facilities such as amphitheaters and exhibition platforms to explore, develop and economically gain from their skills and talents.

**Proposed intervention:** Adjust the budget estimate for 2022/2023 to provide for an initial allocation of Ksh. 50 million for the construction of a fully equipped and functional Nandi County Arts Complex over the short to medium term to support the identification, development, and promotion of music and arts. The proposed facility should contain at minimum a Music Training and Recording Studio, and a Fine and Performing Arts and an Exhibition Centre for showcasing Art and Music talents. Further, we are proposing annual countywide performing and fine art competition and exhibition to promote local talent as well as an exchange program over the long term.

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<sup>2</sup> High-speed internet, adequate number of and functional and effective computers, idea innovation, and incubation space and instructors.

5. The County Sectoral Assembly Committees on Public Investment and Accounts Committee, Sports, Culture and Social Services and Finance to access the investments in and progress made in the construction of the various sports facilities to establish the cause of delays.

**Challenge:** Nandi County is known globally as the source of long-distance runners, however, there is a lack of training facilities to support sports talent development. Most of the current and past mid and long-distance runners train by the roadsides which not only is a risk to their lives but also is inadequate to fully explore and develop the various athletic capabilities including short races, football, and volleyball among others. With good facilities, young people in Kenya have the ability to produce athletes in a variety of athletic and field events including short races. Our analysis of the County Budgets shows that the County has invested approximately 310 million in sports and youth empowerment-related infrastructure projects out of which the construction of Kipchoge Keino Stadium, Youth Empowerment Centre and Nandi Modern Training Camp take 78% of the cost. Although young people commend the government for these investments, the construction of these facilities has stagnated dating back to 2015/16 when Kipchoge Keino Stadium was first allocated funds. Our spot-checks for sample facilities show inadequate progress, thus, it calls for the attention of the County Assembly.

**Proposed Interventions:** We are therefore recommending the County Assembly review the Bills of Quantities (BQ) of these facilities to establish the overall project value and assess payments made against the progress of the ongoing projects before allocating additional resources for the 2022/2023 FY. Specifically, we propose that the sporting facilities must feature changing rooms for sportspersons, running track, football, volleyball, and basketball pitches, and terraces in order to properly support talent development for economic and social gains, beginning with Kipchoge Keino Stadium, and Nandi Modern Training Camp over the short-term. In addition, we are proposing the design of a sports development program to recognize and encourage young people to participate in field sporting activities as a strategy for talent identification and development, reduction of drug use and abuse, and promotion of healthy living through physical activity. In the long-term, this will impact positively on the cost of healthcare in the County.

6. Hold the Executive Accountable for inadequate implementation of the Public Participation and Civic Education Act 2020 to provide for sufficient notice, decentralized participatory structure, and access to relevant documents and information for informed participation.

**Challenge:** Although the Nandi County County Public Participation and Civil Education Act 2020 provides for decentralized participatory opportunities [Clause 10(3)] at the ward level and other important provisions such as 14-day public notice [Clause 11(1)] and timely and advanced access to information on the subject matter [Clause 11(5)], public forums are held at sub-county level which is highly centralized thus, creating limited access to the decision-making process and consequently result in apathy. In most cases, the notice of public participation is issued two days prior to the day of public forums, and platforms that are inaccessible to the majority of the population are used to communicate the same. Additionally, the documents containing the subject matter are supplied during the day of public participation which impedes the quality of participation. Furthermore, these documents are voluminous and technical in nature for an ordinary Mwananchi to read and understand within the given short time which means, their participation is limited by the knowledge of the subject matter. Even where the young people and the general public participate, their input is inadequately used to inform the budget priorities while no feedback is given despite the PPCEA 2020 requiring feedback to be given. As a result, participation is seen as a formality or a rubber stamping process.

**Proposed Interventions:** We are proposing the full implementation of the recently enacted Public Participation and Civil Education Act 2020 by the end of the financial year 2022/2023. Specifically, we are asking for the decentralization of public participation to the Ward level by 2023 and to the village level by 2024. We are asking for the issuance of a seven-day notice before the first public participation is held or submission is made, a seven-day advance publication of the subject matter in which public participation is called, including a budget, policy, and relevant data and information necessary for informed and quality participation. Lastly, we are recommending the integration of interactive digital platforms in the participation structure to facilitate the participation of citizens who may not be able to attend and participate in person. While integrating digital platforms, design in a manner that the comments and input collected from digital platforms have the same weight as those collected from an in-person public forum.

Adjust the 2022/2023 Budget Estimates submitted to the County Assembly for approval by Ksh.190M to finance the proposed interventions above.

The proposed interventions in the previous section require financing of an estimated budget of Ksh. 170 Million in 2022/2023. To aid the County Assembly in considering the proposals contained in this submission, we are recommending budget adjustment (cuts and suspension of some of the proposed projects) to the 2022/2023 Budget Estimates submitted to the County Assembly for approval in April 2022. The proposed budget adjustments will save approximately Ksh. 700 million for Assembly's recommendation for reallocation to more meaningful and viable public investments.

1. Save Ksh. 25 million by suspending the establishment of the Nandi County Veterinary and Agricultural Revolving Fund to to finance the hiring of at least four qualified Agricultural Extension Services Officers.
2. Save up to Ksh. 700 million from the reduction of any proposed budget increase to Operations and Maintenance (O&M) above the actual expenditure for 2020/2021 (complete base year). Unless there is proper justification for the 67% increase, only increases to cushion against inflation should be retained, and Ksh. 170 million from the remaining budget allocated to the proposed establishment of a Youth Agricultural and Business Fund. The County Assembly may reallocate the remaining budget to the development vote for financing new projects in the coming year.

## Section 4: Annex and other supporting information.

### 1: A Highlight of the process and the context in which the memorandum is developed and submitted.

1. The challenges facing young people in Nandi county are unique and require special attention to address them. Most of these challenges are budget and policy-related in nature. Thus, in order to realize and enjoy social and economic rights as anchored in article 43 of the Constitution and other affirmative action provisions, the leadership of both arms of government and the elected representatives of wananchi and young people must have deliberate plans to align the budget priorities with the social and economic needs of young people.
2. Although young people constitute over 65% of the population in Nandi county, the budget does not reflect this reality. Over the last four years, the programs targeting young people received cumulatively a mere 1% of the total budget. Because the social and economic challenges that young people face are budget-related, the County Government has failed to address the social and economic needs of young people as provided for in Article 43 of the Constitution.
3. Whereas we understand that the Government may not employ every young person in the county or address the social needs of every individual young person, the government has the obligation to facilitate the creation of jobs through self-employment and the development of skills and talents by way of budget inclusion of programs and projects that have a direct effect on the needs of young people.
4. While young people are empowered through Article 1 of the Constitution to exercise their sovereign power directly through public participation and platforms that promote self-governance as further obligated of County Governments under section 34 of the County Government Act 2012 to enhance self-governance for communities in the management of development programs, access, and structure of public participation are limited and inadequate to facilitate a meaningful conversation with the County Government.
5. Therefore, in the absence of a proper, effective, and accessible participatory platform, we, the young people of Nandi are leveraging alternative means of exercising our sovereign power under Article 1 of the Constitution. We will begin with the utilization of the submission of a memorandum to the County Assembly and the County Executive that presents our views and proposals for inclusion in the 2022/2023 budget.

6. In developing the submission, a group of 16 trained budget facilitators and 108 budget champions drawn from organizations of young people across the county's 30 wards co-created an aspiration, identified barriers and limitations to the aspiration, and developed interventions or possible solutions contained and presented in this memorandum.
7. The process began with a co-creation of a shared aspiration that defined the desired life in which young people of Nandi aspire to live. While co-creating the aspiration, young people carefully considered the viability and feasibility of the realization of the aspiration and arrived at the conclusion that, although it is possible for young people to realize the aspiration, there are limitations and barriers which must be addressed through policy and budgetary programs and projects.
8. The output of the process is an Alternative Budget Proposal which contains specific interventions and which young people are submitting through this memorandum to the County Assembly for consideration for inclusion in the budget for 2022/2023.

2. Analysis of budget and expenditure trends 2017/2018 and 2020/2021 financial years.

Department	Overall Budget Allocation 2017/18 to 2020/2021			Overall Expenditure 2017/18 to 2020/2021			Overall Performance		
	Rec	Dev'p	Overall	Total Rec	Total Dev'p	Overall	Rec	Dev'p	Overall
Office of the Governor & Deputy Governor	1,712,500,000	83,780,000	1,796,280,000	1,506,240,000.00	16,770,000.00	1,523,010,000.00	87.96%	20.02%	84.79%
Finance and Economic Planning	2,813,660,000	203,310,000	3,016,970,000	2,692,090,000.00	63,800,000.00	2,755,890,000.00	95.68%	31.38%	91.35%
Devolved Units and Special Programmes	1,432,260,000	989,330,000	2,421,590,000	1,372,580,000.00	261,490,000.00	1,634,070,000.00	95.83%	26.43%	67.48%
Health and Sanitation	8,072,010,000	1,859,350,000	9,931,360,000	7,592,500,000.00	885,530,000.00	8,478,030,000.00	94.06%	47.63%	85.37%
Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries	1,097,210,000	1,995,900,000	3,093,110,000	1,026,940,000.00	1,127,520,000.00	2,154,460,000.00	93.60%	56.49%	69.65%
Tourism, Culture and Co-operative	151,720,000	135,240,000	286,960,000	104,700,000.00	29,350,000.00	134,050,000.00	69.01%	21.70%	46.71%

Develop ment									
Youth, Gender and Social Services	229,95 0,000	321,64 0,000	551,59 0,000	192,320, 000.00	67,280,0 00.00	259,600, 000.00	83.64%	20.9 2%	47.0 6%
Educatio n Research and Vocation al Training	1,041,2 90,000	963,18 0,000	2,004,4 70,000	911,780, 000.00	792,780, 000.00	1,704,56 0,000.00	87.56%	82.3 1%	85.0 4%
Lands, Environm ent and Natural Resource s	321,51 0,000	1,410,2 00,000	1,731,7 10,000	265,260, 000.00	494,200, 000.00	759,460, 000.00	82.50%	35.0 4%	43.8 6%
Roads Transpor t and Public Works	611,14 0,000	2,403,3 30,000	3,014,4 70,000	539,810, 000.00	1,395,30 0,000.00	1,935,11 0,000.00	88.33%	58.0 6%	64.1 9%
Trade and Industrial Develop ment	173,47 0,000	374,80 0,000	548,27 0,000	139,250, 000.00	145,810, 000.00	285,060, 000.00	80.27%	38.9 0%	51.9 9%
Public Service and Labour	110,72 0,000	0	110,72 0,000	79,050,0 00.00	97,330,0 00.00	176,380, 000.00	71.40%	0.00 %	159. 30%
County Assembl y	2,523,7 50,000	575,50 0,000	3,099,2 50,000	2,464,05 0,000.00	300,050, 000.00	2,764,10 0,000.00	97.63%	52.1 4%	89.1 9%
Totals -	<b>20,291,</b>	<b>11,315,</b>	<b>31,606,</b>	<b>18,886,5</b>	<b>5,677,21</b>	<b>24,563,7</b>	<b>93.08%</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>77.7</b>

new	190,000	560,000	750,000	70,000	0,000	80,000		7%	2%
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### 3. About NCSN, Youth Bunge and the BFs and BCs

Nandi County Civil Society Network is a member organization of 60 organizations in Nandi that are engaged in various Civic spaces and working in various thematic areas under the leadership of the Network.

The NCCSN was formed in the year 2012 with the sole objective of being the voice of the voiceless and championing the issues of the public in the following areas: Governance and Human Rights.

The Nandi County Youth Bunge Association on the other hand is an umbrella body of several youth organizations registered under the department of social services.

The goal of the organization is to offer leadership in all matters; youth, in the County. Its main role is to offer leadership, lobby, champion and pressure the duty bearers to prioritize youth issues in tackling issues that affect the youth like youth unemployment, underemployment, reproductive health, leadership, sports and social well being.

Whereas Budget Facilitators and Champions is an organized group of concerned young people drawn from all the six sub-counties of Nandi and who are part of organizations under the umbrella of Nandi Youth Bunge Association, Nandi County Civil Society Network, and other registered organizations interested in the wellbeing of the young people of Nandi and trained by Open Governance Institute on budget cycle, processes and review.

#### List of Youth Leaders and Representatives of Youth, Nandi Civil Society Network, Nandi Youth Bunge, Budget Facilitators and Budget Champions.

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