

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 25th June, 2025

The Assembly met at the County Assembly Chambers at 9:30 am

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen) in Chair

PRAYER

MOTION

MCA Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following Motion **THAT**, Pursuant to the Provision of Standing Order 228/6, this County Assembly adopts the report of the County Budget and Appropriation Committee on the Budget Estimates for the County Government and County Assembly tabled in the County Assembly on 24th June 2025. Naomba Mheshimiwa Esther aunge mkono mswada huu, ahsante.

(Hon. Esther seconds)

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members I now propose the Motion **THAT**, Pursuant to the Provision of Standing Order 228/6, this County Assembly adopts the report of the County Budget and Appropriation Committee on the Budget Estimates for the County Government and County Assembly tabled in the County Assembly on 24th June 2025.

MCA Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This is a report on Annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure submitted by the County Treasury on 28TH April, 2025 for the Financial Year 2025/26. The proposals are submitted in accordance to Section 129 of the PFM Act, 2012 which thus states: The County Executive Committee member to submit budget estimates and other documents to County Executive Committee for approval. Further, Standing Order No. 228 of our County Assembly Standing Orders provides for the procedures of handling the Budget Estimates and in particular states as follows:

228. (1) The Member of County Executive Committee responsible for finance and the accounting officer of the County Assembly Service Board shall, not later than 30th April, respectively submit to the County Assembly Budget Estimates and related documents specified in law for the County Government, and County Assembly.

(2) The Estimates and related documents submitted under Paragraph (1) will be tabled in the County Assembly within three days of submission.

(3) Upon being laid before the County Assembly, the Estimates shall be deemed to have been committed to each Sectorial Committee without question put, for each such committee to deliberate upon according to their respective mandates.

(4) Each Sectoral Committee shall consider, discuss and review the Estimates according to its mandate and submit its report and recommendations to the Budget and Appropriations Committee within twenty-one days, after being laid before the County Assembly.

(5) The Budget and Appropriations Committee shall discuss and review the Estimates and make recommendations to the County Assembly, taking into account the recommendations of the Sectoral Committees, the views of the County Executive Committee Members and the public.

(6) The County Assembly shall, on a motion, that “This County Assembly adopts the Report of the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the Budget Estimates for the County Government, and County Assembly tabled in the County Assembly on such a date.” consider the Report and adopt it with or without amendments.

(7) Upon the County Assembly resolution on the Report-

(a) The recommendation for increase or reduction on any particular Vote as resolved by the County Assembly will serve as notice of intention by the Chairperson of the Budget and Appropriations Committee to move the particular amendments on the concerned Vote in the Committee of Supply.

(b) The Speaker may require that an appropriate Addendum be made to the Estimates as tabled to reflect the amendments made by the County Assembly on the Estimates or respective Votes.

(c) The preparation of the Program-Based Budget (PBB) Estimates aligns with Section 129(1) of the PFM Act, 2012, which mandates that the County Executive Member for Finance must submit the following to the County Executive Committee for approval:

Section 129(2) further stipulates that, following the County Executive Committee's approval, the County Executive Member for Finance must submit the budget estimates, supporting documents, and any necessary bills (excluding the Finance Bill) to the county assembly by April 30th of that year.

According to Section 129(3), each county assembly clerk is responsible for preparing and submitting the budget estimates for the county assembly to both the county assembly and the

County Executive Member for Finance. Section 129(4) requires the County Executive Member for Finance to prepare and present comments on the budget estimates submitted by the county assembly clerk.

Additionally, Section 130 specifies that the Budget Estimates must include:

- i. A list of all county government entities receiving appropriated funds.*
- ii. Revenue projections from the Equalization Fund over the medium term.*
- iii. All revenue allocations from the national government over the medium term, including both conditional and unconditional grants.*
- iv. All other estimated revenue categorized by broad economic classification.*
- v. All estimated expenditures, organized by Vote and program, clearly distinguishing between recurrent and development expenditures.*
- vi. Information regarding loans made to the county government, including estimates of principal, interest, and other charges payable by the county government in the financial year in respect of those loans.*

The Budget and Appropriations committee is established under the provisions of Standing Order 207. As currently constituted, the committee comprises the following Members:

1. Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix – Chairperson.
2. Hon. Lentukunye Christopher – Vice Chairperson.
3. Hon. Lemoosa Mwaura – Member.
4. Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia – Member.
5. Hon. Lenyakopiro Charity – Member.
6. Hon. Lekuchula David – Member.
7. Hon. Leleru James – Member.
8. Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah – Member.
9. Hon. Esther Lenolkulal – Member.

Mr. Speaker, Sir

Standing Order 207 (3) outlines the roles of the Committee on Budget and Appropriations as follows:-

- a) Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters related to coordination, control and monitoring of the county budget*
- b) Discuss and review the estimates and make recommendations to the County Assembly;*
- c) Examine the County Fiscal Strategy Paper presented to the County Assembly;*
- d) Examine Bills related to the County budget, including Appropriations Bills.*

Mr. Speaker I think because each and every Member has this report I will just read the most important part of it and Members will go through the report because it is bulk for the benefit of time. So the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and the PFM Act, 2012 have placed significant responsibilities on the County Assembly over the management of public resources particularly with regard to resource mobilization, allocation, monitoring and control.

The PFM Act under Section 131 further states that, the County Assembly shall consider the budget estimates with a view to approving them, with or without amendments in time for the relevant appropriation law required to implement the budget to be passed by 30th June in each year.

The Samburu County Government's proposed FY 2025/2026 budget amounts to Ksh7.81 billion, a 6.7% increase from FY 2024/2025. Recurrent expenditure is allocated Ksh.5.30 billion (67.8%), while development takes Ksh.2.51 billion (32.2%). The budget remains heavily dependent on national transfers, with the equitable share (Ksh.5.88 billion) and conditional grants (Ksh.1.20 billion) were making up over 90% of total revenue. Own Source Revenue is projected at Ksh.302 million (3.9%), with 61.3% from game park fees, exposing the County to tourism-related revenue risks.

The Public Finance Management Act No 18 of 2012, Public Finance Management Regulations (Legal Notice No. 35), 2015 and the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 clearly stipulates how the Budget Estimates should be presented and the manner in which they should be processed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir

The Committee appreciates strides made by the County Treasury in adhering to the legal provisions in the preparation of the Budget Estimates; it's worth noting that much needs to be done. Regulation 26, paragraph (4) of the Public Finance Management Regulations (Legal

Notice No. 35), 2015 and the Constitution of Kenya provides that once the County Fiscal Strategy paper is adopted by the County Assembly it shall serve as the basis of expenditure ceilings specified in the fiscal framework. In this case, the departmental ceilings set in the County Fiscal strategy Paper 2025 should have been replicated in the Budget Estimates for the FY 2025/2026.

Nevertheless, regulation 27 paragraph (6) of the Public Finance Management Regulations (Legal Notice No. 35), 2015 provides a window to the County Executive Committee Member for Finance, ICT and planning to give statements explaining deviations to the said ceilings. Comparing the approved County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2025 and the Budget Estimates for FY 2025/2026, several departments deviated from the ceilings set in the former without further explanation by the County Executive Committee Member for Finance, ICT and Planning. To this end, The County Executive Committee Member for Finance, IT and Planning did not comply with the relevant provisions of the law.

If you look at page 17 on the issue of deviation from Fiscal Strategy Paper set ceilings, the only Department that has complied with the Fiscal Strategy Paper ceiling is the County Assembly because if you look at that table on your left hand is the Department and the next column is the submitted budget to this House and then the second column is the CFSP ceiling and then on the third column is the difference between the CFSP ceiling and what they have been allocated and on the last column is the percentage of either negative or positive side so it is very important that I go through this table here for Members to know the Departments that they have deviated from their ceilings.

The County Assembly were allocated Ksh.646,086,120 that is the same that CFSP was. If you go to the County Executive the CFSP provided Ksh.560,032,008 but they were allocated Ksh.556,032,008 so they were short of 4 million with a negative of 0.7%. If you go to the Department of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Veterinary Services and Fisheries the CFSP provided Ksh.805,473,422 but the budget allocation is Ksh.944,173,422 that one is leading with 17.2% on the positive side of the deviation from the CFSP. Education and Vocational Training the CFSP provided Ksh.767,031,926 but from the budget they were allocated Ksh.774,731,926 with a 1% on the positive side on the deviation on the CFSP ceiling. Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation CFSP provided Ksh.1,606,028,723 but they were allocated Ksh.1,600,528,723 that is a negative of 0.3%.

Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development CFSP ceilings Ksh.378,883,088 the Budget is Ksh.364,083,088 with a 14.8 million less from the CFSP ceiling, that is a negative 3.9% so roads transport and public works CFSP provided the ceiling of Ksh.398,431,086 the budget allocated Ksh.410,581,086 with Ksh.12,150,000 deviation with a 3% positive. Tourism, Trade, Enterprise Development and Cooperatives CFSP ceiling was Ksh.461,030,711 budget allocated Ksh.457,530,709 with a negative 0.8% with a negative Ksh.3,500,002 below their ceiling. Culture, Social Services, Gender, Sports and Youth Affairs CFSP ceiling Ksh.643,167,892 and budget allocated is Ksh.639,667,892 with a 3.5 million less from their ceiling. Finance, ICT and Planning CFSP ceiling was Ksh.886,705,700 but budget allocated is Ksh.904,455,700 Ksh.17,750,000 above their ceiling that was set by the CFSP that is a 2% on the positive side. The last Department is Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Energy the CFSP ceiling was Ksh.518,849,966 but the budget allocated is Ksh.516,349,966 less of their ceiling by 2.5 million that is a negative 0.5%.

So Hon. Members, when we had a meeting with the CEC Finance the reason as to why you see some Departments being given less of their ceiling is because of the absorption rate, so it is so unfortunate that you get departments like health and water which are so crucial to this County absorbing less of their budget hence making their budget being cut instead of being increased. That is something Members should note very seriously.

We had submissions by Sectorial Committee, as the Committee on Budget we did a letter to all sectorial Chairs that before 21 days they should submit the Sectorial Committee views, so it is only five Committees that complied and the Committee acted on their views, very quickly I will read views from departments, so Committee on Agriculture, Livestock Development, Veterinary Services and Fisheries the Committee made the following observations and recommendations on the department's budget;

- i. Budget Estimates for the F/Y 2025/26 of Kshs. 803,473,422 a recurrent vote of Kshs. 218,023,422 and a development vote of Kshs. 585,450,000. Therefore the departmental budget complied with the PFM Act threshold which requires a minimum of 30% to be allocated for development programs.
- ii. Increment of agricultural machinery services budget to enhance agricultural productivity and efficiency, the committee **recommends** an increase in budget allocation for agricultural

machinery services to support mechanization efforts across the county, Facilitate the procurement and maintenance of essential farming equipment such as tractors, plows, and irrigation systems and establish **subsidized machinery hire services** for smallholder farmers to improve accessibility.

iii. Increment of veterinary services budget allocation. The Committee on **recommends** increase in the allocation to the veterinary services to adequately address the outlined priorities and improve livestock productivity, economic growth, and national food security.

iv. The committee **recommends** fair **distribution of Galla goats** across the County to ensure inclusivity and equitable access to improved livestock breeds.

In Conclusion, The Committee urges the Committee on Budget and Appropriations to consider the above recommendations in the FY 2025-2026 where applicable to enhance agricultural productivity, improve livestock health, and promote equitable livestock distribution.

Committee on Education; the first prayer to Committee on Budget from the Committee on Education was;

i. Kitchen Infrastructure – The allocation of KES 700,000 is insufficient to meet infrastructure demands. Additionally, Bill of Quantities (BQs) and plans require revision to reflect updated designs and accommodate inflationary adjustments.

ii. ECDE Infrastructure Rehabilitation –Several ECDE projects initiated since 2013 deteriorated and require urgent repairs, The Committee requests an allocation of at least KES 1,000,000 per ward to facilitate proper rehabilitation and maintenance.

iii. Fencing of ECDE Centers – Lack of budgetary provision for fencing ECDE centers, despite the critical need for security and safety measures. The Committee requests an allocation of to address county-wide requirements.

iv. Vocational Training Institutions– The three sub-counties require budgetary support to improve vocational training institutions. Due to financial constraints, key infrastructure such as administration blocks in **Wamba** and **Baragoi** remains unfunded, limiting operational efficiency.

v. Project Supervision Budget– The lack of financial allocation for project supervision poses significant challenges in verifying and approving implementations, making it difficult to process payments. The Committee requests an adequate budgetary provision to facilitate monitoring of projects.

vi. Delayed Procurement Plan -The delay in preparing procurement plans often results in postponed projects, affecting timely service delivery. The Committee seeks improved financial planning mechanisms to mitigate such inefficiencies.

In Conclusion, The Committee on Education urges the Committee on Budget and Appropriation to consider necessary budget adjustments to ensure smooth implementation of educational projects.

The third Committee was Committee on Physical Planning and Urban Development, the first one is:

i. Pending Bills: The allocation for provisional pending bills to remains unchanged.

ii. Fencing of Loikas Public and Muslim Cemeteries: The initial allocation of Ksh6 million for this purpose has been reduced to Ksh4 million after rationalizing the scope of the works involved.

iii. Maralal Municipality Boda Boda Sheds: The proposed Ksh7 million for this project has been scaled back to Ksh5 million, following further evaluation.

iv. Solar Street Lights (Municipal Component): The initial Ksh10 million proposal for solar street lights has been restructured. Instead, a targeted allocation of Ksh3 million is now set aside specifically for Loikas floodlights to enhance security in the region.

v. Estate Roads in Maralal Municipality: The allocation for estate roads has been substantially increased from Ksh26 million to Ksh37 million to adequately cover the expansive road network in Loikas, Mtaro, Allamano, Shabaa, Iporos, Milimani, Yamo, Nomotio, and other key areas.

vi. KUSP Urban Development Grant (World Bank): The Ksh70 million grant remains unchanged, but it has been clearly redistributed as follows: Ksh30 million for Construction of Bus Park, Kshs 15 Million for cabro paving, Ksh15 million for storm water management, and Ksh10 million for solar street lights.

In Conclusion, despite the significant reallocations and adjustments, the overall total budget allocation for the department remains constant at **Ksh.146 million**. These recommendations are in line with our objective of ensuring the prudent use of public resources while addressing the most critical urban development needs in our County.

The other Committee that forwarded their views is the Committee on Roads, Public Works and Transport, they had three prayers;

i. Budget Estimates for the F/Y 2025/26 of Kshs. 395,431,081 a recurrent vote of Kshs. 113,530,646 and a development vote of Kshs. 281,900,440. Hence, the department complied with the PFM Act threshold which requires a minimum of 30% to be allocated for development programs.

ii. The Committee also cross-checked the estimates for the department to confirm compliance to the county planning documents which were previously approved by the house e.g. CIDP, CFSP and ADP. The department was allocated a ceiling of Kshs. 398 Million in the County Fiscal Strategy Paper, thus the department budget of Kshs. 395 million submitted for approval by the house conforms to the CFSP. All projects provided in the budget estimates align with the ADP and CIDP.

iii. Notably, the department projects considered in the budget under consideration is spread across the fifteen (15) wards, thus achieving a balanced economic development in its resource allocation.

The Committee made the following amendments to their budget Committee on Roads;

a. The department had allocated Kshs. 7.0 million (Seven Million Shillings) for the construction of Ngilai Footbridge in Wamba North Ward during the financial year 2024/2025. However, following the engineers' estimates during the project data collection, the project was estimated to cost Kshs. 15 Million (Fifteen Million Shillings). A request was made to the committee to reallocate Kshs. 8.0 million (Eight Million Shillings) from the said provision for pending bills vote to complete the project.

b. An Additional sum of Kshs. 2.5 million (Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Shillings) for construction of Mparingon Footbridge, Estimated Cost guided by the engineers estimate amounts to 5Million, partially Financed by Lodokejek Ward Development Fund. The Committee recommends to appropriate the remaining Kshs. 2.5 Million (Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Shillings) from the provision for pending bills to complete the footbridge.

Committee Resolution: The committee verified the information on the above two projects to be factual. Consequently, the committee deliberated and resolved to adopt the changes as bid.

The committee resolved to adopt change of names to various road projects in Loosuk ward as proposed by ward representative. The Member requested the following changes:-

a. The department had indicated Opening of Loruko – Lorian road which the member requested to be replaced by Improvement of Mugur – Nkopeliani – Lolkunono Road.

b. The Department had indicated improvement of Lesidai Junction which the member requested to be changed to Opening of Nkusoro – Nkare Narok Road.

Committee Resolution: The committee deliberated on the above two requests from Member for Loosuk Ward and resolved to adopt the changes as requested.

The Committee noted that the department has not been provided with any funds for unforeseen maintenance and repair of county roads in the event of heavy rains and floods. The Department requested the committee to consider this need in case of any budget surplus.

The Committee on Water, these are their amendments:

☐ Reduction of FLLOCA allocation to support Water Act.

☐ 10m increment allocation for Samburu water and Sanitation Company in the 2025/2026 budget

☐ Increased borehole rehabilitations budget from kshs17million to kshs25million in the financial year 2025/2026

☐ Consideration of kisima dumpsite project from 13 Million to 15 Million, The budgeting increment of Kshs 2 Million.

The other Committee on Health and they were very technical but what they recommended is that;

The health sector budget has consistently ranged from 18% to 24% of the total county budget, with an average share of 21.33% over the FY 2017/2018 to FY 2025/2026 period. This exceeds the Abuja Declaration's recommended threshold of 15%. However, the share has slightly declined to 21% in both FY 2024/2025 and FY 2025/2026, indicating a potential de-prioritization amid rising population and health service needs.

Recommendations

To address funding and service delivery gaps, we recommend:

- i. Increase health budget allocation, particularly for development, to support infrastructure and equipment.
- ii. Ensure the health budget share remains above 21% and progressively increases to match rising population needs and service delivery demands.
- iii. Prioritize maternal and child health programs to reduce MMR and improve Immunization coverage. Targeted investments in maternal and child health will yield significant improvements in population health and productivity.
- iv. Expand health facilities to reduce patient overload and to match population growth.

Those were the recommendations from the health department and that was the last Department, we had only five Departments so Hon. Members I just want to go to the Committee recommendations, let us all turn to page 63; these were the adjustments made by Committee on Budget and appropriation on Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development the Committee made the following adjustments;

- i. Pending Bills: The allocation for provisional pending bills to remains unchanged.
- ii. Fencing of Loikas Public and Muslim Cemeteries: The initial allocation of Ksh6 million for this purpose has been reduced to Ksh4 million after rationalizing the scope of the works involved. That prayer we just left as how the Committee wanted, the only thing that we never agreed is the issue of tampering with the issue of pending Bills, it remained the way it is.
- iii. Maralal Municipality Boda Boda Sheds: The proposed Ksh7 million for this project has been scaled back to Ksh5 million, following further evaluation.

iv. Solar Street Lights (Municipal Component): The initial Ksh10 million proposal for solar street lights has been restructured. Instead, a targeted allocation of Ksh3 million is now set aside specifically for Loikas floodlights to enhance security in the region.

v. Estate Roads in Maralal Municipality: The allocation for estate roads has been substantially increased from Ksh26 million to Ksh37 million to adequately cover the expansive road network in Loikas, Mtaro, Allamano, Shabaa, Iporos, Milimani, Yamo, Nomotio, and other key areas.

vi. KUSP Urban Development Grant (World Bank): The Ksh70 million grant remains unchanged, Ksh30 million for Construction of Bus Park, Kshs 15 Million for cabro paving, Ksh15 million for storm water management, and Ksh10 million for solar street lights.

On Roads;

1. That, the committee resolved to adopt change of names to various road projects in Loosuk ward:-

a. Opening of Loruko – Lorian road replaced by Improvement of Mugur – Nkopeliani – Lolkunono Road.

b. Improvement of Lesidai Junction changed to Opening of Nkuro – Nkare Narok Road.

To address fiscal risks and enhance efficiency, equity, and sustainability and align with the objectives of the CIDP III and Medium-Term County Fiscal Strategy, the following policy measures are recommended:

1. Implement a phased strategy to reduce the share of recurrent spending and gradually increase development expenditure. This will strengthen the County's capacity to deliver on key infrastructure and social transformation priorities.

2. Develop and enforce a structured repayment plan for pending bills. This will restore fiscal credibility and minimize disruption to service continuity.

3. Diversify the County's revenue base, and strengthen enforcement mechanisms. This will reduce overreliance on volatile tourism-based income and enhance fiscal autonomy.

4. Establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework for conditional grants to ensure timely absorption, and effective project delivery. On delays in procurement process, I think when the sectoral committees were meeting, there was no single sectoral committee that never

complained about delayed procurement. So, the committee recommends the following on procurement:

1. The procurement department has consistently delayed in preparing and submitting the annual procurement plans in compliance with section 53,1 of public procurement and asset disposal Act 2015. The inefficiencies have resulted in roll-overs pending commitments and under-utilization of allocated funds thus undermining the credibility of the County Budget and service delivery to the public.
2. The procurement department should strictly adhere to timelines as per section 3,2 of the public procurement and asset disposal Act which requires that all procurements should be aligned to approved budget and submit to relevant authorities at the start of the financial year.

On conditional allocation from proceeds on loans and grants from development partners for financial 2024-2025 that is Kshs.142M in line with section 129,1 of PFM Act 2012, the CECM for finance is required to submit to the County Assembly the budget estimates which include all revenue projections including allocations from the National Government excluding the additional allocations would amount to non-compliance with statutory requirements.

The inclusion of Kshs.142.5M from locust . to ensure transparent and complete representation of County total revenue and expenditure framework for financial year 2025-2026. This promotes accurate budget implementation, monitoring and report. Pursuant to provisional standing order section number 131 of the PFM Act 2012, the committee on budget and appropriations recommend to the County Assembly to adopt and approve integration and additional allocation amounting to Kshs.142.5M into final project budget estimates for the financial year 2025-2026 before tabling and deliberation of the budget estimates

. You can see the attached annexures 1 and 2. There was a letter from the Council of Governors that was sent to have the late disbursement of locust money amounting to Kshs.142M to the budget of the year 2025-2026. These were the general recommendations.

The committee further recommends this house resolves to approve the report of the budget committee on the budget estimates for the County Government and the County Assembly for the financial year 2025-2026. The County projected revenue for financial year 2025-2026 stands at

Kshs.7,814,220,640. This one excludes the additional allocation that was recently done after the agreement by the Senate and the National Assembly. So, I think maybe the second week of July we will have some supplementary to have the inclusion of the additional Kshs700M from the exchequer.

The equitable share from the national government constitutes Kshs.5,878,283,920. That is 75.2% while conditional and donor-funded transfers account of Kshs.1,203,936,420. That is 15% .

Our own source of revenue projects that 302,000,300. That is 3.9% and the balance brought forward is estimated at Kshs.430M that is 5.5% respectively to meet the expenditure during the year 2025-2026.

3. All departments should ensure that they budget for programs which have been approved by the Assembly in the ADP,CFSP and other related budgets. All the departments to ensure they clear all pending bills before the close of the financial year 2025-2026.
4. Sectoral committees should follow up on quarterly budgets, implementation reports from their respective departments.
5. All departments should ensure timely implementation of projects as outlined in the budget.
6. All conditional grants will be used for the intended purpose.
7. The County should initiate mechanisms to speed up procurement process to ensure project implementation is done within stipulated framework.

So, on behalf of the budget and appropriations committee I wish to express gratitude to the office of the Speaker and the office of the Clerk for the guidance and necessary logistical support of this important exercise. I also appreciate members of the committee for their commitment in ensuring that the process was successful.

The committee is indebted to the County Assembly staff who offered invaluable technical support and services in compiling this report. It is now my pleasure and duty and singular honor on behalf of the budget and appropriations committee to table this report and recommend it for adoption by this honorable house.

I am just going to say one or two things before I sit to let members contribute. First of all there were some very serious issues we noted in this budget and the first issue was the issue of the

procurement delays. Every sectoral committee complained of delay of procurement processes and that has resulted to even up to now, there are projects for the financial year 2024-2025 which have not been done while we only have four to five days to the close of the financial year.

I just want to urge this house through the committee on finance that they should take up this matter, maybe call the concerned. You know procurement in this county lies under the finance department so they should call the people concern to know the challenges or the reason as to why projects are not done up to now. As we cross to the next year, from July, I do not think there is any reason as to why somebody who is being a salary as a procurement officer not to do some procurement plans for almost eleven months and start doing it on the twelfth month.

I think most wards are now experiencing projects that have not started for the year 2024-2025 with less than a week to the end of the financial year. If you go to the departments, the CEC or the CO, the only reason they give is that they have no procurement plans. It is so shameful that our money is being rolled over to the next financial year and that means that we are losing money for this previous year just because of somebody not working.

I have not seen anywhere where salary has been rolled over. So, this gentleman receives a salary but they are not doing their work. Hon. Chair for finance, kindly just take up this matter. We had a discussion with the CEC finance, she said you just do a letter she is very ready to come before the committee so that we can hold these guys accountable. The procurement guys.

Secondly there was a lot of cry from the public when we went for public participation especially on the lack of ECD teachers. I think it is high time as an assembly for us to have that discussion. I do not think there is a reason as to why we should always be buying camels and cows while our almost 298 ECD centres are not manned. These ECD Centers were constructed, there are kids there, they are given food but there are no teachers.

You know basic education in every human begins at ECD. If you will not take seriously the issue of ECD centers in this County then we will not be taking education seriously. So, Hon. Speaker, we need to have this discussion on how we should have employment of ECD teachers in this County. Personally, I do not see the reason for buying thousands of camels and cows when there are many ECD centers that no teachers. That one does not beat logic. And then lastly Hon. Speaker, there is the committee on implementation. I think the committee on implementation has

been so silent in this house and that is one of the most important committees in the County Assembly because the committee on implementation holds to task the county government on behalf of this assembly on the implementation reports.

You know, it is so unfortunate that we find the department of water absorbing only 13% of their development money while people are crying across this County that they have water problems. I think it is so shameful that as members we sit in this house and then we get a department like water absorbing only 13% of their budget. The absorption rate will determine your allocation in the next financial year.

You cannot absorb only 13% then come here and cry that you should get some allocation of funds while you have not even absorbed half of what you were given. The committee on implementation through their Chair, this committee should be facilitated by this house to start doing their work. Otherwise, thank you so much honorable members. Let me now sit down. Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this time and I ask all of you to adopt this report as it is. Thank you.

MCA Suguta Marmar Ward, (Hon. Leleruk James): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise to support this report. I would also like to thank the Chairman for clearly elaborating what we have discussed. Mine is just to urge honorable members that yes the issue every sectoral committee to make sure they follow what we have passed in this house to be implemented so that we see meaningful development within our County.

On the issue of sectoral committees that have not submitted their responses to the committee on budget I think they should pull up their socks because we have tried what the committees have brought as the sectoral committees that are concerned like now the issue of lands. We have actually taken their consideration and that is the reason why we have decided that we reduce the amount so that we get the amount of money that was needed to factor in some project that is underfunded.

I would also to thank the committee on budget and I urge the honorable members to adopt this report because we have emphasized and to make sure that the car park is being constructed within our County so that the revenue of this County Will go up. If we implement the car park and all the vehicles go into that car park, I think this is the only County that we are not collecting

enough revenue because we have because we are capable of getting our own resource money if we collect through taxes.

If you go to Rumuruti, just a small town, before you park your vehicle, you pay Kshs.50. In our County we are not paying any amount of money. Mr. Speaker I urge all honorable members that we implement those issues that can uplift the livelihood of our County. I ask all honorable members we support this budget.

The issue of CFSP if you see there are some improvements or increments on the issue of funds because there are some funds that have just come. I want to urge honorable members to see the inclusion of Kshs.142M which is for locusts it is not within the budget that was come but we make sure that there is annexure that has been attached to accompany the reason why we wanted this money to be included in this budget.

Therefore, I urge all honorable members to go through the report and we support it and we pass it because it we have tried and also we have the on the issue of health there is some recommendation that most committees have made. We were with the CEC finance. I know there is a supplementary budget which is coming and those are the first priorities we tasked the CEC to consider those recommendations from the sectoral committees. Those that we see as critical are to be added to the budget.

Those are the first priorities that will be considered when the supplementary budget is coming because I think we are getting around Kshs.500-700M. so it is a plus to our County and I urge all the honorable members to support this report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would also like to add my voice to the best budget report since I joined this honorable house. I have been a member of this house for four terms. The way the committee has examined and clarified the budget, if we had the same with our technocrats, I think Samburu would have been far away, Mr. Speaker.

I see the professionalism the committee has taken in their mandate, Mr. Speaker. If all of us had been doing the same, I think the efficiency of this honorable house would have been felt by the County. You see about the reports from sectoral committees. When the budget committee gets the report of the sectoral committees that is where they can use the power of the Assembly or of

the parliament to adjust the allocations to every department. Than the previous one where the whole house altered only 1% which will curtail us to be in control of the budget, Mr. Speaker.

Knowing that budget is the source of power of any activity, without finance we can do nothing, Mr. Speaker. That is why we need to regulate how we are using the scarce resources that we have usefully, Mr. Speaker. I have taken my time to listen when the Chairperson was trying to tell about this budget. I have learned, I have been informed.

The shortfall of this honorable house, that is why I beg we all need to listen in one step, Mr. Speaker. These honorable members need to go training so that we all walk in the same step. When you go to the medical sectoral committee, how they have analyzed, and that is the way we need to go through, the committee to do a post-mortem our departments so that the information coming to this honorable house is clear.

On the side of departments making use of their allocations, Mr. Speaker, we have been crying that we do not have projects yet we have allocated money. The committee has highlighted the problem, whereby it is also our fault as the County Assembly. We are here to make follow-up of what we approve in this house. That is why we have the implementation committee.

We are sleeping and I do not want us to have these blame games, Mr. Speaker. Where we do not perform, we accept and then we look for correction. Power has been given to this honorable house by the people as per Article 1 of the Constitution. The delegated power we give to the executive means that they are now overriding everything and then we have become powerless, Mr. Speaker. Delegated power can be returned. I appreciate the presentation of this report today and I fully support. Hoping next time, we improve more. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Lelengeju Jackson): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I start by congratulating the Chair and his committee for this commendable job, this report. I am glad that it is so good that it informed the Chair for education. I wish could copy some of that in our department of education. I urge members to support this report.

Much is seen within our line departments. It is critical for us as a County based on our needs to fund health, education, water and agriculture mainly. It is unfortunate that one of the key departments mentioned here – water. That is what we lack especially in our lowlands, the entire North and the entire East. You find that department spending 13% . Seriously, that is something

that must be considered because it is pure lack of seriousness. We have no water and we are not able to absorb this. Hon. Speaker, I attribute this entirely to the procurement process of this County. There is total lack of coordination. We have been up and down these executive offices trying to follow-up these projects so that they can be done on time so that they are not time-barred.

Unfortunately, some of the procurement personnel have taken this job at the department as a personalized service such that it is one individual that does everything and does what he wants and what he or she does not want to do he does not do. It is not a wonder that this kind of 13% absorption is as a result of this.

We urge the CEC concerned and all CECs and COs of this County, that there is a serious need to scrutinize the procurement process. There is a major keychain procurement officer heading the County and each sectoral department has procurement personnel manning the process. It is to shameful that even up to this week they are still up and down trying to hurry up systems to be considered before the close of the financial year which is coming to an end in three to four days.

I think all of us as the Assembly of Samburu, we need to look into this matter. Everything will be attributed entirely to the procurement process and we urge the COs and CECs to work in coordination because they are serving the same people not their personal interest as their people. They secured jobs among many qualified needy young people. They have no option but to serve in that portfolio so that they satisfy the service to the people of Samburu.

Hon. Speaker according to these budget estimates, it is clear that some departments are not funded as the others and maybe in subsequent budgets it is critical that we sit with all departments before they do the final distribution of resources so that we can be able to give advice because our people are crying for development and services.

I thank God. I believe we are within the required percentage of development in this County but become unfortunate if we allocate funds and they do not get absorbed, they jump to pending bills and even reducing their ceilings the next year, like for example Health Department. Health is not fully funded yet the little they got was not even absorbed. That is the unfortunate part. I am a member of the committee on health.

We were crying up and down trying to push the health budget to go up. It is so painful that as we look for more for them, the little they have they are not able to use. That is a serious contradiction.

So, something must be done within the procurement process so that those departments that are not responsible, that cannot absorb their money then you relook into the personnel that are concerned because everything lies within the procurement process. I support the report and I urge all the other members to support. Thank you.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon. Lekuchula David): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise to join my colleagues to support the motion and also take this opportunity to urge my colleagues to support these estimates so that we can proceed to approve the appropriations bill. I sit in the budget committee and I too want to commend the good job the committee did.

I used to insist that consultation is very important if you want to take any step. It is very vital. The collaboration we received from the finance department, from the executive and the collaboration from the budget committee that made this job to be good like the way it is here. You have seen that several recommendations are from sectoral committees have been adhered to. Some of them which we discussed with the executive.

Later on, we came up with the consensus we wanted because the good thing that we did we said as the committee and the executive let us put other things aside, let us put political affiliations aside. Let us discuss this budget as an essential item for our people, the people of Samburu.

That made this work successful. Hon. Speaker, I just want to join my brother Hon. Lorunyei in saying that we need more training for some of the committees to understand their duties or their roles because the few committees that brought their recommendations to the budget committee, most of the recommendations they made have been adhered to.

The few that were not possible for now were adjusted. Maybe we will consider in the coming budget or in the coming supplementary. So, if all committees can do that I think we will be moving in the right direction as the County Assembly of Samburu, to serve the people of Samburu to our best. Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I just urge my colleagues to join hands and support these estimates for us to go for the appropriations bill.

Specially Elected Member, (Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me take this opportunity to thank the County Assembly administration for facilitating the committee on budget to carry out this mandate on budget cycle. I just have request for you as a leader of this honorable house and with your leadership so that you can consider this matter next time. I have been a member of the budget committee, even in the last regime and also in this one.

What we encountered during public participation of the budget estimates we have never encountered that. The committee was facilitated for three days to go around the whole of Samburu County to do public participation for the budget estimates which is a very big work. Very tedious and we wanted that all the fifteen wards within Samburu County to at least know the budget estimates.

With your leadership I just want to tell you that next time we look into such issues so that the committee can be able to go to all the fifteen wards so that all the wards know what is going on in Samburu County. I know you will capture that and you will consider. Let me also take this opportunity to thank the committee on budget. I sit in the committee.

I thank the honorable members led by our Chair for the good work. For the teamwork we have to carry all this work and come up with this report. Hon. Speaker, I also take this opportunity to recognize the work of the finance CEC because the whole process was carried out within the timelines that are guided by the Kenyan Constitution 2010 and all the other legal framework that guide the budget cycle.

Last year we had some confusion on doing a budget because some of them did not bring the fiscal strategy papers on time. This year she has tried to bring everything within the timelines needed and guided by the legal framework. With that I thank the CEC and her department. Also Hon. Speaker, with the guidance of our Chair, who is the member for Loosuk Ward, is ever very active in making sure that we stick to the timelines.

Mr. Speaker, the Hon Members are aware of this report they have gone through it which we have gone through it with the Department of Finance and we even went through the recommendation from the Sectoral Committee. I have a concern on the Sectoral Committee because we wrote all letters to every chair within this House but only 5 Committees have complied. I do not know whether those other Committees are okay with the budget the way it is but I just want to urge

them to pull their socks. I did not see Social Services Sectoral Committee recommendation and when you look at their budget... I am here to represent women and when you look at the budget there is no balance. Everything has been taken to Sports and the small Department which is Gender has KSh. 500,000 to do women empowerment across Samburu County, that is not fair.

When you look at Youth Empowerment KSh. 25,000,000 is that balancing? I just want to tell Sectoral Committee who did not make recommendations for the Committee on budget to do so, so that we can be in the same level. Let me comment on the recommendation that we come up as a Committee on Budget and Appropriation, when you look at our budget we have policies which guides on how to come up with the Financial Budgets. We have the CIDP, Fiscal Strategy Paper and the ADP. When you look at these estimates that are in the floor of the House, they have gone through all those circles.

They are guided by CIDP and Fiscal Strategy Paper. We have just come across a concern that we have come across like diversion of between County Strategy Fiscal Paper and estimates we have seen increment in some Departments because of some issues that are rising for example the conditional grant from the World Bank on the LRP that is Locust Respond Program on 142 million that has cost the ceiling of the Department have changed. When you look at the Fiscal Strategy Paper they have changes when it comes to budget estimates because of such grant allocation, it was for 2024-2025 but they have not received such monies. They are now getting the money when we are at the end of the Financial Year. That is why they have decided to capture in this budget estimates. The other day our chair was telling the Department that they should be communicating in writing. While you check on our reports, Annexure 1 there is a memorandum; they have written why there is such difference in ceilings from the Fiscal Strategy Paper to estimates.

The estimates have changed as it looks in the Fiscal Strategy Paper. Why has she brought that memorandum? Because you are only supposed to surpass the ceilings from the Fiscal Strategy Paper with 1% maximum but if the concerned Department has brought the Memorandum then we will comply with that, and that is why we have complied with them and we had consensus with them that it should go as it is. The memorandum is a supportive document.

Secondly, when you go to our budget we have major recurrent items, when you check at the major recurrent trends, from FY 2023-2024, FY 2024-2025 and FY 2025-2026. The estimates that we have today you will see that we have a trend. If you look at Pg. 44 in this report, the comparison of the budget estimates across FY 2023-2024 that is 7.5 billion FY 2024-2025 7.3 billion and the projected estimates we are doing today FY 2025-2026 it is 7.8 billion. This reveals a critical shift in Fiscal Structure and when you look at this table you will see we have the decline on Development budget and with 7% we have declined Development.

The recurrent has steadily risen to 5.4% that shows that we have Departments that are not considering the CIDP objective. It also shows that they are not aligning themselves with the priorities that are in CIDP and also in Fiscal Strategy Paper and (ADP) Annual Development Plan.

The other issue Mr. Speaker, the increase on recurrent but when you check at major recurrent in this report, I will just mention two; the Village Council which is allocated 45 million and remember we have a Statement asked for 3 good Financial Years here. So that we can have that office in place, we have been allocating money to have that office in place but it is nowhere to be seen.

I just want to ask the Hon. Members in this House that as we pass this budget, once we do our first supplementary if there is no that office in place then we have to supplement this money, to be used in recruitment of ECD teachers. We have been allocating and no that office in place. I also mentioned the emergency fund it has 20 million.

To my understanding the Emergency Fund is under the Special Program. I did not see anything that those monies are being used for. We have seen our people going through a lot of issues; security issues, low-land areas that are suffering with no water and food but we are not seeing the impact of this 20 million. I just want to urge this Hon. House once we do our 1st supplementary. If we did not see any impact with these funds then we have to supplement and perform other duties.

The issue of procurement; I believe procurement has a legal framework that guides on how to do their procurements in timelines but what we are seeing across all the Departments they are in

contrary to the PPADA Act 2015. That is Procurement Public and Asset Act they are not respecting such laws, thus why you will see they have demeaned service delivery to our people.

They are delaying it and I think this is one of our recommendations in this report that they should do their procurement process in time so that it can enable other Departments to carry other issues. All of them are complaining about procurements but I know the Hon. Member for Maralal Ward who is the chair Finance will carry that, that is another major problem we are encountering as we go through such processes.

The Pending Bills; procurement is leading to this we have 430 million for pending Bills and these liabilities may post significance risks on service delivery to our people. With those concerns I know we have captured in our recommendation and I believe that the concerned Department will look at our recommendations and comply with that.

The Ward Fund; the last regime^{1st} implementation of the budget is the Ward Fund project and I just want that the resolution of this House or the recommendation of this House should be respected and implemented as it is. In the last regime it has been implementing our recommendations accordingly; they were taking Ward Fund seriously and implement in time.

I just want to help our Hon. Members who were elected here that let us be serious so that they can take our recommendations seriously. So that people in your wards may feel that you are doing something. Let them do your ward fund project in time so that you can have something you can show your people.

I want to thank this House I believe this is the best ever estimate that is in the floor of the House today, let us consider it we have done equitable share across all wards and same as the Department has done so, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Kindly Members let us take shorter time,

MCA El Barta Ward , (Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to support the Motion and also to thank the Committee for elaborate and well done job, for the interest of time, my keen observation from my side one of the most important issues that I have observed from these budget estimates on the report from the

Committee, the principle of equity and fairness and in terms of distribution of resources across the 15 wards. I would like to mention some of the Departments that observed that; Roads- As you can see all our wards has been allocated 2 roads per ward. That is commendable.

Education sector; Distribution of toilets, ECD furniture and Kitchens. That is very commendable. Department of Water; this budget that we have this FY, the Department of Water has taken some steps and especially pertaining to repair of boreholes. In my observation at least two boreholes per ward has been considered.

Department of Agriculture; has done the same through distribution of Camels, Sahiwals, and Seeds.

Sports; I understand that through ward fund majority of us have been allocating money for ward tournaments and that usually qualifies for Governors Cup. That is very commendable because the Governor's cup is attended by the representatives from all wards. However, I also want to identify some gaps that maybe we can be able to do one or two things in our next budget estimates;

1. The Department of Education- as mentioned by the chairperson of the Committee of Budget we still have gaps especially on ECD teachers. I know this is subject to issues to do with Wage Bill. The County Government of Samburu we should be able to come up with strategies so that we can be able to handle these issues on Wage Bill so that we can be able to employ more teachers, so that the schools without teachers can be able to get teachers as soon as possible. For the last 3 FY i have not seen plans for fencing and for repair of classrooms. There are classrooms constructed by County Council and during the 1st Years of devolution that is 2013-2014 most of those classrooms need some budgetary allocation for repairs. 2.
2. Department of Health- each and every year we usually have a new facility, and the existing facilities again are up graded now and then, for example Level 2 upgraded to Level 3 and Level 3 upgraded to Level 4, Level 4 upgraded to Level 5 for the case like this County Referral Hospital and some technical services including Theatre Services iniatiially we did not have theatre services in Baragoi. We now have operational theatre in Baragoi, Suguta, Wamba, in Archers Post and in Kisima. All those services comes with

additional costs and perhaps maybe this one may guarantee employment of Healthcare workers and we have the same issues to do with Wage Bill that will not allow us to employ more Healthcare workers and we already have those who are in contract and we understand the rules and the laws that governs issues on absorption of those who have been in contract. The labour laws will not allow us having these workers on contract basis for certain number of period yet they provide very important services.

3. Department of Health- drug allocation; the drug allocation budget has been constantly around 155 million since 2018 until now we only have the same amount despite us having many Health facilities across the County and some of our facilities being upgraded higher levels.

We need to have consideration on this and this reason as to why you will find that most of the time we get shot of drugs as we go towards the end of the FY. Another important observation Mr. Speaker when you look at pg. 27 from the report of the Department of Health for the first time since FY 2017- 2018, FY 2019-2020, FY FY 2020-2021 up to now FY 2025-2026 the Department has never received a lower budgetary allocation this is the only time that they are getting 90.6 on Development the rest of the FY has been above that. I think we are not we are not doing well in terms of Development in that Department. We need to do something in our next budgetary allocation.

The other important issue is the clarity of the pending bills; I think it will be as said by the Hon. Members who have spoken before me there is this tendency of just putting a figure per Department that this is the pending bill 30 billion but there is no clarity for that bill exactly to say they are putting rough figures and sometimes it is not prudent for us to adapt something that has not been clarified more.

Sometimes there are some embarrassments that we need as County Assembly or County Government of Samburu... at times just to give an example what has happened sometimes back in the Senate. Some of the projects that have been listed as pending bills, I do not know how they have found themselves in the list yet they have been disowned by the CA4 that those pending bills are not there and they will not be there for payment Mr. Speaker. If you can have clarity of these pending bills we will get off these issues pertaining to these pending bills.

4. Department of Agriculture- the only issue I have noted is uneven distribution of Galla goats. That one has been mentioned by the Committee next time you look into that. So that if we do Galla goats distribution you will do it across all ward the way we are doing distribution of camels, sahiwals and seeds.

There is this issue of Ceiling of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper. I tend to disagree that there are Departments that has not been absorbing their full amount that necessitated the CECM Finance not to give the Department their full allocation. Let me give an example on Department of Health.

I am not speaking on behalf of the Department but as I sit as a chair in the Department of Health and having interrogated with the Department of Health Mr. Speaker as you can see the report that the Department of Health has forwarded to Budget Committee it is informative.

We have done a lot of research, as you can see there are some graphs which have been shared. We tried even to look at the trends back from 2018 till now. County Strategy Fiscal Paper it is true if it is determined by the absorption then whatever that was placed that was meant for Department of Health was approximately 1.6 billion and you understand that around the 1.6 billion as I said earlier the only monies budgetary allocation for development is only 90 million if you can be able to do deductions the rest is recurrent and that means payment of salaries, drugs payment and patients food.

I do not see any reason that you say that the Department of Health on pg. 17 Mr. Speaker if you see that table on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation. The County Fiscal Strategic Paper gets the Department as a ceiling of KSh. 1,606,028,723. If that is the ceiling, I do not know what justifies again the CECM Finance to go and allocate only in the Budget Estimates one billion and six hundred then the rest the Department had a negative Five Million Five hundred thousand. Even to justify that the Department of Health absorbed all its budgetary allocation even the current supplementary budget that we had here, 90% of whatever that was allocated to Health, means the Department of Health absorbed all its allocation then it came and requested for more allocation.

That is truly a lie for us Hon. Members to be convinced that indeed some of the Departments have not been absorbing the allocation fully. The Department of Health has absorbed all its

budgetary allocation and even came to this Hon. House for supplementary to be added some more monies from other Departments because they were even now unable to run the Department. I want to assure you the allocation already that they have received the current one. It shall not be enough and I can attest to that the one point six zero six including now the one billion and five hundred thousand recurrent it will just help the Department to run for some time. It will come a time that you will see during supplementary the Department of Health will be the first again to come and request for more allocation considering all this challenges.

There is this tendency when we pass this document here and I want to bring it here for Members to know about these issues. At times we just pass these documents here but whatever that is usually being implemented at the executive it is not this document that you have passed here. This time round Mr. Speaker, I want to request the Hon. House that whatever that we adapt today here should be the document that should be shared to the CECM and the Department this is the document that is supposed to be shared to go and implement Mr. Speaker.

You will find people implementing other projects that are outside these documents, there was no supplementary that was done you wonder what is not happening. We need to be people who are following rules, laws and regulations that are there. If indeed we are following the County Fiscal Strategy Paper why are other Departments getting more than the other? Just giving example like Finance which law did they find to add themselves monies on top of what was allocated. Some things are not really fair.

Finally, I have already mentioned on implementation of budget that is very important whatever that we have resolved today as a House it should be clear in terms in terms of even writing so that we can be even able to implement the document that we have here, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members I now put the Question that pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No. 228/6 this Assembly adapts the report of County Budget and Appropriation Committee on the Budget Estimates for the County Government and County Assembly tabled in the County Assembly on 24th June 2025.

(Question Put and Passed)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Members the time being 20 minutes past 11 o'clock this Assembly now adjourns until Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 2:30 p.m.