GOVERNMENT OF MAKUENI COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH, GENDER, SPORTS AND SOCIAL SERVICES
P.O BOX 78 – 90300, MAKUENI

EMPOWERMENT OF GROUPS FOR SOCIO ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION: A REPORT ON GROUPS MAPPING

FEBRUARY 2017

FOREWORD

The Constitution of Kenya, 2010 requires measures to be undertaken to ensure the youth and women access relevant education and training, have opportunities to participate in political, social, economic activities and access to employment. It is evident that working with organized groups ensures that development trickles down to communities and villages.

The Government of Makueni County recognizes community groups' social power for sustainable and meaningful development. Majority of the organized groups - welfare groups, funeral associations, merry-go-rounds, adult literacy groups, farmers' cooperatives, self-help groups , CBO's and table banking groups have the potential to solve community development problem. It is evident that groups and specifically women's groups have played a key role in community development since the pre-colonial period in Kenya. For instance, through the women's "*Mwethya",* groups are able to play significant role in community based development activities which are very broad and complex.

The purpose of the Group Mapping exercise was to; develop a database of all the existing organized groups, to find out the challenges facing the groups, to establish the economic activities the groups are engaged in and to establish the support the groups have benefited from the National and County Government. The exercise targeted all groups of women, men, youth and welfare associations.

The study found out that majority of the groups (67%) were formed in the last five years and over 70% of the groups registered with the national government , Ministry of East Africa community, Labor and Social Protection. Over 60% of the groups are involved in productive economic activities such as table banking, crop and livestock farming with the rest involved in social welfare activities.

The major challenges facing the groups include; inadequate training on the different activities, livestock and crop pests and diseases, inadequate market for the farm produce, lack of managerial skills and information.

To address the challenges, the government commits to transform the engagement and support to the groups through three pillars namely; capacity development and training, economic empowerment and social protection. These components will transform the approach towards the groups and empowerment and realization of Makueni Vision 2025.

ROSEMARY MAUNDU
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER- YOUTH, GENDER, SPORTS AND SOCIAL SERVICES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This report presents the current situation and outlook concerning organized groups in Makueni. The exercise was made possible through efforts of dedicated staff from the department and the county. We sincerely appreciate our Governor, H.E. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana and Deputy Governor, H.E. Adelina Mwau for their moral support and overall leadership without which implementation of this activity would not have been possible.

We are grateful to Executive Committee Member for Youth, Gender, Sports and Social Services, Mrs. Rosemary Maundu for her support and encouragement during the preparation of this report.

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And to all other persons whom we have not mentioned by name including the Trainer of Trainers in the department, the County Administration, we sincerely thank you for your efforts and contribution in the preparation of this report and towards empowerment of groups for socio-economic transformation.

WINFRED WAMBUA
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CBO	-	Community Based Organizations
CoK (2010)	-	Constitution of Kenya (2010)
DYGSSS	-	Department of Youth, Gender, Sports and Social Services
HIV	-	Human Immuno Deficiency Virus
NG-CDF	-	National Government Constituency Development Fund
OVCs	-	Orphaned and Vulnerable Children
PRA	-	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PWDs	-	Persons With Disability
PLHIV	-	Persons Living with HIV
SDGs	-	Sustainable Development Goals
SHG	-	Self Help Group
SPSS	-	Statistical Package for Social Scientists
TOTs	-	Trainer of Trainees
W.E.F	-	Women Enterprise Fund
WRUAs	-	Water Resource Users Associations

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives the general information on the County and the department of Youth, Gender, Social Services and Sports in Makueni County. The chapter provides background on the groups mapping exercise, the objectives of the mapping and the rationale for undertaking the exercise.

1.1 County Profile

Makueni County is one of the forty seven counties that were established as a result of the new Constitution. The County is situated in the south eastern part of the Country bordering Machakos County to the north, Kitui County to the East, Kajiado County to the West and Taita Taveta County to the South. It's located between Latitude 1º 35´ and 3^0 00 South, and Longitude 37º10´ and 38º 30´East, Makueni County covers an area of 8,008.7 Km^2, which include 153 KM^2 of gazzetted forests (Mbooni, Kilungu, Kibwezi, Nthangu and Makuli). The county has 6 Sub Counties, 30 Wards and 60 subwards.

The County lies in the arid and semi-arid zones of the eastern region of the country. The major physical features in Makueni County include the volcanic Chyulu hills which lie along the southwest border of the County in Kibwezi West Constituency, Mbooni hills in Mbooni Constituency and Kilungu and Iuani hills in Kaiti Constituency. The County terrain is generally low-lying at 600m above sea level.

1.2 Department of Youth, Gender & Social Services

1.2.1 Vision

An empowered society that enjoys equal rights and opportunities.

1.2.2 Mission

To mobilize and support communities for social, economic and political development through participatory mechanism.

1.2.3 Mandate

The department has two directorates namely; **Directorate of Youth and Sports**, and **Directorate of Gender & Social Services** through which the above mandates are executed.

The *directorate of Youth and sports* has mandate on:

i. Youth empowerment
ii. Girl - child empowerment
iii. Leadership and mentorship programs
iv. Promotion, support and protection of youth creativity and innovation
v. Sports development and management

The directorate of *gender and Social services* has mandate on:

i. Empowerment of community through groups (men, women & youth)
ii. Construction of social amenities (Community resource centers and social halls)
iii. Social protection (elderly, PLHIV, widows & widowers, OVCs, PWDs)
iv. Gender mainstreaming and affirmative action
v. Rehabilitation and empowerment for PWDs

1.3 Background

In Kenya, there are a number of Self-help groups involved in social and economic activities. The groups enable the rural poor acquire power for self-development and empowerment exhibited through improved standards of living, food security, poverty alleviation and rural development. The national government is mandated with registration of groups through the Ministry of East Africa community, Labor and Social Protection (department of social protection).

A Self-help Group is a socially and economically homogeneous group of 12-20 people voluntarily working together to achieve common goals. The concept builds on mutual trust and help, shared ownership, peer pressure, emphasizing group solidarity and togetherness. Their mutual goal is to help each other deal with the problem and if possible recover and solve the problem. Self Help Groups (SHGs) represent a form of intervention that is a radical departure from most current programmes. They are an effective strategy for poverty alleviation, human development and social empowerment.

The 'Empowerment of Community Groups' recognizes community groups' social power for sustainable and meaningful development. It is rooted in the belief that organized groups have the capacity to coordinate and solve community development problems. Community groups play a significant role in responding to the needs of their communities and giving voice and power to local community initiatives. Grassroots community groups are uniquely placed as potential advisors, implementers and evaluators for development projects in their communities. The groups have a wealth of experience and knowledge of the needs of the community at the village level.

Theoretically and ideally, SHGs, both of men and women, promote the following features which could have an impact on enhancing human development and empowerment: (i) a habit of regular savings; (ii) weekly meetings with a clear agenda and conducted in a participative way, where decisions are taken by the groups to give loans to its members regarding the purpose, size and schedule of repayments; (iii) a culture of sanctions for willful default; (iv) awareness of, and involvement in, credit plus issues related to equity, gender and rights including the creation of a culture that reduces violence in the home; (v) the ability and willingness to carry out periodically a participatory self-assessment; and finally, (vi) a culture of learning. Together these contribute to, and enhance, the management skills and the confidence of the SHG members while in increasing their capacity to meet their livelihood needs.

1.4 Justification/Rationale

The Fourth schedule of Constitution of Kenya (2010) stipulates the role of participation of communities in governance at the local level. The Government of Makueni County recognizes the third level of government which is the ***peoples' government***- this places citizens at the Centre of development processes by encouraging public participation and ownership of projects. It is therefore crucial to work with organized groups in order to ensure that development trickles down to communities and villages.

It is evident that community groups in rural areas are champions of development initiatives but often lack the guidance and support necessary to fully contribute to the development of their communities, thereby fueling the vicious cycle of rural underdevelopment and poverty. Acknowledging and addressing the community's needs and aspirations is vital for local and national growth. According to Housing census, 2009 and budget survey (KIHBS) 2005/2006, the county poverty index is 60.6% implying that a greater percentage of the population live below poverty line [1]. In this regard, empowerment of the organized groups will promote socio economic standards of the residents leading to a decline in the poverty level in the county.

Empowerment of groups is a key component to realization of Makueni Vision 2025. Vision 2025 aims at promoting wealth creation programmes for the youth and women. The programme targets to improve livelihood among the target groups in the county through promotion of viable income generating activities and subsidized loans. This will lead to improved living standards of the groups.

It is against this background that there arose the need to conduct a county group mapping exercise in order to know the number and types of groups in the county and the activities they do and plan for interventions towards the groups

1.5 Objectives

The broad objective of the exercise was to profile organized groups in the county. The specific objectives of the mapping exercise were:

i. To develop a data base of all existing organized groups in the county
ii. To find out the challenges facing the groups
iii. To establish the type of activities the groups engaged in
iv. To find out the how the groups have benefited from both national government and County Government

[1] According to World Bank, Poverty line refers to estimated minimum level of income needed to secure the necessities of life ($1.25).

CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY

This chapter provides an overview of the data collection methods and the approach used. It also outlines the data analysis process and the limitation of the study.

2.1 Data collection

The department conducted the group mapping survey in all the 60 sub wards in Makueni County for a period of 4 days. 60 trainers of trainees (TOTs) were contracted to administer the group mapping questionnaire with assistance of the county administration. Sensitization was done before commencement of the exercise and itinerary provided for group representatives to avail themselves for the mapping exercise.

The survey design of the mapping exercise entailed a census of all existing organized groups. Group representatives assembled at a designated point in the sub ward where the questionnaire was administered.

2.2 Data Analysis

In preparation for analysis, the questionnaires were checked and confirmed for completeness. Each research question had quantitative and qualitative data. All the questionnaires were serialized in readiness for data entry. Data entry was captured in excel worksheets then transferred to SPSS platform for cleaning and easy analysis. For the quantitative data; the responses were tallied and their frequencies and percentages identified. For the qualitative data, similar responses were coded and tallied after which deductions were made**.** Findings were presented inform of graphs, tables and pie charts.

2.3 Limitations of the Mapping Exercise

- Some of the existing groups did not turn up for the mapping exercise
- A proportion of the groups did not attach contacts of the group members.
- High expectations from the groups (political environment and handouts)

CHAPTER THREE: FINDINGS

This chapter provides the details on the findings of the study which include; the number of groups in the county segregated by the registration status, type of groups, age of the groups, the activities of the groups, the support from National and County Governments, the challenges and the proposals on addressing the challenges. The data is segregated by geographical location (Sub County and Ward)

3.1 Nature /categories of Groups

Categories of Groups	Number of Groups	Distribution of Groups by (%)
Self-help Groups	4,618	58.7%
Women Groups	2,336	29.7%
Youth Groups	429	5.5%
CBO	117	1.5%
PWDs	110	1.4%
Welfare Associations	100	1.3%
Other Groups	158	2.0%
Total	7,868	100.0%

Figure 3.1. 1 **Nature /categories of groups**

*Other Groups (HIV Groups, OVC Care Groups, Men's Groups, Financial Associations & Sacco's, WRUAs etc.)

From the analysis, self-help groups have the highest representation at 58% (4,618) while community based organizations, persons with disabilities, welfare associations and other groups constitute 6.2% of the groups. Women and youth groups have a percentage of 29 and 5.5 respectively of the mapped groups. The low number of youth groups may be attributed to the following factors; negative perception towards organized groups, youth migration patterns, unregistered sports clubs and associations and some youth are members of self-help groups.

3.2 Number of groups per Sub County

Sub_ County	Number of Groups	2017 Population projections	Population over 18 years	Number of groups per 1000 people
Kaiti	794	134,247	63,680	12
Kibwezi East	951	147,748	69,572	14
Kibwezi West	1,858	185,450	90,045	21
Kilome	966	98,276	48,130	20
Makueni	1,996	224,188	107,558	19

Mbooni	1,303	198,753	96,225	14
Total	7,868	988,662	475,210	17

Figure 3.2 1 Number of groups per sub county

3.3 Number of groups per ward

From the analysis, Nguu Masumba ward has the highest number of groups (390) while Mbooni ward has the least number of groups (100). Averagely every ward has 262 groups. However some wards are below the average number of groups. For example 3 out of the 4 wards in Kaiti sub county are below average as per their number of group. While others are above the everage number of groups. Most of the wards in Makueni and Kibwezi West sub counties are above average according to their number of groups. Figure 3.5.1.2 provides further insight into the number of groups per ward.

3.4 Distribution of Groups by Age

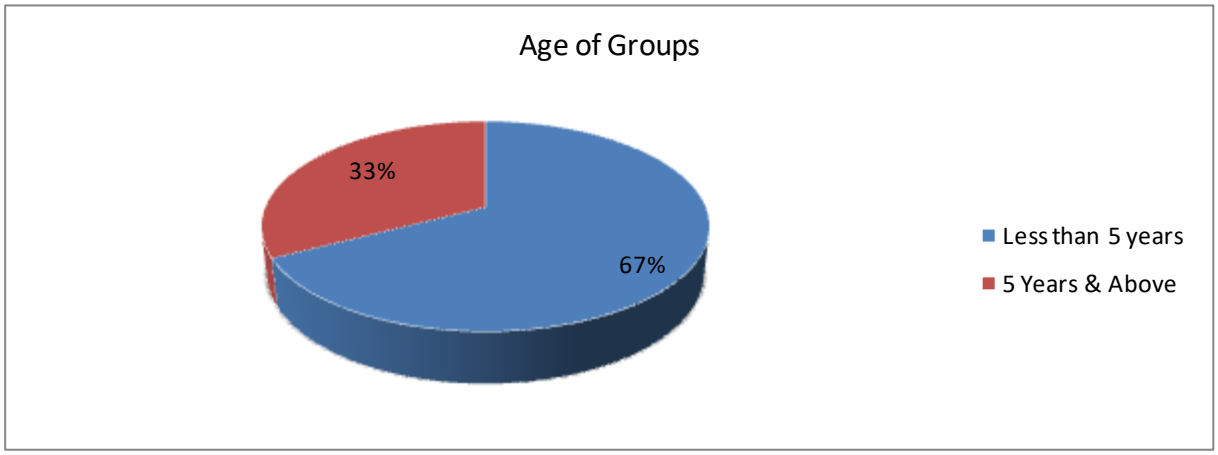


Figure 3.4 1 Distribution of groups by Age

From the analysis, 67% of the groups in Makueni were registered within the last 5 years. This can be attributed to the National Government, County Government and other stake-holders efforts towards organizing people into groups for desired outcomes geared towards improving their wellbeing. 33% of the existing formal groups were registered more than 5 years ago. On average, the formal groups in Makueni County are 4 years and 3 Months old.

3.5 Registration status of groups

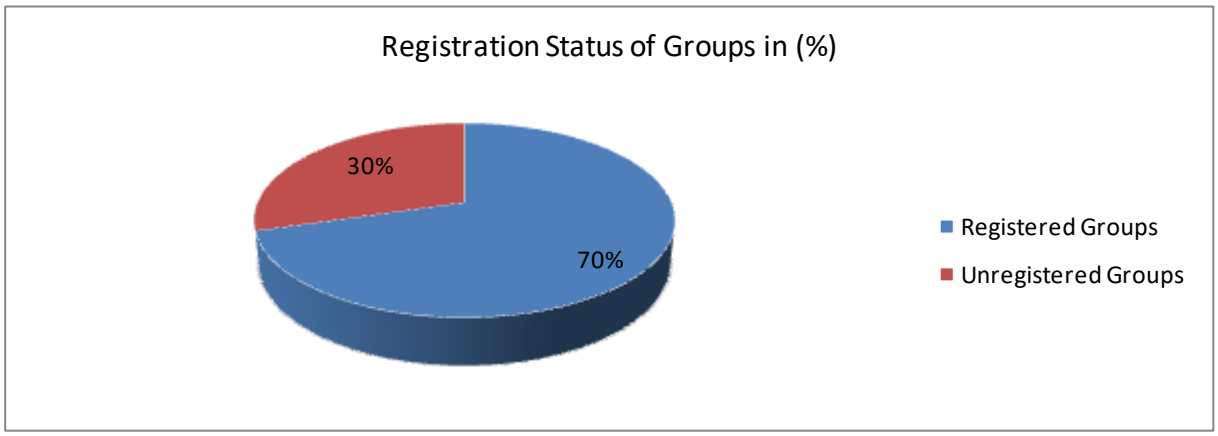


Figure 3.5 1 Registration status of groups

From the mapping exercise, 70% (5,536) of the existing groups within the county are registered/ formal groups. 30% (2,332) of the existing groups are yet to register or are still in the registration process. Most of the informal/unregistered groups engage in social welfare activities such as; "ngone mwaitu", funeral arrangements and dowry payments.

3.6 Registration Status of Groups per Category

Categories of Groups	Total Number of Groups	Registered/Formal Groups	Percentage of Registered Groups
Self-help Groups	4,618	3,251	70%
Women Groups	2,336	1,650	71%
Youth Groups	429	301	70%
CBOs	117	68	58%
PWDs	110	81	74%
Welfare Associations	100	56	56%
Other Groups	158	129	82%
Total	7,868	5,536	70%

Figure 3.6 1 Registration status of groups per category

*Other Groups (HIV Groups, OVC Care Groups, Men's Groups, Financial Associations & Sacco's, WRUAs etc)

The above table shows the different categories of groups which were mapped and their respective numbers. Welfare Associations and Community based organizations had the least percentages in terms

of registration status at 56% and 58% respectively. Self-help, women, youth and PWD groups were within the county average of 70%. Groups categorized as `other' had the highest registration status at 82%.

3.7 Registration Status of Groups per Sub County

Sub _County	Total Number of Groups	Registered/Formal Groups	Percentage of Registered Groups
Kaiti	794	561	71%
Kibwezi East	951	693	73%
Kibwezi West	1,858	1,389	75%
Kilome	966	702	73%
Makueni	1,996	1,394	70%
Mbooni	1,303	797	61%
Total	7,868	5,536	70%

Figure 3.7 1 Registration Status of Groups per Sub County

From the analysis it's evident that Kibwezi west has the highest proportion of registered groups (75%) followed closely by Kibwezi east and Kilome (73%), while Mbooni has the least proportion of registered groups (61%).

3.8 Membership by Number of People

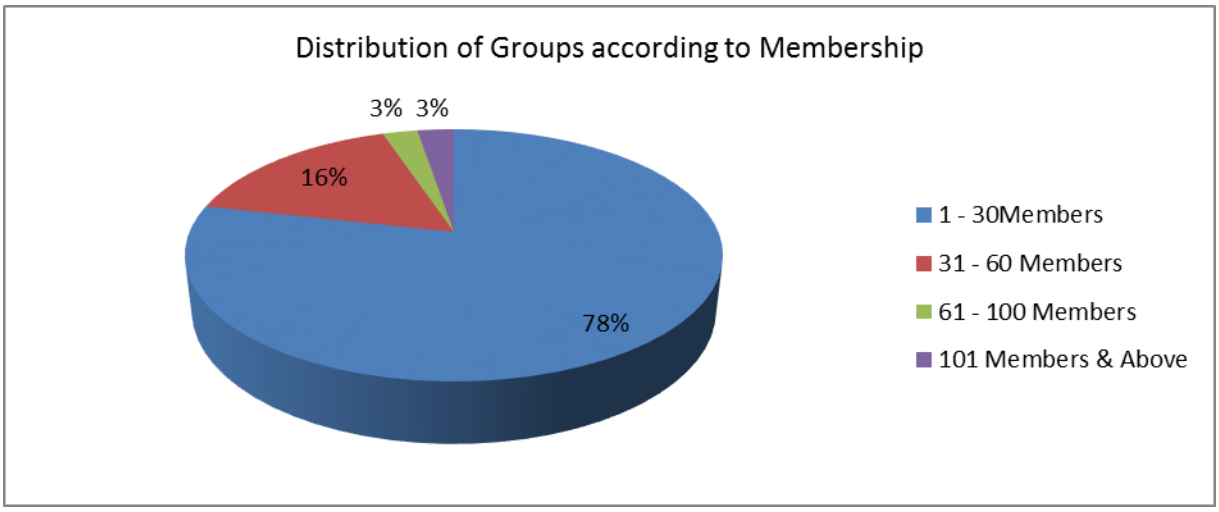


Figure 3.8 1 Membership by Number of People

The chart above shows distribution of groups according to their membership. 78% of groups have a member subscription of between 10 to 30 members. In addition, the average number of members in the groups is 29. According to the Kenya Population Census, Makueni has a 2017 population projection of 481,987 people who are 18 years and above. From the analysis, 228,172 people are organized into groups. This implies that 47% (or half) of our eligible population (18 years and above) is organized into

groups which can be further interpreted as follows “Out of every 10 people, 5 are in a group” though a person can be a member of more than one group.

3.9 Group Activities

No.	Activity	% of Groups Undertaking the Activity	Description of Activity
1.	Table Banking	83%	• Members make financial contributions and later they borrow the funds at a predetermined interest rate.
2.	Livestock Keeping	40%	• Poultry Keeping • Goat Keeping • Fish Farming • Rabbit Rearing • Dairy Cattle Keeping
3.	Crop Farming	27%	• Horticultural farming i.e. French beans, cabbages, kales, tomatoes, onions • Grain/cereal farming i.e. maize, beans, green grams, millet, cow peas, sorghum • Fruit farming i.e. mangoes, oranges, bananas, avocado, water melons • Sisal and grass plantations • Tubers i.e. cassava, sweet potatoes • Coffee and cotton farming
4.	Entrepreneurial Activities	13%	• Trading in construction materials i.e. Bricks, ballast, • Basketry • Rope making • Transport services i.e. boda boda business • Trading in agricultural produce (crop & livestock) • Catering Services • Tents and chairs hire • Construction of improved jikos and pots • Detergent and soap making • Water vending • Trading in agricultural inputs i.e. manure, seeds, agro chemicals
5.	Social Welfare	35%	• “Ngone Mwaitu” • Funeral arrangements • Financial contributions towards medical bills, school fees etc
6.	Environmental Conservation	11%	• Agro-forestry i.e. establishment of tree nurseries, afforestation • Building gabions • Soil conservation i.e. terracing and landscaping • Rehabilitation of denuded land • Construction of sand dams and earth dams • Rehabilitation of water catchment areas
7.	Other Activities	2%	• Entertainment i.e. choirs, traditional dances • Sports i.e. football, volleyball

			• Health care support i.e. HIV care, OVCs

3.5.1 Distribution of Group Activities

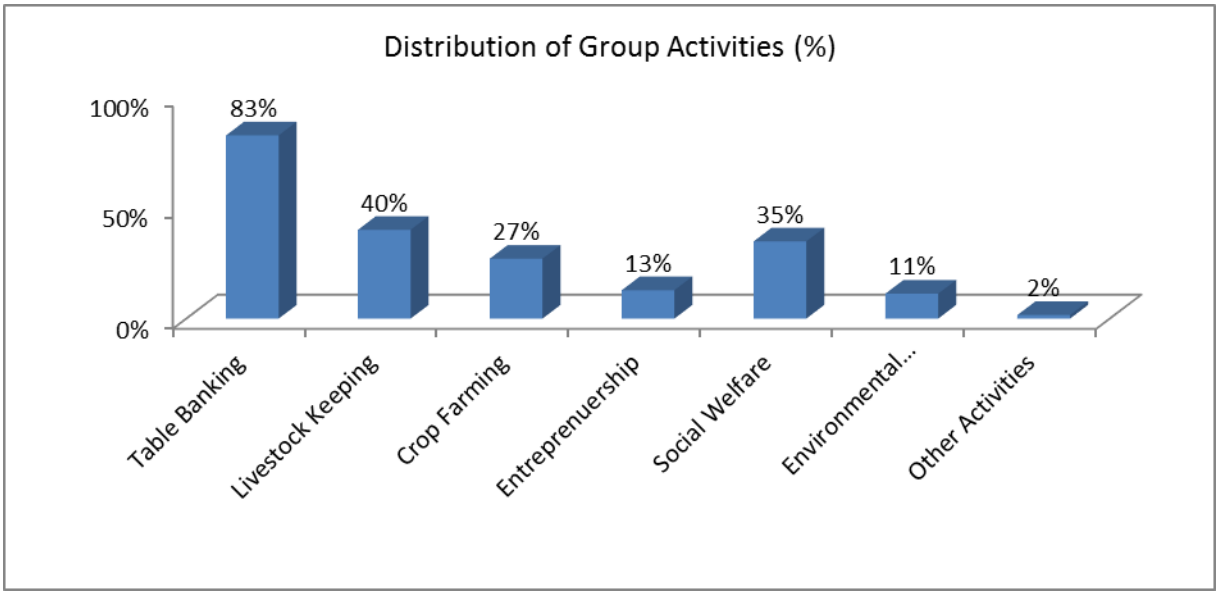


Figure 3.5.1 1 *Other Activities (Sports, Entertainment)

From the analysis, 83% of the groups undertake table banking, livestock keeping (40%), social welfare (35%), and crop farming (27%) while entrepreneurship (13%), environmental conservation (11%) and other activities (2%) were the least undertaken activities. 77% of the groups are engaged in productive activities, 22% in social activities and 1% in other activities.

Table Banking

Nguu Masumba ward has the highest number of groups (331) engaged in table banking while Mbooni Ward has the least number (70). On average 216 groups engage in table banking.

Livestock Keeping

Kitise ward has the highest number of groups (226) undertaking livestock keeping while Ilima ward has the least number of groups (18). On average, 105 groups per ward are engaged in livestock keeping activities.

Crop Farming

Ukia ward has the highest number of groups undertaking crop farming activities as explained above. Kithungo Kitundu ward has the least number of groups practicing crop farming. On average, 70 groups in each ward undertake crop farming activities.

Entrepreneurship

Kasikeu ward has the highest number of groups (84) undertaking entrepreneurial activities while Ilima ward has the least number of groups (18). 34 groups is the average number of groups per ward engaged in entrepreneurial activities.

Social Welfare

Kisau Kiteta ward has the highest number of groups (219)engaged in social activities while Kikumbulyu South ward has the least number of groups (21). On average, 91 groups per ward undertake social activities.

Environmental Conservation

Mukaa ward has the highest number of groups (83) engaged in environmental conversation while Ilima ward has the least number of groups (3). On average, 30 groups engage in environmental conservation in each ward.

Other Activities

Nguumo and Ukia wards have the highest number of groups (17) engaged in other activities. Kako Waia, Mavindini and Nguu Masumba wards do not have groups undertaking other activities. On average, 4 groups in each ward is engaged in other activities.

The table below shows the number of groups engaged in each of the activities per ward.

No.	Ward	Total No. of Groups	Table Banking	Livestock keeping	Crop Farming	Entrepreneurship	Social Welfare	Environmental Conservation	Other Activities
1	Nguu/Masumba	390	331	165	107	42	102	43	0
2	Mukaa	374	292	93	42	64	128	83	5
3	Kisau/Kiteta	369	320	98	97	84	219	69	4
4	Kitise/Kithuki	343	318	206	86	29	86	7	2
5	Emali/Mulala	342	288	82	58	37	65	26	10
6	Makindu	327	276	149	74	73	149	16	1
7	Ukia	325	259	114	132	46	126	17	17
8	Kasikeu	319	242	108	82	84	135	50	7
9	Kikumbulyu North	300	234	185	124	37	69	22	5
10	Mavindini	290	196	191	56	17	33	26	0
11	Mbitini	287	230	101	44	46	155	62	6
12	Masongaleni	282	218	136	66	11	38	39	1
13	Nzaui/Kilili/Kalamba	278	220	56	55	23	79	46	2
14	Kathonzweni	277	217	202	126	38	120	20	1
15	MtitoAndei	277	242	125	98	21	69	9	1
16	KiimaKiu/Kalanzoni	273	234	125	90	48	127	24	6
17	Wote/Nziu	269	233	68	69	43	152	28	10
18	Nguumo	266	220	191	128	39	93	49	17
19	Kako/Waia	264	238	93	78	26	125	28	0
20	Kalawa	257	220	123	60	16	75	15	3
21	Kikumini/Muvau	252	238	102	43	21	88	35	4
22	Kikumbulyu South	233	214	74	57	22	21	19	5
23	Thange	212	183	80	63	31	48	27	2
24	Kilungu	197	136	35	28	18	70	13	4
25	Tulimani	189	132	45	47	68	85	48	3
26	Ivingoni/Nzambani	180	163	60	64	13	60	18	1
27	Kee	137	104	54	63	14	41	9	4
28	Ilima	135	121	18	26	8	97	3	3
29	Kithungo/Kitundu	124	104	28	16	10	44	18	1
30	Mbooni	100	70	37	43	12	35	15	1
	Total	**7,868**	**6,493**	**3,144**	**2,122**	**1,041**	**2,734**	**884**	**126**

3.5.2 Distribution of Group Categories and Activities

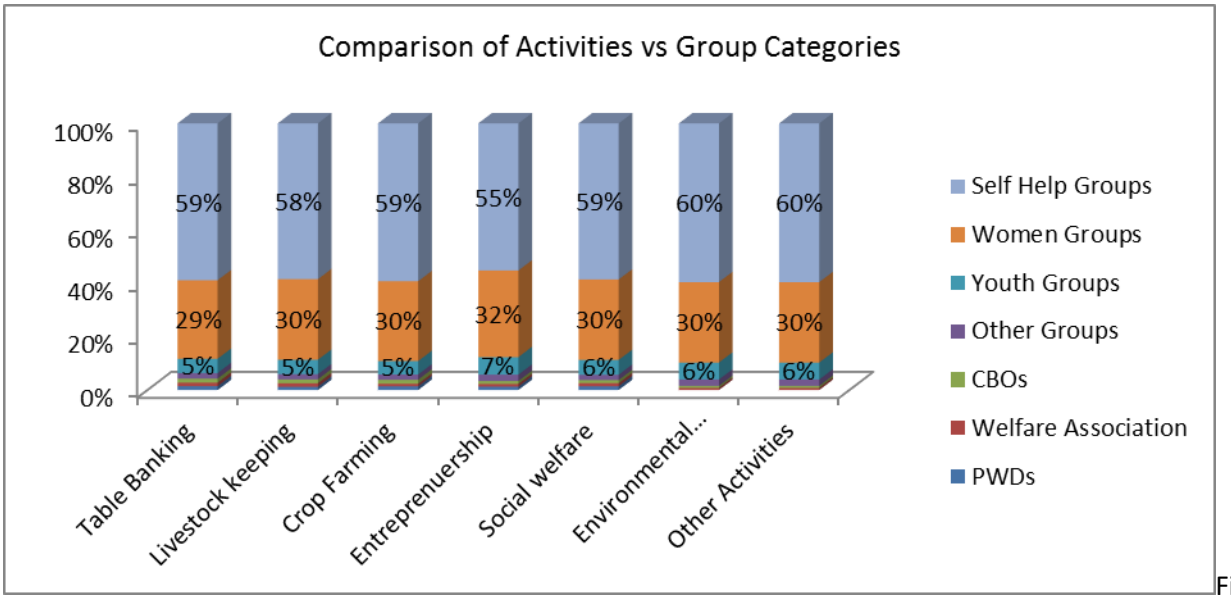


Figure 3.5.2 1 *Other Groups (CBOs, PWDs,Welfare Associations, Saccos, Cooperative Societies) *Other Activities (Sports, Entertainment)

From the analysis, self help groups undertake a large portion of all the groups activities averaging to 58%. Among the activities undertaken by women groups, entrepreneurship is the highest amounting to 32% while table banking is the least at 29%. Entrepreneural activities are the most practiced by the youth groups at 7% while table banking, livestock keeping and crop farming are the least at 5% each. Community based organisations mostly practice table banking and crop farming at 2% each and the other activities at 1% each. Welfare associations practice all activities at a uniform rate of 1%. Persons with Disabilities are involved in 5 activities i.e. table banking, livestock keeping, crop farming, entrepreneural activities and social welfare each at 1%.

3.5.3 Group Activities per Sub County

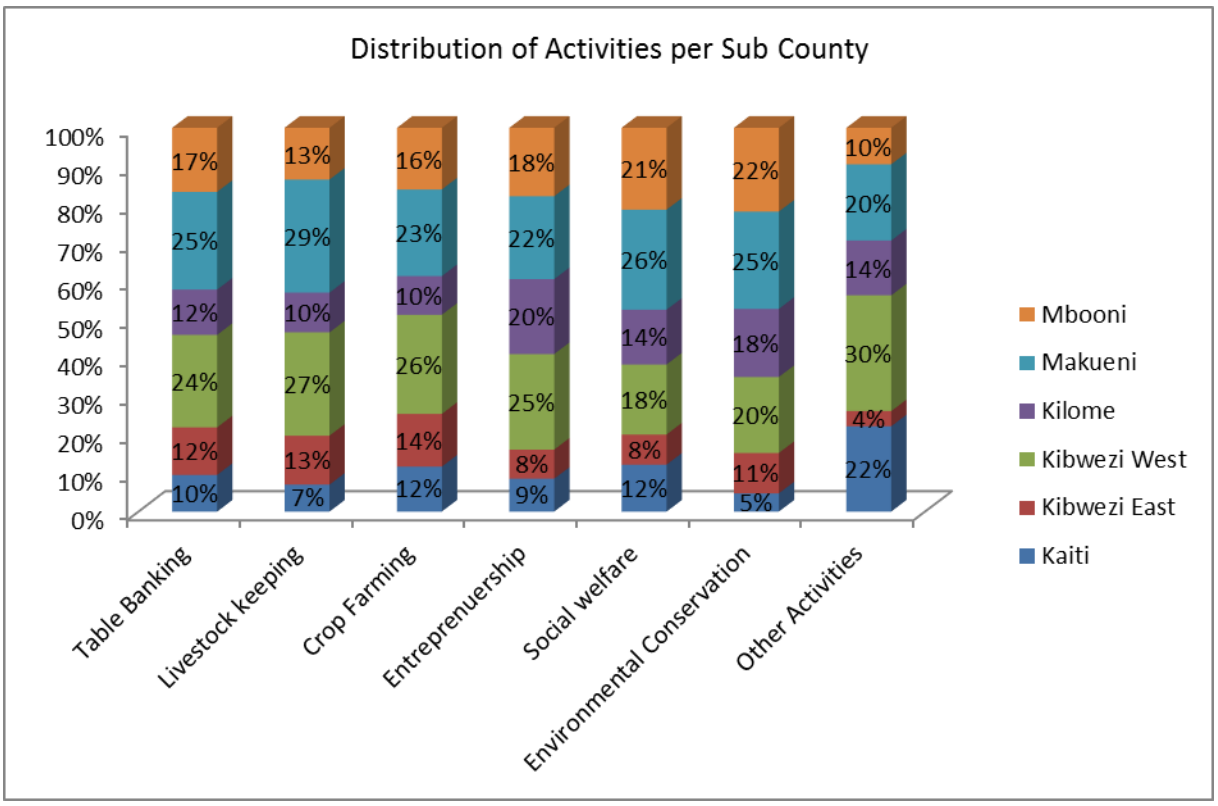


Figure 3.5.3 1

The chart above shows the activities undertaken by our groups in each of the sub-counties. From the analysis, Makueni and Kibwezi West sub-counties had the highest number of groups engaging in all the activities listed above. Kaiti sub-county had the least number of mapped groups as well as the least number of groups undertaking table banking, livestock keeping and environmental conservation. Kilome sub-county had a proportionately higher number of groups engaging in entrepreneurial and environmental conservation activities. Kibwezi West sub-county had a proportionately higher number of groups undertaking crop farming while Mbooni sub-county was practicing environmental conservation.

3.6 National Government Support

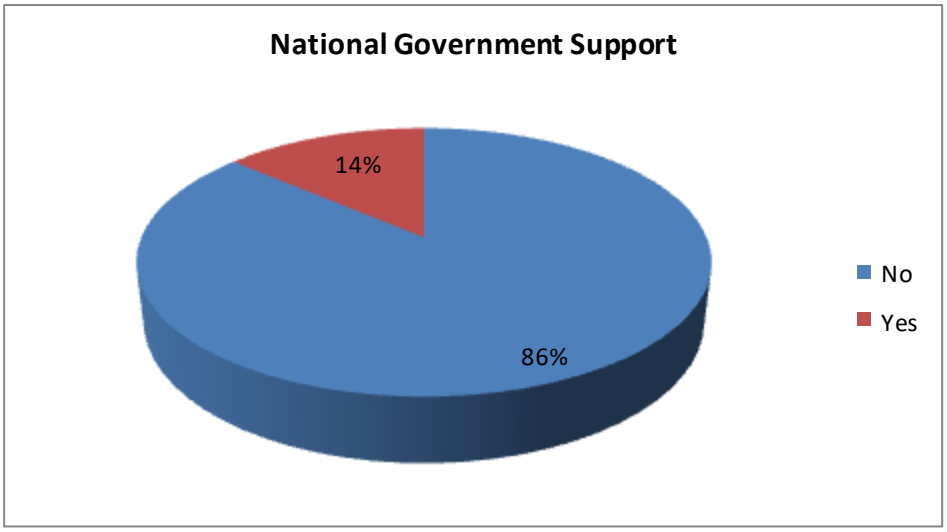
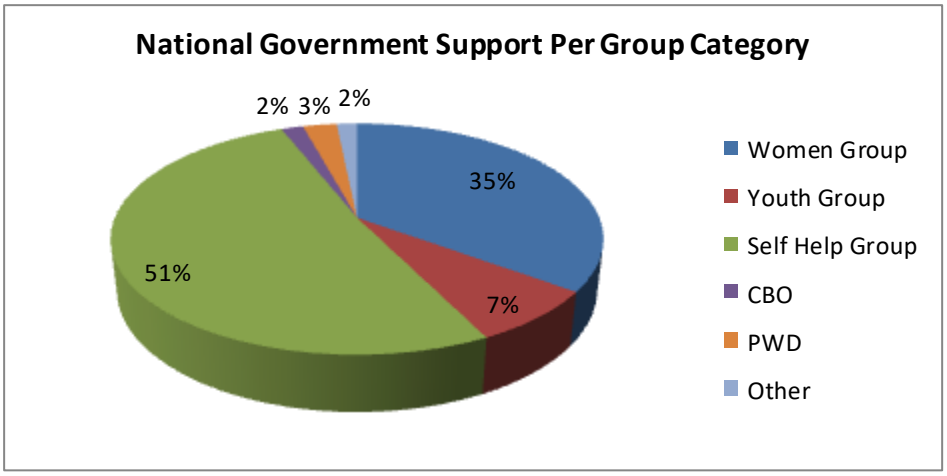


Figure 3.6 2

The study established that out of the total groups registered and mapped, 775 groups (14%) in the County have benefited from the National Government Support while 4,761 groups (86%) have never benefited from the National Government Support. The support was mainly inform of women enterprise fund, youth enterprise fund and recently Uwezo fund. This could be attributed to;

i. Lack of awareness of availability of the National Government Support.
ii. Apathy towards National Government support
iii. Accessibility of the funds for example the women enterprise fund, groups had to apply through Equity bank and Kenya women finance trust.
iv. Low capacity of groups to access the support.

3.6.1 National Government Support per Group Category



From the above chart, self-help groups benefited most from the National Government support. This is because most of the groups prefer to be registered as Self-help groups.

3.6.2 National Government Support by Type of Fund

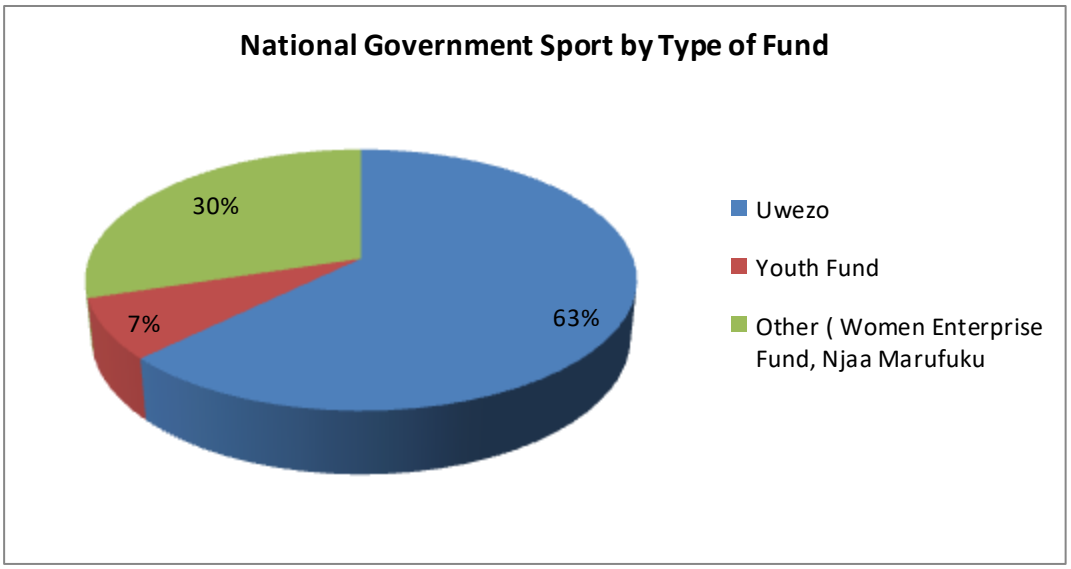
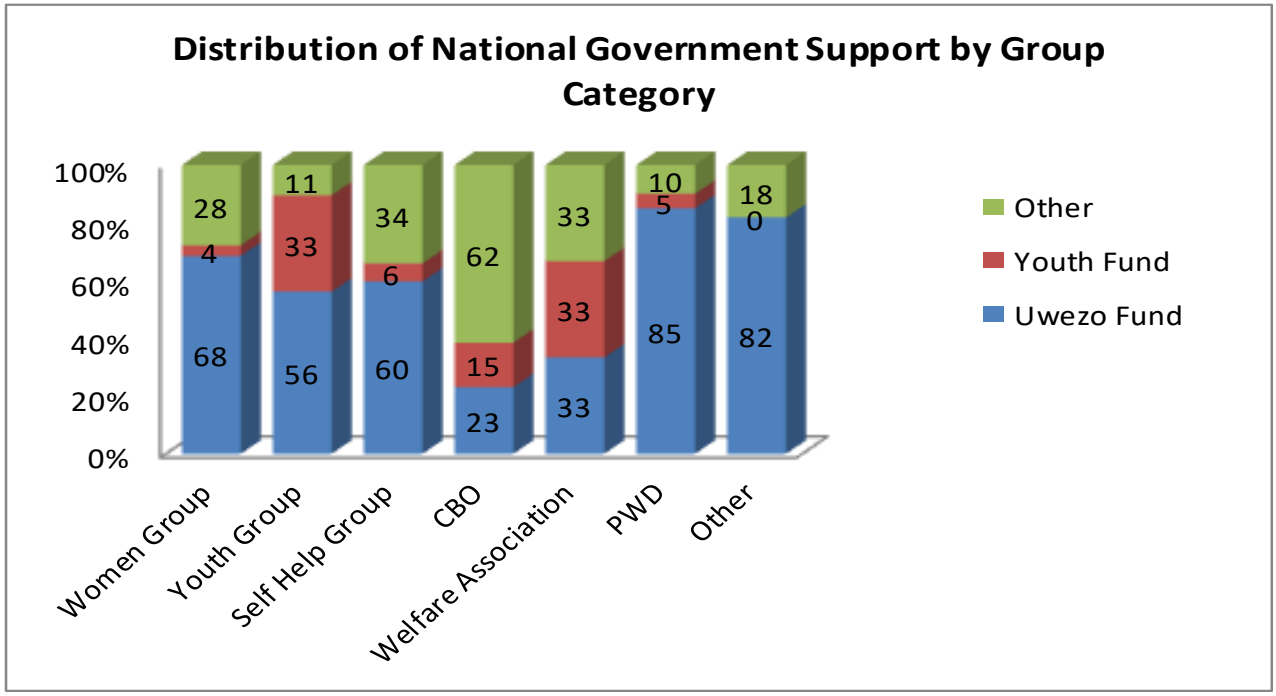


Figure 3.6.2 1

The most popular National Government Fund is Uwezo Fund (63%) as indicated in the chart above. This is attributed to;

- Accessibility by all group categories unlike the Youth Fund and Women Enterprise Fund which are accessed by Youth Groups and Women Groups respectively.

- Decentralization to the Constituencies (CDF) offices making it easier for the citizens to access it unlike the other funds (Youth Fund, Women Enterprise Fund) which were centralized.
- Publicity and branding of the fund
- Political good will(launched by the president)



*Other SACCOs Sports, Choirs, Cooperative societies & Men Groups

** Other- W.E.F, Njaa Marufuku, KAPAP

The chart above displays a summary of how different group categories benefited from the different types of National Government Support e.g. Out of the women groups who benefited from the National Government Support, 68% accessed Uwezo Fund, 4% Youth Fund and 28% accessed other types of funds (Women Enterprise Fund & Njaa Marufuku). It is evident that most PWDs are accessing Uwezo Fund compared to the other types of funds. This implies the opportunity created by the Uwezo Fund targeting the vulnerable groups/categories in the society.

From the graph above, other group categories (women groups, self-help, CBOs, welfare association and PWDs) responded to have benefited from the youth fund which is specifically for youth groups.

3.7 County Government Support

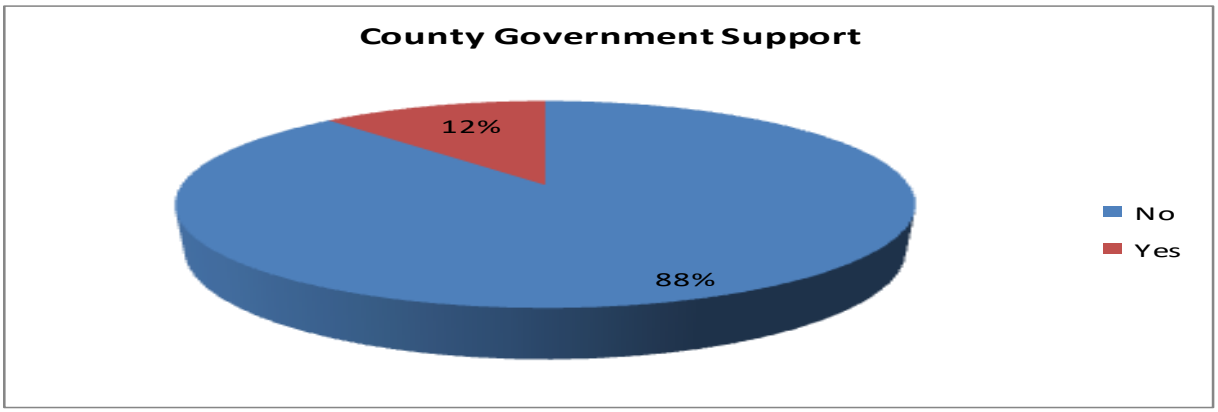


Figure 3.7 2

From the chart above, 12% (653) of the mapped registered groups in Makueni County have benefited from County Government Support while 88% didn't benefit.

3.7.1 Type of County Government Support

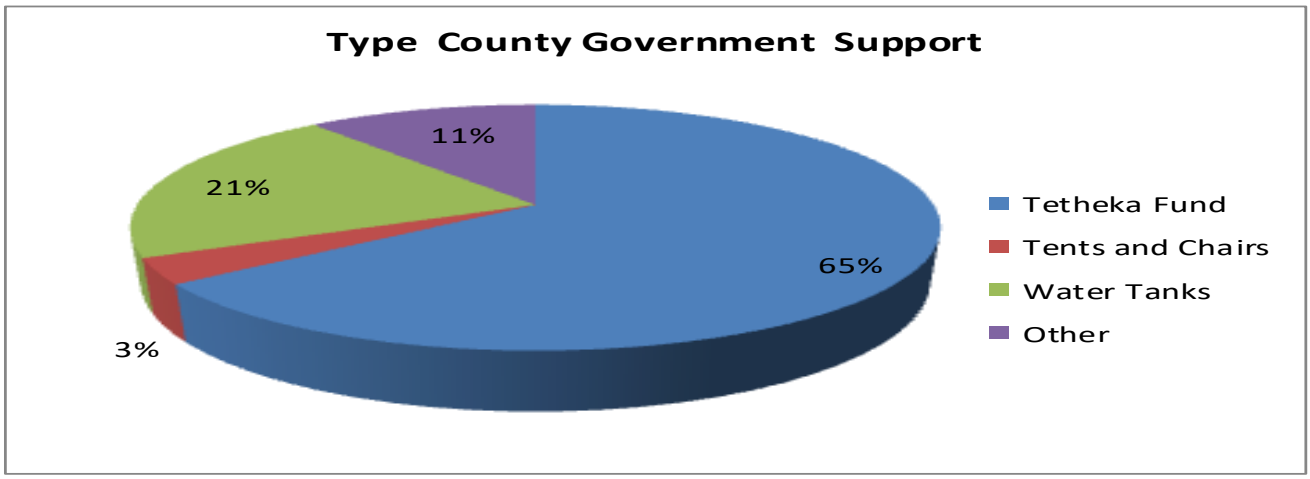


Figure 3.7.1 1

**others (wheelbarrows, goats, poultry)*

From the County Government Support programs, Tetheka Fund has benefited 424 groups (65%), followed by Water Tanks (21%) 136 groups. Tents and chairs (3%) 22 groups have the least beneficiaries.

This differs with records held by the Government on support to groups. This can be attributed to:

i. Groups withholding information on whether they benefited due to lack of information on the purpose of the mapping exercise hence the fear that they may not benefit again.

ii. Groups are not aware of the source of support received.
iii. Groups that benefited missing out during the mapping exercise.

3.7.2 County Government Support by Group Category

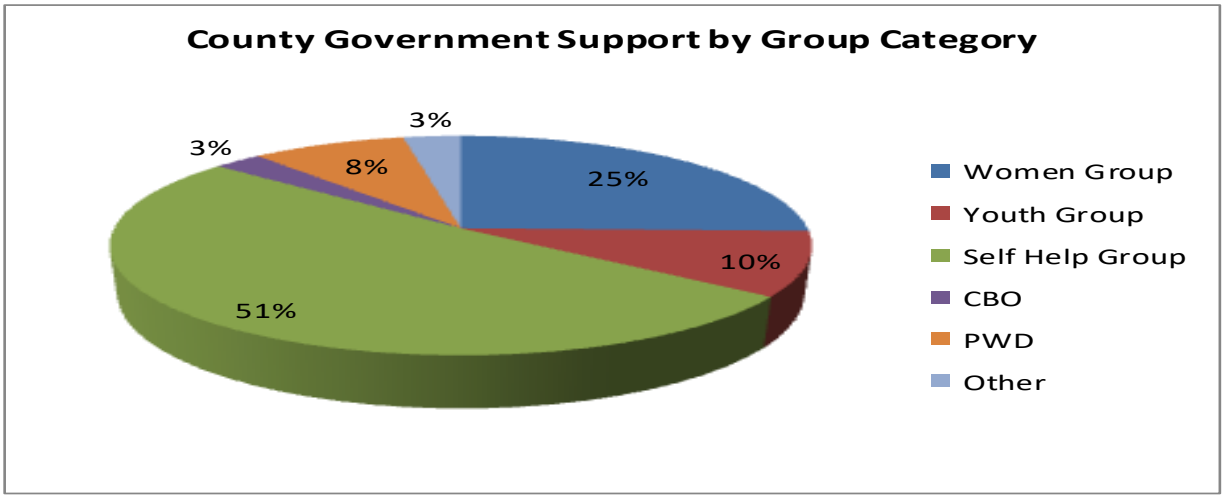


Figure 3.7.2 1

**Other SACCOs Sports, Choirs, Cooperative societies & Men Groups*

The study found out that Self Help Groups benefited most from the County Government Support at 51% (339 groups). Women Groups 25% (166 groups) and Youth Groups 10% (66 groups) are ranked second and third respectively. Notably 8 % (53 groups) of PWDs have benefited from the County Government. This can be attributed by the conscious efforts by the County Government to target persons with disabilities in c comparison to the National Government support at 3% (23 groups). Note that the composition of Self Help Groups includes men, women and youths.

However analysis of access of the support by different categories of registered groups shows high access by PWDs groups demonstrating the County's efforts towards PWDs groups. 55% of the registered PWDs groups benefited from County Government Support.

Group Category	No of Registered Groups	No Of groups benefited from County Government Support	Percentage
Women Group	1587	166	10%
Youth Group	326	63	19%
Self Help Group	3338	338	10%
CBO	93	17	18%

Group Category	No of Registered Groups	No Of groups benefited from County Government Support	Percentage
Welfare Association	61	2	3%
PWD	98	54	55%
Other	33	13	39%
	5536	653	12%

Figure 3.7.2 2

3.7.3 Summary of County Government Support

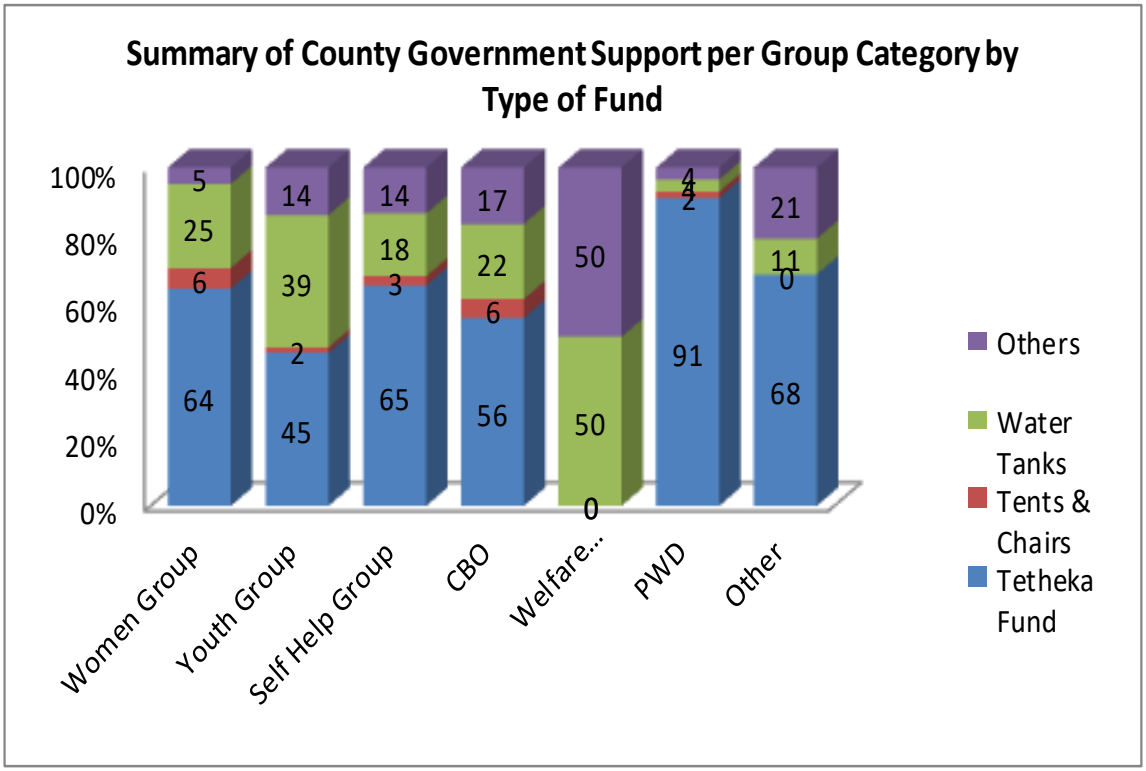


Figure 3.7.3 1

3.7.4 County Government support by Sub County

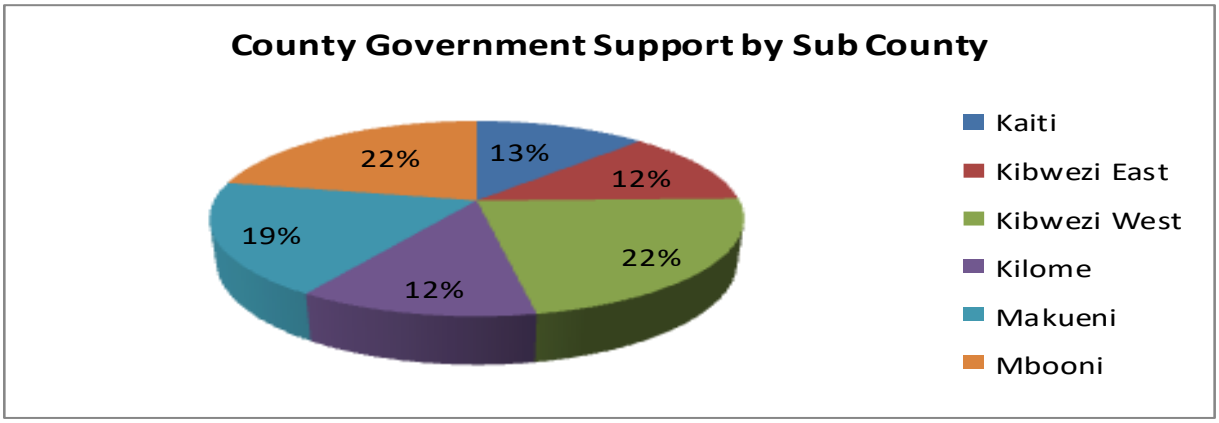
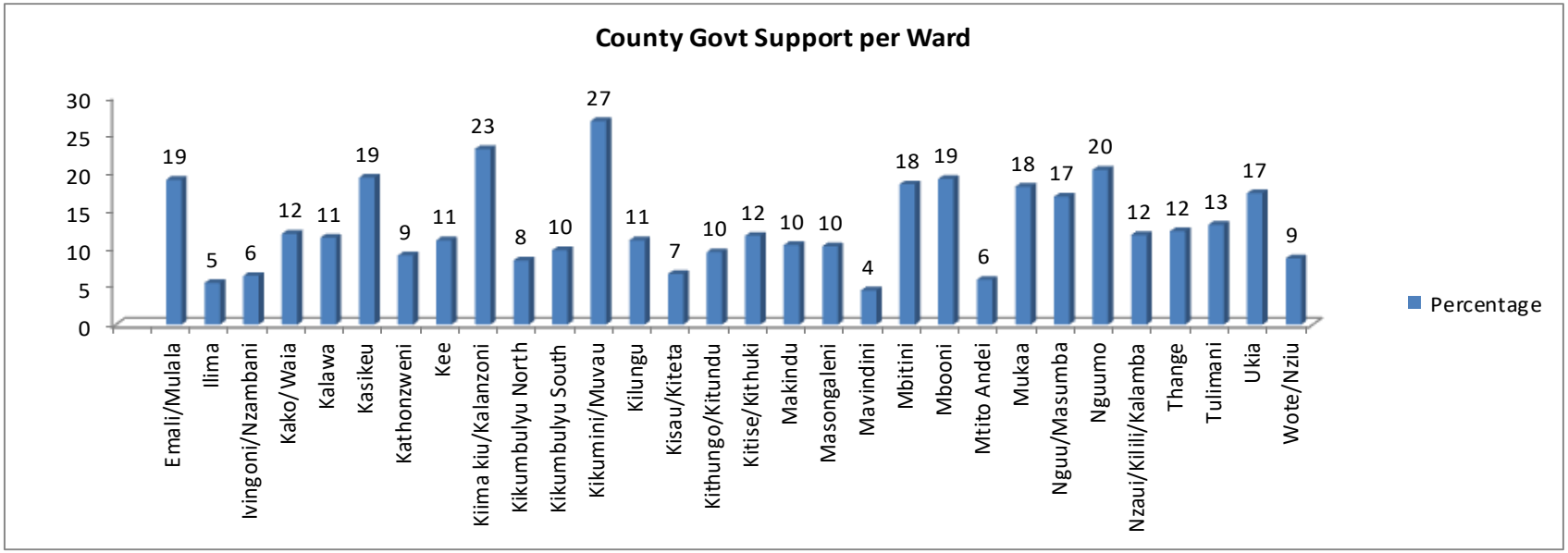


Figure 3.7.4 1

The figure above projects the equity in the distribution of county resources since the support is evenly distributed across all the sub counties. This demonstrates the commitment of the rallying call of *'o kila nyumba kalila'*

County Government Support per Ward



The chart above shows that Kikumini/Muvau Ward has the highest percentage of groups that benefited from the County Government Support while Mavindini and Ilima has the least percentage of groups that benefited from the County Government Support.

3.8 Frequency of Meetings

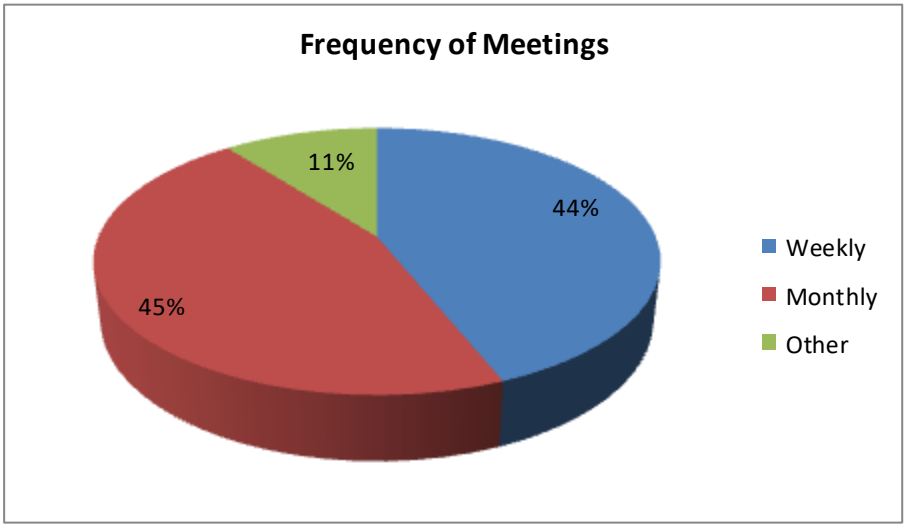


Figure 3.8 1

**other- twice weekly, twice monthly`*

This study established that most groups meet once a month (45%) and once a week (44%) while 11% meet either twice a week or twice a month. This might be attributed to the fact that most groups engage in table banking and micro credit/Finance hence are obligated to meet weekly.

In addition, Self-help groups have a mutual relationship thus collaborating the findings.

3.8.1 Frequency of meeting per group category

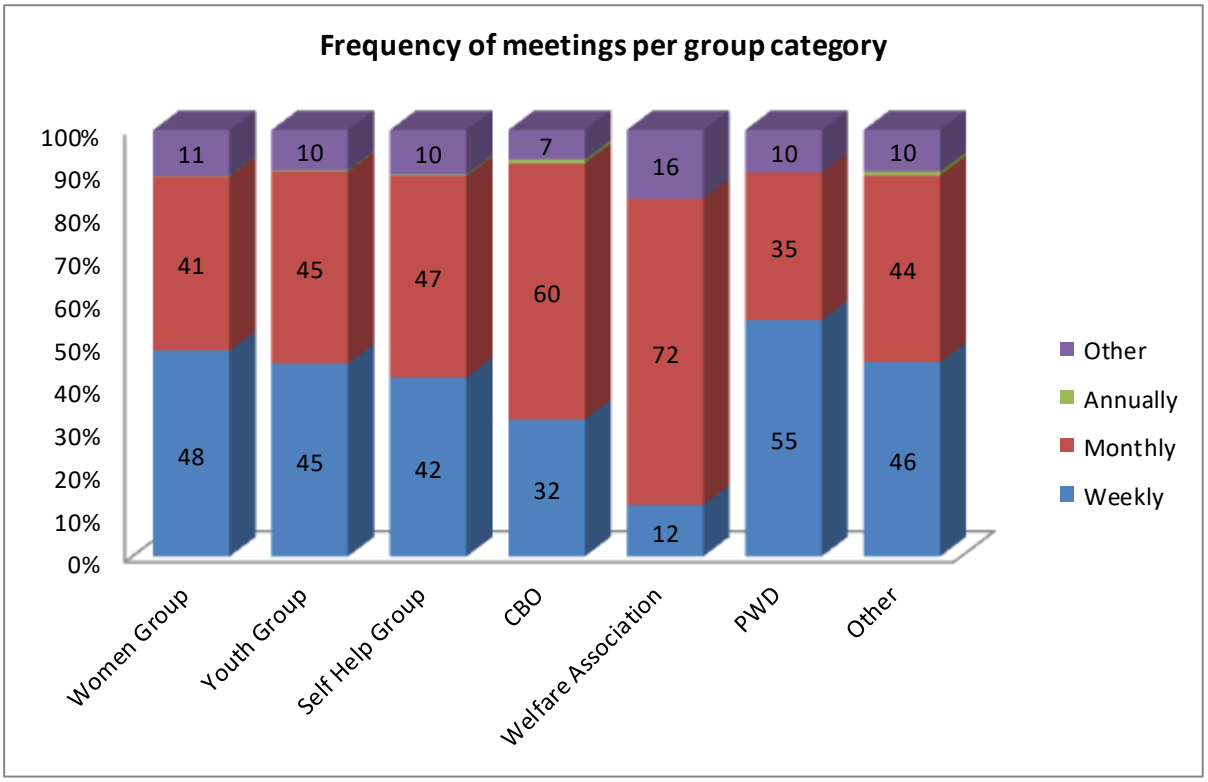


Figure 3.8.1 1

*Other SACCOs Sports, Choirs, & Men Groups

***Twice weekly, twice monthly*

The above table shows how often different group categories meet. From the findings, welfare mainly meet monthly, this can be attributed by the fact that they offer social and emotional support other than economic.

It's also important to note that most PWDs groups meet weekly (55%). This may be due to the level of capacity building and exposure by the County Government and other stakeholders.

3.9 Capacity building

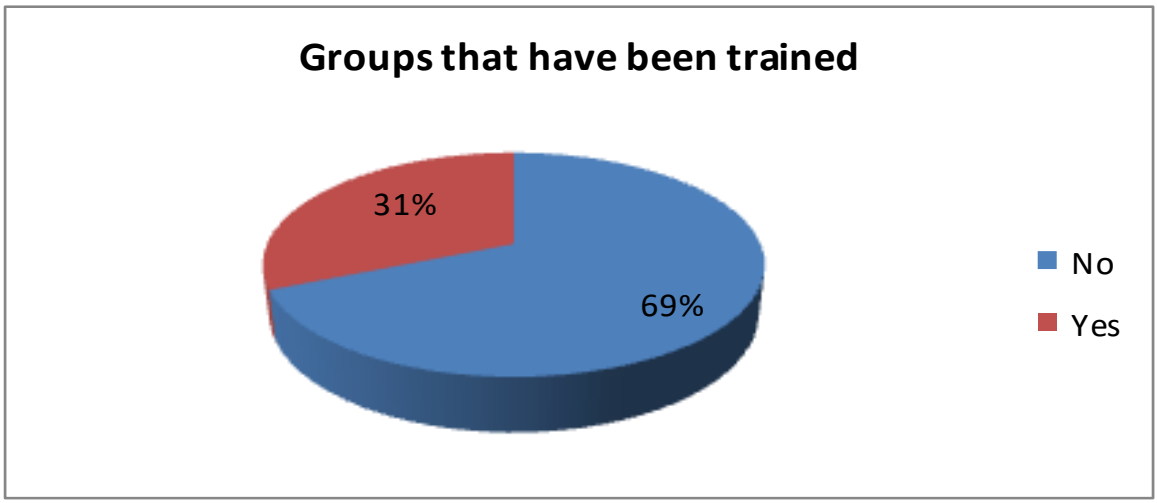


Figure 3.9 1

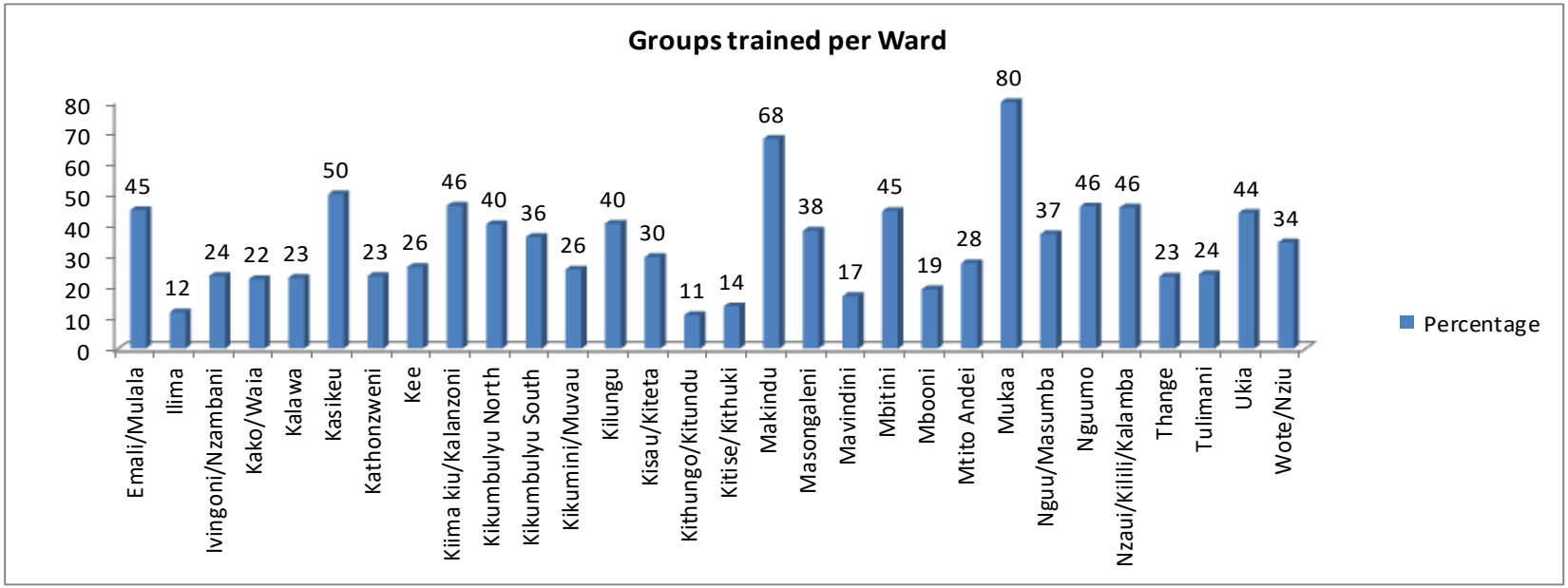
The chart above shows the number of groups that have undergone training. This study established out that 31% of the registered groups have received a form of training while 69% have never been trained

Training per group category

Group Category	Number of groups trained	Number for registered	Percentage
Women Group	502	1,650	30
Youth Group	108	301	36
Self Help Group	1,002	3,251	31
CBO	54	68	79
Welfare Association	3	56	5
PWD	34	81	42
Other	38	129	29
Total	1,741	5,536	31

From the table above 79% of CBOs have been trained while 42% of PWDs have been trained

Training per ward



The study established that Mukaa Ward has the highest percentage of groups trained while Kithungo/Kitundu and Ilima Wards have the least percentage of groups trained

3.10 Number of trainings attended

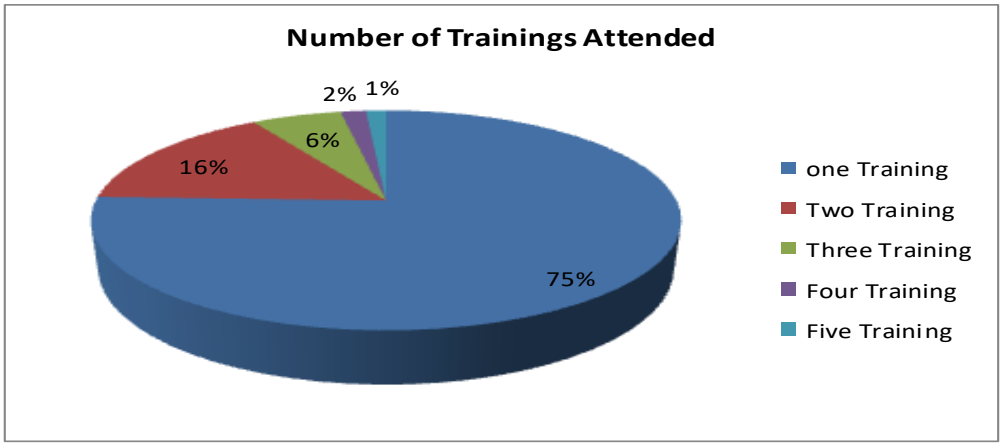


Figure 3.10 1

The mean number of trainings of the groups that have ever attended training is one with the minimum number of training ever attended by a particular group being one and the maximum number of trainings ever attended by a particular group being six

Out of all groups that have received a form of training, 75% attended only one training, 16% attended two trainings while 6% attended three trainings while the rest attended 3 and 4 trainings at 6% and 2% respectively.

3.11 Challenges

The following are the main challenges faced by the groups as per the findings;

- Inadequate group capacity – most of the group reported lack capacity to effectively undertake their activities as one of their main challenges. They reported not going through any form of training or attending only one training which according to them is not adequate as training period is usually short and cover the general group dynamics and managerial skills and leave out detailed training on the activities undertaken by the groups or vice versa.
- **Livestock and crop diseases** - Groups engaged in agricultural activities both livestock and crop farming highlighted that livestock and crop diseases were a major concern. For instance most groups that received gala goats and chicks reported they had a challenge of diseases some of which led to death.
- **Lack of commitment by group members -** Some members are not committed to the groups leading to dormancy, high level of absenteeism, disagreements and eventual death of the group.

- **Inadequate resources-** This has incapacitated most groups in undertaking the activities they engage in.
- **Inadequate Market for products**

Groups that undertake crop framing and entrepreneurial activities cited lack of ready market for their products discouraging them from pursuing those activities.

- **Lack of awareness**

Groups that have not benefited from any form of support from Government (both national and County) alluded to the fact that they are not aware whether such support exists. Unregistered groups claimed they lacked knowledge on the importance of formalization/registration of groups.

- **Poor leadership skills**

This has led to mismanagement of the group, funds and other resources, mistrust and conflicts in the group resulting into eventual death of the group.

3.12 Recommendations

The following were the proposed recommendations by the groups for the challenges outlined above;

i. **Capacity building of the groups**

The County should focus on capacity building the groups on to be trained on general groups' dynamics, leadership, entrepreneurship, record keeping and on the specific activities undertaken by each group.

ii. **Sensitization/awareness creation**

The county Government should put more effort in sensitizing the groups and members of the public on the available opportunities from National and County Governments and other stakeholders.

iii. **Financial Assistance**

Groups to be encouraged to apply for the Tetheka Fund and other Funds provided by the National and County Governments and other stakeholders.

iv. **Access to markets**

Groups should be trained on income generating activities and marketing of their products. The County Government to assist groups market their products through;

- Inviting them during county forums to showcase their products;
- Facilitating them to participate in trade fairs in and out of the country; and
- Linking them with markets.

CHAPTER FOUR: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

After studying the key findings and challenges faced by the groups in the county, the study identified and recommended three key pillars in social development to address the issues highlighted by groups:

4.1 Community capacity building and empowerment:

Investment in training of groups on participation in local development programmes. Even though there has been investment in enhancing participation of the local communities in the development process, the communities lack awareness about the process and procedures in accessing development funds and the need to invest in participatory approaches in empowering the communities. *(Group cohesion, Project cycle & management, participatory planning and budgeting including participatory rural appraisal (PRA) techniques, procurement, financial management and environmental management)*. The following key activities and outputs have been identified to capacity build the groups;

4.1.1 Activities

i. Undertake community workshops training on local development training 3,000 groups.
ii. Develop and disseminate 20,000 IEC materials
iii. Support the establishment of 30 development consortium (women groups, youth groups, PWDs).
iv. Develop standardized training curriculum on the relevant subject and focus areas
v. Develop social audit and community monitoring and evaluation tools
vi. Groups mobilization drive (register 2,000 youth groups)

4.1.2 Key Outputs

i. Enhanced groups/community capacity to participate in development programme
ii. Increased groups' and community capacity to demand accountability
iii. Enhanced capacity of local community participation in development programme

4.2 Economic empowerment of the community

Economic empowerment entails building the capacity of women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from growth processes in ways that recognize the value of their contributions, respect their dignity and make it possible to negotiate a fairer distribution of the benefits of growth. It increases community's access to economic resources and opportunities including jobs, financial services, property and other productive assets, skills development and market information. The following key activities and outputs have been identified to capacity build the groups;

4.2.1 Activities

i. Establishment of business enterprises

ii. Undertake community training on entrepreneurship
iii. Provision of market for agricultural produce and other products
iv. Enact a legislation to register sports clubs
v. Jobs for youths initiative targeting 100,000 youth jobs in the next 3 years

4.2.2 Key Outputs

i. Enhanced economic well-being of the communities
ii. Increased income from economic activities.
iii. Enhanced involvement of community members in economic activities.
iv. Increased employment of the youth

4.3 Social protection

In addition to improving the living conditions of the poor and the vulnerable in the society, a development –oriented approach to humanitarian relief, will help alleviate poverty and promote the transition from dependency on relief food to self-reliance by investing in economic empowerment and providing capacity building to the poor and vulnerable households.

4.3.1 Activities

i. Establishment of a database of all vulnerable members of society(elderly, OVC, PWD) who are not benefiting from National Government Cash transfer
ii. Roll out a system of social protection aimed at cushioning vulnerable members.
iii. Institutionalizing the coordination of humanitarian aid management between the county government and other development actors
iv. Enhancing social service delivery, particularly to the poor, vulnerable groups and persons with limited income.
v. Supporting small loan programmes to empower the poor and vulnerable groups, especially women, youth and persons with disability. These groups will receive rehabilitation and training to help them establish income generating enterprises.
vi. Food rations distribution to the poor households in the county and continuous evaluation of mechanisms and channels of delivery to ensure effective and efficient distribution.

4.3.2 Key Outputs

i. Enhanced and sustained social protection for vulnerable groups
ii. Increased social protection levels
iii. Enhanced cushioning of vulnerable groups against economic shocks

Annex 1: Distribution of Groups by Category and Location

Location			Ward Area Size	Ward Projected population 2017	Categories of Groups							Total Number of Groups	
Sub County	Ward	Sub Ward			Women Groups	Youth Groups	Self-help Groups	CBOs	Welfare Associations	PWDs	Other Groups		Registered Groups
Makueni	Wote/Nziu	Wote	173.5	35,921	38	8	78	3	3	1	13	144	125
		Nziu			27	4	88	0	3	1	2	125	69
	Nzaui/Kilili/ Kalamba	Nzaui	197.7	41,428	52	9	86	1	0	4	3	156	135
		Kalamba			22	3	92	2	0	1	2	122	120
	Kathonzweni	Kathonzweni	301	34,980	39	4	89	3	4	3	0	142	114
		Mbuvo			33	5	91	2	0	3	1	135	120
	Mavindini	Kanthuni	258.7	26,030	34	5	113	0	1	2	0	156	60
		Mavindini			36	9	80	4	0	1	4	134	132
	Kitise/Kithuki	Kitise	323.20	24,665	46	9	78	1	2	1	0	137	100
		Kithuki			66	6	114	3	3	6	8	206	127
	Kikumini/Muvau	Muvau	231.1	27,375	26	3	36	0	1	2	1	69	63
		Kikumini			54	6	117	1	1	1	2	183	97
	Mbitini	Kyemundu	115.6	33,941	29	6	47	5	5	2	4	98	53
		Mutyambua			30	14	122	1	8	2	11	189	79
Mbooni	Kako/Waia	Kako	121.5	18,219	44	13	73	9	0	4	8	151	71
		Waia			37	11	59	0	0	2	4	113	73
	Tulimani	Kalawani	125.8	39,536	40	4	74	1	4	4	1	128	90
		Tulimani			23	4	27	1	1	3	2	61	44

Location			Ward Area Size	Ward Projected population 2017	Categories of Groups							Total Number of Groups	
Sub County	Ward	Sub Ward			Women Groups	Youth Groups	Self-help Groups	CBOs	Welfare Associations	PWDs	Other Groups		Registered Groups
	Kalawa	Kathulumbi	330	30,392	42	12	87	2	0	2	2	153	95
		Kalawa			40	8	43	1	0	2	10	104	59
	Kisau/Kiteta	Kisau	175.6	41,447	85	7	160	1	3	0	2	258	117
		Kiteta			28	4	73	2	0	0	3	111	77
	Kithungo/Kitundu	Kitundu/Utangwa	77.7	31,522	22	9	37	1	3	5	1	78	50
		Kithungo/Mataa			10	4	28	0	0	1	3	46	32
	Mbooni	Mbooni	64	37,773	10	5	30	0	1	1	4	51	86
		Kyuu/Nzeveni			10	3	33	0	0	2	0	49	40
Kibwezi West	Emali/Mulala	Emali	114.9	28,695	36	10	57	1	3	1	0	108	92
		Mulala			68	16	133	3	7	1	6	234	178
	Makindu	Kiboko	637.6	47,078	30	5	83	1	0	0	1	120	38
		Makindu			72	18	106	2	2	4	3	207	203
	Nguumo	Ndovoini/Syumile	210.6	31,548	48	13	103	2	0	0	0	166	117
		Kaunguni/Muuni			36	9	54	1	0	0	0	100	88
	Kikumbulyu South	Mikuyuni/Mbui Nzau	119.3	28,958	35	7	70	3	0	3	4	123	83

Location			Ward Area Size	Ward Projected population 2017	Categories of Groups							Total Number of Groups	
Sub County	Ward	Sub Ward			Women Groups	Youth Groups	Self-help Groups	CBOs	Welfare Associations	PWDs	Other Groups		Registered Groups
		Kalungu/Ngandani			41	6	59	2	0	1	1	110	70
	Kikumbulyu North	Ngulu	284.6	22,719	35	3	75	2	2	1	2	120	84
		Ndetani/Kathyaka			48	11	91	0	8	1	21	180	110
	Nguu/Masumba	Nguu	349.2	26,578	66	15	105	3	4	4	6	203	155
		Masumba			50	10	112	6	4	1	4	187	134
Kaiti	Ilima	Ilima	83.9	29,804	24	6	60	0	0	4	0	95	69
		Kilungu			14	3	21	1	0	1	0	40	23
	Kee	Kee/Kivani	81.7	23,515	17	3	63	3	0	4	0	90	70
		Watema			12	2	33	0	0	0	0	47	29
	Ukia	Kilala	184.3	43,048	26	8	107	4	2	2	0	149	130
		Ukia			52	5	109	2	0	4	4	176	141
	Kilungu	Kithembe	73.3	37,972	19	1	57	0	1	1	2	81	61
		Kikoko			40	4	69	1	0	2	0	116	38
Kibwezi East	MtitoAndei	Kambu	919.6	39,282	45	7	75	0	0	0	1	129	92
		Mtito Andei			27	1	77	2	0	1	40	148	86
	Thange	Kinyambu	519.7	35,934	34	8	50	0	1	2	4	99	60
		Utithi			30	7	71	1	1	2	1	113	92
	Ivingoni/Nzambani	Nthongoni		36,542	45	5	62	1	0	0	10	124	88
		Nzambani			21	7	25	0	0	2	0	56	39

Location			Ward Area Size	Ward Projected population 2017	Categories of Groups							Total Number of Groups	
Sub County	Ward	Sub Ward			Women Groups	Youth Groups	Self-help Groups	CBOs	Welfare Associations	PWDs	Other Groups		Registered Groups
	Masongaleni	Kyumani	481.7	36,091	50	9	110	0	0	1	4	174	165
		Mukaange			32	3	62	0	4	1	4	108	71
Kilome	Kasikeu	Kasikeu	268.6	42,889	46	10	91	2	7	3	12	171	125
		Kiou			55	5	71	8	6	2	0	148	133
	Mukaa	Kitaingo	100.8	29,666	93	10	142	4	1	3	0	253	139
		Mukaa			48	4	60	7	1	0	1	121	75
	KiimaKiu/Kalanzoni	Malili	272.1	25,713	51	15	41	4	1	0	0	112	109
		Ngaamba			54	6	90	7	2	2	0	161	121
	Total				2,323	427	4,549	117	100	110	222	7,868	5,536

Annex 2: Number of Registered Groups; National Government Database VS County Mapping

		Women Groups			Youth Groups			Self Help			CBOs			Welfare Associations	PWDs	Other
NO.	Sub_County	National Govt	County Mapping		National Govt	County Mapping		National Govt	County Mapping		National Govt	County Mapping		County Mapping	County Mapping	County Mapping
1	**Kaiti**	252	186	74%	58	24	41%	259	323	125%	8	6	75%	4	9	9
2	**Makueni**	479	414	86%	147	74	50%	1,687	828	49%	55	19	35%	14	19	26
3	**Mbooni**	91	240	264%	14	43	307%	174	469	270%	5	6	120%	8	11	20
4	**Kibwezi East**	231	204	88%	444	46	10%	557	400	72%	4	16	400%	8	5	14
5	**Kibwezi West**	394	415	105%	280	64	23%	875	810	93%	15	17	113%	17	25	41
6	**Kilome**	467	191	41%	79	50	63%	739	421	57%	12	4	33%	5	12	19
TOTAL		**1,914**	**1,650**	86%	**1,022**	**301**	29%	**4,291**	**3,251**	76%	**99**	**68**	69%	**56**	**81**	**129**

Annex 2: County Government Support per Ward by Type of Fund

NO.	Ward	Tetheka Fund Beneficiaries	Water Tanks Beneficiaries	Tents and Chairs Beneficiaries	Others (Poultry, Goats, Wheelbarrows, Bodaboda) Beneficiaries	Total
1.	Emali/Mulala	26	6	1	4	37
2.	Ilima	9	4	0	1	14
3.	Ivingoni/Nzambani	9	5	1	0	15
4.	Kako/Waia	21	2	0	0	23
5.	Kalawa	16	3	0	3	26
6.	Kasikeu	20	7	1	6	31
7.	Kathonzweni	5	4	1	2	12
8.	Kee	8	3	1	2	16
9.	Kiima kiu/Kalanzoni	23	6	0	2	31
10.	Kikumbulyu North	8	3	0	2	13
11.	Kikumbulyu South	17	3	0	0	19
12.	Kikumini/Muvau	15	5	0	2	22
13.	Kilungu	12	1	0	1	14
14.	Kisau/Kiteta	12	4	0	2	18
15.	Kithungo/Kitundu	16	0	2	3	23
16.	Kitise/Kithuki	10	6	3	3	24
17.	Makindu	10	4	0	1	16
18.	Masongaleni	14	4	1	2	20
19.	Mavindini	7	6	0	1	13
20.	Mbitini	15	3	3	1	17
21.	Mbooni	12	2	0	0	19

NO.	Ward	Tetheka Fund Beneficiaries	Water Tanks Beneficiaries	Tents and Chairs Beneficiaries	Others (Poultry, Goats, Wheelbarrows, Bodaboda) Beneficiaries	Total
22.	Mtito Andei	9	5	0	2	16
23.	Mukaa	13	5	0	1	18
24.	Nguu/Masumba	24	4	0	2	30
25.	Nguumo	19	4	0	9	31
26.	Nzaui/Kilili/Kalamba	8	6	2	0	15
27.	Thange	15	5	2	7	29
28.	Tulimani	27	7	0	1	34
29.	Ukia	16	10	3	11	37
30.	Wote/Nziu	10	9	1	1	20
	Total	**426**	**136**	**22**	**72**	**653**

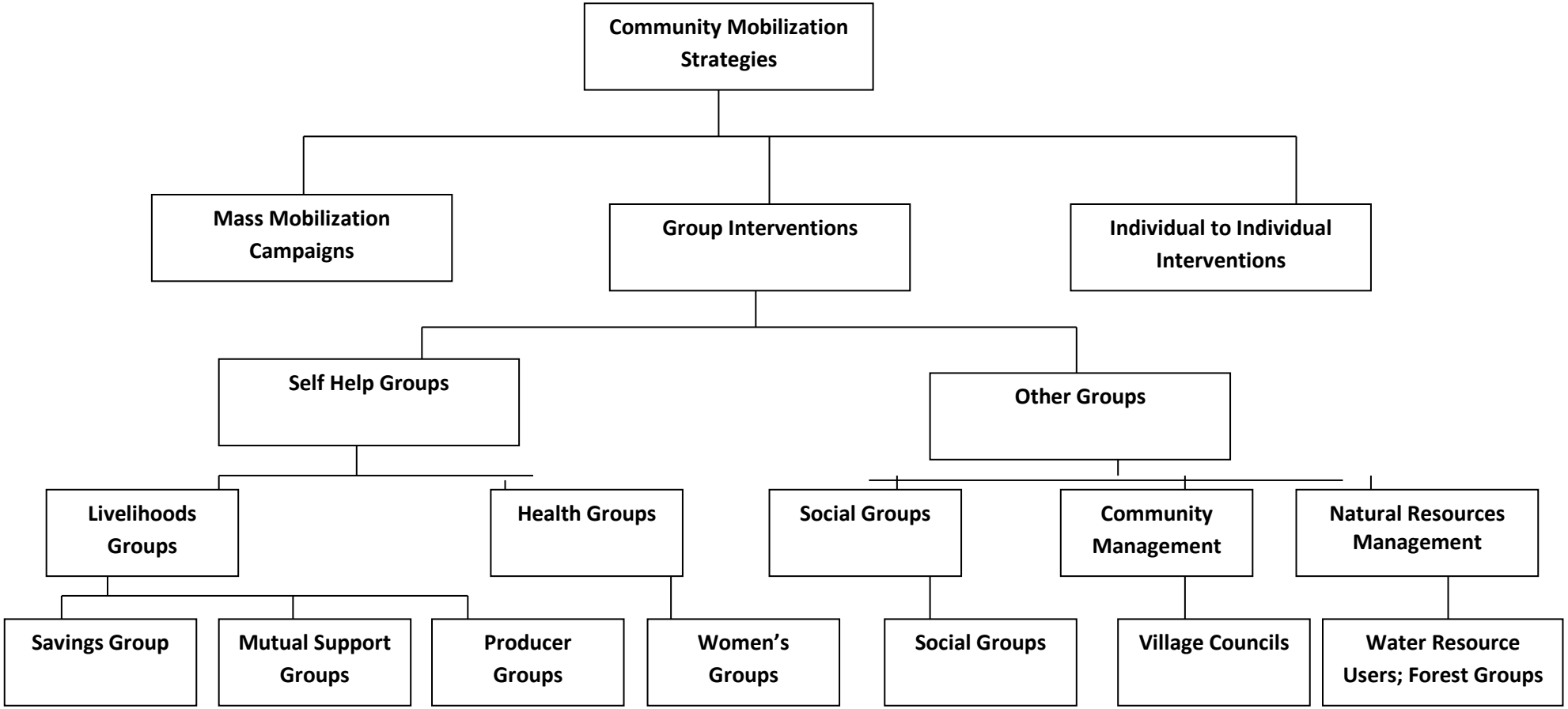
Annex 3: Uwezo Fund Allocations per Constituency/ Sub County & Proportions of Poor Persons

No	Constituency	Population	Poor Persons	Poverty Incidence	Equal Budget Allocation	Pro Poor Budget	Total Constituency Allocation
1.	Mbooni	184,628	97,551	52.84	13,847,586	7,715,011	**21,562,598**
2.	Kilome	87,866	37,662	42.86	13,847,586	2,978,551	**16,826,137**
3.	Kaiti	120,119	57,712	48.05	13,847,586	4,564,273	**18,411,859**
4.	Makueni	193,802	136,958	70.67	13,847,586	10,831,586	**24,679,172**
5.	Kibwezi West	165,933	106,645	64.27	13,847,586	8,434,266	**22,281,852**
6.	Kibwezi East	132,199	99,669	75.39	13,847,586	7,882,514	**21,730,100**
Total		**884,547**					**125,491,718**

Source: Uwezo Fund Website http://www.uwezo.go.ke/programs/county/makueni

Annex 4: Table showing groups that benefited from Tetheka fund per Sub County

Sub-County	Total Applications	Approved	Total	PWD Application	Awarded	Total
Makueni	206	88	5,000,000	32	29	1,470,000
Mbooni	159	93	5,950,000	42	39	1,930,000
Kibwezi West	155	121	8,460,000	22	18	980,000
Kibwezi East	101	88	5,070,000	21	15	860,000
Kilome	113	62	3,500,000	14	11	550,000
Kaiti	109	75	2,845,000	24	22	1,100,000
Total	843	527	30,825,000	155	134	6,890,000
Total Amount						**37,715,000**

Source: Department of Youth, Gender, Sports & Social Services-Makueni County

Annex 5: **Taxonomy of Self Help Groups**