The County Budget Transparency Survey (CBTS) is an annual survey that assesses the availability of ten key budget documents that, by law, each county is required to publish and publicize annually on their official county websites. Secondly, the survey evaluates the comprehensiveness of the information provided on revenue, different aspects of expenditure, budget performance and public participation, which the PFM Act requires for accountability to the public.

Disclosure of information, with disaggregation and provision of participation opportunities, enables meaningful public participation and quality decision-making. This ensures open access to information for all citizens, including the poor and marginalized, to support their engagement with government budgets and overall development. The CBTS assigns each county a transparency index based on the information it has publicly available.¹

Kilifi improved in the 2022 transparency index.

Kilifi county published 2 out of 10 key budget documents in CBTS 2022.

How comprehensive is the content of budget documents that Kilifi makes publicly available?

Kilifi scored below the average National budget transparency index for 2022.

¹ For public to make quality decisions on budgets, the counties are required to produce and publish online ten key budget documents in a timely manner. The information on budget priorities and participation, revenue, expenditure and non-financial in the key budget documents published is assessed. The ten key budget documents evaluated in CBTS 2022 are those required to be published in FY 2021/22. In CBTS 2020, CIDP, which is evaluated once in 5 years, was assessed.
Key observations in Kilifi county budget documents

Kilifi county is improving in making more budget documents publicly available compared to CBTS 2021; however, in the last three rounds of the survey. The county did not publish a single implementation report at the evaluation time. In addition, the Citizens Budget and Finance Act were not published.

The PBB has no historical revenue and expenditure in comparison to the coming year’s budget. Additionally, the county lacks information on capital projects. The CBROP did not provide expenditure performance at the programme and sub-programme level.

The CBTS evaluates the feedback from the public, that is, the information on who was involved, input that resulted from public participation and the decisions incorporated into the final documents. Kilifi county provided no information on public participation in County Fiscal Strategy Paper, Annual Development Plan, and approved Programme Based Budget, which was evaluated.

CBTS 2022: State of Budget Transparency in Kenya's Counties

Opportunities to improve Kilifi county budget transparency:

1. Kilifi county has not published the Citizens Budget, Finance Act, and the implementation reports in the last three rounds of surveys. The county should produce, publish, and publicize all the key budget documents on time.

2. Kilifi County should provide all the details on expenditure with the disaggregation up to the programme and sub-programme level.

3. Kilifi County should provide the section with feedback on public participation with justifications. Outcomes of feedback should be in these categories whether a) the input is incorporated into the final budget document, and allocations made for them, this could further tell us there is an impact and decisions were influenced, b) input is considered and taken up but to be implemented in subsequent financial year(s) which could be as a result of limited resources, c) the public input acknowledged but rejected but with proper justification and d) the input is not acknowledged or considered.