

TRACKING FOOD SAFETY BUDGETS IN KENYA

Main food safety concerns



Dairy & horticulture products are among the most implicated vehicles of food-borne diseases.



Insufficient investment is one of the reasons for non-optimal performance in food safety in the country.

Benefits of investments in food safety



The average investment required in Kenya for food safety is KSH 265/person. The resulting benefits are almost 8 times more at KSH 2,038 per person.



Avoids unprecedented disruptions in food markets.



Avoids losses in export markets.



Avoids cases of early deaths.

Tracking food safety budgets

Tracking and monitoring public spending in food safety is essential - national & county governments are held accountable for their commitments.

Steps in tracking food safety budgets

Step 1: Identify food safety activities

- This entails identifying food safety related activities that national & county governments carry out (by line ministries) & how expenditures on these activities are recorded.

Step 2: Assess whether activities are food safety specific or sensitive

- Food safety specific activities directly target unsafe food through improved laboratory services, disease management and control.
- Food safety sensitive activities indirectly target unsafe food by addressing one or several of its underlying causes, e.g. education, environment, infrastructure, etc.

Step 3: Allocate a portion of expenditures to food safety

- Weighting each food safety sensitive activity individually can be highly complex. Close collaboration across government departments is important.