

Kenya's National Sanitary Towels Programme — Free Menstrual Products for Schoolgirls

Gender Equality · Good practice · Kenya

Quality score: 48/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Kenya has given free sanitary towels to schoolgirls since 2011, a legal entitlement since 2017. It reaches millions of girls yearly, but randomised trials found no effect on school attendance, and audits found underfunding and procurement irregularities.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	1/3
Impact on gender equality	0/1
Effectiveness	0/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	0/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Government of Kenya — State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action / Ministry of Education](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Kenya Law — Basic Education \(Amendment\) Act, 2017](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Population Council — Nia Project cluster-RCT \(Reproductive Health, 2021\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Auditor-General Kenya — Performance Audit on Sanitary Towels](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[World Bank — Enabling Environment for Menstrual Health and Hygiene](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

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