

THE DEVOLUTION EXPERIENCE



 The Fifth Annual
DEVOLUTION CONFERENCE | 2018

**SUSTAINABLE, PRODUCTIVE, EFFECTIVE AND
EFFICIENT GOVERNMENTS FOR RESULTS DELIVERY**



ABOUT US

Who we are

The Council of County Governors (COG) is composed of Governors from the forty - seven counties. Its main functions are to promote visionary leadership, share best practices, offer a collective voice on policy issues, promote inter - county consultations; encourage and initiate information sharing on the performance of County Governments with regards to the execution of their functions and provide a platform for collective consultation on matters of interest to County Governments.

Our Vision

To have Prosperous and Democratic Counties delivering services to every Kenyan.

Our Mission

Benchmark of excellence in devolution that is non-partisan; providing a supporting pillar for County Governments as a platform for consultation, information sharing, capacity building, performance management and dispute resolution.

Our Values

Our core values reflects what is truly important to us as a council.

These values are:

- Professionalism
- Independence
- Equality and Equity
- Cooperation
- Visionary

Our Motto

48 Governments, 1 Nation.



Council of Governors- Kenya



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Council of Governors- Kenya

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS



It has been eight years since the promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 which ushered a devolved system of governance that assured Kenyans of equitable share of resources and better service delivery for all. The commencement of County Governments in 2013 brought to life that assurance and the impact of devolution that can be attested today by Kenyans across the Country.

The first administration of Governors ensured that structures were put in place to ensure that County Governments were functional. There were key milestones achieved even as the pioneer County Governors completed their tenure in office. Some of the sectors that had major achievements were; Health, Agriculture, Roads and Infrastructure, Education, ICT and Innovations.

The August 2017 General Elections allowed counties to have a new knowledgeable and competent team of Governors who will drive the Devolution Agenda forward. As the new County Governments come to place, many have outlined their roadmap through the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) that will cure the gaps experienced before and to guide their operations for the next five years.

Some of the key issues that the public is keen on, is what the second phase of County Governments will do differently to improve participation in governance, service delivery, improved infrastructure and vibrant markets and towns that will boost the local economy.

Counties are considering flagship projects that will improve services at the grassroots level. Universal Health is one of the ventures that Counties plan to adopt. The expansion and growth of small towns across the Country. Value addition projects like the 'Ndegu Revolution' being done in Kitui County are key priority areas for the next five years, that will ensure local farmers and residents get the full benefits of their products. The next five years also carry the promise of having better water and sewerage services for the residents at the grassroots level.

County Governments are also ardent on having a better working and collaborative relationship with the National Government, the Senate and the County Assemblies to ensure that Devolution attains its highest aspirations for the people of Kenya. This will only be executed through strategic partnerships between the two levels of government, development partners and the private sector.

The Pioneer County Governments already set the pace and the current Government should continue with that momentum. We hope that in the Spirit of Devolution, Counties will receive their budget allocations on time to allow operations to continue without disruptions and that services are not paralyzed due to lack of funds.

This being the first Devolution Conference after commencement of the new regime, County Governments and key stakeholders are looking forward to deliberations arising from the focus areas of this year's conference which are the President's BIG Four Agenda. Discussions will be to review what has been done in the four sectors in the last five years and moving forward what could be done to ensure service delivery is executed to its epitome and that the Devolution Story and Experience only gets better!

It is therefore our pride as County Governments to showcase some of the results and impacts of the various sector programmes in the Devolution Conference Magazine 2018.

H.E. Hon. Josphat Koli Nanok
Chairman, Council of Governors

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHAIRPERSON, COG AND THE CHAIR OF THE DEVOLUTION CONFERENCE COMMITTEE



True to its Objectives and Principles, devolution represents the hope of the citizens of Kenya in general and for residents of each of the 47 Counties in particular. In demonstrating this hope, the Devolution Magazine has become an integral ingredient in the branding of all the last four Annual Devolution Conferences. The 5th Conference is no exception, and serves to uniquely entrench this practice from two main perspectives.

First, as facilitators of effective devolution, we do acknowledge that five years since the establishment of the devolved system of governance, in which Counties were mandated to implement the 14 devolved functions under the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, we have seen both tremendous growth as well as diverse challenges that affect effective delivery of services. It is important to acknowledge these challenges in order to innovate and find sustainable breakthrough solutions in line with the overall Conference theme: **“Sustainable, productive, effective and efficient governments for results delivery”**.

Secondly, the Devolution Magazine is an inspirational reminder that in spite of the challenges encountered over the first five years of implementing devolution under the pioneer County Governments, each County continues to celebrate significant transformative developments in all facets of the devolved functions. This evidence of hope is captured in the Magazine in form of flagship projects, “new firsts”, concepts, ideas, innovations or initiatives that generate solutions. It is worth noting that Counties are best placed to demonstrate contribution towards realization of the “Big Four” Agenda that is priority for the National Government of H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta, since the agenda involves devolved sectors namely; Universal Health Care, Agriculture and Food Security, Manufacturing and Access to Affordable Housing.

Flagship Projects such as stadiums which target harnessing of youth talents, promoting peace through sports and generating own-source revenue for County Governments have either been completed or are well on course. Other high-impact flagship projects implemented by Counties include mega water dams to increase supply of safe drinking water to residents, upgraded hospitals (Level 5 Hospitals and Referral Hospitals), Universal Health Care, establishment and expansion of water and sewerage networks in towns as well as setting up of investment parks to spur manufacturing.

On the other hand, Counties are increasingly finding value in knowledge by adopting lessons, new ideas, concepts and innovations from other countries, from the African region and globally in order to improve performance in service delivery. In principle, every County has prioritized value addition of diverse value chains as well as in the Governor’s Manifesto. Similarly, the concept of agribusiness incubators to support in developing value chains, creating employment and jobs for youth and women and promoting appropriate innovation and technologies has started to gain traction.

The Devolution Magazine highlights specific projects, programmes and initiatives that each County is proud of because they are changing the lives of citizens, as well as the local economy. It is however worth noting that this is not limited to physical projects only. Counties are also very proud of initiatives and adoption of concepts that are already resulting in improved institutional arrangement, governance and coordination of economic activity within and across Counties. These include setting up of Urban Management Boards, the benefit of establishing Regional Economic Blocs to spur inter-county trade and setting up structures for coordinating climate change action in counties.

As we commence the second cycle of County governments, and building on the foundation laid by the pioneer generation, Counties remain committed to stepping up learning and exchange of information and knowledge, adoption of the above and new, revolutionary strategies for improved service delivery in order to realize and desire to become **“Sustainable, productive, effective and efficient governments for results delivery”**. Moving forward, we need more strategic examples that will propel the “Big Four” in Counties.

Lastly, we welcome you all to sample a one-by-one account of initiatives and projects that demonstrate that devolution bears the hope of Kenyans from County No. 1 to County No. 47. For these gains, we thank County governments individually and collectively, the role played by National Government through intergovernmental collaboration and consultation, development partners, the private sector and very importantly, citizens for demanding for better services, holding County governments to account and in the process, ensuring that Counties return value for money to individuals, families, residents and society.

H.E. Anne Waiguru, OGW
Vice Chairperson, COG and the Chair of the Devolution Conference Committee

MESSAGE FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE AND CO-CHAIRPERSON, DEVOLUTION CONFERENCE STEERING COMMITTEE



As Co-chair to the Devolution Conference Steering Committee, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 5th Edition of the Annual Devolution Conference. This is a great opportunity for us in the devolution fraternity to reflect on the past five years, take stock of where we are and chart ahead toward the Kenyan dream— Devolution.

The Devolution Conference remains an important feature in our institutions' calendar where solutions to challenges are sought and collaboration is strengthened. Under the theme: ***“Sustainable, productive, effective and efficient governments for results delivery”***, this year's conference will focus on how counties can realign their development programmes with the Government's 'Big Four Agenda'. H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta has given priority to affordable housing, universal healthcare, food security and manufacturing.

This realignment will be important since most Big Four Agenda items fall under shared items where National Government formulates policy and the County Governments implement.

Article 96 (1) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that the cardinal role of the Senate is to “represent the counties and serves to protect the interests of the counties and their governments”.

In view of the foregoing, the Senate remains steadfast in jealously guarding the gains made during the past five years of devolution.

The Senate has continually processed bills that strengthen devolved governments and others that directly impact socio-economic development programmes and activities in the 47 counties. As is expected in any nascent and innovative developmental model, our devolved units have faced a myriad of teething challenges; delayed disbursement of funds which disrupts service delivery, bloated staff establishment, weak governance and public participation structures.

The Senate remains committed to collaborative efforts with the other players of the devolution fraternity, including the Council of Governors (CoG), Ministry of Devolution, County Assemblies Forum (CAF) and other key stakeholders. We are keen to build bridges and not barriers that create suspicion and acrimony. We are keen to ensuring that our roles are not in competition but are complementary, so as to guarantee service delivery to the citizens.

We are therefore duty-bound, individually and collectively, to safeguard and actively participate in the successful implementation of devolution.

God Bless Kenya!

Rt. Hon. Kenneth M. Lusaka, EGH

Speaker of the Senate and Co-chairperson, Devolution Conference Steering Committee

MESSAGE FROM THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND ASAL



As we plan to hold the 5th Devolution Conference and the first during this second phase of devolution, let me take this opportunity to congratulate all those governors who were re-elected for a second term and to welcome our brothers and sisters elected into this powerful seat for the first time. This election was indeed historic as three of our sisters were elected as governors. This is good progress and it is my hope that in future, more women will be voted in as governors.

The last five years of implementing devolution has provided Kenyans with an opportunity to gauge where we are and where we are headed. Seven months into the second term of devolution, we need to reflect and re-evaluate the devolution story as we set our targets and goals for the next five years. Yes, we have come a long way but the journey ahead is much longer.

There is need for all of us to continue working together in addressing past lapses and mistakes that might have been committed inadvertently. In the past five years of devolution, we have learnt a lot and we should be keen to incorporate these lessons for efficient and effective delivery of services to Kenyans. It is with this in mind, that my Ministry under the direction of the Summit, is working on the Alternate Dispute Resolution Regulations (ADR) in an effort to curb the loss of the much needed resources through litigation in cases that can be settled out of court.

We must admit that in the last five years, there has been too much litigation that has negatively affected service delivery to our citizens. We have witnessed cases where counties have taken the National Government and its agencies to court; the County assemblies have taken the county executives and the Public Service Boards to court and many more. Some of these cases are still pending in court.

It is time we stopped and pondered whether we need to do things differently. The ADR regulations, whose development is in its final stages, offers us that opportunity. Rather than spend colossal amounts of money, time and energy fighting and walking in the corridors of justice, we should be able to seek arbitration and resolve our differences. After all, we are all serving the same people and it is for their best interest that public resources are spent where they are needed most. It is also important for us and all our stakeholders to work together in bringing to an end the twin evils of corruption and tribalism through wastage and misappropriation of resources. Let us adhere to our oaths of office and serve Kenyans unreservedly. Similarly, let us commit to detribalize our counties through ensuring inclusivity in all appointments.

As a Ministry, we endeavor to make devolution work. Indeed, devolution is working for all of us. Through devolution, counties have emerged as the next frontiers for development. However, there are still several challenges that have stopped them from achieving their full potential. Much more needs to be done to straighten the rough edges and to tie up any loose ends in the quest for better governance and improved service delivery to our people.

To do this, we are in the process of reviewing the County Government Act 2012, and the Inter-Governmental Relations Act 2012, to ensure they are in tune with the current realities. For successful review of the same, we require active contribution from County Governments who have so far interacted with these laws on the ground. Please let us know the areas that need to be reviewed for an enhanced devolution experience in the country.

I call upon the Senate and the National Assembly committees on Delegated Legislation and Finance & Planning to support the passing of the reviewed pieces of legislation and any other legislation on devolution, as they have done before. The two committees have an opportunity to do so through feedback when the legislations are presented to them by officials from my Ministry and also when they are presented on the floor of the Senate and the National Assembly.

As we celebrate the fruits of devolution, let us not forget to put Kenyans in the driving seat through public participation, which is entrenched in our Constitution. Public participation allows the people to be the drivers of their own destiny. I therefore plead with Governors to involve the people in deciding their development priorities in order for devolution to be more meaningful to them. When this is done, both the executives and the people will walk together and we will have a more successful devolution story.

As part of our capacity building efforts, the Ministry of Devolution in collaboration with various stakeholders has developed several materials including, County Model Laws, County Public Participation Guidelines, Civic Education Manuals and Curriculum among others. We have also shared these instruments with the counties in addition to training their core staff on public participation. We promise to continue working with you to ensure that Counties are supported with whatever assistance they may require.

I wish to reaffirm the government's commitment to devolution and in fostering harmonious relations with the counties. I urge the governors to work closely with the National Government to deliver better services to our people.

Hon. Eugene Wamalwa
Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution and ASAL

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, COUNTY ASSEMBLIES FORUM



It is my pleasure to be part of this Fifth Annual Devolution Conference, themed ‘The Devolution Experience’. In my earnest view devolution became the hallmark of the new governance dispensation that is transforming lives in Kenya.

Kenyans will agree with me that the promulgation of the new constitution in 2010 marked positive changes and the impact has been felt across the 47 counties. The devolution of power as one of the values and principles entrenched in Article 10 of the Constitution 2010 has been a pivotal path for political, social and economic growth. The role of the 47 County Governments is clearly noticeable as a result of the constant steps elevating the lives of a common populace (“mwananchi”). We therefore must align ourselves with the National Government’s big four priorities with tangible focus on food security, affordable housing, manufacturing and affordable healthcare that will ultimately see the country achieve the Vision 2030.

As the County Assemblies Forum (CAF), we are determined to promote closer intra-governmental and inter-governmental collaboration and consultations to strengthen the legislative, oversight and representation role of County Assemblies. CAF is also in forefront to instill the spirit of public participation in governance with the overall objective of realization of the spirit of devolution and constitutionalism. In order to realize this big dream, the National Government and the Counties must leapfrog the dream that is development agenda which inspires economic growth and peaceful coexistence among Kenyans.

It is my hope and prayer that, as devolved units we will scale up our legislative process for the benefit of our people by piloting modern agricultural and livestock ventures. Most farmers still rely on rain-fed agriculture for production. It is possible to overcome this.

Devolution has also increasingly improved access to health services. Proximity to health centers by Kenyans in the villages and nearest sub-county headquarters with well equipped facilities remain the key deliverable of devolution. Health continuum has improved across the counties as each county focuses on expanding its local capacities.

On infrastructures many counties have witnessed diverse changes as most trading centers are lightened up to extend time for business activities. “The Kenya Vision 2030”, identifies infrastructure development as a critical component for socio-economic transformation of our economy. I urge the honorable members to be on the frontline championing quality works. Our domesticated laws in the counties must be woven for the sake of best end results and appreciated by our electorates.

Finally, I call for the entire leadership of the County Assemblies Forum and Council of Governors to be the paragons of virtue by steering best governance in the devolution model. We have a role to prove not only to the Country but world over that we can change lives through this decentralized governance. We have a duty to be a focused leadership that becomes the pedestal of hope to our people.

Thank you.

God Bless you, God Bless Kenya!

Hon. Johnson P. Osoi,
Chairperson, County Assemblies Forum (CAF) & Speaker Kajiado County Assembly

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA



I take this opportunity to welcome all delegates to Kakamega County. I wish to commend the Council of Governors and all its key stakeholders for giving Kakamega County an opportunity to host the 5th Annual Devolution Conference from 23rd to 27th April, 2018. Indeed we are confident that my colleagues, the Governors, as well as several thousand delegates expected to participate in the event will find a warm and hospitable environment in our county, fondly referred to as “The Green Jewel”; the land of ‘Mulembe.’

The people of Kakamega look forward to the Conference for several reasons. Key among them is the opportunity of interacting with the top national and county leadership from the entire Country in celebrating the dawn of devolution and all the benefits that come with it. The chance to share their experiences, particularly the major strides made in development of sectors that have direct impact on their lives such as Health, Infrastructure, Education, Agriculture and Trade is memorable.

With the promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, devolution has given our people a treasured opportunity to take control of their destiny by identifying their own development priorities, allocating resources for projects and making their leaders accountable at the grassroots level.

Despite the teething problems experienced during the first term, Counties are upbeat about their potential and what the future holds. Experience has shown that through devolution we can improve our road network and empower our people through increased economic activity; we can build and equip modern hospitals for preventive and curative health services; we can put up world class sports stadia for our youth to develop their talents and earn a living; we can also economically empower farmers by diversifying agricultural activities, building industries for their products and availing to them quality seeds and affordable farm inputs.

This is how we have managed to transform areas that were marginalized prior to devolution to make local economies more vibrant. However, this can only be sustained if we plan better; engage stakeholders in value adding partnerships; build institutional and human capacities in Counties; initiate aggressive resource mobilization and improve revenue collection.

The organization of annual devolution conferences strengthens the people’s focus on the critical role devolution has played in delivery of people-centred governance and policies, a big departure from the traditional way of accumulating resources and power at the centre. In this regard, I pay tribute to the informed and highly professional leadership at the Council of Governors. I have no doubt that despite the sheer volume of work and the logistical nightmare that the organization of such a meeting brings to the doorstep of the Council, the capacities, skills and partnerships developed over the years will prevail in Kakamega as it has happened in previous occasions.

I wish to extend a warm welcome to all delegates and invite each one of them to take advantage of the conference to sample the rich cultural heritage and tourist sites in our county including Nabongo Shrines in Matungu, the “Crying Stone” in Ileshi, ‘Mawe Tatu’ in Lugari, as well as Bull Fighting and Isukuti dance.

Thank you.

H.E. Hon. Wycliffe Ambetsa Oparanya, EGH, CGJ.
Governor Kakamega County

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE C.E.O, COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS



The Council of Governors and other stakeholders has for the past five years organized and held a devolution conference each year. The Conference has grown to become a major event in Kenya's calendar where stakeholders take stock of the milestones under the devolved system of governance.

The Fifth Annual Devolution Conference gives stakeholders from the County Governments, National Government, development partners, academia, the private sector and the general public a chance to share their experience so far. In the previous conferences, we focused majorly on the devolution journey, the milestones achieved so far, the challenges faced and how we can learn from them. This year we forge a way forward based on the experience in the first four years since advent of devolution in Kenya, combined with the current priorities of our nation.

This year's magazine – **"The Devolution Experience"**, features four key sectors that focus on the Fifth Annual Devolution Conference. As readers we have the opportunity to learn and know the flagship projects in our Counties; in Health, Agriculture, Trade and Investment and Energy, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Planning. These are in line with the President's Big 4 agenda.

I take this opportunity to thank the Council of Governors Communication Department, especially Elizabeth Wambui who worked for long days to put together this edition. I also thank all County Directors of Communication and CECs in charge of Agriculture, Trade, Health and Urban Development who developed and shared the information in this magazine. I am also grateful to all our partners who have supported the publication of this magazine.

The articles in the magazine not only give us a glimpse of the counties' potential but also act as an instrument of accountability. They are part of source of reference on what our County Governments have put or intend to put in place when we want to audit our governments.

What features as a common denominator is that the 47 County Governments have practically planned projects and programs to ensure enhanced service delivery to the people of Kenya.

As this second term under the devolved system rolls out, it is the hope of the COG secretariat that all stakeholders including the citizens of Kenya continue to support devolution. Devolution has improved service delivery in Kenya over the past five years. With the County planned flagship projects, one can confidently say that Kenya is headed to the right direction through devolution.

Mrs. Jacqueline Mogeni
CEO, Council of Governors



KHRC: Towards Human Rights Centred Devolved Governance System

The Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) is a premier and flagship Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that was registered in 1992 with a Vision to secure human rights states and societies and mandate of entrenching human rights centred governance at all levels. Our interventions are executed under four interdependent thematic programmes: Transformative Justice (TJ); Economic and Social Justice (ESJ); Identity and Inclusion (I & I) and Institutional Support and Development (ISD). All the Programmes are meant to synergize and deliver on the following strategic objectives at county, national, regional and global levels; devolved governance, security excesses, flaws in electoral processes, ethnic polarization, expanding the shrinking civic space and exposing mega corruption & corporate impunity.

The year 2017 marked 25 years since the KHRC came into being. Having been formed at a time of great political repression and unbridled violation of human rights and freedoms, the KHRC takes pride in the pivotal role it has played over the years in securing human rights and contributing towards the building of a human rights state and societies. Additionally, the KHRC celebrates its notable transformation into a vibrant national organization of high standing feted for providing leadership in many aspects of human rights, shaping the human rights discourse, confronting impunity and lack of accountability at all levels irrespective of the influence and clout of the actors involved and incubating numerous human rights struggles and start-up organizations. It is for these and other reasons that the KHRC is billed as the **Vanguard for Human Rights and Champion for Democracy in Kenya**.

We continue to be instrumental in redefining political and economic governance processes: stressing the key elements of critical voices, citizen participation, accountability, respect for human rights, equality, rule of law and integrity in the public and private spheres. The Commission has taken leadership in constitutional and institutional reforms, influencing policy and legislation in addition to acting as a watchdog in public affairs and representing the interests of the public to official government establishments. Devolution and effective service delivery remain key policy and governance issues critical to KHRC'S vision and mandate.



KHRC Work on Devolution

Since the promulgation of the new Constitution in 2010, the KHRC has been at the forefront in championing for *human rights centered governance in devolved units*. We continue to work on the critical issues that have a lasting impact on the devolved systems and access to services, at the local level. Such include electoral governance, security, corruption, business and human rights, land rights, access to health care services, water and education, workers' rights, the rights of the women, youth among other marginalized groups, to mention but a few.

Among the approaches we have employed include working through partnerships with both duty bearers and right holders; advancing policy and political advocacy; capacity building of local communities; generating new knowledge through research; and supporting high level policy engagements in partnership with the Council of Governors(COG), County Assembly Forum (CAF) among other state and non-state actors. KHRC has for the last few years remained a credible and consistent partner in supporting the COG's Annual Devolution Conference. We see the conference as a strategic policy and political forum for assessing both the benefits and challenges of devolution and charting a concerted way forward in terms of actions and strategies.

On the demand side of devolution, KHRC have continued to empower grassroots communities to actively participate in governance through community based Human Rights Networks (HURINETs) based in over 30 counties. KHRC and HURINETs work on the various rights issues through political and policy actions. Their empowerment contributes not only to meaningful public participation in decision making processes, but also improved service delivery and other public benefits from the same.

On the supply side of devolution, KHRC through research, has published a number of documents that contribute to greater understanding of devolved governance in Kenya. Some of these publications include; the *Devolution Manual; a human rights-based tool for governance*, the *Ten Point Model County Award Criteria and Scheme*, *Functions of Elected State Officers* among others. Their production and dissemination was premised on KHRC's understanding of the challenges devolution was likely to face and therefore provided a framework that would help put the human rights agenda at the center of devolved governance



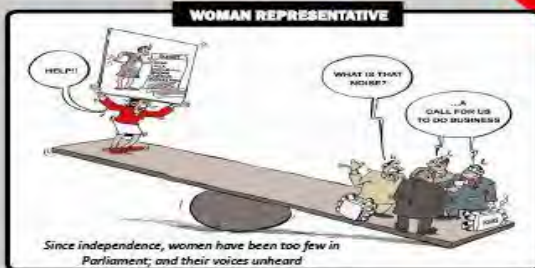
Devolution Manual

A human rights-based
Tool for governance



The Devolution Manual; A human Rights Based Tool for Governance, was published in 2015 to demystify the devolved system of governance in Kenya, for better comprehension by both the duty bearers and the right holders. Some of the areas examined by the manual include; comprehensive meaning of devolution, roles and structures of leadership in devolved governance, various guiding principle and key issues that link human rights and development, role and mandate of various public institutions on devolved governance and public finance management in devolved governance.

FUNCTIONS OF ELECTED STATE OFFICERS



Making A Complete Shift From The Past



The Functions of Elected State Officers; Making a complete Shift from the Past, was published in 2013 and revised in 2014. It elaborates on all the functions of members of parliament (County, Senate and National) and other elective office holders such as the Governor and Deputy Governor. It further stipulates the remuneration structure of elected state officers. In addition, the publication explains the separation of power among the three arms of government and the functions of citizens in governance process at all levels (county and national).



The *Ten Point Model County Award Criteria and Scheme* was published in 2015 and launched in an event in which the COG was represented by Prof. Kivutha Kibwana on March 12th 2015. The publication outlines ten human rights and governance principles that define a Model County. These principles were formulated through the application of existing legal frameworks (constitution, statutes and treaties), best practices and experiences. It therefore functions as a tool for capacity building, policy engagement, bench marking & monitoring services delivery in devolved governance, aimed at ensuring that the Kenyan form of devolution is enhanced and accountable in the delivery of services and protection of human rights.

It is based on the *Ten Point Model County Award Criteria and Scheme*, that in 2015, the

KHRC conducted a baseline study dubbed *Devolved Governance through a human rights lens; A comparative analysis of the Emerging Trends, issues and Good practices in the implementation of devolution in Kenya*. The study gathered information that established among many other issues; the performance of counties against the ten points, how much information was readily available about what County Governments had done and were doing and also established existing gaps on what county governments were doing, with the view of facilitating a better and more informed engagement with the counties.

During the pre-2017 election, under the Kura Yangu Sauti Yangu Coalition (where KHRC serves as the secretariat) convened community dialogue forums in different counties as a way of including the voices of local citizens at the county level in the national conversations around electoral governance. KHRC was also involved in the monitoring and observation of the 2017 elections with a view to ensuring credibility and accountability of the processes and outcomes for all the positions being contested. For such have a major implication on the governance of county affairs. It was on that basis that the KHRC was invited to steer the conversations around electoral governance during the 2016 Annual Devolution Conference that was held in Meru.

The KHRC has also supported and nurtured networks and partnership among key actors in devolved governance such as the “Devolution Forum”. This is due to the realization that devolution requires concerted efforts to work effectively and efficiently. To that extent, we have worked and continue to work with respective county governments, other civil society organizations, private sector, the national government among others. As we support this year’s conference and reflect on our journey of 25 years, we take this earliest opportunity to congratulate the COG and county governments for their novel initiatives and indicate that we shall remain available to work together towards fostering human rights centered devolved governance.



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MOMBASA COUNTY



H.E. HON. HASSAN ALI JOHO
Governor, Mombasa County



H.E. DR. WILLIAM KINGI KAZUNGU
Deputy Governor, Mombasa County

County targets agribusiness to enhance food security and wealth creation

Even with the general perception that Mombasa is predominantly a County of tourism and maritime business, the agricultural sector comes in handy as an important cog in the socio-economic development.



Fisherman offloading fish from MV001

Mombasa County Government affirms the key role that agriculture plays and has come up with deliberate and concrete steps to harness the potential both to enhance food security and to create wealth through agribusiness. It is also gratifying to note that the potential for agriculture and fisheries is enormous and calls for strategic planning to harness it. The Coastline, for instance, stretches from Vanga in the South Coast to Kiunga in the north Coast with access to 200 nautical miles of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) with corresponding potential for fisheries resources.

We have seen the strides that the cooperative movement has made in providing capital as well as pooling resources and inculcating the culture of saving and investment as a basis for wealth creation. To

achieve this, we are facilitating formation of cooperative societies to mobilise domestic savings and provide a framework for agricultural production and fisheries. Through this movement, our farmers have been able to embrace marketing and value addition, key components in wealth creation, employment and food security.

Our challenge however remains the tenure system/squatter issue, high cost of farm inputs, low adoption of improved technologies, loan burdens on communities, poor rainfall distribution, inadequate water supply environmental degradation, inadequate cold storage facilities at landing beaches/sites, underdeveloped aquaculture and insufficient credit facilities for fishermen.

As a County Government, we have continued to address these constraints some of which were occasioned by poor planning prior to devolution. With a booming tourism industry, the region's internal market is therefore huge. Our emphasis lays on infrastructure to support agribusiness, need based planning, participatory decision making and access to credit, technology adoption, marketing, extension services and strategic infrastructure development.

A landmark project that the County Government has successfully accomplished with remarkable success is the construction of the MV001 Mombasa fishing boat for deep sea fishing which enables fishermen to venture in waters beyond the one nautical mile.

County unveils strategy to revamp the health sector in Mombasa

Health remains one of the sectors that the County Government of Mombasa has immensely funded in the realisation that a well-functioning and sustainable health system is vital to improving the health status of the communities. Despite the strides made so far, however, the health system faces constraints arising from insufficient financial resources, shortage and poor distribution of healthcare workers, legislation and information systems.

Currently we are directing our energies and resources towards better planning, managing and financing quality health services to meet local needs. Among the projects in the pipeline include the introduction of a SMART CARD that targets a cover for the elderly as a first phase and later funds allowing scale it up to include women and the poor who lack access to care. Some of the milestones include the Construction of five level four hospitals – Chaani, Vikwatani, Marimani, Shika Adabu and Mtongwe.

The County has also procured portable Ultra Sound machines for Tudor, Port Reitz District hospital and six health centres (Tudor, Mlaleo, Bokole, Annex, Miritini CDF and Mikindani) at the cost of Ksh. 6,160,000 which has improved obstetric care.

The Coast Provincial General Hospital (CPGH) remains an important referral health facility prompting the County Government to



A ward at Coast Provincial General Hospital equipped with new hospital beds

undertake massive investment to provide services that were previously out of reach to many. These specialised services include: Oncology centre for cancer patients, Neurosurgery programme started with first neurosurgeon camps done at the hospital, Cascesca (Surgical) training and Open heart surgery. The Port Reitz Sub County Hospital has also witnessed development including the renovation of the theatre with surgical, orthopedic and maternity equipment worth Ksh. 25million. An Obstetrician/Gynecologist has been posted there thus reducing referral cases to CPGH.

“The County health department has embraced automation with the County referral now fully automated to M-pesa raising the collection from Ksh. 17million to Ksh. 25 million. Other facilities that have fully automated their collection include Mvita Health Centre and Kaderbhoy and we are in the process of rolling out to high volume facilities,” said Dr Khadija Sood Shikely, Chief Officer Medical Services. Recently, the County bought state of the art flogging machines worth Ksh. 15 million procured specifically to fight Chikungunya outbreak which has since been contained.

Enhanced infrastructure development boosts investment in Mombasa County

Infrastructure development is a vital component in encouraging economic growth. Developing infrastructure enhances productivity, consequently boosting our county’s economy. Not only does infrastructure in itself enhance the efficiency of production, transportation, and communication. It also helps provide economic incentives to public and private sector participants. Given its strategic location as the gateway to the great lake region and a tourist hub, Mombasa can fully tap into this natural advantage if the infrastructure is developed.



Mombasa County infrastructure machinery

The importance of infrastructure for sustained economic development is well recognized. We have invested in physical infrastructure covering transportation, power and communication and created linkages that facilitate growth. We have supported social infrastructure including water supply, sanitation, sewage disposal, education and health; which are primary services with a direct impact on the quality of life of our communities.

The County Government of Mombasa has constructed more than 78 Km access roads in all sub counties which have improved access, reduced travel time, improved security and promoted economic activities in the areas. Improvement of Allidina-Kwa Ng’ombe Drift Bridge which has enhanced security, improved connectivity, promoted economic development and improve social integration.

The installation of traffic lights at six junctions (Saba, Buxton, Kengeleni, Digo, Makadara and King’orani) has greatly reduced traffic congestion and improved safety. The drainage system has always been a nightmare in Mombasa and to address this, the County Government constructed storm water drainage systems in Majengo, Old Malindi Road, Hongera road and drainage works at Soko Mjinga, Sisi kwa Sisi, Flamingo, Wayani , Mwijabu Primary, Likoni flats, among other areas which have reduced flooding and ensured road safety. This has also been enhanced by installation of gully pots and covers along Digo road and Abdel Naser road.

Another complete project is the installation and maintenance of street lights in all sub counties which has promoted security of residents and businessmen and promoted economic activities. Acquired road construction equipment such as graders, shovels, rollers, tippers and backhoe has improved construction and maintenance of roads.

County embraces automation to increase efficiency and grow revenue collection

With its unique geographical location, Mombasa County requires a robust trade and investment portfolio to spread the economic benefits that come with this strategic position. One of the key pillars that the County has put up is the department of Trade, Investment, Energy and Industry as an interface between investors (both SMEs and major investors) providing an enabling environment for trade and investment. In its effort to improve efficiency in facilitating trade, increasing revenue collection and general ease of doing business as a catalyst for development, the department can proudly enumerate some of the achievements that have put Mombasa County on the pedestal of socio-economic growth.

One of the biggest challenges that the County grappled with was the time and cumbersome process it took previously to obtain the relevant documents for one to operate a business. This has now been fully addressed through the automation of Single Business Permit, parking and barriers revenue collection which cut operational costs to businessmen and improves efficiency in revenue collection.

The County’s trade department recognises the need for conducive environment upon which traders can operate and thrive. This led to the installation of security lights at Kongowea market which boost security for traders and promotes the 24 –hour business opportunity to them. Additionally, it has rehabilitated the retail section at Kongowea market thus improving business environment for traders and enhancing cleanliness.

With the youth in mind, we have endeavoured to provide facilities to encourage trade among the young people. This has been realized through installation of modern kiosks which have opened self-employment opportunities for youth, women and people with disability.

In promoting investment in Mombasa with various foreign governments and various chamber of commerce offices, a number of initiatives have been put in place such as infrastructure development. Among them include tarmacking of Biashara Street in town which created an effective transport system for businessmen and customers using that road. The County has also undertaken the modernization of retail markets and installation of modern stalls which has created an enabling environment for businessmen and customers.



New stalls constructed by the County for small scale entrepreneurs



002

KWALE COUNTY



H.E. SALIM MVURYA MGALA
Governor, Kwale County



H.E. FATUMA MOHAMED ACHANI
Deputy Governor, Kwale County

No more relief food; Devolution transforming lives

Upon devolution in 2013, Kwale County Government came up with the Kwale County Food Security Initiative to address low food production to guarantee food security to its citizens. Several micro irrigation projects were initiated to address over-reliance on rain-fed agriculture.

The department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries has so far supported 34 horticultural groups with micro irrigation equipment and inputs resulting in the production of high value crops hence increasing income to the group members. Good example is Upendo with 34 physically challenged members. The department supported the group with 1 acre micro irrigation kit, 10,000 litres water tank and farm inputs for one season. Members were trained on horticultural crop husbandry and market survey.

The chairlady Ms Victoria Kimatu says, “We had been growing different types of crops unsuccessfully until 2012 when the County Government intervened and now we have achieved major success and improved members’ daily livelihoods.” “First we grew tomatoes and kales (sukuma wiki) making a profit of Ksh. 200,000 at once. It has motivated us to consider increasing our crop acreage,” she added.

On dairy farming, the closure of the National Dairy Project in the county and privatisation of dip services were a major blow that led to high incidences of tick borne diseases. The County introduced the County Dairy Cattle Improvement Program in 2015, trained farmers belonging to groups and provided them with heifers and a starter health kit.

Mr Boniface Kavita, a farmer received a heifer in 2015 which produced two female calves in two years greatly benefiting him through the sale of surplus milk and improved nutrition. “This cow has benefited me a lot. Before, I could produce only 4 litres per day from five cows but today, I get 12 litres from one cow. I make Ksh. 1, 200 from Ksh. 400 before”.

Health is among key sectors the County Government of Kwale has prioritised

In its vision, the County Government’s target is highly developed, well equipped facilities for excellent health services for all. Great strides have been made under the leadership of Governor Salim Mvurya towards achieving this vision and several County Hospitals, Health Centres and dispensaries have been built or upgraded.

Msambweni District Hospital, now a Referral Hospital, Kwale and Kinango hospitals are examples. New wards, drug stores, maternity wings, modern administration blocks have also been constructed.



The Msambweni Referral Hospital C-T Scan



Governor Salim Mvurya handing over meat goats to Kinondo Farmers

Msambweni Referral Hospital has a modern, state-of-the-art, equipped and operational Intensive Care Unit since 2017. Many patients from Kwale County and outside are benefiting. The hospital has a modern Renal Unit with dialysis machines where patients with kidney problems are treated thus benefiting many Kenyans. The hospital has a specialized X-Ray test - Computerised Axial Tomography (CAT or CT scan). The Referral Hospital has a modern Blood Collection Bank put up through collaboration between the County and National Governments and other development partners. A modern Maternity Wing is almost complete at the facility.

The county has collaborated well with the National Government that has seen millions of shillings being pumped into Msambweni Referral Hospital for better healthcare. Staff establishment at Mswambweni: From only 4 nurses when Devolution began in 2013, the hospital now has 94 from zero

consultant to 6 today, from 2 medical officers in 2013 to 16 today, from 6 clinical officers to 15, from one laboratory technologist to 10 currently, from a junior administrator to a Director today, from zero orthopaedic, physiotherapist, occupational therapist to 3 apiece currently. Today there is a dentist, 6 pharmaceutical technologists, 46 support staff and other officers bringing the total labour force to 231 from a mere 50.

The transformation agenda lives on; Devolution is real

Through the Department of Roads and Infrastructure, all the four sub-counties of Kwale County -Kinango, Lunga Lunga, Msambweni and Matuga are accessible 27/7. A total of 850km of new roads have been opened. The County Executive Committee Member (CEC) Mr Hemed Mohamed Mwabudzo, says opening of the roads has involved building drifts, bridges, culverts, putting cabro, patching, surface and shoulder dressing and grading among other works. Numerous solar panels have been installed in urban areas effectively lighting them and so, allowing 24-hour businesses to thrive. The entire Beach Road is well lit thus boosting security for both locals and tourists.



Street lights project along Diani Beach road done by the county

“Our government put solar lights along the entire 8km Beach Road at a cost of Sh70 million; this immensely benefited locals, tourists and the tourism sector in general,” said Mr Mwabudzo. Flood lights were also put at Kwale town, Kombani and Tiwi, Ukunda, Diani, Mazola, Mkilo, Kinondo and Kombani among other centres. The 1km road linking Beach Road with Ukunda Airstrip, was cabro-built at a cost of Ksh. 45 million.

Key roads opened and graded to all weather include the 28km Vigurungani-Kilibasi road, 15km Mwangoloto-Ndatani road, 36km Mteza-Mabambarani road, Msambweni Hospital road, Mvindenilofta road, Matuga-Ng’ombeni road, Mkongani-Mtsamviani road, Vigurungani-Nyango road, Gandini-Tsunza road, Mgalani-Busho-Kilibasi road and Kirimangodo-Magombani-Mtsunga road and numerous other short-distance ones, thus improving accessibility to areas reachable only on foot before.

Kwale has collaborated with the National Government to put up huge infrastructural investments in Kwale County, resulting in major benefits which include the ongoing multi-billion Samburu-Kinango-Kwale road, the first such road in Kwale County, the Dongo-Kundu bypass and the proposed duelling of the Miritini-Mariakani highway.

Roads and Infrastructure Chief Officer Musyoki Mvuka said the projects will cost Ksh. 2 billion on completion; with Ksh. 1.2 billion during the first devolution term and the rest between now and 2022.

The engine of unbelievable economic power

In a bid to fulfill its vision of building a competitive, industrialized and a socio-economically self-sustaining society, the County Government of Kwale through the Department of Tourism and Enterprise Development has invested in major economic projects.

It has constructed and fenced markets and market stalls at Kinango, Kwale, Tiwi, Mwakijembe, Mnyenzi, Kasemeni, Lutsangani and Ndavaya, put up Jua Kali shades in Mwabila, Kwale, Shimba Hills, Mwangoloto and Makamini, providing machines for Jua Kali artisans to cut stone slates around Maji ya Chumvi and Mazeras.

The County has constructed 134 Market stalls, 17 sheds, 14 open air markets, 9 collection centers and 6 jua kali sheds. The artisans use the machines to cut stones into various shapes and sizes to suit construction needs, such as for floors, walls, compound, indoor parts etc and are builders’ choice for finishing and home decorations.

The department provides affordable loans through the Kwale County Trade Revolving Fund and more than 1,300 traders have benefited from this program with more than Sh120 million already loaned out to traders. Kibuyuni Seaweed Collection Center in Kibuyuni Village in Tswaka, Shimoni, is another major project that benefits more than 50 seaweed farmers making the County Government’s Blue Economy initiative a reality.

The farmers have improved their livelihoods through sustainable use of the available ocean resources. They make soaps, shampoos, juices, lotions, cookies and cakes from the harvested seaweed. They store between 80 and 90 tons of seaweed, with the county looking for a reliable market for them.

The department has revamped the cooperative movement with the number of Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations growing from 33 in 2013 to 85 today. Tabasamu Sacco formally known as the Kwale Teachers Sacco, is a beneficiary of this initiative. Weights and Measures are strictly observed to make sure measurements are not manipulated.



The Kwale Market stalls constructed by the County Government.



H.E. AMASON JEFFAH KINGI
Governor, Kilifi County



H.E. GIDEON EDMUND SABURI
Deputy Governor, Kilifi County

Cultivating our way towards food security

The desire to become a food secure county, able to feed its citizens has triggered the Kilifi County Government to invest heavily on Agriculture resources. Kilifi County has made tremendous transformation in the Agricultural sector. From embracing new methods of farming to farm mechanization, Kilifi County is on the road to achieving its vision of “Food security for all people in the County,”



Since devolution set in, Kilifi County has been at the forefront in embracing irrigation schemes as a viable alternative to rain-fed agriculture and guarantees increased production as we propel Kilifi County into a regional food hub able to feed its citizens and other neighboring counties. So far, the County Government of Kilifi has set up 12 irrigation schemes in a bid to combat food shortage, bringing close to 3,000 acres of land under irrigation. These schemes have benefitted more than 35,000 families directly, while over 15,000 people benefit indirectly from the produce that comes out of these schemes.

The 1,000-acre Burangi Irrigation scheme was initiated in 2015, by the Kilifi County Government as a way of combating food insecurity in the Sub-County. Ksh. 28 million was used to roll out the project with most of the funds going towards laying of pipes and building water channels, feasibility studies, training of farmers and purchasing of water pumps. To embrace

mechanization, farmers are provided with certified seeds, fertilizers to improve their yields and tractors which plough their land; increasing the acreage being cultivated.

Plans are underway for the expansion of irrigation schemes after the County Government allocated a further Ksh 30 million towards the expansion of small scale irrigation farming in the County. There are 12 irrigation schemes namely Burangi, Pangani, Chakama, Zia Ra Wari, Gandini, Dagamra, Kwa Ndezi, Uhai Marikano, Mongotini, Kavunyalalo, Mangudho and the Mdachi irrigation scheme.

Changing health service delivery landscape

One of the major achievements of the Kilifi County Government is the decline in mortality and corresponding increase in the expectation of life at birth. The County Government through the department of Health Services has progressively seen tremendous transformation which has reduced maternal deaths from pregnancy complications by about 70%.

The county Government has undertaken to construct maternity units countywide. The County Government is in the process of constructing and equipping five maternity theatres in Jibana, Bamba, Marafa, Mariakani and Rabai health facilities. These will reduce instances of referral cases to County referral facilities that need emergency caesarian sections by approximately 50%.

The department also invested in equipping health facilities to increase access to service delivery. They include incubators, anesthetic machines, diagnostic and imaging units. Specialists including gynecologists and surgeons have been recruited. There were 7 specialists pre-devolution and currently the county has 21 specialists of various cadres amongst whom are 6 gynecologists.



A health complex is currently being set up at the County referral hospital and is expected to be a game changer in curative health service delivery within Kilifi and beyond. It will house a modern accident and emergency unit, a 6-bed capacity ICU, a radiotherapy unit and three theatres which will be equipped with modern equipment, technology and the technical staff. Cancer cases will be managed within the County.

“Patients used to walk long distances before they could access a health facility. And even if they did, they sometimes had to wait in line and at the end of the day leave without being treated due to scarcity of drugs in local dispensaries was also an issue. But this had to come to an end when we took over,” says Governor Kingi.

Defining the road to a better Kilifi

When the County Government took office, one of the first things it did was to purchase road construction equipment to improve road infrastructure which is a crucial element in any economic development. While most of the roads in the county are earth roads considering the rural setting of Kilifi, the department of roads has been able to upgrade to gravel more than 500km of its road system and opened up more than 1,000 km of new access roads connecting the county towns to its hinterlands.



Mtwapa town, which is regarded as one of the fastest growing towns in East and Central Africa, has been upgraded with 3.3 km of tarmac including the construction of Banhoff-Mtwapa health centre road. The county has also finished the construction of the 2.3Km B5 road leading to Sultan Palace in Kikambala.

Kilifi Township has seen 5.8kms of roads upgraded to bitumen standard. The St.Thomas-GK-Prison to Kibaoni road and the G4S-Charowa Mae road are among the roads that have been tarmacked. The department is also upgrading 4km of roads to tarmac which once completed will open up activities in the resort city of Malindi. 12km of cabro works has been laid in areas such as Malindi, Watamu, Mtwapa, Kaloleni, Mariakani and Kilifi towns.

336 street lights and 26 high masts have been erected by the County Government to light up all streets within major towns to lighten up informal settlements and remote trading centers and have also been instrumental in the reduced levels of crime rate in the county.

Drifts such as Chitswa cha Mukamba in Ruruma ward and Kamkomani drift in Mariakani have been vital in taming raging rivers bringing an end to cases of roads being swept by flash waters from raging rivers.

Accelerated economic growth lies at the heart of the Kilifi County Government’s vision to empower its people.

To diversify economic activities through investment and better the lives of the people of Kilifi, the County Government of Kilifi has for the past 5 years passed investment friendly bills that are meant to attract investors into Kilifi County and help push forth its development agenda.

The bills have provided a conducive environment for investors targeting Kilifi. Kilifi County held its first international investment conference which featured both local and international investors. This indeed was a platform for Kilifi County to unpackage to the world the abundant investment opportunities found in Kilifi County. These range from agriculture, mining, fishing, logistics, health etc. The journey to seek more investors hasn’t stopped. More investors have now been coming into Kilifi to explore and maximize on our diverse resources.

To provide traders with a safe and clean environment to conduct their businesses, the County Government of Kilifi embarked on changing the rural setting through infrastructure development by constructing a new modern market county wide. These have not only provided easy access to a wide range of products for both traders and consumers but also provided a platform for the bulking-up and export of goods and produce externally.

The completion of the Mtwapa Modern market will provide a common area for the exchange of goods and for sales by producers and consumers from Mtwapa and all nearby towns. It will also serve to ensure we monitor our hygienic standards and shelf local farmers from post-harvest food losses.

Other modern markets are being constructed in Malindi, Kilifi and Mariakani towns, while the one in Watamu is complete and traders waiting to be relocated. More than 60 trading stations have been set up countywide by the County Government.





H.E. MAJ. (RTD) DR. DHADHO GADDAE GODHANA
Governor, Tana River County



H.E. KEA BATUYU SALIM
Deputy Governor, Tana River County

Agriculture and food security for livelihoods enhancement

It goes without saying that Tana River has the potential to be Kenya's food basket. With large expansive and fertile farmlands, graze-lands and hosts over 350 kilometers of the magnificent and resource rich River Tana. The county has a key focus of achieving food security through livelihoods enhancement by modernizing agriculture through mechanization and commercialization strategies and projects.

The county has a total of eight tractors in agricultural areas both in Tana River and Tana Delta Sub counties. Optimal land tillage has been heavily affected by the erratic rainfall patterns hence only 251.5 acres of land was prepared. Other activities were rice threshing, dam construction and rehabilitation.

The county has allocated over Ksh. 300 million in mechanization and commercialization services for the county. A key focus is on revitalizing and strengthening farmer groups by institutionalization into cooperatives and training in sustainable agriculture. This will ensure better access to both technical support and financial services, access to markets and accountable management of farmer resource centers. The same will go hand in hand with infrastructure development for value addition, agricultural promotion and the protection of water catchment areas through gazettement and reforestation.

Over 50% of farmers have received inputs ranging from fertilizer, seed inputs and extension services for food production. The county's people centred focus on food security enhancement and nutrition has supported farmers to take up drought and pest resistant crop technologies. Tana has for the longest time been gazetted as a disease free zone; despite the movement of livestock for trade and nomadic livelihoods. The county has set up both agriculture and livestock markets in strategic centres across the three sub counties to promote trade of produce and institutionalizations of the farmer groups to ensure better bargaining for prices and reduce exploitation by brokers and middle men.



Access and utilization of critical health services

Tana River has an estimated population of 313, 374 with a notable health disaggregation of 66,749 women of reproductive age 13, 788 expected annual deliveries 56,408 Children under five and 149,455 children aged 1 to 5 years. Due to the vastness of Tana River county and its sparse population, many villages are situated very far from health facilities. This had in the past challenged the access to maternal child health services, coupled with poor infrastructure.



The county has in the past few years courtesy of Devolution fast tracked investment in construction and operationalization of six new maternity units; construction of fifteen new rural health facilities offering maternal health care services. All the new facilities are well staffed with the number of nurses increasing from 73 to 183, over 100% increase. Clinical officers from 24 to 74 and more doctors recruited from 4 to 14. Health referral systems were strengthened with the purchase and equipping of 10 new ambulances and increasing number of community health units from 10 to 54.

Preventing the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases, specifically childhood diarrhoea and pneumonia is a priority to address child development milestones in Tana.

Health care services include, but are not limited to; Increased immunization sites from 38 to 56; Increased proportion of facilities appropriately managing children for diarrhea from less than 20% to 100%.

Ante natal care visits have improved by over 10%. The county is targeting to have all expectant mothers attend all ANC clinics during their gestation. The proportion of pregnant mothers accessing skilled birth attendance has increased from 23% to 48%. The county's strengthened community health strategy has greatly improved community health referral systems; increasing access to health care services especially for emergency health care. Equally, the percentage of children attaining fully immunized status has increased from 65.4% to 71.5%.

Urbanisation for economic growth

The vision of the department of urban planning is to have globally competitive urban centers that offer a high quality of life. This is set to be achieved with the county's ambitious plan in the establishment of modern human settlement areas. The towns will feature schools, hospitals, trade and innovation development centers and modern housing with provisions of sustainable and clean energy and water sources.

Tana River County has invested in the upgrading of physical infrastructure including housing, hospitals and schools. The National Government in collaboration with the County Government is putting up the Bura Water project with the capacity to supply 56,000 m³ of water a day. The County in partnership with the Norwegian Government through the Scripture Mission Organization has set up a climate proofed water reservoir in Bangale; Tana North sub county under the drought resilience program. The backyard is a roof catchment structure with underground water reservoir to capture both roof and surface water with a capacity of 4,000m³ to reduce evaporation and sippage as seen with other uncovered water reservoirs. It has a draw off system for domestic use from a water kiosk and a watering trough for animal use.



The Danish Government in partnership with Water Services Trust Fund and the County Government has also assisted in the installation of an elevated water tank with 50m³ (50,000 litres) with a capacity of 144m³ (144,000 litres) per day and a 9 kilometer pipeline in Tana Delta Sub county.

In modern day Kenya, it is prudent to discuss ICT in all development infrastructure. It is the focus of the County Government to fast track the enhancement of ICT through networking of hard to reach areas, adoption of ICT in farming technologies, e-learning for schools and technical institutions and automation of services for better service delivery.

Providing market access and linkages

Agriculture is the backbone of Tana River County. The population of Tana is of agro-pastoralists allowing for mixed farm products to be availed to markets. Tana has put up a model market in Garsen with over 70 stalls, provisional eateries, sanitation facilities, four market sheds with vendors compartments and additional display areas. It has ample parking space for both PSV and private vehicles. Its completion will create job opportunities for many youth traders from within the county. The Inuka Fund Bill; once enacted will provide for the issuance of zero interest loans to youth, women and cooperatives for entrepreneurship development.

Tana is currently one of the leading counties exporting livestock while targeting optimal gains from mining. Gypsum mining is a reserve for Tana and the product is bought by all five cement manufacturing companies located in Athi River. Continued investment in related

and support infrastructure is set to see optimal revenue collection from gypsum, murrum, sand, ballast and hardcore trade. The availability of these construction materials has contributed to fast growth in real estate development which directly translates to employment creation and better living conditions.



Partnerships in investment have seen Tana River County with the National Government and the European Union support commercialization of the fish industry with the awarded establishment of ice and cold storage plants worth Ksh. 45 million Kenya shillings; for the fisherfolk Beach Management Units (BMUs) in Kipini. The county is further supporting the fisherfolk with fully equipped deep sea fishing vessels.

From improved breeds and better farming practices, milk production in Tana is very high. A dairy plant under the IDEAS project will be established at the cost of Ksh. 56 million. Installing the milk processing plant will see zero losses in milk production and promote value addition for products like yoghurt, butter and ghee.



H.E. GRANTON GRAHAM SAMBOJA
Governor, Taita-Taveta County



H.E. MAJALA MLAGUI
Deputy Governor, Taita-Taveta County

Subsidised Artificial Insemination (AI) services to improve farmers yields in Taita Taveta

Taita Taveta County Government has invested heavily on improving livestock production to empower dairy and beef farmers. An MOU signed by the County Government with Kenya Animals Generic Resources Centre in Kabete will help improve dairy, beef and poultry farming in the County. The partnership will help reduce the costs incurred by farmers seeking Artificial Insemination (AI) services for dairy and beef cows.

In the deal, Governor Granton Samboja says that cattle keepers in the county will access AI services at a subsidized cost of ksh 200 down from the initial price of ksh 1,500 per cow.

“Improving livestock breeds is a priority of the County Government as it will improve yields and subsequently the living standards and economy of the farmers,” says the Governor.

A hybrid dairy cow is capable of producing over 40 litres of milk per day and a good beef bull can weigh up-to 800-1000 kgs. Commonly reared cattle breeds in the county are Jersey, Friesian, Sahiwal, Boran among others. The county department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries has initiated plans to revive over 73 cattle dips across the county to help control diseases. “We are investing in improving storage mechanisms of hay, looking for hay market, administration of annual cattle vaccination, agricultural extension services at the grassroots and control of livestock movement for diseases control,” says Livestock and Agriculture CEC Davies Mwangoma.



Taita Taveta County has a high potential in livestock production through its vast ranches. There is a total of 28 ranches in the county with a total of 1.4m hectares.

Devolution breathes a new life to health services in Taita-Taveta

The health sector in Taita Taveta will soon breathe a new life following the government’s commitment to provide quality, accessible, affordable and sustainable preventive healthcare services. According to the health services County Executive Committee Member (CECM) Dr. Frank Mwangemi, they envision the highest level of quality healthcare for socio-economic productivity.

“We plan to have a 100 days of Rapid Result Initiative (RRI) programme aimed at revamping the health sector. As a medical professional I believe it’s not about us but rather those we are serving. Client Service Charter (CSC) is a very vital element which will have an impact. Our clients want to see a concerned government, a transparent and honest system, and that’s why we will be coming up with an updated CSC,” says Mwangemi.



He added that they are on the process of having Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) which will enable staff overcome different medical errors.

Steps to be taken during the RRI include customer relation improvement where health staffs will be undergoing professional short courses and carry out periodic customer service research.

Free health care services scheme to residents aged above 65 years is also part of the action plan. “The department will continue registering new members through the help of local administration, ward administrators and members of county assembly (MCAs) to cover more deserving people across the county,” added the CEC.

National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) beneficiaries will soon start accessing medical services from NHIF Clinic, a plan aimed at decongesting the outpatient and streamlining service delivery.

Plans to have a fully-fledged Intensive Care Unit are underway. “We are looking forward to purchase a standard ICU bed with life supporting machine, wall oxygen, patient monitoring machine and dental operating chair,” he added.

Mwatate and Voi towns to undergo major facelift

Already, Taita Taveta Governor Granton Samboja has signed the participatory agreement and completed the formulation of a county urbanization development strategy paper which are mandatory documents to make the project a success. The six year program will benefit Mwatate and Voi towns in infrastructural development, economic setup and the general modernization.

Mwatate town has been earmarked for the county headquarters while Voi is the fastest growing town in the region. “As a County Government we are ready to cooperate and partner with all interested parties to ensure this program is successful. We know we can’t achieve all our plans without the support of partners. Urgent action is needed to improve water supply, ensure food security, improve infrastructure and health services in the county,” noted the governor when he met officials from the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development (MTI&HUD).



According to Solomon Ambwere, Head of Urban Planning, Policy and Research at MTI&HUD the county will receive an urban institutional grant of Ksh. 20 million in March which will later be followed by urban development grant that will range between Ksh. 50 million to Ksh. 1 billion when it fully meets the set requirements. County Executive Committee Member for Public Works, Housing and Infrastructure Development Mr. Houghton Mombo notes that the County Government is fully committed to ensure the initiative is implemented so that county residents can realize maximum benefits.

“At the end of the program, we shall make sure Mwatate and Voi towns are among the best towns in the country,” says Mombo. The objective of the project is to establish and strengthen urban institutions to deliver improved infrastructure and services at the county.

Taita Taveta to reap big from 500 million USD investment

Establishment of an export processing zone in Taita Taveta will promote value addition and boost use of local raw materials, Governor Granton Samboja has noted. The County is set to benefit from a five hundred million dollar grant from China for the establishment of an Export Processing Zone Industry in the region with prospects of a steel processing plant on the pipeline.

Samboja successfully wooed investors from China who will also invest in agricultural and livestock value addition factories. “Soon our people will understand the true meaning of devolution. I have successfully engaged the investors who will partner with us in the projects. We have a big potential in both industrial and gemstone minerals while our vast ranches will reap big through these investments,” he says.

In the deal, the County Government has been tasked with identifying and providing a 500 acre piece of land for the industries out of which 300 acres will be used to set up the steel plant, while 200 acres is required for the EPZ.



“My government will work with other stakeholders to make the land available for the investments,” Governor Samboja assured the investors when the delegation from China paid him a courtesy call at his Wundanyi office. “The industries will improve our economy, create jobs for our people and consequently improve our people’s livelihoods. Industrial development is the way to go,” says Samboja.

The investors are interested in working in the county due to its close proximity to the port of Mombasa, the SGR that cuts through the county, the availability of iron ore at Kishushe and availability of water from Lake Challa and Njoro springs for irrigation. The fact that Taita Taveta is a disease free zone also made the county the preferred destination for the investors.



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GARISSA COUNTY



H.E. ALI BUNOW KORANE, CBS
Governor, Garissa County



H.E. ABDI MUHUMED DAGANE
Deputy Governor, Garissa County

Governor Korane partners with Donor Agencies to end food insecurity in the County

Food security situation in Garissa County just like other ASAL areas is faced with repeated cycles of droughts and other drivers of food insecurity. Marginalization from political and economic situations, population growth and climate change among other things are blamed for the dire food insecurity in the region. As a result, a large population of the county continue to depend on food aid leading to the formation of very poor pre-urban centers and poor livelihood diversification. Negative coping mechanism such as charcoal burning has also increased in the county. Pastoralists and Agro pastoralists continue to struggle to make ends meet through rebuilding their livestock assets while some are struggling to venture into alternative livelihoods such crop production.



The cost of living and purchasing power of the farmers and peasant livestock owners has reduced as cost of production for farming has escalated. Based on these facts, Garissa County Governor H.E. Ali Bunow Korane is in the process of consolidating efforts from partners and National Government to increase farm based livelihoods with a view of improving living conditions and increasing food production.

In the process of upscaling food security and sustainable agricultural solutions, Garissa County will be implementing a number of key priority flagship projects focusing on two thematic areas of crop and livestock production. This will include strategic fodder development, upscaling of Garissa slaughter centre for purposes of exports, construction of cold storage facilities, development of farm access roads as well as development of specific value chains for crops and livestock production. Additionally, in collaboration with donors and other implementing agencies, the County Government of Garissa will put more emphasis on building market infrastructures, market systems, invest in water harvesting for crop and livestock production and providing favorable environment for small scale farmers.

The County Government is in the process of improving services delivery through subsidies of Agricultural Mechanization (AMS) and Agricultural training centers (ATC) where the county is planning to adopt policies and bills that will provide proper accountability of services that are accessible to all farmers.

Garissa County launches its first ICU in the region

Garissa county referral hospital opens up the first Incentive Care Unit (ICU) in the region since independence. The facility opened its doors on 26th January this year and successfully admitted the sixth patient by the end of February. This is in line with His Excellency Governor Ali Korane’s development agenda in the health sector. The ICU will be the first one in the former marginalized region of north eastern province. During his inauguration speech, Governor Korane has promised to procure a speedy facelift of Garissa County Referral Hospital with modern medical equipment, sufficient drugs, competent and committed medical staff and expand specialized care unit services including renal unit, ICU, psychiatric centers and modern diagnostic laboratory units.” Korane said.

Garissa County residents and neighboring counties of Mandera and Wajir used to travel miles to Nairobi and Eldoret for the services and cases of loss of lives during the referral were rampant. “We have made a milestone achievement in saving the lives four mothers since the operationalization of this ICU. This is a great success for the region and Garissa County in particular. It has cut the risks of patients dying on their way to Nairobi for referrals and significantly reduced the cost implications patients undertook in getting this specialized treatment in far away areas.” said Mr. Salah Dagane.

Speaking on the same, Garissa County Executive Committee Member for Health and Sanitation Mr. Ahmednadir Omar has assured the public that quality services will be offered at patient-friendly costs. He noted that the hospital has already worked on a team of specialized trained staff for the operation of ICU. “We have specialized trained medical team headed by a consultant physician, consultant anesthesiologist, medical doctors, specialized nurses, specialized nutritionist and many more. We have equipped the hospital with modern equipment made for this service.” he noted.



Garissa County launches Spatial Development Plan 2018-2028

The County Government of Garissa launched the County Spatial Development Plan 2018-2028 to ensure sustainable human settlements development in the County. The program is intended to end the chaotic urbanization birthed by nomadic communities relocating to towns and adoption of a sedentary lifestyle on losing their animals to changing climate patterns. Over the years, this rapid urbanization has fueled inter-clan conflict in the county over land.

Speaking on the plan during the signing of the “Support to Preparation of Garissa County Spatial Development Plan 2018-2028” with UN-Habitat in Nairobi, His Excellency Governor Ali Korane noted the high number of livestock population decline seeking resettlements



in urban centers that led to unplanned settlements. “Having lost pasture and their animals, the hitherto nomads are forced to relocate to urban centres for alternative livelihoods and this has led to chaotic urbanization,” Governor Korane said.

The Spatial Plan under the department of Lands, Urban planning and Public Works will help in realization of economic prosperity through various programs targeting urban planning and design, access to affordable housing and revenue enhancement. County Executive Committee member for Lands, Urban planning and Public works, Hon. Mohamed Shalle said the program once implemented will end the perennial inter clan clashes over land and place Garissa town as a business destination for international investors. He further added that the county is targeting to allocate

over 80,000 plots in this plan for the first five years free of charge. “Once the program is fully implemented, it will help improve land management and sustainably planned human resettlement, improve access to quality and affordable housing and sustainable slum upgrading and prevention, improve access to quality urban basic services and infrastructure and innovations in improving urban economy and finance.”

The CEC added “For the county urban centers, this means laying the groundwork for the development of a new organized and orderly modern Garissa and to prevent land related conflicts, identify the location of future residential areas, commercial and industrial precincts, opening of access roads within the town, setting aside public utilities such as cemeteries, dump sites, stadiums, open green areas and create spaces for more public institutions such as hospital, schools, police posts.”

In the immediate term, the department plans to roll out an elaborate land allocation process in Garissa and other sub-county headquarters for the members of the public to apply. The applicants are required to pay the official registration fee only. The forgoing process will be preceded by a robust public engagement meeting with the communities in order to sensitize them on the importance of the program and seek their collaboration.

Garissa County plans to create jobs through the funding of micro- businesses

The County Government of Garissa has established microfinance enterprise development fund to empower small-scale traders. The County Government has injected Ksh. 100 million in the first phase of the program, which is expected to benefit over 1000 traders from the seven sub-counties. The program will be tentatively launched by the governor on the end of April, this year.

Speaking on the fund, the county governor His Excellency Amb. Ali Korane said the money will benefit people engaging in micro business who are usually not covered by loan facilities offered by banks. “Majority of our people are Muslim and they shy away from borrowing from conventional credit facilities for fear of accumulating interest, which is prohibited under Islamic Sharia”, the county chief noted. Governor Korane said the fund will transform the economy of the beneficiaries noting that the programme will also help in addressing the surging unemployment among the youth in the county. “Youth unemployment poses insecurity challenges, which must be addressed through engaging them in business activities”, he said.



The governor said the money will be largely used to economically empower the youth and women who are mainly disenfranchised by the conventional lenders for lack of collaterals. “We have a lot of hardworking young people and women who have innovative business ideas or engage in serious business activities but who are unable to grow to reap a maximum profit due to lack of capital to invest. My government wants to hand-hold this group under this program”, he observed.

The County Executive Member-in-Charge of trade, tourism and enterprise development, the department under which the fund falls, Hon. Adow Kalil Jubat said the beneficiaries of the fund will be vigorously scrutinized so as to ensure those who access the money don't misappropriate it. “There shall be serious vetting and selection criteria in place which will be used to identify those who will benefit from the loan since the money is meant to revolve and beneficiaries have to make repayment ultimately.” “For an applicant to receive the money, they must come up with a convincing business plan that indicates, the viability, sustainability of the said business and provide a clear repayment plan. We don't want to have a situation where people collect public money for a course and then make zero returns out of it”, said Hon. Jubat. The beneficiaries of the fund will be trained in the area of their business choice, entrepreneurship, book-keeping, basic accounting and custom handing before they are given the money.



H.E. HON. AMB. MOHAMED ABDI MAHAMUD, EGH
Governor, Wajir County



H.E. Ahmed Ali Muktar
Deputy Governor, Wajir County

Robust agricultural progress in Wajir County

Crop production in Wajir County is done under rain-fed agriculture and irrigated agriculture. It is notable that the acreage under both rain-fed and irrigated agriculture has increased from 2,940 and 86 acres to 9,800 and 4,533 acres respectively using year 2013 as the base year. This is attributed to mechanised land preparation where the county acquired, for the first time six tractors with ploughs. More than 15 water pans have been excavated since inception of devolution and are being used for both crop farming and livestock use. The County Government of Wajir hired 6 more technical officers making a total of 47 agricultural technical officers that offered enhanced extension services to agro pastoralists growing the number of crop farmers from 6,000 in 2013 to over 38,000 countywide. Agriculture department is working in partnership with World Food Programme in asset creation through Food for Assets (FFA) that has reached 28,000 beneficiaries.



The department has constructed 8 new strategic hay stores across the county that have been stocking a total of 9,000 bales of hay per year since 2014 from local farmers in Wajir, Bute and Habaswein. 500 acres under natural pastures from less than 50 acres has been rehabilitated through efforts of the department and partners. The department initiated the rangeland management bill that awaits the county assembly debate and approval. The bill aims to restore the natural resource base for livestock, the main economic pillar of the county. The number of livestock vaccinated has also increased; with 2017 only recording more than 2 million whereas in 2013, the figure was at a paltry 500,000. These figures have been against the endemic diseases namely PPR, CCPP, CBPP, S&G Pox and RVF. Additional 15 water pans have been excavated specifically for irrigation and livestock use. The department prepared timely response and contingency plans as well as carrying out the food security assessment on a bi-modal basis.

Construction of the Wajir Abattoir and the modern livestock market are ongoing and are expected to be operational in 2019. Additional rehabilitation and construction of livestock markets are being done by partners in Habaswein, Griftu and Bute. The department has acquired two land cruisers, one lorry and 19 motorcycles to enhance mobility of extension officers. Additional two project vehicles have also acquired. Creation of an enabling environment to work with partners in extension and projects has been prioritised.

Accessible and affordable devolved health care for Wajir people

Wajir County department of Health is mandated to provide quality, affordable, equitable, effective and efficient health service in Wajir County. Great strides have been made since the inception of devolution in increasing access to health services through investments in new

infrastructure development, rehabilitating existing structures and demand creation models. The number of operational facility has grown from 75 in 2013 to 115 in 2018, thirty eight (38) new dispensaries were constructed, 33 dispensaries operationalized, 52 maternity units constructed/equipped, 3 theatre facilities equipped and operationalized, 18 new laboratories established and emergency referral units with 24 hour ambulance services in and out of the County. Because of this investment, a reduction in distance to health facilities, ease in emergency services and increase antenatal care attendance and skilled delivery coverage by 13.5% and 18.7% up from 41.2% and 26% in 2013 respectively.



A consultant surgeon in Wajir County Referral Hospital providing free cleft lip operations

A significant improvement has been achieved in addressing human resource for health gaps from barely slightly over 200 technical and support staffs at inception of devolution to slightly over 900 staffs currently with improvement across all carders. From 7 to 34 medical officers including a consultant surgeon in the history of Wajir county, 108 to 385 nurses and 83 clinical officers from 33 in 2013. Several technical officers across all

carders are attending specialized trainings including 9 medical officers training in different specialties.

The department receives the highest budget allocations which has increased over the year from 17.4% in 2014/2015 to 20.8% of the total county budget in the current financial year. The main challenges remain; increasing recurrent expenditure and shrinking development vote head required to meet the development need of the residents.

The main challenges facing the department are high staff turn overs, recurrent industrial action, upcoming unplanned settlements, few medical specialists and budget constraints affecting service delivery.

Wajir County embarks on attractive, environment - friendly and vibrant urban planning process

Wajir County Government has fully embarked on implementation of Wajir town Spatial Plan to ensure well planned urban centres with adequate services and further prepare other plans linked with the county integrated development plan for smooth implementation of the plans. The overall goal of the urban planning process will be to trigger development towards an attractive, environmentally-friendly, inclusive, prosperous and vibrant towns. Such towns should be functional, prosperous, inclusive, ecological friendly and attractive in their existence.

The County Government of Wajir undertook planning and survey of Wajir town to ensure proper planning of the town as this will help to: demarcate plot boundaries, open access roads, ease land administration and registration process for allotment and tilting purposes, enhance revenue collection, development control, enhance service provision and spur economic growth and development.

The county is also in the process of preparing seven integrated spatial urban development plans for the sub-county headquarters in order to link urban planning with urban infrastructure planning and development as well as provision of other vital services at the urban centres within the county.



In its effort to provide decent and low cost housing the county has developed appropriate building technology centres in order to Increase access to low cost housing through adoption of appropriate building technology and human resource development by training artisans at each sub-county within the county. The county further acquired hydra form machines for interlocking brick production. In realizing the above, the county already constructed 7 Appropriate Building Technology Centres (ABTs).

Revolving Fund Program – Changing lives of many Wajir people

The Wajir County Revolving Fund is one of the major successful projects undertaken by the Trade and Enterprise department. Established in June 2014 by Wajir County Assembly Act-Gazette supplement No. 10 (Acts No.2), the Fund has changed lives of many people. The target group for this fund includes youths, women, persons with disabilities, co-operative societies, any organization involved in value addition of products and the Medium, Small and Micro Enterprise sector. The fund has a repayment period policy of 2 years on a monthly basis. The beneficiaries have a three months grace period before commencement of repayment.

The revolving fund is sharia compliant and does not have any interest since the beneficiaries are Muslims who do not accept loans with interest. The program has promoted and created self-employment for many people, improved the living standards of the people and enhanced economic development and growth. It has also promoted entrepreneurship. Since inception, the fund has disbursed Ksh.



127 million to 920 beneficiaries who include 25 people with disabilities, 426 women groups, 399 youth groups and 70 local cooperative societies.

The beneficiaries of the fund are given an intensive business management training to refine their business management skills. The beneficiaries sign a loan agreement and indemnity guarantee with the County Attorney committing them to repay the loan. The recovery rate for the loan repayment is at 68%.

The challenge in recovery, is the fund has only one bank account with the FCB located at Wajir Town thus making repayment by people outside the town difficult and expensive. Insecurity experienced in Eldas, Wajir North, Wajir East and parts of Wajir West has also made it impossible for the beneficiaries to pay on time. The department has only

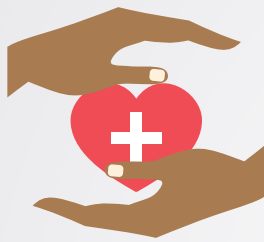
one vehicle which makes recovery very difficult. Drought has also greatly affected the livestock trade.

The proposed solutions include; The department to set up a pay bill number for easy recovery of the funds, acquire more motor vehicles to enhance recovery, liaise with National Government on timely release of funds and lastly train the beneficiaries on business diversification instead of relying on livestock trade.

When we come together, great things happen.



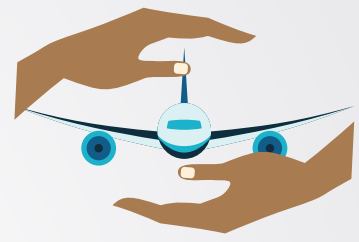
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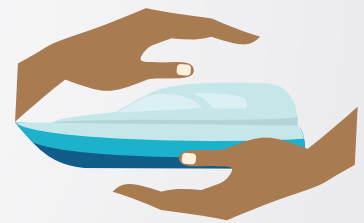
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MANDERA COUNTY



H.E. CPT. ALI IBRAHIM ROBA
Governor, Mandera County



H.E. HON. ARAI MOHAMED AHMED
Deputy Governor, Mandera County

Laying the foundation for a food secure county

Despite being classified as an arid land, Mandera has been significantly transformed by devolution to the extent that farming is now a success story in the county. The drought-threatened arid lands have been turned into farms through irrigation along River Daua. The county has operationalized all the previously stalled irrigation schemes, namely BP1, Gadudia, Aresa, Hareri, Shantoley and Rhamu Dimtu. Irrigation canals have been increased by a total of 7.8km of main concrete and lateral canals to enhance water use efficiency.



An aerial view of the county demonstration farm along River Daua.

A total of 2,145 acres of farmland have been opened up through bush clearing of *Prosopis juliflora* (Mathenge) to promote more production. The County Government has constructed 1,520m of gabions along River Daua to protect irrigated farmlands from destruction by floods which is a common occurrence during both the short and long rain seasons. Additionally, the County Government has distributed more than 100 irrigation water pumps to irrigation schemes and farmers along the river, as well as 40 portable water pumps to various farming groups with shallow wells. For rain-fed farming areas, two water pans of 30,000 cubic metre capacity, four boreholes, several underground tanks and water conservation structures have been constructed to promote crop production through drip. Greenhouse farming has also recorded success stories in parts of Banisa and Mandera West sub-counties where tomatoes, kales and capsicums are produced.

Over the last four years, the County Government has distributed over 180 metric tonnes of assorted cereal, pulses, oil crop and horticultural crop seeds; and 20,400 assorted fruit tree seedlings to farmers countywide. Commercial farming of onions and watermelon has taken root in the Mandera East, with our produce being marketed to Nairobi and beyond. Fodder production along the River Daua has also been hugely successful, resulting in minimal livestock loss during drought periods. In the Agricultural Mechanization Station we have procured and operationalized six farm tractors with accessories.

The area under crop production has increased from 3950 ha in 2012 to 6,170 ha in 2016 and the total production of crops has also increased from 6,430 metric tonnes in 2012 to 11,846 metric tonnes in 2016. To cushion farmers against the impact of drought, the County Government waived tractor hire services fee for a duration of two months - March to May 2017. Increased production has led to increased income, resulting in improved standards of living. Development in agriculture has among other impacts led to increased food production in households, resulting in improved food security

Celebrating improved maternal health in Mandera

The county's Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) for instance stood at 3,795 deaths per 100,000 live births, which is a significant deviation from the national average of 488 deaths per 100,000 live births. At the advent of devolution in March 2013, we inherited 53 health facilities, out of which only three were operational, but at only 10% capacity. In addition, a majority of the 154 healthcare workers inherited from the National Government were unskilled. The entire county for instance only had one medical officer. There were no ambulance services and the only theatre at Mandera Hospital was ill-equipped. In fact Mandera Hospital was in a shocking state of despair.

To address these problems, the inaugural Mandera County Government developed an investment strategy in line with the Sustainable Development Goals to promote gender equality and empowering women with the specific goal of reducing child mortality rate. The strategy also dovetailed into the National Reproductive Health Policy and Vision 2030. The objective was to accelerate the reduction of maternal, newborn and childhood morbidity and mortality.



A health team inspecting equipment at the radiology department

We increased the number of health facilities providing basic emergency obstetric care (BEMOC) from 18 to 70, with all the facilities operating at 100% capacity.

We have increased the number of facilities that provide comprehensive emergency obstetric care from one to six. By the end of 2017, antenatal care attendance had increased from 30% to 75%. We also increased the proportion of skilled birth attendants from 28% to 70% in 2017. In addition, we distributed modern obstetric equipment to all health facilities in the county. Presently, 80% of our health workers are locals and this has led to significant reduction in terror attacks.

The implementation of the above strategy is aimed at drastically improving the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescence Health (RMNCAH) indicators. We can now proudly declare that in the last five years of devolution, the county has recorded over 63,000 skilled deliveries conducted in our facilities. But we still registered 66 maternal deaths out of the 63,000 deliveries (0.1%). Our strategic direction in the next five years is to register zero maternal deaths.

Investing in infrastructure to unlock local economic growth

Since the promulgation and enactment of the new constitution and inception of devolution, Mandera County has seen tremendous gains and changes in all the key sectors of the local economy. H.E. Governor Ali Roba's administration has made massive public investments into the public infrastructure sector. The County Government constructed 24kms tarmac road in Mandera town to bitumen standards. The road has been designed with proper shoulders and drainage to ensure it is not washed away during heavy rains. Journeys were made shorter through the construction of all-weather murrum roads in all the main inter-constituency and inter-wards roads. Six flagship projects like the County headquarters, the Governor's residence and a five star restaurant are all at an advanced stage.



A section of the 25km tarmac road by Mandera County Government.

Journeys were made shorter through the construction of all-weather murrum roads in all the main inter-constituency and inter-wards roads. Six flagship projects like the County headquarters, the Governor's residence and a five star restaurant are all at an advanced stage.

Mandera County Government has so far installed 1,824 solar powered street lights across the six sub-counties, all complete and fully functional. Additionally, we installed 18 flood lights along the streets and 12 solar street lights in government institutions. Through the Solar Street light initiative, the County Government has reduced insecurity and facilitated a 24 hour economy within the County.

The County Government inherited unplanned towns from the defunct local authorities. We procured a consultant to plan and survey Mandera town, Elwak and Kutulo. The planning has since been completed. We have been able to plan for and resettle about 2,500 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Rhamu.

In addition to surveying and mapping, we have secured many public utility plots by erecting concrete pillars around their beacons to clearly mark the existence of such plots and ward off grabbers. Generally, spatial planning and survey has spurred development in Mandera County. Mandera town for example has experienced increased investment in real estate and hotel industry. Apart from increased security of tenure, many investors through land use planning, can today identify strategic locations for their premises. As a result, high-end modern structures have changed the town's skyline.

Creating new trade and business opportunities

Mandera County has continued to strategically position herself as a regional cross-border trade and business hub. Before devolution, Mandera was marginalized in terms of project funding, office facilities and staffing for development. Today, in the border town with Somalia and Ethiopia, businesses are growing and opportunities for investments are emerging.

The Ministry of Trade, Industrialization and Cooperative Development's road map to turn the county into a business hub incorporates policy recommendations drawn from Governor Ali Roba's manifesto:

- Building local industry to support resource and infrastructure investments in areas such as leather, agro-processing, beef production, bee keeping for honey and fishing
- Enhancing non-industrial job creating sectors in ICT, retail and wholesale trade and tourism
- Improving the ease of doing business by establishing a one-stop center.
- Supporting sectors for growth - skills, infrastructure and business development services.

Mandera has constructed 15 markets in all sub-counties. The improved road network has also further improved the ease of doing business in the county. This has enhanced revenue collection projection from Ksh. 36 million to Ksh. 150 million annually.

To support business investments, the County Assembly enacted a revolving fund (Mandera County Trade Development Fund Act, 2014) with a budgetary allocation of Ksh. 86 million. This is aimed at easing access to financial credit for business traders and entrepreneurs across the sub counties. Through savings mobilization and provision of loans, cooperatives have brought their members into mainstream national market economy, besides playing a vital role in financing education, medical services and other social economic activities.

The department has since revived 14 dormant cooperatives and increased the cooperative movement from 35 to 134 cooperatives with a membership of 3,600. The revamped cooperatives projected turnover is over Ksh. 8 million. With the onset of devolution, Mandera got her first ever Saccos owned and managed by youth and women respectively, namely Mandera County Youth Bunge Sharia Sacco and Mandera Marhaba Women Sacco. The cooperative department also develops annual cooperative awards celebrated on Ushirika Day to instill ownership, competition and performance. The County Government has further set up a revolving fund for cooperative movement and has earmarked Sh28 million for the support of the movement.



A milk ATM machine by the county's trade department to support Mandera Women Milk sellers Sacco



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MARSABIT COUNTY



H.E. MOHAMUD M. ALI (M.I.Q.S.K, M.A.A.K)
Governor, Marsabit County



H.E. SOLOMON GUBO RIWE
Deputy Governor, Marsabit County

A paradigm shift: From bulk production to accessibility and affordability of food

Leveraging on devolution, Marsabit County has been ushered into a new frontier of agricultural transformation for food security. The county government has procured eleven (11) tractors increasing land acreage under food crop from 2,000 acres in 2013 to 4,500 acres in 2018.

More than 3,800 farmers have benefited from free distribution of 37 metric tonnes of certified seeds increasing production from 4 bags to 8 bags per acre. In addition 32 greenhouses and farmers' kits were procured for various groups and institutions. This resulted in increased food production and enhanced agribusiness.

Various pest control equipment and farm inputs valued at over Kenya Ksh. 2.5 million was distributed to 250 farmers reducing pest related losses.

To further improve food security and promote agribusiness at household and small-scale levels, 22 water pans were constructed to facilitate micro irrigation. Consequently, vegetable production increased from 40 to 240 metric tonnes per year.

It has always been considered important to build farmers capacity to respond to the changing environment through extension support, training on farming techniques and sharing of best practice. In line with this principle, the county government managed to train 18 community facilitators and 1,800 farmers on crop husbandry. Thus improving the extension services and farmers productivity.

In order to open up livestock sector economy, the County Government constructed 8 new livestock markets. Over 10,000 livestock have been insured through the collaboration between the County, National Government and private sector.

In the coming years there will be ardent focus on construction and equipping of modern veterinary laboratories in addition to facilitating veterinary services through provision of enhanced veterinary mobile clinics. More focus will also be on establishment of fodder farms and provision of grass seeds to the pastoralists and agribusiness for pasture production during dry spell.



County farm mechanisation services at subsidized price

Gaining Ground in Health Service Delivery

The development of modern medical services in Marsabit County was a slow but steady process. With the onset of devolution, the County Government of Marsabit have been striving to promote and participate in the provision of integrated and high quality promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative Health Care Services.



H.E. Governor Mohamud M. Ali alongside the surgeons during the orthopaedic camp in the County Referral hospital

For health services to be all-inclusive and rights-based, as envisaged in the constitution, there are critical factors that forms the basic guiding principles of health services delivery strategy. First, there has to be the availability of a network of healthcare facilities; second, the facilities must be functional with competent and motivated staff; third, there needs to be supplies of essential medicines and finally, funds for the operation and maintenance of health facilities. Health information system and the aspect of health leadership and governance are also critical.

Anchoring her strategy on the above principles, over the last five years the County Government of Marsabit has consolidated considerable gains in health service delivery.

Notable achievement in ensuring availability of network of healthcare facilities was overall increment of the facilities from 95 in 2013 to 155 in 2018. These include; increasing the number of level four hospitals

from two to four, health centers from 18 to 22, the dispensaries from 56 to 82. Special focus was also given to specific units within the facilities where maternity wards and laboratories were increased from 11 to 29 and 8 to 18 respectively.

The other milestone of devolution experience was steady increase in the number of the technical health workforce from 350 in 2013 to 700 in 2018. There was also remarkable improvement in supply of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals.

An equally landmark achievement was the free medical cover program launched by H.E. Mohamud M. Ali, the Governor of Marsabit County within the first 100 days in office. More than 10,000 households translating to an average of 70,000 beneficiaries were registered under NHIF cover. The government looks forward to ensuring that at least 200,000 people will benefit from the cover in the coming

Leveraging on devolution to spur economic development

Infrastructure development improves foundational services with the goal of sparking economic growth and improvements in quality of life. It improves efficiency and productivity and can be used to improve the resilience of communities to stresses. It is through structural development that the Marsabit County managed to streamline its basic systems and services, such as transport through improvement of road networks in order to work more effectively.

Through improvement of its operating procedures, management practices, and development policies that interact together with societal demand, the county government of Marsabit also made remarkable improvements in land management and urban development.

The county residents have for a long time had issues with the acquisition of land title deeds. But with the onset of devolution, fresh adjudication of land and physical planning was done across all the four sub-counties.

Over 1,600 title deeds have already been issued to land owners in Saku sub-county. This is a historical achievement since independence. To make this a reality, county administration is in the process of getting Marsabit registered as a land registry unit in consultation with the National Government.

Immense structural development was in roads construction. Out of the total approximately 5,000 kilometres roads network in the County, over 50% of these road networks have been graded to gravel standard. Five (5) kilometres of Marsabit town access roads have been upgraded to bitumen standard.

Since the onset of devolution, new access roads totaling to about 1,000 kilometres have been opened up. These access roads have greatly improved water trucking, veterinary services, peoples' movement, trade, mobile clinic services for human and livestock hence opening up access to grazing zones, not forgetting improved security due to access to vast unexploited rangelands.

Plans to uplift Marsabit town which hosts the county headquarter to municipal status is also at an advance stage.

Creating a vibrant and conducive environment for enterprise development

Countrywide people have cooperated out of the shackles of poverty through vibrant cooperative movement as vehicles for spearheading socio economic prosperity. With the coming of devolution County Government of Marsabit prioritized to; develop wholesale and retail trade, develop Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and large Industries in the county, attract investors to the county, avail capital for SMEs, inculcate entrepreneurial culture among the youth, reduce the cost of doing business in the county, increase competitiveness of the locally produced products and finally promote cross-border and inter county trade.

As a result we have to this date facilitated the formation of fifty five (55) cooperative societies alongside critical sectors of the economy within our county as a critical avenue towards enhancing social-economic empowerment and capacity building. Training on entrepreneurial skills was also conducted in seventeen (17) wards where over 1,300 youths benefited.

To further facilitate growth in trade, enterprise development and investment, other key achievements include; Construction of a three-story modern market at the county headquarter with a capacity to accommodate 750 traders and 14 markets stalls accommodating 20 traders per market



One of the 14 market stalls with 20 stalls each constructed in all the wards



Marsabit County Headquarter and bitumen standard road network constructed to facilitate effective service delivery

With a view to promoting industrialization and the Jua Kali Sector, we managed to establish three County Industrial Development Centres (CIDCs). The County Government also created the County Enterprise Fund (CEF) and disbursed Kenyan Shillings thirty three million two hundred thousand (Kes. 33,200,000) benefiting five hundred and twenty six (526) SMEs within the County.

In order to promote investment, we have equally managed in partnership with UNDP to initiate a multimillion integrated project valued at \$200million rolled out over five years aimed at building cross-border sustainable peace and bolster socio-economic development that will transform the twin towns of Moyale Kenya and Ethiopia.



H.E. HON. DR. MOHAMED KUTI, EGH
Governor, Isiolo County



H.E. IBRAHIM ABDI ISSA
Deputy Governor, Isiolo County

State of the art abattoir to boost the livestock sub sector within the pastoral regions

The livestock sector accounts for 12% of Kenya’s GDP. At least 80% of these livestock is found in Northern and Upper Eastern parts of Kenya. To ensure that livestock keepers reap maximum benefits from their animals and create job opportunities for our youths, the County Government is in the final stages of operationalizing the Isiolo Abattoir that once complete, will have the capacity to handle at least 1,000 goats and sheep, 500 cows and 100 camels daily. The animals will be drawn from Isiolo and the neighbouring counties of, Marsabit, Laikipia, Samburu, Garissa and Wajir.



Isiolo County abattoir

The facility is expected to position the livestock industry as one of Kenya’s leading foreign exchange earners and the County Government will work with various development partners to ensure that the facility is up and running within the next one year. Once operational, it will also open doors for investors to come up with processing plants in order to facilitate value addition of all the livestock products from the abattoir including a tannery for hides and skins and meat canning industry. Successful value addition to these products will ensure that locals reap maximum benefits from their animals with some of the products set for export. Provision of high standard refrigerated trucks will also be of paramount importance to ensure freshness of the meat and meat products throughout the supply chain.

To guarantee the sustainability of the required number of animals at the abattoir per day and maintain health standards for the animals, the County Government has set aside 124,000 hectares of land in Burat ward for spacious feed lots where weak animals will be fattened to meet the required export threshold before they are slaughtered as well as a livestock holding ground with quarantine stations and a disease free zone to ensure that the animals are in a healthy condition/fit for human consumption. This will promote the quality of meat for local consumption and export. With the Isiolo International Airport now fully operational, this facility will enable locals to export their products to Europe and the Middle East countries where demand for meat is high.

The County government of Isiolo is also in the process of bringing local herders and livestock owners together to form cooperatives and enlighten them on the most productive methods of livestock keeping to enable them reap maximum benefits from their economic activity. Coming together through cooperatives will effectively phase out bureaucracy by middlemen who are always out to exploit the unsuspecting livestock owners.

Provision of health care remains top priority for Isiolo County Government

Provision of quality healthcare services to all members of the public remains a top priority for my administration and as the chairperson of the Health Committee at the Council of Governors, I have a duty to lead by example. As we strive to achieve universal health care services for all Kenyans, Isiolo County residents are now set to be the first beneficiaries of the free medical cover programme by the National Government. The pilot stage of this comprehensive health plan is set to begin in Isiolo, with the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) expected to issue the relevant NHIF cards to the County residents within this year. The National Government will fund the programme during the piloting stage for one year, after which my administration will take over to ensure that the programme is sustainable.

The free health insurance cover program will also cater for terminal illnesses and procedures such as renal dialysis. To ensure that the people of Isiolo benefit fully from the program, my administration has already finalized the construction, equipping and operationalization of a state of the art Renal Dialysis Centre. The centre, which is the first in the region will enable locals who are in need of the vital service to save some money as the NHIF programme caters for the same. Now that this crucial centre is already up and running, the County Government will soon construct and equip a diagnostic laboratory for use by the renal unit. This will reduce the work load at the main hospital laboratory and increase efficiency at the Renal centre.



An oxygen plant and a blood transfusion centre/blood bank set for construction at the referral hospital ground during this financial year will ensure maximum benefits for locals under the NHIF program, with Merti and Garbatula health centres also set to be equipped and upgraded to a level four hospital status.

In a bid to ensure that all services sought by locals are available at the closest health facilities, the County Government has improved the Health referral system through revival and equipping of seven ambulances that were grounded and plans are in place to acquire additional vehicles for this purpose.

To address the challenge of shortage of nurses and other medical practitioners, my administration will expand the newly opened Kenya Medical Training College –Isiolo campus to enable the facility to offer more courses such as community health nursing and clinical medicine.

Street lighting and carpentering of the town makes Isiolo an ideal place for investment

In a bid to uplift the status of access roads to Isiolo and give the town a glamorous new look, the County Government has carpeted the said roads and erected streetlights that have played a key role in making the town a 24 hour economy.



A section of the people's park in the middle of Isiolo Town

High flood masts have also been erected at strategic points in all the major towns across the County including Garbatula, Kinna and Merti. The high masts and street lights have improved the security situation in those areas hence a good business atmosphere at night.

To further beautify the town and offer members of public a place for recreation during the day, the County Government has also facilitated the construction of a modern peoples' park at the middle of Isiolo town. Tree and grass planting has been done inside the park and also in the outskirts of Isiolo Town.

To enhance accessibility and provide a good atmosphere for development, we have embarked on a process of county spatial planning which will enable the government to set aside special economic zones in appropriate areas in line with vision 2030. This will also help us to reserve the required land for LAPSET corridor projects including the railway, pipeline and the Trans-African Highway which will connect several countries through Isiolo. In this

regard, the spatial plans will delineate the areas reserved for industrial zones and manufacturing parks, areas reserved for agriculture and irrigation, grazing areas and areas for housing and recreation among others. The spatial plan therefore links all the county sectoral plans with the county Integrated Development Plan. To aid in the growth and development of local talents, the County Government is committed to building a modern stadium in Isiolo Town where local youths will exhibit their sporting abilities and develop into world beaters.

During rainy seasons, Isiolo town is oftenly flooded with water from the upper Meru region, causing havoc within the CBD, with business premises being closed for hours and people being unable to cross from one side to the other. To address this problem, the County Government will invest in a proper water drainage system that will see the flood water diverted away from the CBD into a dam for use during the dry spell.

New ultra-modern storey market to open up trade within the Northern towns

Isiolo Town is without doubt the gateway to other Northern Kenya Counties, hence making it the focal point of virtually every business activity across the region. Every town requires a vibrant market in an accessible and secure location to satisfy the needs of its occupants. Following the tragic fire incident that consumed the entire Isiolo Town Market three months ago, the County Government has already began the process of constructing an ultra modern four storey market that will cost Kshs 150 million. A team of County officials from the departments of trade, physical planning and representatives of the affected traders went for a benchmarking tour of other modern markets to assess and decide on the best model. The architectural design for the new market is already out, with the actual construction set to begin within the next one month. The new market will have adequate space for an open market for fresh agricultural produce, cereals section, clothes and textile and with special stalls for small scale businesses and a parking bay.

Once complete, this market will be one of the biggest in the Country, with close to 10,000 traders operating from there. It will provide services to both the people of Isiolo and those on transit to other Counties in the extensive Northern Kenya region. With the vision 2030 flagship projects such as the international airport, a railway line, an oil pipeline and the Trans-African highway connecting several countries through Isiolo, this market will definitely complement these massive development projects and offer local producers a ready market as demand for the same is expected to soar high once all these projects are completed, partly due to the projected population growth.

Majority of Isiolo county residents practice pastoralism as their main economic activity. To ensure that the new market becomes of great help to them, a special section has been planned for in the architectural plan for the sale of livestock feeds, as well as a veterinary section for livestock drugs. The modern market will also provide a good platform for the sale of animal products such as canned meat, milk, hides and skins hence enabling the livestock keepers to attain maximum benefits from their animals.



Isiolo Governor Mohamed Kuti addressing a group of development partners



H.E. HON. KIRAITU MURUNGI, EGH
Governor, Meru County



H.E. TITUS NTUCHIU MUTEA
Deputy Governor, Meru County

Ndengu pass program

The County Government of Meru in collaboration with the Kenya Red Cross Society has rolled out a green grams programme dubbed “Ndengu Pesa” which is aimed at tackling poverty in arid and semi-arid areas of the county. With few established drought-resistant crops in the county, the introduction of this hardy crop is seen as a key cog towards achieving food security and transforming the agricultural sector.

In the programme, the County Government of Meru has provided free seeds to farmers for utilization during the current short rains. Farmers are also getting help on how to take care of the crop until it matures. Once harvested, the County Government will then buy the produce from the registered farmers at a competitive market fee hence providing them with a source of income.

The Governor, who is also the Committee Chair for Water, Forestry and Mining at the CoG is lobbying for more funds for water to enhance irrigation agriculture. With water for agriculture taking the front row in the list of priorities, the County Government of Meru has earmarked 100 boreholes per financial year, with Ksh. 700 million already budgeted to the water department this financial year. As a long-term measure, the Governor for Meru County also envisions construction of dams across major rivers in the county to boost available reserves of water for agriculture.

The county is also piloting a Ksh. 500 million programme in collaboration with the Cooperative Bank of Kenya, that seeks paying coffee farmers within seven days of delivery of coffee cherry; a welcome transition from the current system where farmers are made to wait for delayed payments. In this arrangement, farmers will be selling their produce directly to their societies that will be expected to pay them for deliveries in the model that borrows heavily from the Ethiopia system of coffee marketing.

In a bid to diversify farmers’ incomes, the County Government is also promoting avocado, bamboo, macadamia farming. The Governor intends to distribute about one million avocado seedlings to farmers, with another one million macadamia seedlings also earmarked for free distribution. These two species are expected to supplement incomes already being enjoyed by farmers in the county through farming of other types of crops.

The County Executive Committee Member for Environment, Caroline Kagwiria said farmers living along riparian areas would be supported by the county government to take up bamboo farming and serve as a new cash crop in Meru County.



(From left) Prof. Karwitha Kiugu CEC Agriculture, Deputy Governor, Titus Ntuchiu, RedCross Secretary General Abbass Gullet and Governor Kiraitu giving ndengu seeds to a farmer in Tigania East.

Multi-Millions Laparoscopic Tower Unit for Minimal Access Surgical (MAS) procedure opens in Meru

In the next five years, the County Government of Meru is keen to provide better health care services. This will be achieved through the following: Investing in public health education and preventive healthcare; improving working environment for health sector personnel; consulting and engaging with doctors and other health workers to ensure better working conditions; ensure there are adequate drugs in all health centers and dispensaries; establish an ICU and Cancer Unit at Meru Level V Hospital and make it a top teaching and referral hospital; supporting all privately funded health facilities to improve their services.



From Left: Governor Kiraitu, Deputy Governor, Titus Ntuchiu and Meru Level V doctors in the newly commissioned Laparoscopic Tower

An auspicious plan has been put in place which when implemented, will see the upgrading of the Meru Teaching and Referral Hospital from the current level V to level VI. This will greatly improve the county’s capacity in disease diagnosis and treatment and reduce to a minimum the long journeys patients currently have to endure while seeking specialized treatment in Nairobi.

Towards better healthcare provision in the county, the Governor and his deputy recently presided over the ground breaking of a modern ward

block, a renal and intensive care unit while also commissioning a modern Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), as well as a state of the art Laparoscopic Tower at the Meru Teaching and Referral Hospital.

The multi-million Laparoscopic Tower Unit that is able to carry out Minimal Access Surgical (MAS) procedure is of its kind in the region and only the third in Kenya. The two county chiefs later launched the new Meru Level V Hospital Management Board.

Appreciating the immense benefits emanating from PPPs, the Governor has made deliberate efforts to seek partnerships with related organizations, aimed at achieving quality healthcare for all residents. One such auspicious partnership has been struck between the Kenya Red Cross Society and the County Government of Meru in improving response to health and emergency concerns. The benefits are already being reaped with the humanitarian outfit playing a key role towards suppressing recent suspected Amoebic Dysentery symptoms in some parts of the county.

Another partnership that has been mooted is the collaboration between the County Government of Meru and the Kenya Methodist University (KeMU) School of Medicine in cancer research, with Meru county currently among leading counties in the country in cancer prevalence. The partnership hopes to establish base towards proper diagnosis, early detection and management of the disease.

Land-banking for investment and value addition

“Urban planning is key in achieving sustainable development in Meru County. It is one of the ways to bring change. Through planning we envisage to make most out of our budget through informed infrastructure and service investments, balancing demands for growth with the need to protect the environment,” the executive in charge of the department, Mr. Jeremiah Lenya.

The government is keen to distribute economic development to the sub-counties and create a framework for collaboration between the county, private sector and the public. This will ensure well-planned towns, positively impacted urban economy and provide an overall framework for growth. Towards this ambition, the County Government of Meru is soon implementing a town cleaning and beautification policy that will see owners of establishments within urban centres encouraged to clean and regularly repaint them.

The county government of Meru is also borrowing a land banking concept from Malaysia, which when implemented will facilitate a better planned implementation of development and investment within the county. The Governor in the company of Lands CECM Jeremiah Lenya borrowed this auspicious idea during the World Urban Forum-9 held in Malaysia in the month of February. Through this concept, the county government will scout for strategic but unutilized land, purchase it and ‘bank’ it for utilization at appropriate times. This way, the county government can provide land to willing development partners and spur Public Private Partnership (PPP) while benefitting land owners who may lack the capacity to put it into meaningful use or the land’s unsuitability for agricultural use.



Governor Kiraitu flags off the road construction works at Gitimbine

The county government of Meru also intends to spur urban growth and economic activity by connecting more households to power and installing more flood lights to boost security and extend business operation hours.

First, the Governor has already flagged off construction works that will see the Gitimbine-Majengo-Sports Club road upgraded including the upper Kathita bridge to accommodate larger vehicles and ease pressure on the main Kathita bridge as the sole access point into the town. Secondly, the CEC members in charge of Urban Planning and Development and Trade, Investment and Infrastructure are working together to explore the possibility of having an alternative entry point into the Tuskys bus park that has contributed to presence of increased traffic flow into the central business district.

Further activity touching on improving rural access roads to ease movement of people and their produce has also taken shape, with the Governor recently launching rural road upgrade and general maintenance projects including the Karama-Mbaranga-Kirima road in Tigania East Sub-County and the Mwomau-Mweromutua road in Igembe North Sub-County.

Meru County launches Meru Economic and Social Council (MESOC) for Vision 2040



Governor Kiraitu accompanied by the Senator Meru County (left) and the First Lady Meru county Priscilla Murungi (right) during the launch of Meru Economic and Social Council.

Meru Economic and Social Council (MESOC) to spearhead County Government of Meru Vision 2040. In an attempt to spur up the achievement of Meru County Government Vision 2040, Governor Kiraitu launched Meru Economic and Social Council (MESOC). The high-level advisory body comprising of eminent persons will create a forum in which different stakeholders in the County can identify policy issues and give recommendations to the County Government for implementation.

The Council was formed in the spirit of all-inclusive governance system to provide the County Government with expert advice on economic and social matters. “The Council chaired by Amb. Francis Muthaura, will develop and recommend policies that will promote social equity, economic growth, employment creation opportunities and poverty reduction”, says Governor Kiraitu.

The formation of the Council was a key promise made by Kiraitu last year when he sought to become Meru Governor.



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THARAKA-NITHI COUNTY



H.E. HON. MUTHOMI NJUKI
Governor, Tharaka-Nithi County



H.E. ENG. FRANCIS NYAMU KAGWIMA
Deputy Governor, Tharaka-Nithi County

Governor Njuki seeks to eradicate poverty in Tharaka-Nithi



Tharaka Nithi County Government has set out to provide seeds to farmers with the onset of the rains so as to increase over reliance on relief food. One of the crops that do well in our County is green grams. The county, in partnership with the National Government and the Kenya Red Cross has distributed 60 tonnes of green grams to farmers to capitalize on the long rains.

Through the Agriculture Ministry, we are also distributing other seeds depending on the areas they do well.

The County Government also announced plans to lower the prices for artificial insemination, which is geared towards making sure that they get the best breeds. In the coming days, the County will be announcing the reduction, which will be halved from Ksh.1200 to Ksh.600.

Also targeted, in a move to enhance our farmers' breeds, is the reduction of the price of sex semen from Ksh. 7,000 to Ksh.4000 which will make it easier for farmers get the best of their choices.

Tharaka-Nithi County among 14 piloting the National Universal Health Care

Tharaka-Nithi County Government partnering with the National Hospital Insurance Fund has initiated a process to provide universal healthcare at an affordable cost. With this in mind, the Health Ministry is looking at modalities to have each family register for NHIF while at the same time calling on them to pay Ksh.250 per month with the County Government adding a similar amount. This will in essence reduce the cost of medication for our people.

The Universal Healthcare Programme is in tandem with one of the four pillars announced by President Uhuru Kenyatta. This will see children between one day and 5 years access medication free of charge. Others to benefit from this initiative are elderly men and women above 70 years who will get free medical care in our hospitals. This will be achieved through better hospitals. The Government is also in the process of equipping hospitals with medicine and equipment to bring them to standard.



In addition, the County Government is building a Kenya Medical Training College which will in essence provide more space to our people and eventually increase the number of medical practitioners in the County while at the same time maintaining professionalism.

Governor Njuki cures Tharaka-Nithi roads

The County Government of Tharaka Nithi has embarked on an ambitious programme to modernize the County's road network to ease movement of people, goods, services and attract investors to the nascent region.



Having been hived off the greater Meru and Embu that it initially served as the district and provincial headquarters respectively, Tharaka Nithi is one of the least developed counties in the country.

To open the County for investment and unlock its massive potential for growth considering it is endowed with unexploited resources, first time Governor Muthomi Njuki has prioritized development of roads.

Governor Njuki, has already procured road graders for full time county roads grading, to be located in all Sub-counties and operated by county personels.

So far, more than 100 kilometers in the three constituencies of Maara, Chuka Igambang'ombe and Tharaka are being upgraded. Works are ongoing at the Mutonga – Mukothima – Gachiongo, an important link in Tunyai, Tharaka as it connects Kenyans to Materu Girls, one of the best performing schools in the country.

In Chuka Igambang'ombe, the Kajuki – Kiaritha road, a stretch of 20 kilometers that connects TharakaNithi County with Embu is under construction. The completion of this road is expected to open up trade opportunities for people of both counties who have lived together harmoniously for years.

There is also the Kibugua – Itugururu road that is mainly used by farmers in their quest to transport produce to the markets. The road has been impassible especially when it rains. Priority has been given to it as part of consultations with the locals who believed that completion of that road would be a problem solved.

In Maara, the stretch from Mitheru to Kaanwa is being tarmacked. The road will make it easy for the people in Maara to access the county headquarters in Kathwana as well as open rich food production and other agricultural production regions to markets.

Ksh. 250 million bamboo processing factory set up in Tharaka-Nithi

Tharaka Nithi County is playing host to a Ksh. 250 million bamboo processing factory at Ndumbini village in Tharaka-Nithi County. The factory, which is the first of its kind in East Africa, is projected to produce 75,000 square metres of bamboo wood products, bamboo curtains, toothpicks and 36,000 tonnes of energy products such as charcoal annually.

The Plant which is already under construction, upon completion will directly benefit over 200 locals through employed at the factory and would also impact over 1,000 families mostly farmers through the extensive value chain.

Speaking during its launch, Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki, asked farmers in the county and in the neighbouring counties to grow the plant in large quantities and assured them that the factory will offer better prices compared to other crops.

This comes when Tharaka Nithi County Government has launched a waste management system starting with cleaning up the sub counties headquarters of Chuka, Chogoria and Marimanti.

The equipment worth millions of shillings has been procured and plans put in motion to establish a fertilizer manufacturing plant using the waste collected in various urban centres, institutions within the county and domestic waste.

Already the contractor is on site at Kairini Village, where the multi billion project is being established. Governor Muthomi Njuki directed that the locals get first priority in unskilled labour force recruitment.





H.E. CHARITY KALUKI NGILU, EGH
Governor, Kitui County



H.E. GIDEON NZAU WATHE
Deputy Governor, Kitui County

The Ndengu Revolution: Kitui's success story

Within 48 days of her inauguration, Kitui Governor Kaluki Ngilu launched 'The Ndengu Revolution', the county's absolute stroke that connects two of her five-pillar manifesto. The revolution, launched on October 9, 2017, is an intervention that seeks to utilize the people, their land and technology to turn Ndengu into a lucrative cash crop.

The objective of The Ndengu Revolution is to increase agricultural production, improve food security, incomes and wealth to deliver the food and wealth creation pledge in the manifesto- all at a go. Kitui people trusted their Governor and the Kenya Red Cross, who partnered in the journey. Residents agreed to support the revolution by planting Ndengu in large quantities. Over 368,000 kilos of certified Ndengu seeds were distributed. Hundreds of thousands more were bought directly by farmers to support the revolution.



Leading from the front: Governor Ngilu sprays pesticides on Ndengu crop

Collectively, Kitui increased the acreage under Ndengu from 131,633 during the 2016 short rains to 245,290 in 2017. More land is now being cultivated to be put under the crop. To reduce crop damage by pests and ensure quality of Ndengu, the Government supported farmers with on-farm guidance through extension officers, mass education through local vernacular stations at every stage of the crop and provided 179,250 farmers with pesticides. The Ndengu revolution programme had anticipated to achieve 88,304 MT of Ndengu valued at Ksh. 8,830,440,000. However, due to inadequate rainfall coupled with poor spatial and temporal distribution, farmers harvested about 15,000 MT valued at approximately Ksh.1.5b at retail price. The County is committed to support the farmer in the Ndengu value chain so that the Kitui farmer has a permanent means of livelihood.

The national annual Ndengu production is about 20,000 MT. The fact that Kitui can produce 15,000 MT in bad weather means that Ndengu can be produced for both local and external markets. Recognizing this great potential, Governor Ngilu was in India recently at the Global Pulses Conference where she appealed to the world's top Ndengu consumer to lift an existing Ndengu embargo to allow Kenya and Kitui in particular to access this vital Ndengu market.

Universal Health Care for Kitui

Kitui is gearing up for the launch of the County Health Insurance Cover (CHIC) in July 2018 to attain Universal Health Care for its people even as it overhauls service delivery in the sector. The launch will be the culmination of Governor Kaluki Ngilu's promise of Healthcare- the second pillar of her manifesto. UHC Regulations have been developed and taken through public participation. Drafters are now capturing the public sentiments before the regulations are gazetted.



Governor Ngilu issues posting orders to 35 newly employed doctors

Overall, health care financing has been raised by 29 percent from Ksh. 2.3b in 2017 to Ksh. 3b in 2018 to cater for more staff, drugs and medical equipment. Kitui employed 35 new doctors in November last year. Over 250 Health Care workers who include 160 nurses are being employed. The budget for pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals increased by Ksh. 100M to avoid drug stock outs, followed by a thorough stock taking on both pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical stores.

The County is purchasing CT scans for Kitui County Referral Hospital, Mammography Unit for Mwingi Level IV Hospital and 10 Mobile X-rays for other hospitals. A customer care desk is now open at Kitui County Referral Hospital and the waiting area refurbished to ensure patients are at ease as they wait to be attended. This will extend to other hospitals. The amenity ward at Kitui hospital is being reopened while the maternity unit is under repair. At the same time, the Maternal and

Child Health Clinic unit in Kitui is being extended and water supply to Kitui and Mwingi hospitals boosted with the installation of new water tanks. Governor Ngilu has also set in place the leadership and governance framework by the gazettment of the Health Facilities Management Act, effectively triggering the process of appointing new health management committees for all health facilities.

Kitui enjoys great infrastructure growth

Kitui town is the County Headquarters and is the epicenter of urban development serving both administrative and commercial functions. Urban development has been experienced in a rapid trend due to devolution and the opportunities created by the formation of County Governments.

The effect of urbanization has been manifested by a rapid increase of urban population and the increasing physical developments including urban infrastructure in the town. It is further anticipated that the completion of the Kitui-Mutomo-Kibwezi road will bestow Kitui a ‘transit town’ function which will further increase the urban development rate.

Local investments by the residents to meet the housing demand due to rising population and the County Governments investment in urban infrastructure has seen major physical transformation in the urban landscape. Specialized services including the banking sector, telecommunication firms, legal firms, media, ICT, medical services, institutions of higher learning and insurance have been attracted to Kitui town and have since been supporting urban development.

The once perceived agricultural driven urban centers within the larger Kitui municipalities are also gaining an urban driven identity. Kitui town being the County Headquarters is the main revenue collection center in the county. Revenue collection for the month of February rose by 73 percent and is anticipated to further improve with the rationalization of revenue streams.

Kitui town is charged with the implementation of projects funded and supported by National Government and donors supporting urban development. Such projects include Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project (KISIP), Kenya Municipal Programme, Kenya Urban Support Programme and SymbioCity Kenya project. The establishment of two universities at Kwa Vonza has further spurred the rate of urban development at the town and at Kitui town as well as the towns of Kyamathyaka, Mulutu and Tanganyika due to the increased demand of housing and commercial/social services.



Some of the various assorted Road Works machinery flagged off by Governor Charity Ngilu for the road improvement today

Trade: The key driver in achieving wealth creation in Kitui

During her campaigns, Governor Kaluki Ngilu addressed hundreds of rallies carrying a Kyondo that contained a collection of items like hand-made shoes, juices, clothing, honey, soaps, leather belts and ndengu. She used the basket to demonstrate that these items can be manufactured in Kitui, using local resources including human resource of youth and women to create wealth. Governor Ngilu was making a bold statement on the direction she needed to take Kitui after her election- the development of value chains, a deliberate, decisive-if not revolutionary step- to reverse over 50 years of wrong government interventions to halt the advance of poverty.

Value chains focus on products development, processes used and the people. Historically, Kenyan people have participated only in the back-end activities of agricultural production and thereafter leave other players to add value to what has been produced and make a kill out of it. This way they are excluded from storage, bulking, marketing and the market itself where the real money lies.



Branded Kitui Ndengu. Every Kitui product will undergo a value addition process

Once people miss out, they stand to lose all the way. Thus Governor Ngilu has identified key value chains as a strategy to place her people at the center of wealth creation. These value chains are:

1. The Agro-Processing Value Chain with a sharp focus on Ndengu/Pulses, Fruit and Dairy products.
2. Bee Products Value chain including honey, wax production.
3. Textiles value chain
4. Livestock products value chain including leather products
5. Applied Skills Development

Under this plan, all the produce of Kitui including ndengu, honey, cotton, livestock, stones- name it would have to be subjected to the value addition process including packaging, branding, certification and barcoding. Over 3,000 youth and women are being listed for skills development and will serve in industries being established. Production, trade and industry shall indeed be at the center of wealth creation, the fifth pillar of Governor Ngilu’s manifesto.



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MACHAKOS COUNTY



H.E. DR. ALFRED MUTUA NGANGA, CBS
Governor, Machakos County



H.E. ENG. FRANCIS MALITI WAMBUA
Deputy Governor, Machakos County

Comprehensive food program

The County Government of Machakos under the leadership of Governor Alfred Mutua has been in the fore front in fighting food insecurity through a comprehensive food security programme. The Government procured 40 tractors which plough for vulnerable farmers in each ward. So far, 12, 814 acres have been ploughed with 1,199 households being the direct beneficiaries.



Governor Mutua has been keen on ensuring the County's land under cultivation is increased so as to enhance food sustainability. The project is being expanded to reach more farmers. This is coupled with provision of annual free certified seeds to the vulnerable households with a total of 579 tones being distributed to thousands of households within a span of three years.

The comprehensive food sustainability programme targets both crop and livestock farmers ranging from production to marketing. A county directorate of Agricultural Marketing has been set up which markets the farm products to ensure farmers get to not only local but also international markets.

The County Government distributes subsidized fertilizer to farmers bid to boost farming output. The project provides subsidized fertilizer which is procured and deposited in National Cereals and Produce Board where farmers purchase after thorough vetting by the agricultural extension officers.

By end of 2017, the county department of agriculture had distributed 54,864 indigenous chicks to 3,852 farmers. The project has a hatchery producing chicks for distribution to vulnerable farmers. The chicks are reared for two weeks, vaccinated and then distributed to farmers. Through farmers extension support, the experts have been able to interact with farmers providing appropriate advice and consultancies free of charge. In 2014/2015 the government purchased motor bikes to facilitate movement of the officers across the county. Through a coffee development project, the County Government aims at revamping and commercializing the coffee sector through provision of agricultural inputs.

Other notable milestones include the Green House Project where 250 green houses have been distributed across the County, establishment of livestock disease control and public health unit, pasture improvement, diary development and fisheries among others.

Machakos invests in modern equipment in its hospitals

In the initial days of implementing the various government functions with respect to devolution, many Kenyans and stakeholders in the health sector were concerned about the capacity of County Governments to manage health services. To date, a great deal of milestone achievements has been realized in the public health sector and in particular provision of quality, efficient and affordable services in public health institutions.

Machakos level 5 referral hospital has been transformed into an ultra modern healthcare institution offering world class services to residents across lower eastern region and beyond. The procurement and setting up of state of the art equipment for renal, x-ray and RMI services, alongside training of specialist staff to manage patients has made Machakos level 5 referral hospital the region's apex of quality and affordable healthcare.

Remote Medical Imaging (RMI) lab at Machakos level 5 hospital, which has been operational for the past three years has transformed the institution's capacity and efficiency to handle complex medical conditions on hundreds of patients.

The facility now enables doctors to generate real-time transfer and interpretation of still or full motion medical data on patients thus allowing more accurate diagnosis and management of conditions.



The renal unit in the Machakos Level 5 hospital

It is also worth noting that the hospital is equipped with a ten-bed dialysis center where renal services are offered to patients drawn from far and wide. The County Government is also negotiating with partners to set up a fully equipped cancer treatment and management center at the facility. With these facilities in place, the hospital has become a preferred healthcare destination for many who would otherwise have to travel all the way to Kenyatta National Hospital in the capital city or seek similar services at private hospitals whose charges for same services are rather prohibitive.

On maternal healthcare, new mothers delivering in all public health institutions have access to a hot bath shower and balanced diet to enhance the health and hygiene of new mothers who now access the services free of charge. An oxygen plant has been put up at the level 5 facility while construction of an ultra modern newborn unit at Kangundo level 4 hospital has been completed. Additionally, the County Government procured 70 ambulances-one for each location across the County complete with standby medical professionals whose quick responses to emergencies have saved thousands of lives since 2014.

The County Government has adopted the proposal to sign an agreement with Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (KEMSA) and other reputable agencies for regular supply of medicine and other non-pharmaceutical products.

Machakos prioritises on upgrading of drainages and street lighting in towns

Machakos has achieved considerable growth in the energy sector despite most parts of the county being arid and semi arid. The County Government has expanded the already existing 380 flood lights (mulika muizi) in over forty market centers in Machakos providing the much needed illumination in rural settings. Among the markets are Muthetheni, Masinga, Mlolongo, Ndithini, Thinu, Lita, Kawethei, Tala, Mwala, Yathui; covering all the eight sub counties in Machakos. The central government has also chipped in enormously and the capital, Machakos town is illuminated and secure at night.



Another lighting marvel is the floodlights between Machakos town and Makutano junction and the Mombasa- Namanga road inter change along the highway in Athi river. We are currently in the process of acquiring 200 transformers to supplement the National Government's efforts in the rural electrification program which has seen far flanked areas of the county enjoying cheap electricity.

The county has also explored the use of solar energy which is now being used to power the 350 boreholes that have been sunk over the past five years. The completion of floodlights, infrastructure and power connection has so far cost the county Ksh. 6,225,000 while on installation of control systems and power connection, over Ksh 2,245,000 has been spent towards that end.

Traders benefit from waived levies and sheds

Machakos County has made enormous strides in the field of trade and manufacturing ever since devolution set in. For starters, small scale traders heaved a sigh of relief after the County Government waived all levies and constructed sheds in market centers creating a conducive atmosphere for them to conduct their business.

The traders commonly known as 'mama mboga' are also able to conduct their business from pre-dawn to late into the night as a result of ample security provided by round the clock mobile police patrols and good lighting provided by the County Government.

Machakos government has constructed over 40 shades over the past year alone and according to Governor Alfred Mutua, all market centers in the county will have such a facility complete with clean and free public toilets by the time he is through with his second term.

Motor cycle operators (boda bodas) also have everything to smile about as the County Government has erected parking sheds to shield them from the sun as they wait for customers in strategic points in Machakos town and all centers in the county.

The greatest trade incentive that the County Government has given so far is offering free land to investors in the proposed new city outside Machakos town where Governor Mutua managed to secure a Memorandum of Understanding with major conglomerates amounting to Ksh. 2.6 trillion two years ago.

Plans of the new city stalled after those opposed to the issuance of free land moved to court to block the city's construction but the matter was dismissed and construction should start in the next few months.

Machakos government has also streamlined the issuance of permits and licenses and removed bureaucracy making the process swift and smooth for those intending to conduct business in the county which is 62 kilometres, south of Nairobi.

However, most of the tangible investments are in Athi river sub-county where international corporations have set up shop including Larfage (Bamburi cement), Devki group of companies (Simba cement) and most recently, Wrigleys, the international confectionery manufacturers who have set up their East and Central Africa operations there.

The County Government has also established an investment council which has gone out of its way to sell Machakos as a top investment destination attracting investors from as far as the Middle East, Europe and elsewhere.



Machakos Governor Dr Alfred Mutua during the ground breaking ceremony of the Wrigleys Company.

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H.E. HON. PROF. KIVUTHA KIBWANA, EGH
Governor, Makueni County



H.E. ADELINA MWAU NDETO, OGW
Deputy Governor, Makueni County

Makueni's successful Artificial Insemination (AI) story turning the dry County into the home of milk against all odds

Government of Makueni County's successful Artificial Insemination project launched three years ago has paid off leading to the establishment of a major fresh milk processing plant.

The County Government has so far injected Ksh. 28 million into the project that has grown to see a milk manufacturing plant established. The County Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Executive Committee Member, Lawrence Nzunga, said the A.I campaign which was targeting about 17,000 cows saw a major reduction in the cost of accessing the services from Ksh. 4,000 to Ksh. 300.

"To ensure that even the poor, marginalized section of the farmers acquire quality dairy breeds, the County Government is subsidizing the service. The farmer pays Ksh. 300 per service whereas the government pays the balance," Mr Nzunga said.

The A.I project was initiated in 2014 and has registered a high turnover in the area turning Makueni, known for harsh weather, into the land of milk. The minister said that investment into the dairy production by the government will continue as a strategy to ensure poverty reduction by expanding.

The government has distributed over seven milk cooling tanks in Kathonzweni, Kalawa, Kilala, Ilima, Kyangala, Kalongo and Makiou dairy cooperative societies. These facilities are being used for aggregation, cooling and storage of milk. The Kikima milk plant which is already operational has made work easier with many dairy farmers delivering milk to the plant. The plant has the capacity to homogenize, pasteurize and pack with capacity to process 300kgs of milk products per hour. Through the A.I project Makueni has managed to get 10,430 new calves, 17,286 cows serviced under the programme.



Calves born out of the Artificial Insemination project in Makueni County.
Photo Credit: Makueni County Media Service

Kibwana launches a game changing healthcare plan targeting 180,000 households in Makueni

Some 35,000 households registered for the Makueni Care Universal programme are enjoying big relief as they can now access medical services in the county's health facilities free of charge.

The registration drive flagged off by Governor Kivutha Kibwana in December last year is targeting the over 180,000 Makueni households. Governor Kibwana said the initiative, a game changer in the implementation of devolution in the country, is one of the leading flagship projects by his government. "Their desire to seek medical attention has increased tremendously. But we also do not regret because we will benefit by leading healthy and productive citizens," said the Governor. He said the healthcare programme is also a relief to many

poor households in the county where 64 percent of the residents are living below a dollar a day.

Makueni County Executive Committee member for health services, Dr. Andrew Mulwa, said that the initiative is a salvation to many people as it seeks to significantly reduce cases where people consulted traditional healers for medical problems.

Under the programme, beneficiaries pay Ksh. 500 to cover the principal member and their nuclear family. Those who register are then allowed to enjoy the benefit of accessing laboratory, radiology, in patient consultation, outpatient services, cancer screening, medical drugs and nutrition and ambulance services. The list of benefits also include counseling, rehabilitative services and family planning services at the six sub county hospitals and at the Makueni County Referral Hospital absolutely free of charge.



Residents of Emali in Emali/Mulala ward during a mass registration for the universal health care programme in Mulala.

The Makueni Care cover also offers residents older than 65 years free treatment and are not required to pay the registration fee. Up to Ksh. 143

million has already been reimbursed through the health care scheme for services delivered by hospitals in 2017 when the project was piloted. The programme is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which seeks to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. “This programme will make healthcare services affordable and make residents, especially women, healthier,” said Deputy Governor Adelina Mwaui when she led a sensitization campaign for registration to the programme in Kaiti Sub County. The County Government has established 116 new hospitals, 10 new theatres and acquired 16 ambulances. The construction of a Trauma Centre in Makindu sub county Hospital is almost complete and the centre will be commissioned soon.

Ksh. 84 million bus park at Emali illuminates Makueni’s flagship projects

One of the most illuminous flagship projects under the Government of Makueni County development plans is the Emali Bus Park project. The bus park that was officially launched in June last year has opened doors to hundreds of small enterprises and business people who are now running their trades in a clean environment compared to the dusty shanties that existed before.

Makueni County Governor, Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, is proud of the major infrastructural development that cost the County Government Ksh. 84 million but which is now a huge relief to the county. The bus park has a capacity to accommodate 100 vehicles mainly public transport vehicles using Emali as the main hub to other destinations. Further, the facility has 100 stalls allocated to various green grocers and a 100 seater well maintained recreational park. Another similar project is currently ongoing at Nunguni and it is expected to cost about Ksh. 11 Million. Talking of the need for more investments in infrastructure, the Finance and Socio-Economic Planning Executive Committee Member, Mary Kimanzi, said that the county is working to increase the development budget which despite challenges is currently standing at 34 percent.



Emali Bus park and Green Grocer.

“We want more investments in infrastructural development so that we can improve our road networks as well,” she said. She added that the County Government is working to increase the development budget to 40 percent against the recurrent budget which is known to be undermining development in many counties. Mrs. Kimanzi further revealed that the County Government has been able to grade about 3,491 kilometers of earth roads in the county. Wote town has, however, seen an upgrade of local infrastructure with cabro road construction within the CBD and outskirts. The Government of Makueni County is currently constructing a huge bridge, the Thwake Bridge, at a cost of Ksh. 300 Million.

In order to provide habitable trading shelters for small scale business people, the county has also set up a number of market sheds in various sub-counties in Makueni. Deputy Governor Adelina Mwaui has called on the public to make good use of the constructed stalls by accepting to relocate when asked to do so.

Governor moves fruit processing plant dream to an historic reality

For many years, the idea of having a fruit factory in Makueni remained just that-an idea. It became the premise for political campaigns by politicians of all cadres and a permanent dream by farmers.

On July 2, 2017, however, at exactly 12 noon the engines roared to life bellowing a thick dark smoke to the skies, signaling the coming to reality of Makueni Fruit Processing Plant. At hand to witness this great milestone as Governor Kivutha Kibwana cut the tape and opened the door to the inside of the factory were more than 2,000 residents. Most of them were farmers who for years have had to grapple with lack of a market for their produce. The only available market hitherto, came from profiteering middle men who bought a single piece of mango at between three and four shillings and the surplus was given to cattle to feed on.

The factory, one of Kibwana’s brainchild and flagship projects, is able to crush five metric tons of raw mango producing 3,000 litres of puree (mango concentrate).

According to Kibwana, the plant will curb 40 percent of post-harvest fruit waste that farmers used to grapple with in the past. With value addition, curbed waste and stabilized prices, the value of the mango sector in Makueni is projected to increase immensely from the current Ksh. 3 billion to approximately Ksh. 10 billion, says agriculture Chief Officer, Mary Muteti. Installation of the factory appears to have ignited the industrial growth of the county and an unprecedented investor’s confidence, with millions of shillings lined up to fund several projects in the county.

The European Union has granted the County Government USD 1 Million for construction of a reconstituting line which will see the Makueni fruit factory produce end user ready to drink juice.



Inside the Makueni Fruit Processing Plant at Kalamba.

The agriculture sector in Makueni has similarly made huge strides in dairy production, with the commissioning of Kikima Dairy Plant, now producing fresh packed milk named **Makueni Fresh**. The dairy plant has catapulted Makueni into the league of milk producers and created livelihoods for hundreds of residents. Governor Kibwana says that the overarching goal is to monetize the agriculture sector and make sure the more than 78 percent of the Makueni population eking out a living from the sector realizes full benefits.

A feasibility study is currently being conducted on the establishment of an abattoir at Kambu, Kibwezi East, to promote the meat value chain for the local and international markets.



H.E. FRANCIS THUITA KIMEMIA, E.G.H, C.B.S
Governor, Nyandarua County



H.E. CECILIA WANJIRU MBUTHIA
Deputy Governor, Nyandarua County

Subsidized fertilizer for Nyandarua’s farmers

While agriculture is Nyandarua County’s economic mainstay, management of subsidized fertilizer is a National Government project under Vision 2030 with the purpose of fertilizer cost reduction and provision of affordable farm inputs to farmers to boost production. This is undertaken through bulk purchase of fertilizer, aimed at making it more affordable to farmers amidst the anticipated setting up of a factory to locally manufacture the product so as to reduce its overall cost.

While work has commenced on the first objective, achievement of the second one is also firmly in our sights. Distribution of the National Government subsidized fertilizer is made to farmers in Nyandarua through the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB). Recommendation of farmers to purchase the fertilizer is done by County frontline extension workers. Purchase vouchers are issued and countersigned by chiefs or assistant chiefs before being forwarded to the NCPB for processing.

No farmer can purchase the fertilizer without prior registration under the County Government’s Directorate of Agriculture through sub-county officers. The amount of subsidized fertilizer from the National Government is however inadequate. This has led the County Government to set aside funds to supplement the National Government’s effort. The County Government’s subsidized fertilizer is provided to all farmers through ward committees. The facility will be available to farmers in subsequent planting seasons.



County Executive Committee member in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Hon. (Dr.) James Karitu guides a farmer during a demonstration on control of the Fall Army Worm in Njabini / Kiburu Ward in Kinangop Sub-County.

Radical facelift for 73 health facilities

The County Government has 73 operational facilities which provide various levels of services. JM Kariuki Memorial Hospital in Ol’Kalou has two on-going projects for a maternity theatre and modern casualty/ emergency units. As a Level 4 facility, it also has three functional wards. It is prudent that 10 more wards be constructed to cater for specialized services so that the facility can be elevated to Level 5. These may include surgical wards for both males and females; orthopedic wards for both sexes; a gynecological ward; two paediatric wards; medical wards; a high dependency unit and intensive care unit; a modern theatre with six operating rooms and a bigger maternity building. The facility will also require an amenity ward and a mortuary.

Other amenities required include an oxygen plant; an incinerator and upgrade of the facility’s sewerage system. The hospital will also require a CT scan and an MRI so that patients do not have to travel to other counties to seek these services. Also to be constructed at the facility is a regional paediatrics hospital in conjunction with the Government of Israel and a cancer center. When fully effected, these changes will make JM Kariuki Memorial Hospital a County referral hospital as envisaged in our County Integrated Development Plan II (2018-2022).



Modern equipment at the JM Kariuki Memorial Hospital in Ol’Kalou.

At Engineer Hospital, similar works are needed for construction of wards, staff houses, a sewerage system, an incinerator and an oxygen plant. Its upgrade will include additional works on a new laboratory facility, an X-ray unit, a theatre and a store to progressively match it with JM Kariuki Memorial Hospital. A store each will also be constructed for Bamboo, Ndaragwa, Mirangine, Ngano and Manunga health centers, in an on-going effort to elevate them to Level 5 facilities. These improvements will ensure that specialized services are available across Nyandarua. Residents will be seeking services closer home instead of travelling to other counties.

Nyandarua unveils maiden Spatial Plan

The Nyandarua County Spatial Development Plan (CSDP) is a 10-year plan which will guide the location and nature of development in the County. It will inform the future use and distribution of activities throughout Nyandarua in order to achieve prosperity, equity and sustainability in the distribution of physical, economic and social development.

The preparation of the CSDP is a legal requirement under the Constitution of Kenya which has assigned planning functions to the National and County governments. Also, its mandate is provided for under the County Governments Act of 2012. It should be noted that no public funds should be used outside the framework of county planning.

Objectives of the plan include; to promote balanced development in the County; optimize the use of land and natural resources; protect and conserve the environment; provide transport connectivity and integration; and guide the provision of appropriate and adequate infrastructure.

The CSDP capitalizes on such natural and environmental assets in Nyandarua as land for agriculture, climate, forests and the people. It also includes such iconic physical features as Central Kenya's only lake, Ol'bollosat, Karuru Falls and the Aberdare Ranges - among others - to maximize development in Nyandarua. An immediate beneficiary of the CSDP has been the flagship project under this sector: The County Government's ultra-modern headquarters whose construction is being undertaken with the support of the National Government. Full implementation of the Senate report which identified Nyandarua, Tharaka Nithi, Tana River and West Pokot counties as marginalized; as they lacked established headquarters is long overdue. Nyandarua was only allocated Ksh. 600 million for this purpose which is hardly enough. A county headquarter is more than County Government offices.



His Excellency Governor Francis T. Kimemia breaks ground for the new County Assembly offices in Ol'Kalou.

After a long lull, industrial parks roar again

For the first time, industrial areas have been set aside to stimulate value addition. These include the four established Constituency Industrial Development Centers in Kipipiri, Kinangop, Ol'Kalou and Ndaragwa which have been operating under capacity due to lack of equipment and infrastructure. They will under our CIDP II, play a key role in Nyandarua's industrialization agenda.

In the absence of a strong formal industrial base, the Jua Kali sector remains the most important economic activity in the near future, particularly in tailoring, carpentry and joinery, welding/fabrication and motor vehicle repairs. This sector provides the bulk of farm implements. Nyandarua has a total of five Jua Kali associations with a combined membership of 1,023 people. Most of the artisans, however, have not co-ordinated their production and marketing.

Kinangop Dairies Ltd stands out as the only indigenous processing plant. Midlands potato processing factory in Njabini on the other hand has a contracted market in Nairobi. However, its operations have not made an impact on the local economy. There is room to establish more industries to boost potato farming in Nyandarua and offer cold storage facilities for green peas and carrots. There are efforts to revive the pyrethrum sector which had collapsed. There is also potential for processing of hides and skins. Cut flower farming is also practiced in the County, with flower farms in Ol'joro-Orok, Ol'Kalou, Kipipiri and Kinangop sub-counties. We are exploring partnership with the Export Promotion Council so as to insert the flowers into the international market.



His Excellency Governor Francis T. Kimemia commissions a cooling hub for Muki Farmers' Co-operative Society in North Kinangop Ward, Kinangop Sub-County, donated by the County Government.

With metal fabrication works and wood crafts having now extended to rural areas because of electricity supply, there is potential of growth in employment and incomes. Thread milling, which is done on a small scale in Kinangop Sub-County, can be expanded and replicated in other areas as the raw material (wool) is readily available across Nyandarua.

In our CIDP II, we have identified milk processing, horticulture, sugar beet, hides and skins, giant bamboo and setting up an industrial park as our flagship projects for the years 2018-2022. This will provide the impetus for industrial growth through incentives for public private partnerships. An investors' conference has been scheduled for May 24th and 25th, 2018. This will be fed by the County's Spatial plan, CIDP II and the profiling of investment opportunities, soon to be commissioned with the assistance of Kenya Investment Authority (Keninvest).



H.E. MUTAHI KAHIGA
Governor, Nyeri County

Soil fertility amendment through liming

Nyeri County is endowed with a wide range of agro ecological zones where a wide range of crops can be grown. However, the main crops productivity has been on the decline. One of the main causes of the low crop productivity is the decline of soil fertility due to acidity levels in the soil.



Nyeri county's soil pH ranges mostly from strongly acidic (4.1-4.4) through moderate acidity (below 5.4) in Mathira, Tetu, Nyeri South and Mukurweini. Soils are slightly acidic to a few moderately alkaline PH(7.1-8.1) in both Kiini sub counties and therefore not very suitable for both food and industrial crops. Some soils tested as low as pH 4.52-3.6 at Tetu (Ihithi) for food crop and soils tested for coffee in Mathira East and Mukurweini were extremely acidic and around PH 4. For example Kiini West soils at Watuka farmers group PH range 6.32-7.47 and some few soils from Kiini East at pH 7.7 -8.1.

The main reason for applying lime is to correct the high levels of acidity in the soil. Soils that are acidic stunt the growth of crops by inhibiting the intake of plant nutrients such as potassium, nitrogen and phosphorus. Some plants such as legumes do not flourish in highly acidic soils. Soils become acidic due to a number of reasons such as application of modern chemical fertilizers, mineral loss over

time and leaching of land caused by high rainfall levels. Soils with a pH below 5.5 require liming and that goes into increasing the pH of the acidic soil, provides a source of calcium and magnesium for plants, allows for water penetration for acidic soils and improves the uptake of major plant nutrients. The PH of the soil is optimized by adding lime to it.

Partners in Soil PH Analysis

- Soil Care
- University of Nairobi
- Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization Embu (KALRO)
- Coffee Research Institute (CRI)
- OCP Africa

Effects of PH Levels

Low PH causes locking of nutrients especially phosphorous making them unavailable to crops thus reduction in productivity/ yield.

Low PH in Mukurweini has caused Fusarium wilt in coffee bushes.

The Nyeri Lime program is a 5 year program costing Ksh. 250 million. To ease the distribution and monitoring of the same, the department of agriculture will collaborate closely with dairy societies, coffee societies and other organized farmer groups.

Nyeri Afya Mashinani - Provision of Community Health Services

The County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Health Services has progressively established 251 functional community Health Units (CHUs) spread across all sub-locations in the County. This was an increase from 32 functional community health units before devolution in 2013. The 251 community units are manned by 2,510 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) who have been recruited and trained in line with the existing policy guidelines.

This started as a quick win initiative by the department of Health Services in a bid to create awareness and screen for non-communicable diseases which are a major cause of morbidity and mortality in the County. The community health volunteers are equipped with a basic kit that contains a glucometer, a blood pressure machine, glucostixs, dewormers & tools and registers



for documentation and reporting. For motivation, they are given a monthly stipend and are continuously engaged in various health activities in the County. The CHVs are deployed in villages to create awareness on various health topics/issues as well as screen for hypertension and blood sugar at the household level and refer those found to have elevated levels to the nearest health facility for further management and follow-up.

In the current financial year (2017/18), the Community Health Volunteers screened 20,537 community members (13,023 males & 7,199 females) for diabetes and hypertension (of which 7.2 % had elevated blood sugars and 13% had elevated blood pressure. During the same period the community health volunteer were trained on Problem Management Plus; which is a program aimed at assessing and managing mental health at community level. To date, 390 community health volunteers have been trained and have managed to sensitize over 1,200 community members on mental health. These were some of the identified transformative activities conducted by CHVs in the year under review in addition to their routine work in the villages.

Moving forward, the policy direction of the County is to empower the community through a strengthened community health strategy. This will be achieved through increased investments in preventive and promotive health as part of addressing the NCD burden. Further, the County Government will endeavour to institute income generating activities (IGA's) among the community units for sustainability of this initiative.

Processing of titles for villages and schools in Nyeri County

The County Government in Collaboration with the Ministry of Lands and National Lands Commission (NLC) Nyeri has been working tirelessly to ensure that all schools and colonial village settlers are issued with land ownership documents. This will ensure that the beneficiaries enjoy clearly defined rights to the land they occupy. It will also enable them make long term investments to sustain their living.



On 15th February 2018 at Kihuti Secondary School in Mukurweini, the County celebrated success in processing of title deeds for various learning institutions in the County. The County government is committed to ensure that all public schools are issued with relevant land ownership documents so as to guarantee security, facilitate infrastructural and other developments and improve overall educational standards.

So far eighty six (86) schools in Nyeri county were recently issued their title deeds. Another one hundred and fifty (150) schools' title deeds are in the process to be issued soon.

The lands team is also reviewing keenly, the ones with disputes with a bid to getting quick resolutions and have their titles/leases processed.

The government through the program on planning and surveying of colonial villages will ensure that the the following villages will soon have their titles issued; Karundu, Muthuthi-ini, Thangathi, Ithanji, Kiawangaru, Mweru, Wangeera, Giathugu, Karaba, Ngamwa, Ngooru, Kaharo, Mukui, Kamuchuni, Mutitu, Karega and Kiawamururu.

Investment in infrastructure development - Markets

Markets Infrastructure development is Nyeri County's vision to allow small-scale traders to sell their goods under friendly and organized trading environments. The current blueprint of Kenya, Vision 2030 recognizes the development of wholesale and retail markets infrastructure as critical towards achievement of the projected 10% economic growth. The aim of the County Government of Nyeri in such infrastructure development is to create a globally competitive and prosperous environment with a high quality life.

The County Government of Nyeri has continued to facilitate trade and investment by championing and enabling environment for domestic business to thrive through infrastructural development. Some of the major flagship projects are:-

Chaka Market Hub

This is a project being done in partnership with the National Government. This market hub will be the biggest in East and Central Africa. This project is 10% complete. This project is expected to house various types of business for example; banking halls, gymnasium, hotels and amenities like, cold rooms, administration block, a police station and many others. The estimated capacity of this market is about 5,000 traders

Karatina Market

This is a project being done in partnership with the National Government. This is a fresh produce market. The market has capacity of over 3,000 retail traders. This project is 90% complete.

Nyeri Open Air market

Nyeri open air market project started in financial year 2016/2017. This was to upgrade from the previous open place trading center which was an unfriendly environment to do business. This market has capacity of over 500 retail traders. It is at 99% into completion and is expected to open for business by June 2018.





020

KIRINYAGA COUNTY



H.E. ANNE MUMBI WAIGURU, OGW
Governor, Kirinyaga County



H.E. HON. PETER NJAGI NDAMBIRI
Deputy Governor, Kirinyaga County

Interventions aimed at increasing production and access to markets for Kirinyaga farmers

Kirinyaga is the green industrial economy of the Mount Kenya region. As an agricultural production ecosystem, the County has over the years consistently increased the value of high yield cash crop varieties. Through the application of modern agricultural techniques **the Mountain Cities Organic and Industrial Framework** seeks to increase efficiency of post-harvest handling, processing and marketing opportunities for farmers within the County. This strategy will be a major determinant of the prices paid, ensuring household nutrition and food security for the county and a significant contributor to the food basket in the country and beyond.

As an agrarian economy, the county is a high producer of quality rice, coffee, tea, bananas and horticulture among others. Some of the steps taken to improve agriculture include:

- 1. Increased production of rice:** Mwea sub-county in Kirinyaga produces over 60% of the rice consumed in the country. The eradication of quelea birds from the rice farms resulted in double the production of rice harvested. In addition, a long-standing water obstruction challenge in the area of Mwea was resolved significantly contributing to increased production.
- 2. Data-driven agricultural interventions:** Through partnership with various firms, the county has put in place a methodology that will see all animals in the county accounted for and their production monitored. The system also allows data on farmers, such as what they grow, how much they harvest, fertilizer purchased, farm products used to be captured. This is then used to ensure our interventions as government are both effective and relevant.
- 3. Milk processing plants:** The county is in the process of setting up milk processing plants owned and managed by youth in SACCOs. This will provide market for the dairy farmers as well as encouraged increased production for consumption in the county and beyond.



Kirinyaga County's strides towards Universal Healthcare through healthcare reform

Universal Healthcare as articulated in the big four agenda is a key strategic pillar of **the Mountain Cities Health and Wellness Framework**. The county is making strides in health care reform which include:

1. The Kerugoya Level 4 Hospital:

a. Renal Unit - This is a diagnosis, treatment and hospice center offering quality and affordable standards of clinical care, with the capacity to serve a minimum of 9 patients daily as such saving the patients the trip to Nairobi for the same service. This has improved the access to the service in the county.

b. Upgrade of Kerugoya Hospital to Level 5: - The construction of the twin block medical complex with 5 floors in each tower will when complete, offer world class medical equipment, personnel and wellness services to the residents of Kirinyaga. The upgrade will translate to the expansion of the current bed capacity of 250 to 500 for inpatient.



2. Linda Mama-Boresha Jamii: The County initiated a door to door campaign in an effort to improve the quality of maternal health within the County. This initiative is aimed at increasing the number of eligible women registered for the free maternal and child health care services which are provided for up to one year after delivery.

3. Wezesha Mama Kirinyaga Hospital Linen Project: In order to improve the standards of quality non-pharmaceutical care within the County, Governor Waiguru has initiated the making of all hospital linen for the 55 healthcare facilities to be done by women groups in the county as a women's empowerment program to support the health sector within

the County. This initiative brings together women from all sub-counties who are skilled in tailoring creating economic empowerment opportunities for the women. In addition, the initiative has increased the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities since the County Health Department procures the inputs for the project from women. This initial program is expected to eventually become a linen and merchandise factory, that will spur the apparel industry in the region.

4. The Kimbimbi Hospital- Maternity Wards - This facility was commissioned to increase the capacity of the hospital to handle maternal and child health requirements within the County. This will enhance the quality of healthcare services before, during and after delivery for mothers within Kirinyaga.

5. The Mountain Cities Health & Wellness Policy Framework

The Policy Framework is an outline of the health sector as a key lever for socio-economic transformation of Kirinyaga County. Key components of the framework include human capacity building for current and future health workers, infrastructural upgrade of various facilities and relevant reforms to ensure attainment of universal health is achieved and world class services are offered within the county.

Kirinyaga plans uniquely branded cities within the county named the Mountain Cities

The Mountain Cities Urban Planning Framework is a policy outline that will define and clarify the government's intervention in structuring land re-adjustment toward sectors that will enhance economic growth within Kirinyaga County. This urban planning approach will be critical in establishing Kirinyaga as a health, wellness, organic and resort hub. Some of the progressive projects the County Government is undertaking toward this end include:

1. The County Spatial Plan – This is a 10-year plan, 2018 -2028 that covers the whole County. It is a broad policy framework that shapes spatial strategy through the coordination of sector policies and decisions by coming up with priority programmes for implementation in all sectors. The plan is at an advanced stage with 60% done and the final plan expected to be ready for implementation by the end of 2018.

2. Kutus/Kerugoya Municipal Urban Plan - This ten-year local development plan covers a designated urban area with similar spatial characteristics and functions. The plan aims to provide the necessary long-term guidance for the management of the urban environment and create incentives for external investment, especially in the education, health and wellness industry.

3. Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) - This World Bank funded program in partnership with the National Government will see the County Government of Kirinyaga establish urban boards as part of its urban planning framework. These plans will facilitate and ensure improved infrastructure and service delivery in urban areas within the County. Kirinyaga is among the first counties that have met the minimum conditions to receive this grant and has prioritized the formation of Kutus/Kerugoya Municipality and preparation of its urban plan as a part of its cities branding.



Kirinyaga develops an agri-business nucleus and robust industry to aid in value addition

BBlend within the agricultural and horticultural economy of the region, Kirinyaga County is uniquely positioned as the region's trade and tourism hub. Its proximity to the northern transport corridor is a crucial factor in the development of Kirinyaga County as an agri-business nucleus and an adventure tourism circuit. Some of the initiatives in place as facilitators of this experience include:

1. The industrial park: The County has begun the process of setting up an industrial park which will be strategically situated in Sagana, Ndia Sub County. The selection of the location was informed by the surrounding infrastructure such as proximity to the Nairobi-Nyeri highway and Murang'a-Sagana highway and the envisioned Nairobi-Nanyuki railway. It is also strategically positioned between rivers Tana and Ragati which will form part of the natural ecosystem for the park. The park will have factories such as leather tanning, furniture manufacture, textile and apparel factory, dry food stuff, coffee and tea blending among others

2. Use of rice husks in making of MDF for furniture/industrial panels/wood plastic composite: The County is in the process of undertaking a feasibility study that will result in the setting up a factory that will make use of the environmentally hazardous rice husks. Through the adaptive utilization of this natural resource and in addition to the commercial reuse for the construction industry, these County's elements not only provide a platform for a resource recovery model for the region but is also a game changer for the manufacturing industry. The furniture to be produced will target the Early Childhood Development (ECD) sector among others. This resource recovery process seeks to create jobs for women and young people in the County.



3. Point of Origin Branding: Kirinyaga coffee cooperatives, Kabare and Baragwi were recently rated amongst the top 25 coffee beans in the world by the Coffee Reviews list of top 30. This among other best in class products such as Kirinyaga tea and popular pishori rice from Mwea are among those products that the county is keen to use to tell the story of the Kirinyaga people.



H.E. MWANGI WA IRIA
Governor, Murang'a County



H.E. JAMES KAMAU MAINA
Deputy Governor, Murang'a County

Securing livelihood through value addition

Agriculture is the mainstay and the highest economic pillar in Murang'a County. Governor Mwangi Wa Iria has invested heavily in agriculture especially in value addition.



Murang'a Governor inspecting a coffee bush which is part of the county's Kahawa Bora Coffee replacement program.

In dairy farming through the monumental Dairy Development program; the County Government has subsidized artificial insemination from Kshs. 2000 to Kshs. 500. This program has seen over 70,000 calves sired in addition to enhancing modern dairy farming. The County Government procured 35 milk coolers with a capacity of 5,000 liters and installed them in every ward. This has cushioned farmers from losses, enhanced the quality of milk, increasing the cost per liter at the farm gate from kshs. 15 to a constant 35 per ltr.

In order to easily link the dairy farmers to the market, the County Government organized the dairy farmers into 35 dairy co-operatives and created Murang'a County Co-operative Creameries; an umbrella co-operative under which all the small cooperatives are members. Through this program, production of milk increased from 10,000 ltrs a day to the current 400,000 ltrs daily. This has seen full economic and social empowerment of livelihoods where every household that owns a cow in Murang'a lives above the poverty index of a dollar per day. The County Government is now in the last phase of setting up a multi-million milk processing factory at Maragua which will guarantee market as well as increased earnings through value addition.

Murang'a Governor has initiated a robust coffee revival program dubbed 'Kahawa Bora' which seeks to increase yield, quality and price of coffee. This programme has achieved a coffee replacement program of 3 million trees from the traditional coffee variety SL28 and SL32 to Batian and Ruiru 11 which are more productive, resistant to pests and diseases and more resilient to changing weather patterns. Through this programme the government adopts 50 coffee trees in every farm, provides the farmer with farm inputs such as animal manure to enhance productivity and quality. This adoption targets 100,000 abandoned coffee farms where each of the trees will provide 10 kilograms of high quality and organic coffee translating to 5 billion in returns annually.

Back in the 70s and 80s, Murang'a was a major producer of coffee, until late 80s when the sector went under and farmers lost hope in the once vibrant sector. Conscious of this,

Horticulture is a major income earner for farmers in Murang'a County notably avocado farming. Under the stewardship of Governor Mwangi Wa Iria, the County has distributed over 50,000 high yielding hass avocado trees to farmers in addition to seeking market partnership for this genre of avocado. One hass avocado fruit is being sold at Ksh. 30 up from as little as Ksh. 1 in the previous years.

In enhancing food security, the Murang'a County Government runs an annual program that benefits more than 200,000 farmers with free hybrid maize seeds and fertilizer securing reliable harvests. All this agribusiness activities are geared towards improving disposable income per household in Murang'a, economic empowerment and job creation. Every person puts a shilling in their pocket at the end of the day. Devolution at work.

The pursuit of affordable specialized healthcare

In line with the spirit of provision of quality, affordable and accessible healthcare, the County Government has procured 16 ambulances that serve patients for free. These ambulances have served over 50,000 patients since the roll out of this rapid healthcare service.

The establishment of a Renal Unit at the Murang'a County Referral Hospital has also struck a milestone in enhancing the capacity of the county health instrument in provision of highly specialized medical services. The County has synergized this program with its universal healthcare plan that has enabled patients to secure renal healthcare at no charge. Previously, patients would traverse far and wide in pursuit of Renal health services in addition to grappling with burden of transport and other financial incurrences. Moreover, patients were at pain raising more than 20,000 per week for the renal medical service in other facilities.



Governor Mwangi Wa Iria visiting a patient at the renal center at Murang'a Level 5 hospital

Owing to the overwhelming number of constituents nursing optical and dental related health problems Governor Mwangi Wa Iria initiated and established a ultramodern model eye and dental hospital (Kenneth Matiba Eye and Dental Hospital). This facility has offered affordable optical and dental health services to over 70,000 patients since its inception in the year 2015 and through 'Nipe Macho Nione' outreach program diagnosed, treated and provided reading glasses to over 130,000 people.

In ensuring access of health services to all the constituents, the County Government has scrapped medical records popularly known for filing fees and consultation levies for patients in all the county health facilities. Development and improvement of physical infrastructure in the health facilities is an integral part of the County robust healthcare program; to this end the County Government has renovated and constructed more than 35 dispensaries in addition to commissioning the development of modern edifices in some sub-county hospitals.

The County is also working out an ambitious plan to establishing a post-modern orthopedic hospital. The facility will be dedicated towards offering highly specialized orthopedic healthcare that constituents seek outside the County.

Investing in infrastructure as a route to faster economic development

The County Government of Murang'a is cognizant of the prominent role that an effective road network and urban development plays in realization of economic progress. Through devolution the County Government has made tremendous reaps towards this through these undertakings. In improving road network over 600kms of feeder roads have been graded in addition to opening up more than 6,000 kms of access roads and grading of more than 4,000kms of roads.



Governor Mwangi Wa Iria launching the one billion roads project in Murang'a

Murang'a town at Mjini, Kihui Mwiri and the other sub-county towns. Valid land ownership documents and expertise from the county physical department anchors urban development.

Towards boosting the domestic water capacity, the desilting and excavation of more than 8 dams has been rolled out. More than 50,000 household have so far been connected with clean piped water. The County Government has also lowered the water payment rates at the county to a minimum of Ksh. 200, giving access to more connectivity.

The County Government has constructed bridges that have posed connectivity challenges especially in the rural parts of the County since independence.

The County is also at the final stage on establishment of an industrial park; precisely a cottage industry to absorb thousands of young men and women trained under the County 'Ufundi Kwa Vijana' program.

Towards enhancing seamless acquisition of land ownership the County Government has rolled out title deed issuance drives in

Hinging local economies through scale trade

The cooperative movement is the most effective way for people from different trade disciplines to exert control over their economic blocks. Murang'a Governor Mwangi Wa Iria, recognizes this fact considering Murang'a is home to the most successful cooperatives and has fully leveraged in forming, funding and supporting cooperatives to achieve the County Government's trade agenda and reach far and beyond. Some of these cooperative entities include: Murang'a County Cooperative Creameries which has an annual turn-over of Kshs. 5billion from the sale of milk and over 150,000 members. Its through the success of this cooperative that County Government invested in a multi-million milk processing factory that once complete will employ over 1,000 people and touch 250,000 households and the 'One home one cow' program where at the end every home in Murang'a will own a cow. Murang'a Women Sacco, that brings together all women in Murang'a have so far constructed blocks of hostels worth a billion offering housing to close to 1,000 Murang'a University students. Every sector in the county manages its trade through the co-operative model giving everyone an opportunity to belong to a trading block with a common bond. Avocado Sacco with a membership of 80,000 farmers trading with over 2 billion annually through export of avocados with the current market rate per fruit at Kshs. 30 up from Kshs. 1 in 2013. Boda boda co-operative has a membership of 8,000 people saving Kshs. 200 daily with an annual saving of half a billion and a turnover of a billion. Ufundi kwa Vijana Co-operative is for the skilled young people in business and the government through the co-operative supports them with seed capital and working tools among many other co-ops

No doubt the government plays a pivotal role in trade through navigation of opportunities and establishment of a solid trade and business environment. With regard to this; the County Government of Murang'a has constructed 25 modern retail markets, laying of paving blocks (cabros), street lighting and erection of 600 high mast lights for security across the County. This is geared towards providing a conducive environment for traders.

Disabled persons and youths in start-ups are exempted from paying levies for a period of one year thus giving them an opportunity to trade.



Governor Mwangi Wa Iria with trade partners presenting an avocado bonus cheque



H.E. HON. FERDINAND NDUNGU WAITITU
Governor, Kiambu County



H.E. DR. JAMES NYORO KARANJA
Deputy Governor, Kiambu County

Farmers benefiting from devolution in Kiambu County

Kiambu county ranks top among the most agriculturally productive counties. Dairy production contributes to the bulk of GDP with most farmers directly engaged in raw milk production. Githunguri dairy cooperative is a shining example that has worldwide recognition in the area of small-holder dairy management. However, farmers still face challenges especially in milk spoilage, poor breeds and poor quality supplementary feeds. To help alleviate the issue of poor breeds and help increase milk production, the Governor has directed that artificial insemination (A.I) services be provided free of charge. This program will soon be rolled out in the coming weeks.

Other interventions include regulation of the feed manufacturing sector to ensure quality supplementary feeding and provision of milk coolers, pasteurizers and packaging equipment for value addition.

Other key agricultural sectors include coffee and tea with our brands being some of the most popular in the world today. To enhance coffee production, the County Government has issued a directive illegalizing the cutting of coffee trees for real estate development. The government is also supporting the sector through provision of processing machines for value addition and helping in connecting farmers with local and international markets.



Governor Waititu and his constituents during the tree planting initiative in Kamwangi.

To enhance small holder farmers' incomes, the County is also in the process of diversifying the agriculture landscape through the introduction alternative crops like soya, sunflower and sorghum in collaboration with BIDCO East Africa and Kenya breweries. Other collaborative projects include the FAO value chains development program that aims at limiting distress migration; Agriculture Development Support Program (ADSP) and the National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP) which are collaborative projects with the National Government. The government is also promoting planting of avocado and other tree seedlings, tissue culture banana and many other value chains all aimed at improving farmers livelihoods.

Healthcare devolution transforming lives in Kiambu County

Despite the structural, administrative and policy hiccups that characterized the formative years of devolution, as a county we can proudly say that it has transformed the lives of Kiambu residents who are now reaping its fruits. Devolution is now entrenched as a system of governance that affords the surest way to actualize the dreams and aspirations of Kenyans who overwhelmingly voted for the Kenya Constitution 2010.



Fleet of State of the Art High Advanced Life-Support Ambulances attached to every Sub-County Hospital to enhance the Referral system within the County and accelerate Emergency Medical Support (EMS) to the common mwananchi in Kiambu County

In the Department of Health Services, Kiambu County has recorded significant and historic milestones in implementing our development agenda.

As a county we are committed to strengthen service delivery, scale up infrastructural investments, stock-up our facilities with commodities, redouble our human capital to attend to the growing population and surpass our customers' expectations and aggressively promote primary healthcare down at the grassroots level. The rapid stimulation of healthcare structures spread out across the 60 wards is a clear manifestation of Governor Waititu's zeal and zest to turn around the once neglected and grossly underfunded healthcare landscape in the entire county of Kiambu.

The Governor is also very keen on Universal Health Care (UHC) a key plank anchored on Vision 2030 & Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). His administration has rolled out an aggressive NHIF awareness campaign as

well as paying NHIF coverage for selected needy families across the county before the end of his first year in office, which is in line with his vision to provide accessible, quality and affordable healthcare to all the residents.

Governor Waititu's administration scores many firsts on infrastructure

Kiambu County under the leadership of Governor Waititu is gearing to become a model county on infrastructure. The County Government has begun the process of transforming all county infrastructures through the department of Roads, Transport, Public Works and Utilities. Key among the major projects is the tarmacking of Gakoe Junction - Kianjogu-Giathieko - Gakoe - Mukuyu River Junction in Ngewa Ward, Githunguri Sub County. The 7km road will connect Kirigiti-Kwa-Maiko and Ruiru - Githunguri Uplands roads hence shortening distance for farmers to transport their produce to Ruiru, Kiambu and Githunguri towns.

This follows the rehabilitation of Githunguri CBD roads, an exercise that has transformed the agricultural town into one of the modern towns in the county. The transformation of Githunguri town has also seen the installation of street lights and a high-mast at the market. This is part of the administration's mandate; to light the county by installation of street lights and high masts.



Governor Waititu Babayao inspects ongoing road projects in Kiambu County

Governor Waititu's administration is committed to ensure that there will be massive installation of lights throughout the county in markets, town centres, streets and major towns of every ward.

The department is also working to ensure that Lari sub-county headquarters in Kimende town is tarmacked. Governor Waititu's administration will be the first to offer a tarmacked road to Kimende since independence. The 3.4km road will open up the agricultural sub-county since it touches the Nairobi-Nakuru highway linking it up to the market, banks, police post, churches, schools and area hospital.

In order to decongest Thika town, the department of roads has also upgraded three link roads namely - Birmingham, Harry Thuku and Mosque roads to bituminous standards. These new roads will allow traffic to exit Thika town through prisons at Metro Petrol Station junction via Garissa road, which will ease congestion at Gatitu junction immensely.

Trade taking centre stage in matters of development in Kiambu

Trade, Tourism, Cooperatives & Enterprise Development acts as a catalyst in facilitating investments by providing a conducive environment for business investments and private sector growth. The sector is a key enabler in job creation and value addition of agricultural produce.

The county is home to some of the best modern markets in the country, like Gatundu South market which currently serves 1,200 traders. Other markets that have sprung up after devolution and are in operation include; Kamwangi, Karuri and Limuru markets among others.

To increase and enhance trading spaces, the County Government is currently constructing modern markets across the county. Ongoing markets projects include Limuru Hawkers, Limuru Rongai, Githunguri and Dagoretti markets.

The county has also partnered with National Government and World Bank to construct modern markets in Kikuyu, Kihara, Juja and Ruiru. The modern markets include social amenities such as safe drinking water from its own bore hole, social halls, ample parking spaces and designs that are friendly to special needs group. The County plans to construct a modern wholesale and retail market in each sub-county.

Kiambu County is well endowed with industries mostly located in Thika and Ruiru constituencies. Kenya Vehicle Manufacturers located in Thika is recognized as having produced the first functional car in Kenya called Mobius II. The county continues to offer a conducive business operating environment, through incentivizing in areas of cost of doing business and offering support to investors. This has attracted investors to establish and operate under the special economic zones (SEZ) in Tatu City, Sasini and other industrial parks in Ruiru, Thika and Kikuyu. It's through these interventions that the county has been recognized as the second-best county to start a business as reported by the World Bank report on ease of doing business in Kenya 2016.

Since the county is well endowed in agriculture, value addition has been prioritized as a key driver to achieving "The Big Four" agenda of the National Government. Initiative is on-going to set up an industrial park; Muguga Agro-Industrial Park. The city will entail the introduction of Agro-Processing on animal products, fruits, bananas and other supporting industries.

Other ripe investment opportunities in Kiambu County include: Development of other industrial parks, cottage industries, biodegradable packaging plants, leather processing industries, electronic product-skewed industries, establishment of SME Parks, Coffee parching and milling.



Newly constructed open-air market in Limuru Sub-county



H.E. HON. JOSPHAT KOLI NANOK
Governor, Turkana County



H.E. PETER LOTETHIRO EMURIA
Deputy Governor, Turkana County

Turkana is intensifying livelihoods and enhancing food security

In Turkana County, majority of the population in the county are pastoralists thus making the Agriculture, Pastoral Economy and Fisheries sector critical in achieving economic growth and development.



Working towards food security, the County Government has increased land under crop production to 15,000 acres from 10,000 acres under irrigation and 4,796 acres under flood-based farming. This means there was increase in the number of people adopting farming as a livelihood from 17,035 to 26,723 farmers.

As the interest in agriculture intensifies, farmers' capacity building on agronomy, agribusiness and nutrition through trainings, agricultural extension and advisory services are being offered. The County Government has also supported 15,000 vulnerable farmers with farm inputs (quality seeds, chemicals and farm tools). 10 tractors for deep tillage were also procured to encourage mechanized farming.

Under the 51 irrigation schemes covering 5,835 ha and supporting 26,723 households, an additional 9,688 farmers have been added to the irrigated agriculture livelihood. This means that more households than before are now resilient to drought related emergencies. Through the Food for Assets project, 4796 acres of land has been reclaimed, 4,796 acres, and through use of rainwater harvesting structures and management, has been put under agricultural production benefitting 3,000 households.

To improve livestock feed and access to water, fodder production and pasture reseeding targeting 10,000 ha, the project is at 40 % completion and 12 water pans have been constructed. The ministry responsible for this function supports bee-keeping through training, purchase and distribution of equipment. In this initiative 14 bee-keeping groups with 30 members each were supported reaching an aggregate of 420 beneficiaries.

Veterinary services have vaccinated 1,199,050 livestock against common trans-boundary livestock diseases. While 4,101,850 livestock of different species (sheep & goats, cattle, camels and donkeys) were dewormed and treated against endemic livestock diseases across the county and the neighboring borders of Uganda. This was in collaboration with partners such as UN-FAO, VSF Germany, LWF, TUPADO, Catholic Diocese of Lodwar/CRS, Kenya Red-Cross and National Directorate of Veterinary services. Having the world's largest desert lake being part of the county, fishing is also an important livelihood. To this end, the ministry has distributed fishing inputs; 11 vessels, 20,000 fish gill nets, 10,000 twines, 150 floaters and this has improved production from 9,000MTs to 9,248MTs.

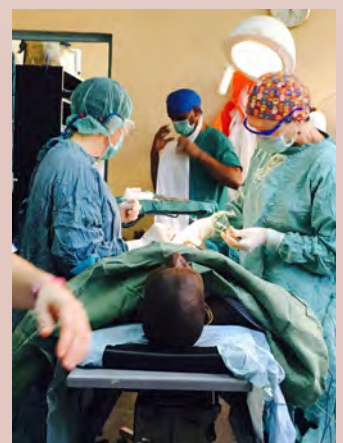
To enhance safety and survival at the lake, three rescue boats for the main fishing communities (Kerio, Kalokol and Nachukui). The 25 Beach Management Units formed improved on post harvest management skills, fish handling and processing. The Turkana fish is transported and eaten as far as Congo. This is one area the County Government wants to improve on so that fresh fish can also get into the Kenyan market. This will be possible through value addition with proper processing, labeling and transportation.

Turkana County has made great strides in health

Health is a fully devolved function and has been the key priority for Turkana County. This sector has 18 percent budgetary allocation. Before devolution, Turkana County's health sector had suffered a great deal. In 2013, a patient had to travel 50 km to a health facility and the main hospital – Lodwar District Hospital was ill equipped and lacked basic medical equipment. The nearest referral hospital was 300km away. 60% of all health facilities were Faith-Based Organization and Non-Government Organization owned.

Fast forward to 2017 through focusing on priority interventions such as health facility Infrastructural development, expansion of skilled human resource base, health commodities network and emergency preparedness and response, the health ministry has totally delivered health services closer to the people. It has increased the health centres from 7 to 46 and 71 dispensaries to 159 in the last five years. All the seven sub-counties have well equipped hospitals with staff quarters.

The former ill equipped district hospital, now Lodwar County Referral is living up to its new upgrade. It has an oxygen plant, laundry machine, 66 body capacity mortuary, dental chairs, ward and emergency equipment, CT scan, mobile X-ray, Ultra-sound, haematology and biochemistry analyzer, gene X-part



machine, water distiller, microscopes, incubator machine, delivery beds, perimeter wall, ICU building, doctors' flats, accident and emergency unit and orthopaedic machine. Now, it receives 14 million patients a year compared to less than five million before devolution.

In the area of maternal and child health, the Ministry is currently expanding and has refurbished maternity unit with four delivery beds, antenatal and postnatal ward and newborn unit at the referral hospital. With more outreach, the proportion of pregnant women attending 4th antenatal care is 38% from 19% while 78.4% children under one have been fully immunized compared to the previous 38.8%.

To improve service delivery, more health workers have been employed to reach 1300 from 192. It has also attracted and retained 63 doctors for the whole county up from just 4 and has all the four major specialities and referral has been cut by 70%. The nurse population ratio has improved from 1:5,200 to 1:232. Most significant is the drop of HIV prevalence levels from 7.8 to 4 per cent and this is courtesy of the First Lady Margaret Kenyatta who donated a mobile van for Zero Campaign to support activities and mobile campaigns on HIV.

The only tarmac since independence

It has been five years since devolution. Lodwar town has six kilometres (kms) of bitumen and is currently adding another four kilometres that leads to Ekaales Centre - the preferred location for most county functions and the once difficult places to reach are accessible.



The Infrastructure, Transport and Public Works Ministry's mission has been to facilitate provision, construction and maintenance of quality infrastructure, government buildings and housing and other public works for sustainable socio-economic development.

To promote socio-economic activities and development, the County Government has had to maintain a county road network measuring approximately 5411.90 km of which earth road is 3282.91km, gravel is 401.53km, narrow unpaved and 1727.46 km and the above mentioned 10 kilometers under bitumen.

In the first year of devolution, the Ministry maintained 1823.7 Kms ward roads making the once difficult to reach places in the wards accessed effortlessly. To meet their annual targets, the Ministry has over the years procured two tippers and graders and a roller to be efficient in maintaining the county road network. It also has other machines and equipment transferred from the National Government. Over the years, the grading and gravelling of inter sub-county roads currently stands at 740 kilometres and rural roads are 4671.9 km. For the financial year 2017/18, the Ministry's target is 6,000 kms which will represent the same increase to the current county road network of 5411.9 km.

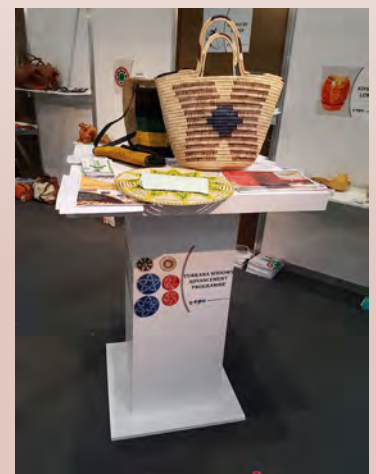
Under public works, it has allocated funds for the construction of drifts and a material testing lab. The largest projects to date have been two bridges in Turkana South and North sub-counties that will be connecting people, easing the movement of goods and administration for the county. The public works' department also assists other departments in design, documentation and project implementation. This calls for adequate facilitation for the professional services like architecture and quantity surveying. The County Government is confident that infrastructure is the key enabler for economic, social and political development thus will continue to allocate funds to open up even more areas.

Turkana has great potential for trade in the whole region

With the all important task of ensuring the County trade is ever vibrant, fair and competitive, the Trade, Gender and Youth Affairs Ministry has been proactive and with a special focus on the disenfranchised; women and youth. So far 6,900 licensed businesses are currently operating in the county in the five years of devolution. This is a great improvement from the 2,100 registered before the start of devolution. It has also constructed 11 market stalls across all the sub-counties, up from two in 2013 to benefit 600 traders. On the same strength, the ministry under the stewardship of Hon. Antony Apalia who is the CEC member is looking at improving cooling and refrigeration facilities in these markets.

To assist empower the business community, the ministry has also set up Ksh. 160 million Biashara Fund that is targeting 3,000 Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as well as established a business development centre (Biashara Centre); a one-stop shop for business consulting services. It also facilitates the Governor's Round Table - a platform for interaction between the business community and the County Government.

In terms of capacity building, the department has also trained eight producer groups/enterprises on export product development with two groups getting the opportunity to exhibit in Birmingham – UK for Spring Fair 2018 Exhibition. This is done in collaboration with Export Promotion Council through their Product Development Programme. Majority of the women business owners have benefitted under such trainings. Being a member of North Rift Economic Bloc and recently being coopted into the Northern Frontier Development Council, Turkana County has provided the local business community access to other county markets. The membership supports harmonization of business tariffs and smooth flow of products in and outside the county. This membership will also position Turkana in the regional trade between its immediate international neighbors in Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia. Already, cross-border trade between these countries is thriving especially along the Ugandan border on the Moroto-Lodwar corridor.



The majority of the members of co-operative societies being women and youth, the Ministry's focus has been to capacity-build them to make them competitive with the market needs. Those already trained are 8,250 members. Existing now are 44 co-operatives up from 29 since devolution. And these co-operatives have benefitted from Ksh.4.5m as grants, a figure that could be revised upwards in the subsequent budgets.



H.E. HON. PROF. JOHN KROP LONYANGAPUO,
PHD, CBS, HSC
Governor, West Pokot County



H.E. DR. NICHOLAS OWON ATUDONYANG
Deputy Governor, West Pokot County

Transforming lives through modern agriculture

Livestock is the backbone of our economy in West Pokot County. In this light, the County Government recently commissioned a free vaccination exercise against various animal diseases. So far, over 500,000 animals have been vaccinated. The exercise was launched by Governor, Prof John Lonyangapuo. He said the County had given out Ksh. 10 million to support this exercise. He called on the National Government to boost the exercise through additional funds which will ensure that more animals are vaccinated. The Governor called on all farmers to avail their livestock at designated zones for vaccination. The vaccination improves immunity of livestock for a period of 6-8 months and the move seeks to improve livestock productivity and enhance its marketability.

Meanwhile, the West Pokot County Government has commissioned an irrigation project of over 200 acres of land in Takaywa village, North Pokot. Similar initiatives are going on in Kasei ward. This move seeks to make the region food secure and alleviate residents of suffering during long dry spells. This is expected to break the vicious cycle of over reliance on relief food. "We are committed to ensure West Pokot attains food security. Irrigation is crucial in achieving this goal," said the Governor, Prof. John Lonyangapuo said.



Soil testing done four years ago revealed that Takaywa has high level of nutrients thus there's no need for fertiliser. Maize will be planted thrice a year since each season takes three months. Also, inter-cropping will be adopted to ensure residents get a wide variety of produce. The irrigation project is strategically placed near the border of West Pokot and Turkana counties, where there has been incessant attacks. Making the region food secure will boost security since attacks occasioned by scramble for scarce resources will minimise. Residents were elated by the County Government's move to initiate irrigation, terming it a huge success in the fight against hunger. At the same time, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) recently donated various items to support Agriculture in West-Pokot County. They included four motorbikes, a generator, four computers and an assortment of furniture.

The items, valued at about Ksh. 3 million, were received by Governor Prof. John Lonyangapuo and the CEC member in Charge of Agriculture, Mr. Geoffrey Lipale. The motorbikes will be used by agriculture extension officers to respond to farmers' needs including immediate response to contain livestock diseases. FAO commits to and anticipates a productive partnership with West-Pokot County aimed at achieving food security and eradicating hunger.

Residents to receive better healthcare

West-Pokot County Government has put in place measures to build a health system that will effectively provide quality health care services to the local residents. The Deputy Governor, Dr. Nicholas Atudonyang, said this includes provision of more drugs, hiring of doctors and experts and building more hospitals in the rural areas.

Previously, patients would travel to far-off health clinics only to find that the medicines they needed were no longer in stock. To address this, the Deputy Governor, who is also CEC in charge of Health, said all public hospitals and dispensaries will be well stocked with drugs to avert such situations in the future. The administration will also focus on ensuring that medical practitioners have the right knowledge and skills; through trainings.



H.E. Nicholas Owon, Deputy Governor said, 'For a long time, our people have suffered a lot (and even lost lives) due to lack of proper medicare. But things are changing for the better.' He spoke recently while receiving drugs and other supplies worth over Ksh. 50 million for our hospitals across the County. These drugs have already been delivered. They will be used to treat prevalent diseases such as malaria and typhoid, among other ailments. Patients will no longer be told to go and buy drugs. At the same time, about 500,000 treated mosquito nets were dispatched to be distributed to all homesteads across the County.

Meanwhile, the County Government has launched an ambitious plan of vaccinating majority of its residents against Hepatitis B. This will take place mainly in the remote areas that border Uganda. Hepatitis B has lately been identified as one of the diseases that has affected majority of the residents in this County.

Recently, the First Lady Margaret Kenyatta visited West Pokot County and promised to improve maternal and child healthcare. Speaking to hundreds of women in Kapenguria, Mrs Kenyatta assured them that she remains committed to the course of ensuring no woman has to die during childbirth.

The Beyond Zero Campaign is an initiative by the First Lady to aid in the health problems of mothers and children around the country. Despite its commitment to maternal health care, Kenya continues to make slow progression with this regard. With a maternal mortality rate of 488 deaths per 100,000 live births, the country is off track in achieving the UN Millennium Development Goal numbers four and five by 2015. Kenya had committed to reduce these deaths to 147 per 100,000 live births by 2015. Fifteen women die every day due to pregnancy related complications in Kenya and 20% of all deaths among mothers in the country are AIDS-related.

Stage set for massive infrastructural development

A 24-hour economy is vital in achieving the sustainable development goals. In this regard, West Pokot County Government has embarked on street lighting programme on major trading centres within the County. Ksh. 10.5 million has been set aside for this project. So far, the lighting project has been installed in Sigor, Ortum and Chepareria towns. This has boosted economic activities in the towns strategically situated along Lodwar-Turkana Highway. Other major trading centres will also be lit up in the subsequent financial years.



West Pokot County is also in the process of forming a board to manage Chepareria, Sigor, Ortum, Kacheliba, Kabichbich and Alale townships.

In partnership with the National Land Commission, West Pokot County Government has issued over 10,000 title deeds in regions that have never received the crucial document. The areas that have received the historical land titles are Kapsait, Kaptabuk, Parua, Kopro, Wakor, Sina and Tapach. The County Government projects to issue over 25,000 during its five-year term. The issuance of titles has empowered owners since they can access loans at financial institutions because the document acts as security.

There are plans to digitise land records to boost efficiency and service delivery. Proposals have also been made for the creation of two land registries at Pokot Central and Pokot North. Another proposal is the establishment of a Geographic Information System (GIS) lab.

Furthermore, the County Government has embarked on tarmacking of major towns in conjunction with the National Government. Recently, Makutano Town streets have been tarmacked. Money has been budgeted for the tarmacking of Chepareria and Ortum towns. In the next financial year, Sigor, Kabichbich and Kacheliba will be tarmacked.

Plans are underway for the establishment of Kapenguria Integrated Development Plan for Makutano Town and other urban centres. The county has envisioned the construction of housing units for government officers. In line with President Uhuru's Big Four, West Pokot will work closely with the National Government.

County's Register Index Mapping will be moved from Eldoret to Kapenguria to ease transportation and enhance service delivery. Also, Land Adjudication Survey in collaboration with the County Government will help subdivide former 15 group ranches to individual parcels to pave way for the preparation of title deeds. The areas are Kongelai, Katikomor, Kanyarkwat, Chepkobegh, Murpus, Parua A, Endugh, Tamugh, Ptoyo, Sook, Sekerr, Chewochoi, Pachu, Sangat/Korelach in Weiwei, Ortum West, Ortum East and Kanyerus.

Eradicating poverty through trade and investment

With livestock farming being one of the key income generating activities in West-Pokot, the County Government intends to make the area a leading supplier of meat in Western Kenya and even in Nairobi. To achieve this, the County Government has teamed up with European Union to establish Nasukuta abattoir. This project is nearing completion. The EU has injected in Ksh. 115 million and the county Government has put in Ksh. 35 million. This is a value-addition project that will see animals slaughtered in West-Pokot and meat products supplied to various places in Kenya. It will be transported in fridge-fitted trucks. This will maximize profits for the livestock farmers while at the same time creating jobs for the local residents.

Ortum and Sebit are the leading onion-producing regions in West Pokot. The centres, situated along Kitale-Lodwar, supply onions, pawpaws, mangoes, tomatoes and other fruits to Turkana, Trans Nzoia and other regions.



The County Government plans are at an advanced stage to set up an onion storage facility. This will cushion farmers against massive losses during peak seasons, occasioned by poor market prices and losses due to poor storage conditions.

Next year, the County Government will set aside funds for the establishment of a mango processing plant in Lomut. Trade is one of the key factors of economic growth and development. In order to enhance trade, the County Government has opened numerous markets to ensure that residents can access goods and services with ease.



The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) is an independent philanthropic organisation headquartered in London with offices in Nairobi and New Delhi. CIFF works with a wide range of partners seeking to transform and empower the lives of poor and vulnerable children in developing countries, with the ultimate goal of solving seemingly intractable challenges to ensure all children have the chance to survive and thrive.

CIFF aims to play a catalytic role as a funder and influencer to deliver urgent and systemic change at scale. Areas of work include empowering girls and boys to avoid unwanted pregnancies and HIV/AIDS; improving children and mothers' health and nutrition; preventing low birthweight babies; eliminating

deaths from severe acute malnutrition, nested within a more integrated approach to childhood development; and deworming efforts to break transmission for good. The organization's climate portfolio is driven by vision of a climate-safe future for today's children and future generations that also bear the benefits of cleaner air, energy security and sustainable jobs. CIFF's child protection work focuses on ending an environment that reduces vulnerability of communities and increases protection of children.

CIFF places significant emphasis on quality data & evidence and is committed to sharing as much information as possible about what they and their partners are learning.

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KENYA DEWORMING (2011-2017)

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SAMBURU COUNTY



H.E. MOSES KASAINIE LENOLKULAL
Governor, Samburu County



H.E. JULIUS LESETO LAWRENCE
Deputy Governor, Samburu County

Scaling up investment in mechanized agriculture

Agriculture being the economic mainstay in the County, means serious measures have been put in place to empower the potential of the local farmers in efforts geared towards enhancing food security in the region. In the year 2014, the Samburu County Government procured and distributed 29 tractors for use by crop farmers in the highland zones of the County. As a result of investment in mechanization of Agriculture by Samburu County Government the land under crop production increased by threefold. Currently 36,553 ha of land is



Launch of the agriculture mechanization project in Samburu

under crop production. Maize harvests have also been increased from an 13,600 bags in 2013 to 185,100 bags in 2017. The demand for use of mechanized farming technologies has risen in the recent past as farmers continue to witness the benefits put forth by such. The County Government of Samburu is setting up Arsim and Lulu Irrigation schemes for the dry lowland parts of the County.

The County Government has also put a special focus on livestock farming through programmes aimed at livestock value addition. 2,369 improved livestock breeds have been availed to farmers for upgrading the local breeds. Moreover, 3,026,102 livestock were vaccinated against various notifiable diseases. The County Government also intends to introduce drought resilient animal breeds to farmers in efforts to cope with challenges posed by climate change.

Boosting health

Samburu County more than welcomed devolution as a great opportunity to address the existing huge health disparities amongst its people. In the pre-devolution era Samburu County had one of the worst performance indicators in the entire country. However, through devolution, the department of health prioritized maternal, neo-natal and child health as part of its core focus to reduce both maternal and infant mortality rates. In addition, increasing access and utilization of health services through targeted investments in the six pillars of health service delivery was equally given prominence.

To reduce overall disease burden in the county, the county invested in construction of 9 new dispensaries aimed at increasing access to vital life-saving health services. To address the issue of utilization of health services, the County has embarked on an ambitious integrated health education and promotion programme targeted at core high risk groups within the community. To make the programme more interactive and appealing to all, a number of media services were engaged appropriately. To make the initiative more sustainable, the County Government procured 9 ambulances aimed at facilitating quick lifesaving referrals. The service has saved many lives and brought dignity and convenience to our people.

In order to improve primary health care targets, multiple outreach program activities were carried out particularly in



The free ambulance services across the county

the far flung areas of the county targeting scaling up immunization services, antenatal care, family planning and growth monitoring in children.

To improve service delivery through supervision and monitoring of activities, the County Health Management Teams (CHMT's) and the Sub- County Health Management teams (SC HMT's) have been supported through capacity building to carry out management roles like quarterly supervision, monthly in charges meetings and Result Based Financing verification and performance reviews.

In order to address the needs of chronic and specialized illnesses in the County, the department through the Managed Equipment Scheme acquired a dialysis unit, four modern theatres and two diagnostic and imaging units. It's envisaged that these investments will go a long way in assuring the County residents access to quality health care at their convenience.

In the coming year (FY 2018/19) the department intends to deepen the gains made in the year 2016/17 and 2017/18. This will involve operationalizing the newly built facilities through equipping and staffing, investing in strategies for staff motivation and strengthen infrastructure at the County Referral Hospital in order to assure the public of quality health services. The department will also continue to capacity build all county health staff. Finally, the department will continue to strengthen its collaboration with other stakeholders in health through continuous engagements.

Improving infrastructure, urban planning and development

Infrastructural standards have received a boost since the onset of devolution in Samburu. Over 515.6 km of new access roads have been opened for tourism and business by the Samburu County's department of transport and public works. This has also been done besides the 10 km Maralal town, probase road. 18 kms of street lighting in Maralal town was also undertaken boosting security and business in the Samburu County headquarters. Construction of steeldeck bridge at Rigrig across river Ngeny is near completion. A modern county office block is near completion. Similar infrastructural projects are also in the pipeline for major towns across Samburu.



Maralal town probase road

The Samburu County Government department of Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development is currently undertaking topographical mapping of public utilities, social infrastructure and other developments. This is aimed at availing up to date topographical information to support decision making in distribution of services and asset management. The local physical development planning in 9 centres is ongoing to help coordinate and control development. Beaconing and cadastral survey of urban centers is also ongoing. The Samburu County Government will embark on planning of Lake Turkana Resort City and Planning of Industrial and Lorry Parks along the Lapsset Corridor in future.

Expansion of trade and investment

The Samburu County region has always been open for business. Once christened by travel enthusiasts as the gateway to the wild north in the yesteryears, the rapid economic transformation has seen the rise of trade investments in the past years. In cognizance of this, the Samburu County Government has supported 404 groups with low interest loans totaling 66 million following the establishment of the Samburu County youth and women enterprise fund run by the county's department of Tourism, Trade and Cooperatives. A range of success stories have so far been realized from these groups. The County Government has also been engaged in the improvement of the open markets standards across the Samburu Central, East and North sub-counties. A number of business opportunities are available for exploitation in Samburu ranging from tourism, real estate, energy, agribusiness and many more. Placing Samburu County on the global maps as a preferred investment destination is one of the foremost aspirations of the County Government of Samburu. With the advent of a new age Samburu, all is indeed possible as we all sojourn together in Kenya's journey of devolution.



Samburu Beadwork Cooperative Society; a beneficiary group of low interest loans by the Samburu County Government



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TRANS NZOIA COUNTY



H.E. PATRICK SIMIYU KHAEMBA, CBS
Governor, Trans Nzoia County



H.E. DR. STANLEY TARUS KENEI KIPTOO
Deputy Governor, Trans Nzoia County

Revitalizing agriculture to improve productivity for a food secure Trans Nzoia County

Trans Nzoia is christened Kenya's breadbasket region for its high agricultural productivity. However, overuse of acidic fertilizers including di-ammonium phosphate and conventional farming practices had resulted to a decline in yields over the years.

With inception of devolution, Governor Patrick Khaemba commissioned soil testing to determine the cause of production decline. A customized lime-treated fertilizer dubbed Mavuno which suits specific soil needs has since been manufactured and distributed to farmers at subsidized costs. From 2013, annual maize yield has increased gradually from 4.7 to 5.9 million bags.

This is also attributed to modern farming practices promoted by the county administration. Minimum tillage as a conservation agriculture practice has enabled water percolation and soil moisture retention enhancing crop production. Promotion of crop diversification, provision of subsidized Artificial Insemination Services as well as financial and technical support to farmers' cooperative societies has further boosted production.



Governor Patrick Khaemba distributing subsidized Mavuno fertilizer to farmers. The non acidic fertilizer has helped boost production of maize crop by 35 percent.

To realize maximum profits from agricultural practice, the County Government has promoted value addition on produce in a value chain support program that has minimized selling of raw produce at throw-away prices. A maize milling plant has been established in Endebbes sub-county through public private partnership arrangement and farmers sell their produce to the millers at better prices.

Further, grain stores have been constructed across the five sub-counties; Cherangany, Endebbes, Kwanza, Kiminini and Saboti to help minimize post harvest losses. Policies have also been made to curb land subdivision in order to enjoy economies of scale as mechanization is encouraged with the county administration providing farm machinery to farmers at subsidized rates.

Installation of milk coolants in the sub-counties has helped in marketing of dairy produce even as capacity building is done to farmers through trainings and benchmarking programs so they can engage in best agricultural practices for maximum production and subsequently high returns.

Building Responsive Healthcare Systems: Infrastructure for the future



The modern Trans-Nzoia County Teaching and Referral Hospital under construction in Kitale town.

Good health is critical for a better economy and at the heart of the county leadership is improving on health infrastructure as well as service delivery in the sector. To realize this, the County Government has rehabilitated existing health facilities, equipped and opened up new dispensaries to increase accessibility.

Besides, the County Government is finalizing construction of a modern teaching and referral hospital in the outskirts of Kitale town. The 6-theater, 350-bed capacity medical facility will offer referral services not only to residents but also to those from neighboring counties and countries including Uganda and South Sudan. The facility is anticipated to decrease mortality resulting from curable diseases by a half and tremendously cut down the cost of medical services.

At least one ambulance has been acquired for each of the five sub-counties to cater for emergency and referral services at no cost. The vehicles fitted with modern equipment for handling emergencies are dispatched to health facilities at the grassroots levels and provide 24 hour service.

A total of 450 new health workers including nurses, laboratory technicians, pharmacists, clinical officers and doctors have been employed and others promoted to higher cadres in a bid to improve service delivery in the sector. Supply of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals to health facilities has been enhanced from Ksh. 51 million at the onset of devolution to over Ksh.120 million worth of supplies each quarter.

Power backup generators have been installed in major health facilities to ensure continuity of services that would have been void with power outages while the numbers of maternity in wards have been increased to cater for expectant mothers. An eye clinic and medical laboratory which serves a huge section of north rift and western regions have been equipped to cater for patients with eyesight challenges and enhancing disease surveillance respectively.

Trans Nzoia County's deliberate efforts to unlock its growth potential - A closer look at the Land Titling Program and Expansion Plans

The County Government has used close to Ksh. 40 million to facilitate processing of land title deeds in an exercise that involved 40 surveyors. Over 15,000 residents have so far been issued with title deeds while 88,000 titles are still under processing. Land owners now have the opportunity of using the vital ownership documents as collateral to obtain development loans from financial institutions.

An aerial mapping for Kitale and Kiminini towns and physical development plans for various market centers including Kapkoi, Kwanza, Sitatunga, Munyaka, Surungai, Chepchoina, Tuigoin, Kiungani and Sirende have been done. The towns are scheduled for expansion with more market stalls and recreational facilities set for construction to increase space for business.

More land for expansion of Kitale town has been acquired from the Prisons department while more is still being sought from the Kenya railways department to create space for establishment of public amenities. Land for establishment of market centers has also been acquired across the sub counties.



Trans Nzoia County has procured road machinery worth Ksh. 500,000 to help in the repair of road networks and improve transportation of farm produce to the market.

Building capacity for small holder businesses and improving the business environment

To promote agribusiness and small holder trade, five fresh produce markets and 16 smaller market sheds have been constructed across the County. These are aimed at creating favorable environment for doing business.

Nawiri Fund which seeks to promote traders has benefitted 682 groups each getting Ksh. 100,000 loan as start-up capital. Besides, 47 groups of People Living with Disabilities were each given a grant of Ksh. 80,000 to initiate business activities. The loans and grants have helped beneficiaries improve their livelihoods after venturing in business activities.



Gertrude Khisa Nalinya founder of UMAC cottage industry that has benefited from Nawiri Fund, provided by the County Government in support of small holder traders.

In 2016, the County Government organized an Investment Conference that brought together investors from across the globe who pledged investments worth 54 billion shillings. A number of investors have begun setting up plants in value chain addition.

Companies in manufacturing and processing sectors have since set foot in the county creating over 5,000 direct or indirect new employment opportunities.

The department has provided support to cottage and jua kali industries which have offered employment opportunities as well as services and in turn increased revenue collection sources.



H.E. JACKSON KIPLAGAT MANDAGO
Governor, Uasin Gishu County



H.E. DANIEL KIPROTICH KIPLAGAT
Deputy Governor, Uasin Gishu County

The re-awakening of agribusiness for a better economy and food sufficiency

Uasin Gishu County is one of the bread basket for the country producing over 4.5m bags of maize and about 1m bags of wheat. It supports over 80% of the rural population in the County in terms of household income and food security.



H.E. Governor Jackson K. Arap Mandago issuing chicks and chick feeds to women group in Langas

However, the full potential of the County’s agricultural production has yet to be realized. Thus, most County finances allocated for agriculture fund production activities that assist small-scale farmers to access quality inputs and reducing of post-harvest losses as well as financing extension services.

Over the last four years, the County Government has subsidized prices of ordinary semen from Ksh. 1,500 to Ksh. 700, and sexed semen from Ksh. 6,000 to Ksh. 2,500 in a bid to improve the pedigree of dairy cattle, and has facilitated the construction of housing for 46 milk coolers and purchased three feed mixers to support dairy farming. 477 cattle dips were renovated, and 35 new ones constructed. A further 456 dips were supplied with free acaricide to reduce the cost for farmers from Ksh. 25 to Ksh. 10 per herd.

The County Government also subsidized 30% of maize seeds to farmers, this further reduced the cost of production and increase their income.

The County Government also developed a fish pond project in partnership with the university of Eldoret which is also equipped with a county fish hatchery. Moreover, the County reintroduced pyrethrum growing in Ainabkoi and a potato cold store in the same area. Farmers in Turbo Sub-county were encouraged to grow avocado. In addition, the County set up a pioneer heifers project and AI subsidy services to farmers; also purchased agricultural machinery for lease to farmers at subsidized rates. Uasin Gishu has rolled out a livestock vaccination programme against foot and mouth disease, black quarter/anthrax and lumpy skin disease. A total of 180,000 herds of cattle representing 60% of all the cattle in the whole county, with an aim of making this County a disease free Zone.

To diversify cash crop production in the county, the County Government distributed to farmers 1,000 macadamias seeds, 25,000 coffee seedlings, 4,000 avocados and 4,000 banana tissue culture.

A multipurpose hall was constructed at Chebororwa ATC to facilitate year-round training for farmers seeking more knowledge. During the 2017 – 2022 term, the County is expected to start more farmer cooperative societies and create links between farmers and strategic markets, both local, national and international. This is on top of accessing loans from the revolving fund at County Enterprise Development Fund (CEDF). The County will conduct more extension to enhance farmers’ skills. The County shall develop and support agro-processing initiatives, reduce post-harvest losses through the provision of adequate storage facilities. Four cereal stores for farmers in Tuiyo, Sosiani, Kaptuli and Merewet were renovated.

Health given premium attention

The County Health Services include development of health facilities and pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary health care as well as licensing eateries.

The County Government of Uasin Gishu has consistently scaled up budgetary allocations for medical services and medical supplies from an initial Ksh. 90 million in 2013/2014 to the Ksh. 180 million in 2016/2017. This has seen an increase in the range of medical equipment, drugs and other medical supplies. Furthermore, the County Government has constructed 26 new health facilities and upgraded six hospitals from level three to level four (one in every sub-county). This devolved government has employed more than 400 health workers and 10 fully equipped ambulances for emergency and referral services to serve in all the 121 facilities.



A patient undergoing eye treatment at Huruma Eye Unit

The Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) is working very well in management of supplies and service delivery in the sub-county hospitals across, both level and four facilities.

The increase of access to skilled deliveries from 45% before devolution to 65% by 2017 was a significant achievement. Immunization coverage increased from 60% in 2013 to the current 87% in 2017. 365 health workers were employed during this period.

Since 2013, the County Government has initiated several projects to ensure its constituents live healthy; the maxim, a healthy people, a healthy and hardworking nation. The County Government intends to ensure everyone is enlisted to NHIF and gets access to safe and effective medicines and vaccines. Moreover, the County Government works towards reducing preventable child and maternal mortality and the control of HIV/AIDS prevalence.

During the 2013 -2017 Term, the County Government upgraded four health facilities in various sub-counties to Level-4 hospitals, developed 26 new dispensaries, rehabilitated and equipped 18 health centers. In addition, the County Government acquired 13 new ambulances. Within this period, the County constructed and equipped Huruma Eye Hospital and also facilitated the installation of five dialysis machines at Ziwa Sub County Hospital.

In the 2018-2022 Medium-Term period, the County Government is set to complete and operationalize six Sub-county hospitals, equip and staff medical laboratories in all dispensaries in the County and increase immunization coverage from the current 87% to 95% by 2022. In addition, increase the number of ambulances to 20 and implement Hospital Management Information Systems in all level-2 hospitals.

Co-ordinated service delivery spurs faster development and investor confidence in Uasin Gishu County

Roads are major infrastructural projects and most fundamental for growth of any economy. The sector affects all other departments, the county has facilitated the grading, groveling and compacting of over 3600 kilometers of roads which is now all weather across the county.



Town Planning and Road network expansion

In the first term, (2013-2017) the County Government constructed 27 bridges, coming as big reprieve by bridging gaps that existed between farms and markets for a region boasting agriculture.

The county capital, Eldoret, is the fastest growing business and logistics hub. The county has improved to bitumen standards the streets and ring roads to ease the growing traffic. A multi-billion bypass done in collaboration between the county and the National Government will greatly provide a solution for Eldoret's traffic jam.

Energy is very key across all the sectors of the economy, Uasin Gishu County plans to provide access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy efficient to run all manner of industries. Rural citizens need cheap energy to light their homes and urban areas require street lighting.

Moreover, the county is inspired to become more energy efficient and to invest in clean energy sources such as solar and wind. Already, the County Government has shifted to the use of solar energy for water pumps and milk coolers.

During the 2013-2017 period, the County Government which installed 256 solar units of street light in urban and pre-urban areas, also installed 50 pieces on-grid for street lighting and security lights in Moi's Bridge, Turbo and Burnt Forest.

Emergency response on fire and other disasters is another areas that we have laid more emphasis by constructing two fire sub-stations are in Bunt Forest and Maili Nne. We have trained our emergency staff and equiped all the emergency facilities.

We have prepared and are now implementing a County Spatial Plan, Classification of urban areas plan, Moi's Bridge Local Physical Development Plan, Cheptiret.

Building a strong foundation of the new investment frontier in the Country

Vested with the responsibility to develop, promote trade, industrialization and investment in the county, the Africa Economic Zones (AEZ) Pearl River Project in Plateau remains the landmark for the department.

The Pearl River Project has seen commencement of construction of up to 20 factories that will, upon completion in less than 12 months' time, offer a one stop economic hub with manufacturing and processing firm getting space to do business. Over 40,000 jobs will be created through the project.

The AEZ Project works to muscle up President Uhuru Kenyatta's 'Big Four Pillars' which has processing and manufacturing as the third in the blueprint launched recently.

With cargo flights increasing at the Eldoret International Airport, Eldoret being the gateway to the East African Community and Uasin Gishu County being on the forefront in sensitizing on horticulture, Eldoret stands to further climb up the rolls as the best investment destination.



Automated issuance of license

Uasin Gishu location is very central to serve Western, Rift valley and by extension Eastern and Central Africa. Export goods to Rwanda, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi pass through Eldoret. Also, up to 30 financial institutions, both multi-national and local, have set up businesses in Eldoret. More financial firms are eyeing this niche as the town sights the city status.

H.E. the Governor spearheads and chairs the North Rift Economic Bloc (NOREB), a caucus which pulls in eight counties in a common agenda; to create and expand economic base through tourism, sports, tourism and agriculture.



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ELGEYO MARAKWET COUNTY



H.E. ENG. ALEX TANUI TOLGOS
Governor, Elgeyo Marakwet County



H.E. WISLEY ROTICH KIPYEGON
Deputy Governor, Elgeyo Marakwet County

County launches its own milk brand – Elma Milk

The County Government’s department of Agriculture achieved a great milestone when it launched Elgeyo Marakwet’s own brand of milk now popularly known as Elma Milk.

Elma, which is an acronym of Elgeyo Marakwet, has hit the market in the County and its environs with plans underway to get the milk to major retail stores in Kenya. This is in line with the County Government’s livestock and agriculture value addition initiative launched in 2013 to process milk produced by county farmers and sell them under one brand name.

In 2013, Elgeyo Marakwet Governor Alex Tolgos, announced subsidies to local dairy farmers in the acquisition of Artificial Insemination which was then beyond the reach of many farmers.

From Ksh. 6,000 market price of sexed semen, the Governor ordered that the same be sourced by the County Government and sold to farmers at a subsidized rate of Ksh. 500. The same applied to ordinary semen which was subsidized at Ksh. 200, down from the market rate of Ksh. 2,000.

The County then hired Artificial Insemination officers and equipped them with motorbikes to go round serving farmers, in another bid to improve local breeds to increase production of quality milk. The County Government went further to purchase 7 milk coolers and set them up first in high milk producing areas before partnering with the National Government for the supply of milk coolers to all the County’s 20 wards.

To kick start the process of becoming a milk processing County, the production of Elma milk was launched in 2017 under the Metkei Farmers’ Cooperative Society. The colourful launch was presided by the then Livestock Principal Secretary Andrew Tuimur who hailed the County’s milestone in processing its own milk. He pledged that the National Government would provide the County with milk coolers to support its value chain development efforts. Governor Tolgos said the County would establish milk processing plants in other high milk producing areas such as Lelan in Marakwet. The objective, he said, was to enable the Elma milk to be sold in other parts of the Country beyond the North Rift and earn local farmers increased incomes.

“currently, Elma milk is being sold in Elgeyo Marakwet and its environs. But once we set up other milk processing plants, we shall sell our milk to as far as Nairobi,” he added.



First of its kind renal unit launched in Elgeyo Marakwet

The County Government of Elgeyo Marakwet has established a state of the art Renal Unit at the County’s Referral Hospital, the first of its kind in the County since independence.



This represents an important milestone as regards the delivery of specialised health care services within the county.

The Iten County Referral Hospital (ICRH) will now offer dialysis care to patients with End Stage Renal disease for best survival support and quality of life.

The Unit will provide Six (6) dialysis stations with significantly greater space, comfort and privacy for dialysis patients. In addition, it will help patients in Elgeyo Marakwet County and outlying areas cut costs associated with seeking dialysis services in faraway hospitals.

The Iten Referral Hospital serves a catchment population of approximately over 100,000. The hospital will offer dialysis care to patients with End Stage

Renal Disease drawn from within Elgeyo Marakwet and cater for residents bordering us from neighbouring counties namely; Uasin Gishu, West Pokot and Baringo who form part of the clientele of this hospital for other healthcare needs.

“The increasing cases of non-communicable diseases has seen the increase in the need and demand for renal care. Thus, the improvement and expansion of renal services to address problems affecting patients with kidney diseases has been a key priority for our country,” said Elgeyo Marakwet Governor Alex Tolgos.

The Renal Unit was built and equipped through funds from the County and the National Government’s Managed Equipment Service (MES) programme in a collaborative effort aimed at achieving Universal Health Care. According to Governor Tolgos, healthcare will remain a key priority in the next five years, taking into consideration that wealth cannot be created without a healthy population.

In the Financial Year 2017/2018, he said, the County had allocated Ksh. 1.5 billion to the health sector out of our total County allocation of Ksh. 3.9 billion. This represents 40 percent of the total budget.

County opens up new roads in areas inaccessible since independence

About 70 percent of Elgeyo Marakwet County’s terrain is rugged due to the topography which splits the County into the highlands, escarpments and the Kerio Valley.

Before devolution, most parts of the County were inaccessible and most residents had to climb up and down hills to enable them get to the few passable roads to access major towns. But since 2013 when the County Government came into existence, the story has changed for the better. The landlocked residents now have access roads thanks to an ambitious programme by the County to create reliable and accessible roads.

So far, the County Government has opened up a total of 258 new roads after purchasing road construction equipment that include trucks, graders, backhoes and rollers.

In addition, the County has done 1,300 kilometres of grading and gravelling new and existing roads making most of the County accessible by road in all weather. “I can confidently say that about 80 percent of our people now have access roads enabling them to even transport farm produce to markets in time. For me this is a major milestone,” said Governor Alex Tolgos.



A resident of Embobut, Josephat Kemboi, said since independence his home area was completely cut off from the rest of the world, but he says this is now history.

“The day the County road equipment landed here, our children were almost refusing to go to school just to sit by the roadsides watching the excavator at work carving a new road for us. It was a marvel to them because they had never seen such equipment before,” he said.

In urban planning, the County Government completed a spatial planning for Iten town, which is the County headquarters and also began the process of planning its other major towns including Kapsowar, Tot and Chepkorio.

Street lights & stalls for traders as county also initiates cottage industries

For a long time, traders in Elgeyo Marakwet operated in open spaces exposed to vagaries of weather such as rain and scorching sun. But not anymore. The County Government began a process of building them decent business premises and also lit up trading centres to enable them work at wee hours of the morning and late in the evening, a move aimed at encouraging a 24 hour economy.

In major townships in Elgeyo Marakwet, the County Government established market stalls and street lights making trade thrive. “Before devolution, we used to operate from 7:00 am and close shop at 6.30 pm. But now, we begin trading at 5:00 am upto 9:00 pm. We also lock up our stock in our stalls which are very secure,” says Jane Suter, a trader in Kapsowar market.

Even before the last mile project, Elgeyo Marakwet had pioneered the establishment of street lights in townships beginning with Iten town in 2015, which is the County’s headquarter to spur 24 hour trading.



Further, the County began an initiative to encourage cottage industries to add value to the County’s produce, to be sold at better prices thus earning locals increased income. An example is groundnut processing into peanut butter by farmers in Kerio Valley area of Kapkayo, Soy South Ward.

The farmers came together in a group and were supported by the County in the purchase of a peanut butter grinder machine. Right now, farmers in the area are recording improved incomes from the sale of peanut butter.

“We thank the County Government. In the past, we were almost giving up on growing the groundnuts. But now that we have a steady market for the peanut and selling our surplus,” said Joseph Kwambai, a farmer in Kapkayo.



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NANDI COUNTY



H.E. STEPHEN KIPYEGO SANG
Governor, Nandi County



H.E. DR. YULITA MITEI CHEBOTIP
Deputy Governor, Nandi County

Nandi county to focus on increased agricultural production

The Smallholder Dairy Commercialization Program (SDCP) in Nandi County has supplied milk coolers to farmers to boost their value addition activities.



Nandi Governor, Stephen Sang inspects a milk cooling machine at Lessos Dairy Farmers Sacco

Aldai, Cheda and Oll'essos Dairy Cooperative Societies have already benefited from milk coolers. That is expected to complement Artificial Insemination (AI) Services that have been initiated by the County Government.

The provision of affordable AI Services for our farmers will ensure that quality and quantity production is gradually being achieved in the County. These will be achieved through organizing farmers day workshops and developing demonstration farms in every constituency for purposes of improving their skills and farming techniques.

According to Agriculture CEC Wilson Taay, SDCP has been able to intervene in areas of Organization and Enterprise Skills Development, Technical Support to Smallholder Dairy Producers, Development of the Milk Marketing Chain and Support to Policy and Institutions.

Additionally, the county will revamp and revitalize Kaimosi Farmers Training Centre to carry out research and provide continuous training to farmers on new farming techniques. Taay adds that in order to make youth appreciate and practice agribusiness as a form of self-employment, the department will introduce a 'Farming Cool Program'. He says the youth will be engaged in competitive presentations in value addition practices that will seek to motivate youth to engage in agricultural practices that are modern and competitive. 'This will enable the government to fully realize Governor Stephen Sang's youth agenda as discussed in his manifesto,' explains Taay.

The Nandi Agricultural ASK Show will be re-designed to ensure marketing of the County's farm produce and introduce new agricultural technology. Governor Sang intimates that measures are being put in place to ensure that the County administration collaborates with relevant stakeholders in the tea and coffee sectors in exploring means to carry out tea and coffee value addition. He says there are also efforts meant to reduce operational and supply chain costs and effectively market our tea and coffee internationally. 'Already, the Great Rift Coffee Factory has already set base in Mlango area, and many more investments will be coming to the County,' adds Governor Sang.

Nandi's health sector is gradually being transformed

Ambitious plans have been put in place to streamline health care provision and in his first week after assuming office, Governor Stephen Sang swiftly put to an end a health workers' strike that had decapitated the health sector. County nurses who had been on strike for over three months demanding overdue promotions and better terms of service resumed work in all county hospitals after Sang and the union officials signed a return-to-work formulae agreement. In the agreement, the health workers received promotions, their delayed salaries and were assured of recruitment of casual health staff. This is to cover for additional staffing, replacement of those who have exited the service through natural attrition, resignation among others, to reinforce those in the existing structure.

The much needed drugs have now been supplied after the County Government of Nandi cleared a pending bill of Ksh. 300 million owed to Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA). While speaking during the delivery of drugs and medical supplies to various health facilities in the county in December, Governor Sang announced that the inherited debt had been paid. KEMSA had stopped the supply of drugs to the county owing to the huge debt accrued in the past administration. 'When I took over, everything in the health sector was in tatters because there was no supply of drugs and other supplies. The debt had accrued to Sh300 million,' Sang says. Sang has pledged to turn around the health sector to ensure a better and smooth service delivery as enlisted in his Tuga Tai Manifesto of Transforming Nandi.

With workable schemes in place to guide the effective management of



Governor Stephen Sang monitors drugs supply at Taunet Dispensary within Tindirret Constituency

drugs, Nandi county hospitals now enjoy a full time supply of drugs and other medical supplies. CEC in charge of Health and Sanitation Ruth Koech says her department is gradually sealing all the loopholes to ensure that all the drugs are accounted for and an effective tracking system for the drugs is in place. Additionally, Koech says the county has introduced a pension fund for its health workers and hiring of new staff that were previously on casual basis. ‘Sophisticated hospital beds including electric beds and other specialist beds that are meant to boost the effective treatment of inpatients with difficult conditions that may have hampered their mobility have been supplied,’ adds Koech.

Satellite city to decongest Kapsabet town underway

Governor Stephen Sang has revealed that his government will devote substantial resources to Infrastructure, which will in return realize a great improvement in the infrastructure network. Sang says that good road network means access to markets, opening up of our rural areas to more development and ease in transportation.



Ongoing gravelling and compacting of Lessos road in Nandi Hills Constituency

CEC in charge of Infrastructure Hillary Koech says the equipment purchased include five Moto Graders, eight Tipping Lorries, two Drum Rollers, four Backhoe Loaders, two Crawler Excavators with breaker set and one Prime mover with articulated low loader.

“We recognize the vital role that a good transport network plays in promoting economic growth to the great people of Nandi County”, he affirms.

Elsewhere, information is that Kapsabet town, which is the County headquarters is congested with minimal room for expansion. The Nandi County Government is planning to build a satellite city in a bid to spur economic development in the region.

Governor Sang while speaking during Deputy President William Ruto’s visit to the county last year requested for a satellite city to

decongest the town. ‘We have proper plans for the county development aimed at spurring economic growth. We have projected to build a satellite city. We request for your support,’ Sang said. In his response, DP Ruto pledged the National Government support in the construction of the city that requires about 1000 acres.

‘We want to build a modern town with standard facilities including a better road network in Kapsabet,’ Ruto added. At the same time, Lands CEC member Jacob Tanui intimates that the Kenya Electricity Transmission Company (KETRACO) has already done a feasibility study at the County for a transmission line that will increase access to electricity to the area, connect the places that are not connected to the grid and to also inter connect with the neighboring countries. ‘This will significantly improve the economy of wananchi,’ affirms Tanui.

Chemase Export Processing Zone (EPZ) to boost County’s economic growth

The Nandi County’s Department of Trade, Investment and Industrialization has prioritized trade development for regional and export markets, enterprise development and investment in Special Economic Zones. Already, an MoU with Export Processing Zones (EPZ) Authority to establish a Special Economic Zone in Chemase Ward. The Zone is expected to provide over 50,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities to the youth, women and people living with disabilities (PLWD). CEC Kiplimo Araap Lagat says the Zone will be an industrial park which will attract local and international investors mainly in the Agro-processing and textile and apparel industries.

“A close working relationship with EPZA to help Sireet Tea Company Ltd, a small holder owned company in Nandi Hills, will see an establishment of a modern Compi Flexi EPZ Tea factory,” adds Lagat. According to Governor Stephen Sang, an MoU with Rivatex to establish a modern Tailoring and Fashion Design Facility in Nandi is at an advanced stage. The facility in Nandi will create job opportunities within the County by producing school uniforms for ECDs centers, Primary and Secondary Schools and garments for hospitals and their staff. ‘Beside employment creation, the initiative will also help build the capacity to produce quality clothes and other textile products for our local and export market,’ says Sang.

Governor Sang adds that in consultation with Kenya Leather Development Council and Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, his administration will identify other partners who can help develop capacity to produce quality textile and leather products.

Sang adds that in collaboration with Meru Greens, a vegetable canning and export company in EPZ Athi River, the County Government will mobilize farmers to produce fresh produce for specifically for the export market.

“CEC Kiplimo has already approached Meru Greens for them to provide seedlings to farmers to plant French beans and will actively be involved in canning the beans and at the same time look for market for the expected exports”, says Sang.

Other plans include partnerships with to create Incubation Centres to nurture business ideas and startups and provide loans to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to a tune of Ksh. 20 million. ‘Kshs. 4.6 million has been disbursed to 13 females and 13 males across the county,’ says CEC Kiplimo Araap Lagat.

He adds that plans are underway to set up modern markets at certain locations across the county to assist farmers and local business people.



Governor Stephen Sang (left) during the signing of an MOU with EPZA at the County Headquarters in Kapsabet for the establishment of the Chemase EPZ



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BARINGO COUNTY



H.E. STANLEY K KIPTIS
Governor, Baringo County



H.E. JACOB KURUI CHEPKWONY
Deputy Governor, Baringo County

A sustainable food security through a transformative agricultural sector

Agriculture still remains our economic main stay, but our county is rated as food insecure. Our immense potential in this sector is only achievable if we undertake a paradigm shift by the adoption and deployment of modern farming technologies, embracing drought resilient food crops, animals and animal feeds, mainstreaming research in production, shifting from rain-fed to water-fed agriculture (irrigation), diversifying in agricultural production, establishing a complete value chain anchored in strong value addition and finally by linking the market to production.

Turning agriculture and livestock sectors into commercially driven and innovative life transforming ventures is a sure strategy to enable our farmers to take advantage of the enormous comparative competitive advantage prevalent in the sector within Baringo.

Additionally, the County Government is spearheading innovation and diversification in farming through promotion of apiculture (bee farming) and aquaculture (fish farming). Baringo's honey is organically certified and medicinal. Acacia trees (*Vachellia tortilis*) that covers the landscape provides the bees with unpolluted nectar in the wilderness for making honey.



Maize crop at Ng'enyin irrigation scheme in Baringo South sub-county

Increasing productivity, development of the value chain, promoting mechanization, improving farmers' capacity through intensified training and extension services and developing a reliable market are the key drivers for the sector.

Towards universal and affordable health care

Devolution continues to shape the way public affairs are conducted, how decisions are made and how public resources are utilized. The people now have the constitutional mandate to not only identify their unique and specific problems but also suggest for the best remedy to their development needs and challenges. Health sector as one of the devolved functions, takes the largest allocation in the county's budget. Although the total expenditure for the health sector in Baringo account for over 30% of our total resources, access to health care still remains a challenge to many of our citizens and particularly our county. Quality life starts with quality health. To improve our aggregate productivity and production dictates that our human capital remains healthy and energetic.



Dr. Peter Ogutu (centre) a consultant cardiologist from Klinikum Ausburg, a leading hospital in Germany on a visit to Eldama Ravine Hospital with CEC Health Hon. Mary Panga (second right) and Baringo County Director of Medical Services Dr. Philip Kamau (third left).

In order to achieve the pillar on health in my manifesto and the Vision 2030 health sector goals as a county, we must strive to maintain a healthy working population necessary for the increased labour production that the county requires in order to remain competitive.

Statistics indicate that the top ten killer diseases like malaria, water-borne, lifestyle and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) can be to a large extent be prevented. As the saying goes, prevention is better than cure; my administration's focus will be on preventive health care to achieve sustainability and in effect re-allocate resources to the provision of universal healthcare and to other productive sectors.

To achieve this, we must fix the state of our health care facilities by deploying resources for upgrading and expanding facilities to meet the growing demands. We must sustain the provision of adequate drugs and employ and deploy the necessary medical staff to all health facilities, enhance response to health care emergencies by

continuing to invest in modern ambulance facilities, promotion of Private Public Partnerships in health care provision and adopt proper policies and regulations for a transparent and accountable health care system. We are planning to partner with NHIF in rolling out health insurance cover to a good number of our residents.

Improved infrastructure, world class urban development for sustainable safe roads and towns

Roads, transport and infrastructure is a key development enabler that sets the foundation base for businesses to thrive. We envisage providing functional infrastructure to support our socio-economic development. We will concentrate primarily on roads that promote investment and production sectors. We will also target infrastructure that will work towards enhancing security and access to social amenities. For a start, we intend to open up more road networks and improve maintenance of the existing ones as well as liaising with the National Government to have more roads in the County like the recently launched Karandi-Mochongoi - Marigat Road, Oinobmoi-Barwesa and Kipsaraman-Kinyach roads all being upgraded to bitumen standards. This will help us realize fast, sustainable economic growth, good infrastructure and ensure the movement of people and goods is smooth. Thus provide an impetus for socio-economic transformation.



New Roads Upgrade Programmes will see the tarmacking of urban roads as well as the grading/maintenance /gravelling of rural access roads within the county

With immense potential, Baringo County will be the next frontier for renewable sources of energy that would propel Kenya as it seeks to achieve its ambitious Vision 2030. In recognition of the role played by the National Government and the private sector in accelerating growth in this sector, Baringo has opened her doors to investors who wish to exploit energy opportunities in the county. Already, the Geothermal Development Company (GDC) is carrying out exploration activities while various investors have shown interest in the harnessing of solar and wind power. We will work towards actualizing these investment prospects in wind, solar and biomass energy production as harnessing these opportunities holds the potential of turning Baringo to a source of green and clean energy. The county is ready to receive more investors in this sector to take advantage of the existing opportunities. So far, Cummins Limited has set up a plant to generate clean energy using the bio-mass from the invasive weed species ‘*prosopis juliflora*’ popularly known as Mathenge in Marigat.

In order to spur growth in the urban areas, the county will fast track documentation of land in urban areas and issuance of title deeds. This critical resource is a factor of production that must be secured in order for meaningful investment to be realized and enjoyed by all.

Currently, the demand for modern business premises and residential blocks far outstrips supply. To bridge this shortfall in housing units and business premises particularly in urban areas, we are formulating policy frameworks that will attract investments and partnerships with institutions like the National Housing Corporation to spur sustainable growth in this front.

We shall institute robust urban planning as it is critical if all factors like public amenities, water and sewerage systems are to be properly laid down during development and future if future expansion is to be taken care of. Spatial planning for our entire major towns is going on and also leveraging on GIS technology in securing and documenting our records in digital formats.

A vibrant manufacturing and trading sector for a competitive and wealthy county

Owing to its capacity to produce enormous raw material, agriculture and livestock keeping, Baringo holds the key to the manufacturing of market ready produce, job and wealth creation.



Milk products from Sabatia farmers Co-operative Society in Eldama Ravine

Our target in this regard is fast racking the completion of Coffee and Milk Processing Plants in Baringo North and Eldama Ravine Sub Counties respectively; finish up the rehabilitation of three slaughter houses in Eldama Ravine, Kabarnet and Mogotio; and finalize the construction and operationalize Barwesa, Loruk and Maoi slaughter houses. Additionally, Mogotio Tannery which has attracted development assistance from the European Union will be utilized to process and add value to the locally available hides and skin.

To spur trade and enterprise development amongst our residents, we shall improve women and youth kitty to boost small and medium enterprise run by our women and youth. We intend to marshal our residents to join SACCOs and embrace the culture of saving so as to improve their well being through acquiring loans for the development of their identified projects in agribusiness and other entrepreneurship ventures.



H.E. HON. NDIRITU MURIITHI
Governor, Laikipia County



H.E. JOHN MWANIKI
Deputy Governor, Laikipia County

Laikipia County Government making farming profitable through 'Kilimo Faida' Brand

Laikipia County Government is working on a map of crops and livestock that are profitable to produce in every zone to enable ordinary residents make at least Ksh. 600 a day.



His Excellency Governor Ndiritu Muriithi, Deputy Governor John Mwaniki (in a black t-shirt) and other government officers visiting a pineapple farm in Marmanet Ward in February.

The main strategy is to mobilize agricultural producers into marketing organizations and facilitate them into signing contracts with buyers and processors.

On 21st September 2017, the county held the first Governor's roundtable on contract farming which culminated in scores of farmers signing contracts to grow sorghum for sale to East African Maltings Limited among others.

The programme to link farmers with buyers and processors has been going on in earnest. During the NHIF registration and Kilimo Faida activation road show held between 2nd -10th February, 1,423 farmers with a total acreage of 2,638 acres enlisted.

In Laikipia East; 235 farmers with a total of 400 acres; Laikipia North 402 farmers with a total of 602 acres and in Laikipia West 796 farmers with a total of 1638 acres. The crops contracted for ranged from assorted herbs, French Beans, Potatoes, canola, soya beans and hay which will be produced for Mukima Greens, Jua Kali Potato Processing Plant and Bidco Oils among others.

In addition, 300 farmers across the county have had their soils tested. The county is also supporting and promoting the Laikipia beef brand by creating feedlots and disease free compartments as the practical way to modernize livestock production. It is rolling out radio frequency identification of the county's cattle for traceability and security purposes. So far the County Government has tagged over 22,000 cattle and a further 15,000 others will be tagged in the coming financial year.

Laikipia County makes big strides towards Universal Health Care

A healthy nation is a wealthy nation. On average, households spend about 30 percent of their income on medical costs. This affects the productivity of the county unless there is some form of insurance. To this end, Governor Ndiritu Muriithi pledged to promote registration with NHIF to ensure Universal Health Care across the county. Tremendous progress has been reported in this area. The County Government of Laikipia embarked on a campaign to ensure every household is enrolled in the national hospital insurance fund scheme.

Volunteers have been moving from house to house registering people in NHIF using a mobile-based application. By the end of last week of March, they had visited 75,000 households.

The drive started with the pilot phase last November, when 1,500 households were registered in Kimanjo, Lamuria and Ndindika. From the households visited, 23,157 are now enrolled in health insurance which represents 35 percent. Seventy-five community health workers were initially involved in the exercise and were using a mobile-based application to enroll new members. A similar number of households were brought on board during the week-long activation exercise between February 2-10 with the Governor and members of the county assembly spearheading the exercise in all the wards.

There are 110,000 households in Laikipia County of which only 10,000 had a form of medical insurance cover before the NHIF rollout. The



His Excellency Governor Ndiritu Muriithi has been on the front line in promoting enrollment to NHIF as a way of achieving Universal Health Care in Laikipia County/GPS-Laikipia

number of volunteers engaged in household visits was increased to 237 with the inclusion of community health volunteers, agricultural extension workers, and ECDE tutors.

The waiting period for new activations has been reduced to 30 days following the signing of a cooperation agreement between the County Government and NHIF on February 15th. In addition, and more important, at least four health facilities in every ward are now NHIF-accredited. According to the agreement, NHIF shall give provisional accreditation to the following health service providers on or before the 1st day of June, 2018, notwithstanding any accreditation requirements, procedures and timelines.

Ol moran health centre and Sipili health centres (Ol Moran ward), Ndindika and Mwenje health centres (Githiga Ward), Ol Jabet and Ng'arua health centres (Marmane ward), Rumuruti and Lorian health centres (Rumuruti Ward). Salama and Thome health centres (Salama ward), Nyahururu and Muthengera health centres (Igwamiti Ward), Wiyumiririe, Matopeni, Shalom and Withare health centres (Ngobit ward), Lamuria, Matanya and Solio health centres (Tigithi ward), Sweet waters and Baraka health centres (Thingithu ward), Likii, Nturukuma and Kanyoni health centres (Nanyuki ward). Others are Kalalu and Mugumo health centres(Umande ward), Luoniek, Minjore, Posta and Maundu Meri health centres (Sossian), Kimanjo and Ilmotiok health centres (Mukogodo West), Doldol and Chumvi health centres (Mukogodo East)and Muramati, Naibor and Debatas health Centres (Segera).

Twenty Centres set for upgrade under smart town initiative



H.E. Governor Ndiritu Muriithi inspecting a road project in Rumuruti Ward. With him is area MCA Joseph arap Suge and Infrastructure CECM Joseph Shuel

Laikipia County Government has embarked on upgrading some of its towns and market centres to a clean and smart town standard. This involves putting in place proper physical plans for identified towns and markets centres, street addressing and naming of buildings and functional draining systems. In addition, the identified towns will benefit from a proper water and sanitation system and aesthetic street frontage upgrade utilizing cobble stones and beautification of public spaces in all towns and market centres. In the FY 2017/18, 3 towns have been identified namely: Naibor; Ol Jabet; and Wiyumiririe. Going forward we will upscale this to include a total of 20 towns by the end of FY 2021/22.

On the energy sector, Laikipia County Government is keen to grow investment on renewable energy technologies from sun, wind, bio mass, and waste. This will help to provide uninterrupted supply of power for industrial and domestic use.

Laikipia County enterprise fund to spur SME growth

One of the key objectives of the Laikipia County Government is enacting fair and favorable business regulations and licensing regime to encourage investment and entrepreneurship.

The County Government sees cooperatives as the best model for empowering communities economically and enhancing the marketing of their produce especially if they embrace value addition at the production level. They act as market aggregators and have therefore been earmarked as another factor that can spur economic growth.

The County Government has allocated Ksh. 20m for onward lending by the Co-operatives through the Co-operative Development Revolving Fund. Co-operatives that deal in value addition and product marketing have been identified for funding.

In collaboration with other players, like the Kenya Bureau of Standards, Micro and Small Enterprise Authority, the County has embarked on extending support to innovators through capacity-building, market access and product standardization. The department of Weights and Measures ensures fair business practices. These efforts by the County Government have seen the number of active cooperative societies grow to 156 with a total asset base of Sh3.8 billion and loans amounting to Sh3 billion.

Out of 117 of the cooperatives are saccos of which three are Fosas, 31 marketing and eight housing. Establishment of the Ksh. 300 million Laikipia County Enterprise Fund is expected to help small medium enterprises grow and employ more people. So far the fund has budget of Ksh. 50 million in which local entrepreneurs can borrow at very affordable rates.

On October 5th, 2017 the County held the first ever stakeholders' forum which culminated in a fruitful engagement on ways to improve trade and investment in the county.

Destination Laikipia Brand is intended to make the county a leading wildlife tourism destination and a preferred choice of establishing holiday homes, conferencing, weekend rest and relaxation destination.



Laikipia Deputy Governor John Mwaniki with some participants during the stakeholders forum held on October 5th, 2017 at Soammes Hotel, Nanyuki



H.E. HON. LEE MAIYANI KINYANJUI
Governor, Nakuru County



H.E. ERICK KORIR KIPKOECH
Deputy Governor, Nakuru County

Pyrethrum revival in Nakuru County underway

Agriculture is the mainstay of Nakuru’s economy and has been favoured by a conducive environment, fertile soils and vibrant farmers. We have embarked on a major task to revive the agricultural sector to boost the economy of the county through cash crops like pyrethrum and irish potatoes. Under the *Stawisha Kilimo* program, the County will not only put focus on production of the crops but emphasise on value addition through strengthening of agricultural based cottage industries.

The County Government of Nakuru has set out elaborate plans for the revival of the pyrethrum sector, which we believe would contribute tremendously to the economy by reducing poverty.

Already the County Government has allowed a private company to establish a mega 45 acres seedling nursery in Molo. The nursery established by Kentagra Biotechnology Limited will be used to raise pyrethrum seedlings to be distributed to framers for free within Nakuru County. This will translate to 4,500 acres of pyrethrum plantation.



As an incentive, the company will be offering free seedlings and fertilizer after which it will purchase the pyrethrum flowers as per a signed agreement. The quality of seedlings given to farmers is set to be improved every three years.

The County Governmnet of Nakuru has prioritized revamping of the pyrethrum sector through a multi sectoral approach. Nakuru County has partnered with 18 pyrethrum growing counties to revive the cash crop and has been holding stakeholder meetings. Other plans rolled out by the County Government is training more extension workers and working closely with Egerton University to realise the dream.

The County is also establishing a call centre that would be a one-stop centre where pyrethrum and other farmers would have their questions answered in real time .

The County is also working closely with Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) to ensure the seeds supplied to farmers are certified and suitable for planting in specific areas.

Health reforms in Nakuru County to boost service delivery

County Government of Nakuru is implementing reforms in its health sector for better delivery of services to residents. The reforms are based on a report by a taskforce formed by H.E. Hon Governor Lee Kinyanjui immediately he took over office in September 2017 to assess the status of health services in the County.

The County Government has placed emphasis on critical areas highlighted in the report released in October 2017. The reforms include hiring of more health staff, mainly nurses. So far, 200 nurse have been hired and deployed to different health facilities in the 55 wards in the County.



We have been equipping and staffing health facilities, especially those in rural Nakuru to ensure faster and easier service delivery of health services to the people. These initiatives include equipping and staffing maternity wards in rural Nakuru where mothers had to travel long distances to deliver.

There also has been an upgrade of the Nakuru County Referral Hospital, that is the largest referral hospital in the Rift Valley region. The hospital now has modern imaging, ICU, Renal and theatre equipment. It also has an oxygen plant, a modern warehouse and a Mother Child Hospital.

There is also a Diabetes Centre of Excellence built at a cost of Ksh. 10 million. The Nakuru Hospice has continued to play a vital role in palliative care of the terminally ill in addition to awareness creation for early screening and treatment.

The hospital is located on a major international highway and receives emergency cases. The County Government of Nakuru has been expanding its casualty section to cater for these emergencies. To ensure that victims of road crashes receive first aid and taken to hospital on time, the County's department of health is launching an ambulance dispatch centre. There will be adequate ambulances to no respond to emergencies on short notice to save lives.

To address HIV/AIDS burden in the county, the department has made great strides by increasing HIV testing and antiretroviral sites. The county currently has 331 testing sites and 110 ART sites and this has led to a drastic reduction in mother to child transmission and a decline in the prevalence and annual infection rates of HIV in the county.

On health commodities, vaccines and technologies, the department has fully adopted the 'pull' system of ordering for drugs and medical supplies. The department of health services has leveraged on the efficiency of Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) to streamline supply of pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical products delivered to each health facility.

Nakuru banks on clean energy, infrastructure development to boost growth

Energy

Making fuel from human waste helps Nakuru manage waste, protect environment

A bio-mass fuel project, that involves making fuel used to light cooking stoves (jikos) from human waste is helping the County Government of Nakuru manage waste disposal and also conserve the environment. The project is by Nakuru Water and Sanitation Services Company (NAWASSCO) with Vitens Evides International (VEI). This project is crucial in environmental protection because usage of fuel made from human waste is easing pressure on use of charcoal and firewood from trees.

The briquettes are made from dried or carbonized faecal matter, which are mixed with sawdust and molasses and developed to suit the different types of cooking stoves available in the market. Currently, the project produces about two tonnes of briquettes a month but is being scaled up to produces upto 10,000 tonnes a day.

Roads

Boresha Barabara program making rural Nakuru accessible

Good roads are key to an agricultural economy and especially in rural Nakuru where farming is a major income earner. Poor terrains have been among major challenges facing locals in various parts of Nakuru County more so, farmers who have been languishing in poverty for lack of access to better markets.



Under the *Boresha Barabara 2018 Program*, dilapidated roads in the rural areas are being rehabilitated. The program is improving impassable roads in all the 55 wards in the county to ease transport to enable locals access markets and seek services across the county.

Economy can only grow with good infrastructure that includes roads where individuals are able to access different services on time. For instance farmers transporting their produce to market on time.

We came up with the project after conducting a public participation forum and research on major projects locals wanted to boost their economy. Rehabilitation of roads was one of his promises to electorates during his campaign period. The project was rolled out during dry spell to ensure work is standard. The county is expecting to implement the project before the main rainy season expected between March and April.

Two industrial parks to boost Nakuru's economy

The County Government of Nakuru is set to have two industrial parks. One of the industrial park will be an agro-city at the Lord Egerton Castle in Njoro and the other one will be in Naivasha. The agro-city, to be constructed in partnership with Egerton University, is a centre of excellence in agriculture and agribusiness that offers leading corporations, organisations and agencies.

Upon completion, it will have agricultural research and development centre, laboratories, agro-food, processing park, agricultural extension and outreach centre, international farm machinery. It will also have a farmers' services and inputs centre, warehouses and logistics centre, a hospital, convention centre and expo.



The agro-city park will cater for emerging and commercial farmers, agribusiness, manufacturers, government agencies, non-governmental organizations. The park will offer tailored catalytic solutions in crop and livestock genetics, agro-food processing and marketing, farm technology, financing, manpower and business development that will enable the continent to better confront current and emerging challenges of climate change, food challenges and land degradation.

The agro-city is expected to attract local and international investors and create 5,000 jobs.

Gratuity Pension Backed Mortgage
Retirement Benefits Death Benefit
Funeral Grant **Our Products** Emigration Benefit
AMAL Invalidity Benefit Withdrawal Benefit
Group Life Assurance Cover

Retirement Benefits

Members are eligible for this benefit when they attain the mandatory retirement age of 60 years, or early retirement age of 50 years. Members can choose between two modes of payment;

- Lump sum benefit- receive one-off payment equivalent to the total fund value in the account
- Income drawdown- a member may select a specific regular amount or a percentage of the investment fund value in his/her account payable monthly, quarterly, semi annually or annually.

Withdrawal Benefit

This benefit applies to a member who leaves service of the sponsor through either resignation or dismissal before attaining the statutory retirement age. Here a member is entitled to all his/her contributions and interest accrued; and 50% of employer's contribution and interest accrued. The deferred benefit (the remaining 50% employer benefit) continues to earn interest until the member attains statutory age.

Invalidity Benefit

A member who is certified to be permanently incapable of working because of physical or mental disability before attaining the retirement age is entitled to payment of his/her accumulated benefits in full.

Emigration Benefit

A member who is leaving the country without intention of returning is entitled to payment of all his/her accumulated benefits in full.

Death Benefit/ Survivor's

On death of a member, the appointed beneficiary receives full payment of the member's total benefit equivalent to the total fund value in his/her account. Consisting of member contribution, employer contribution and interest accrued.

Funeral Grant

A benefit of KES 100,000 is paid by LAPFUND to the bereaved family upon death of a member.

Pension Backed Mortgage

Members can use their accumulated benefits (up to 60%) as collateral to secure a mortgage loan to own a home while at the same time saving towards a secured retirement.

Group Life Assurance Cover

This benefit is designed to protect your family in case of these eventualities; permanent total disability, death cover and critical illness cover.

Gratuity

This is a lump sum payment made by the employer/County Government to the employee based on duration of their total service.

LAPFUND AMAL

The 1st Shari'ah compliant product in the region offering services in accordance to Shari'ah principles and the RBA Act.





Amref Health Africa has been at the forefront of creating awareness about obstetric fistula and treating women affected by fistula for the last six decades.

Fistula Prevention & Repair - Restoring Her Dignity

A campaign to increase awareness about Obstetric Fistula and raise funds towards reconstructive surgery for at least 1,000 women suffering from fistula in Kenya by the end of 2019.

Our Strategy



Prevention



Training



Surgical Camps



Reintegration

Our Achievements

- **100+ Nurses** to assist women suffering from fistula
- **700+ Women** receive reconstructive surgery
- **8 Surgical Camps** are set up to provide health care to patients in rural parts of the country who would otherwise be unable to access fistula services
- **20 Doctors** are trained to provide surgical interventions to these women and girls.

Counties Impacted

West Pokot, Siaya, Turkana, Marsabit, Kiambu, Garissa, Mombasa and Kilifi

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H.E. SAMUEL KUNTAI TUNAI
Governor, Narok County



H.E. EVALYN ARUASA CHEPKIRUI
Deputy Governor, Narok County

Two-thirds of the working population in Narok earn their living through agricultural related enterprises and investments.

Narok is the biggest producer of barley in Kenya and supplier of 40% of the wheat, potatoes and maize consumed in Kenya. Through the new CIDP, the county will invest in agri-business, pursue investment partnerships for value adding of local produce, to create employment and industrial growth.



Governor Tunai delivering food items. Narok County's food production strategy is to ensure that the county is food sufficient.

Notable strides include:

Crop Farming

- Crop disease management and control services through provision of disease-free seeds and other measures to control Maize Lethal Narcotic Disease (MLND), wheat rust and potato blight.

Livestock Farming

- Vaccination of over 5,000 livestock per year and training of 46 animal health technicians in Artificial Insemination.
- Increased pasture farming acreage for fodder production to 27,413 acres hence an increase in cultivation of Napier, Lucern Desmodium, Hay Boma Rhodes, Kikuyu and Silage Grass breeds.

Irrigation

- 750 acres under irrigation in Mosiro ward, a previously arid land. The land now produces high value horticultural crops such as French beans, tomatoes, water melon, bananas, bulb onions and capsicum.
- New irrigation schemes in Olopito and Shulakino in collaboration with JICA and the National Government.

Agricultural Value Addition

- Construction of a milk processing plant, and distributing 12 new milk coolers across the dairy producing regions of the county, with subsidies for the construction of buildings and necessary infrastructure to support the milk coolers.

Impact of devolution in Narok County healthcare system

The health sector has seen a drastic turn-around. Within six years of devolution, 300 health workers have been employed. They include; doctors, nurses, clinical officers, radiologists and lab technicians. 23 new health facilities have been put up and operationalized across the county to make health care accessible even in the most remote areas.

The county has constructed maternity units, outpatient blocks and staff houses in more than 100 county health facilities.

Narok Health Referral Hospital has a new Renal Unit, fully equipped with new equipment that has cut healthcare costs for cancer patients by 50%, granting relief to patients from the southern Rift Valley and those from the farthest corners of Narok such as Loita. This facility provides up to 105 dialysis sessions per week. The Referral Hospital installed two Gene Xpert machines and installed Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EMONC) equipment.

Governor Tunai states that “no child or family member should have their dreams scuttled due to inaccessible healthcare in Narok County. Health services must be accessible.”



Equipping the Narok Level 5 Referral Hospital has saved more lives and made healthcare accessible for residents.

Acquisition of 11 ambulances has improved emergency interventions across the county, chiefly among children and expectant mothers. Deliveries conducted by skilled health workers have improved from 18% to 34% and routine immunization coverage has improved from 46% to 52%.

The health department ensures regular provision of essential medical drugs and non-pharmaceuticals every three months, as well as necessary immunization for polio, tetanus and measles among others.

Infrastructure facelift in Narok County a function of devolution

The centrality of infrastructure for economic development nationally, and at the county level cannot be gainsaid. Infrastructure is a catalyst for rural and industrial development. In five years, Narok has upgraded 110 roads covering 2,941.8 kms. Of these, 1,633.6 kms have been graded while 1308.2 kms have been graveled.



Road Repairs in Narok Town by one of the machines acquired by the County.

Because of the geographic and soil diversity of the county, the road construction has had to include 7,990 kms of soft earthwork and 7,960 kms of hard earthwork, and use of 2,000 small 600 mm culverts and 4,763 of the larger 900 mm culverts, for effectiveness.

The county acquired 12 tipper trucks, six graders, six rollers, six excavators, six shovels and 2 bulldozers and now Narok County now has capacity to undertake roads construction.

Notable construction works by the County Government include:

- Upgrading of Olkiombo, Keekorok, Musiara Mara and Serena Mara Airstrips.
- Construction of Narok Stadium.
- Rehabilitation of Narok Town Storm water system.

Access to the Mara

Maasai Mara National Game Reserve has been ranked yet again as Africa's leading national park in the league of giants, beating those in South Africa, Tanzania and Botswana. Tarmacking of the Mara-Sekenani road will make visitors access to the Mara comfortable, easy and enjoyable. Narok County in conjunction with the National Government is working to improve state of roads leading to the Mara. Maasai Mara is a major holiday destination and key revenue earner for Kenya.

Sustainable wealth creation for Narok residents

Narok County, through its integrated development plan has consistently allocated resources for furtherance trade and investments, through support of agro-processing with a view to motivate investment for value adding of agricultural produce; cross-county and inter-county trade; improvements in tourism, infrastructure development, alternative energy through user of solar power and preservation of the environment.

The County Government has also greatly invested in supporting initiatives for youth, women and persons with disability. For instance, financial and economic literacy trainings for youth groups, and supporting the formation of SACCOs through which proper training and support is given with the support of the County Government.

Boosting Tourism

The County Government has increased investment in support of the Maasai Mara Game reserve. The county recruited, trained and hired 300 new Game Rangers, to boost surveillance and protection of Africa's premier game reserve.

Maasai Mara National Game Reserve has been ranked as Africa's leading national park by the World Travel Market, towering competitors in the league of giants, beating South Africa's Kruger National Park, Tanzania's Serengeti National Park and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve of Botswana.



The County procured 300 radio calls to enhance communication surveillance for animal protection, safety of tourists and reduce poaching. Being a key revenue earner, the County passed the Mara Community Fund Act, through which 19% of revenue collected from the Mara is shared with surrounding communities to boost community-aided conservancies.



H.E. JOSEPH JAMA OLE LENKU, EGH
Governor, Kajiado County



H.E. MARTIN MOSHISHO MARTIN
Deputy Governor, Kajiado County

Balancing livestock rearing with alternative agriculture

70 per cent of Kajiado's economic mainstay revolves around nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralism. However, urbanization and adoption of modern forms of agriculture continue to offer alternative livelihoods.

Dry most of the year, agricultural potential has not been fully exploited and Irrigation would really help. To promote livestock rearing and marketing, the County has constructed and rehabilitated 9 livestock sale yards at a cost of over Ksh. 40 Million and constructed a slaughter house at Mbirikani.



Governor Lenku after inspecting the county livestock farm where breed improvement is being done

A tannery at Isinya for value addition of hides and skins is complete in addition to construction of 15 vaccination crushes. Cooperative societies have received three milk coolers worth Ksh. 15 million, reducing milk loss. We now have four water pans to harvest flash floods and increase livestock and human water access.

Similarly, we have rehabilitated Ngurumani and Namelok irrigation schemes with 2,000 hectares put under irrigation in addition to a grain drier in Rombo to curb Aflatoxin in maize.

Extension services have been enhanced through field days, farm visits and Agricultural exhibitions and training through the Agricultural Training Centre.

Surveillance on crop and animal pests and diseases has led to lesser loss of animals from various diseases. Ksh. 130 million is being spent on vaccines for disease control as we provide drought resistant crops. Our supply of subsidized fertilizers and other farm inputs stands at over Ksh. 30 million.

To counter the recurring drought, we have set aside 10,000 ha for fodder production to cushion livestock keepers from huge losses. Further, we are planning to increase livestock breeding and multiplication farms and expand our livestock markets and marketing channels.

Basically, Agriculture Sector Services have improved due to increased investment focused on the needs of the pastoral and farming community as was identified and captured in the County CIDP and the departmental plans.

Driving the health agenda on the speed lane

Progressive investment in infrastructure, human resources, service delivery and procurement of equipment and drugs has made Kajiado's health agenda to be on a roll coaster. Since 2013, the health budget has risen from Ksh. 1.2 billion to Ksh. 2.3 billion.

We have constructed new facilities, upgraded and renovated old ones. For example, Kajiado Referral Hospital now has a fully equipped Renal Unit and is offering dialysis services, an operational pediatric ward and an equipped laboratory, radiology section and two theatres.

Loitokitok Hospital has a new maternal and child health block, a fully equipped radiology section, theatre, the CSSD unit, laboratory, laundry, maternity and a new born unit.

Ongata Rongai Health Centre and Ngong' Hospital serve a rapidly growing population. At Ongata Rongai, we constructed a maternity theatre, a mortuary and renovated old building and fully equipped laboratory. A sixty-bed ward at the facility is at the procurement stage.



The launch of the Dialysis machines at Kajiado Referral Hospital

Ngong' Hospital now has two theatres, a 60-bed capacity ward while at Kitengela sub-county hospital we have operationalized the theatre, opened the inpatient section and equipped various departments in partnership with Korean Aid Agency, KOICA.

Rural health facilities have also been upgraded and equipped to boost child mortality such as Matasia Health Center, Mashuuru, Namanga, Mile 46, Kimana and Enkorika Health Centers as well as Oloolua, Olosirkon, Njukini and Illasit dispensaries.

We have increased health workers from 700 in 2013 to 1,000 this year. These include consultants, medical officers, nurses and clinical officers. Reliable purchase of drugs and other equipment at Ksh. 250 million annually has been achieved.

Generally, the County's health services have improved due to increased investment focused on the needs of the communities. An example is increased skilled deliveries from 39% to 63%; Immunization from 68% to 86% and under 5 deworming from 3.7% to 40%.

Upgrade of roads to Bitumen to reshape urban centres

Kajiado County's unprecedented population growth has necessitated a spatial plan to manage the land resource effectively. The Spatial Plan will transform urban planning and set aside land for agricultural use, livestock rearing and commercial purposes. Together with this controlled land use, will be the upgrade of roads to bitumen standard especially in urban centres as we rehabilitate roads to all weather status to connect the sub counties. Ongata Rongai's market road is our first beneficiary of the upgrade to bitumen status.



Kajiado CEC Alex Kilowua inspect rehabilitated Oloika - Matali road in Kitengela, Kajiado East Sub County

Gataka –Cooperative College of Kenya Road and Maasai Lodge-Rimpa road are ear-marked for tarmacking to decongest Rongai and Kiserian towns. Five tarmac roads will be constructed in Kajiado Town to link it to the upcoming ultra-modern county headquarters.

Together with KENHA, the 10-kilometre Kitengela-Acacia bypass in Kitengela will be built on both sides of the Namanga- Nairobi Highway. The crucial 7 kilometre-Oloika-Matari road is now rehabilitated.

Construction of five tarmac roads in Kajiado town will link the town to the upcoming ultra-modern county headquarters. The department has resolved to construct all-weather roads that link two or more wards. This category has the Najile-Eremit - Oltinga - Nyoonyorie - Elang'ata - Wuas - Oltepesi road up to Torosei along the Kenyan - Tanzania (border); The Meto-Inkiito-Ilpatimaro - Ng'ataatak - Mailwa - Eselenkei - Mbilikani - Kibini - Sultan Hamud road; and the Inkilonito - Maili Tisa-Mailwa - Motoroki - Lenkisim - Merrueshi - Inkirinyiet - Simba road.

Bridges are also a priority. The Oldepe Bridge in Mosiro Ward, Eseki in Matapato North, Olkeria in Birikani/Eselenkei, Kilo bridge in Imaroro and 5th avenue in Rongai are among bridges that are set to be constructed or rehabilitated. To facilitate a faster process of implementing construction projects, the County will purchase heavy machinery for each sub-county such as graders, dowsers, excavators and rollers.

On policy, the department is in the process of formulating policies to improve service delivery and is currently having both the transport policy and parking policy as a priority.

Expanding markets to boost trade and create jobs

The diversity and high growth of population in Kajiado has necessitated expansion of markets to drive trade and create jobs.

Since 2013, the County has invested Ksh. 250 million in construction and modernization of 14 markets. Before then, these markets were characterized by congestion and overflow of traders on the pavements. However, today, our new markets have provided a critical link between producers and consumers. The new stalls and spacious trade areas have minimized post-harvest losses, created cleaner environment and improved public health. Take Kiserian market, for example, it's a large open shed and 36 lockable stalls currently accommodate 500 traders. Once fully completed, it will accommodate 2,000 traders.

The Kajiado Town market is now fully rehabilitated to cater for the growing middle class population. The market's operational shed and several lockable stalls cater for 300 traders. A second shed is under construction and will accommodate another 200 traders. The market's electrification has promoted late night trading.

Kimana Market in Kajiado South is also complete and has two sheds with 22 shops while the Bulbul market has two sheds and 18 shops. The markets cost Ksh. 12 million and Ksh. 20 million respectively. The Isinya market is complete with 48 stalls and 1 shed saving residents long journeys to Kitengela market. Several other open markets such as Entasopia and Mile 46 will be upgraded to have shades to attract more traders and protect produce from harsh weather and theft.

Apart from investing county funds to build markets, the County has also partnered with the World Bank to construct a mega four-storey ultra- modern market at Ngong Town. The Ksh. 800 million project will completely change the face of the entire Kajiado North trade environment as it will attract customers from the neighbouring Nairobi County.



The complete Kiserian Market in Kajiado West



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KERICHO COUNTY



H.E. PROF. PAUL KIPRONO CHEPKWONY
Governor, Kericho County



H.E. SUSAN KIKWAI CHEPKOECH
Deputy Governor, Kericho County

Kericho County Government eyes value addition on milk as production grows

Kericho Governor Paul Chepkwony has announced plans by his administration to build a milk processing factory and a plant to process animal feed in Kericho to boost the livestock sector. This announcement came as a pleasant surprise for thousands of dairy farmers in Kericho who have been forced to travel long distances to sell milk to major processors or sell their commodity to middlemen and brokers at very low prices. Prof Chepkwony noted that Kericho had a sufficient milk supply that could sustain a milk processing factory adding that value addition within the county could enhance farmers' incomes.

“More than 80 per cent of milk produced in Kericho is sold in its raw form. My government will change this by building a factory which will buy milk from farmers at a good price for processing,” said Prof Chepkwony.

Last year, 191 million litres of milk was produced, out of which 105 million liters were sold earning farmers Ksh. 3.2 billion with milk production projected to rise by between 4.5 and 5 per cent annually in the next decade. On cattle feed, the Governor observed that all the raw materials necessary to produce high quality livestock feeds were easily available in Kericho and it was therefore unfair for farmers to continue buying the feeds at exorbitant costs outside the county.

“A local processing factory will provide better access to cheaper cattle feed, which will result in increased milk production,” he added. Prof Chepkwony, noted that the availability of cattle feeds was a major factor in enabling milk production in the county, observing that milk production reduces from 7 liters per cow per day to 4 liters when there is insufficient feed especially during periods of drought.



Governor Paul Chepkwony tours the stands during the Kericho Agriculture Expo held at the Kericho Teachers Training in February.

The County Government has set up a fodder bank at the Soim Agricultural Training Center where 8.9 acres of fodder has been established. Several farmers have also been recruited to establish more than 800 acres of pasture in order to realize the required acreage of fodder. Prof Chepkwony further announced that the County Government of Kericho would recruit 60 agricultural extension officers to enhance the ability of the County Government to support farmers. According to statistics from the county department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the county has an estimated herd of 270,959 improved dairy cattle, 23,917 zebu cattle and about 2,000 dairy goats.

Kericho County conducts heart surgeries

The County Government of Kericho will work with partners from the United States to set up a one-of-a-kind regional modern pacemaker implantation center at Kericho's largest hospital to help Kenyans who require the service access it more easily and at a lower cost. This



Cardiologists from the United States of America and Kenya conduct a cardiac pacemaker implantation procedure at the Kericho County Referral Hospital in February this year.

comes as history was made in February this year when 17 patients suffering from heart conditions underwent surgery to have cardiac pacemaker implantation procedures at the Kericho County Referral Hospital. The successful operations were conducted by cardiology experts from the United States of America and Kenya who teamed up to hold a week-long free medical camp, making it the first time that the heart-related surgical procedures were conducted in a public hospital outside Nairobi. Governor Prof. Paul Chepkwony who witnessed the first surgery alongside his Bomet counterpart Dr. Joyce Laboso and representatives from Kisumu County, celebrated it as a momentous occasion, terming it as one of the benefits of devolution.

“I have waited long for this. Kenyans from Kericho and other parts of the country were given an opportunity to access a service that they would not have been able to get due to the huge expenses incurred under normal circumstances,” said Prof Chepkwony. Prof Thomas

Crawford, a Consultant Cardiologist from the University of Michigan who led the team of cardiologists who conducted the surgeries, noted that the procedures had been a major success.

Governor Chepkwony later led the doctors to a meeting with Deputy President William Ruto at his Karen home, where Mr Ruto thanked them and congratulated the County Government of Kericho for a job well. Mr Ruto noted that the partnership between Kericho County and the cardiologists from the United States had gone a long way to boost the Jubilee government's efforts to provide universal access to quality healthcare. Dr Laboso lauded the partnership between the County Government of Kericho and the University of Michigan as one worth emulating, noting that it was becoming clearer by the day that devolution was truly bringing great benefit to Kenyans.

Kerenga airstrip flagship project

Kericho County will soon have an operational airstrip after Governor Paul Chepkwony rolled out plans towards actualizing his flagship project to modernize the Kerenga Airstrip and open it for use by the public. In what has stood out so far as its largest infrastructural upgrade to be undertaken since the inception of devolution, the County Government of Kericho set aside Ksh. 100 million this financial year for the project. The funds will go towards upgrading the existing 1.2 kms runway to enable aviation companies to start offering flights to Kericho from various destinations across the country and the region.

Speaking at the County Government headquarters when he unveiled a committee chaired by Public Works, Roads and Transport County Executive, Charles Birech to oversee the process, Prof. Chepkwony exuded confidence that the airstrip upgrade would be completed in six months' time.

"I have no doubt that this is the team that will deliver the airstrip for the people of Kericho. This is a facility that we urgently need to drive our development agenda especially in agriculture and tourism," he said. The Governor has indicated that his government will also extend the runway in its second phase of expansion to allow even larger aircraft to land in Kericho. "I assure the people of Kericho that the money that has been allocated towards this project will be utilized in the right manner and the project committee will ensure that there is value for money," he added. The Governor said the County Government of Kericho would work hand in hand with the National Government, the Kenya Airports Authority (KAA), the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) and the Kenya Air Force in rolling out the project.



Kericho Governor Prof Paul Chepkwony shares a word with officers from the Kenya Air Force who had toured Kerenga Airstrip in Kericho County to assess its current state.

According to Prof Chepkwony, the airstrip would open up Kericho County to more investment opportunities by improving its ease of doing business index and in the process creating more opportunities for employment. The county boss further observed that the facility will play a key role in bringing in domestic and foreign tourists to Kericho and connect Kericho farmers to new markets locally and globally for their produce including tea, coffee, flowers and fruits.

Kericho coffee products go out to the market

Coffee farmers in Kericho County and the South Rift have a reason to smile after the Kipkelion Union Coffee Mill began packaging coffee products for the market following support from the County Government of Kericho. This marks the first time in history that coffee has been grown, milled, roasted and packaged in Kericho County. It will be sold directly to the market thereby assisting farmers bypass unscrupulous middlemen who have been accused of robbing farmers of their rightful income. The products – Zawadi Coffee and Kipkelion Union Coffee – were launched at a colourful ceremony held at the coffee mill on February 1 attended by thousands of excited coffee growers from Kericho and neighbouring coffee growing counties. Governor Chepkwony lauded the development as the realization of his dream to help coffee farmers escape the firm grip of middlemen who were out to exploit them by buying coffee at a low price and reselling it for a fortune.

Prof Chepkwony noted that the County Government of Kericho had enabled the coffee mills to achieve the milestone by providing support in the procurement of the coffee roaster machine and packaging equipment among other equipments. The county also invested heavily in farmer outreach programs which resulted in higher production levels in coffee growing areas. The new direct market foray for Kericho coffee is expected to inspire higher production.



Kipkelion Coffee

"We are now moving to the next stage, which is finding new markets for our coffee locally, regionally and internationally. This will create a bigger market for and translate into higher incomes for farmers," added Prof Chepkwony. The County Government intends to also reach out to supermarket outlets within the county and major retailers of coffee products locally and abroad to ensure that the products can then be accessed more easily both locally and abroad.

Kipkelion Union Coffee Mill Chief Executive Officer Sammy Too said the coffee products from the mill were currently in packets of only 250 grams, but added that there are plans to introduce smaller packets of 100 grams and 50 grams to target an even wider market base.



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BOMET COUNTY



H.E. HON. DR JOYCE CHERONO LABOSO
Governor, Bomet County



H.E. DR. HILLARY BARCHOK KIPNGENO
Deputy Governor, Bomet County

Major shift in agricultural production

The County Government of Bomet is rolling out various agricultural intervention programs including introduction of high value crops to address food security, better nutrition and economic empowerment. The county is also implementing programs geared towards improving milk production and quality of beef animals. Mr Julius Tuei, the County Executive in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives said measures have been put in place to assist farmers across the five sub-counties to adopt modern farming techniques and reap maximum profits from their investments besides feeding their families.



A product of subsidized Artificial Insemination (AI) programme in the county.

“We are not only seeking to increase acreage of cash crop production but also to introduce high-yielding horticultural crops so as to ensure the people eat food with high nutritional value,” Mr Tuei said.

As a result, the county has introduced tissue-culture bananas, grafted mangoes, grafted avocados, passion fruits, sweet potatoes and high yielding Irish potatoes especially the Dutch Robjin variety which does well both in the lower and upper zones in the county that is well known for its high agricultural potential.

The Dutch Robjin variety that does well only in Bomet is in high demand from producers of crisps and the County Government is seeking ways to ensure farmers get value for their produce. The County Government is also working on a plant to assist a cooperative society in Bomet Central to set up a potato value addition plant for production of crisps.

“We are giving 20,000 Hass variety of avocados, 100,000 bananas to farmers in the first phase of seeking to boost food production in the county. We will branch out to other areas in the food production chains,” Mr Tuei stated.

The county is also in the process of completing a chicken slaughter house at Kipsonoi and egg incubators will be supplied in various wards with special attention given to production of *kienyeji* chicken. Farmers in Bomet Central, Bomet East, Chepalungu and Konoin sub counties are also being encouraged to grow coffee. Adoption of modern farming techniques including Artificial Insemination (AI) has resulted in a sharp increase of milk production with farmers being charged a subsidized fee of Ksh. 200 per dairy cow served. Private AI providers charge Ksh. 1,000 for the service. In the last one year, milk production has risen to 191 million litres from 107 million litres in the previous year with the production expected to further increase this year.

Longisa hospital set for major upgrade

The Longisa County Referral Hospital in Bomet County is set for a major upgrade as a regional facility in the South Rift. The National Government in collaboration with the County Government is to elevate the hospital to a regional cancer centre, a regional Mother and Child Wellness Centre, and a regional blood bank centre. Bomet Governor Dr Laboso recently secured donations of medical equipment worth Ksh. 140 million comprising ICU monitors and metal chips used in bone surgery. “I also secured two fully equipped ambulances worth Ksh. 60 million and a CT scan machine worth Ksh. 30 million from the donors,” Dr Laboso said.

The Governor visited the World Medical Relief headquarters in the City of Detroit in Michigan State, US, where she met the organization’s President Mr George V. Samson and discussed areas of collaboration. The National Government has also pledged Sh50 million for expansion and equipping of Koiwa, Kapkoros and Irwaga health centres in Konoin, Bomet Central and Bomet East sub-counties respectively. Cabinet Secretary in charge of Health Ms Sicily Kariuki said the facility will be upgraded as a flagship project in line with President Uhuru Kenyatta’s key four development pillars – Health, Housing, Food Security and Industrialization.

“To ease pressure on Longisa and dedicate it to referral status, health centres will be upgraded and equipped in all the five sub counties. They are Irwaga, Ndanai, Sigor, Cheptalal, Kapkoros in Bomet East,



Longisa County Referral Hospital.

Sotik, Chepalungu, Konoin and Bomet Central respectively,” Dr Laboso says, noting that the county was in the final stages of recruiting 340 medical staff on permanent basis for the health facilities.

During a recent visit, Ms Kariuki said, “Longisa County Referral hospital will be upgraded as a shared health care resource by Narok, Nyamira, Kisii, Kericho and Bomet counties.” The CS said this when she toured the facility recently in the company of Dr Laboso and CEC in charge of Health Dr Joseph Sitonik. “The National Government will give a Chemotherapy machine and a CT Scan machine to Longisa as we go flat out to ensure that cancer patients are screened and treated locally as opposed to their traveling to Nairobi for the service,” Ms Kariuki said.

The Mother and Child Wellness Centre will have a 300-bed capacity complete with consultants, its own clinic, an x-ray, pharmacy, laboratory, ultra-sound machines, a teaching facility, and an adolescence and youth friendly counseling centre.

Laboso launches construction of 400kms of roads in Bomet

The County Government of Bomet will construct 400 kilometers of rural roads in all the 25 wards in the current financial year. The Governor, Dr Joyce Laboso, recently launched Phase One of the project which will cover 33 inter-connecting roads with a total distance of 150 kilometres at a cost of Sh204 million. “Phase Two and three of the project are at the tendering stage and will cover a total of 254.4 kilometres,” Dr Laboso said. Full contracts have been awarded to road contractors so that the County Government plays the role of client with the tenders having been awarded in a very transparent manner.



Governor Dr Joyce Laboso launches the construction of 33 roads, totaling to 150.8 Km in Phase One of the Governor's plan to improve roads in the County.

“To ensure our roads are done to acceptable standards, we are departing completely from the approach by the previous administration where the government was trying to build the roads itself through a labour-based system,” Dr Laboso stated.

“Any contractor who does shoddy work shall be blacklisted from the county tenders and it should go on record that we shall not pay for substandard work. I have directed our engineers to ensure that the specifications are met without compromise for the people to get value for their money,” Dr Laboso said.

The County Government shall hold the contractors to account to construct and hand over to us roads that are up to the stipulated standards. County Executive in charge of Roads Eng. Philip Sowek said the roads under construction were identified in consultation with Members of County Assembly in the region. “The roads are designed in such a manner that they not only connect villages and trading centres but also link up wards and sub counties so as to spur trade and development,” Sowek said.

Meanwhile, the County Government of Bomet is constructing 75 ECD centres across the 25 wards. Dr Joyce Laboso launched the construction of the model ECD centres in December and some of them are already complete while others are undergoing the final touches.

Bomet traders and hawkers move into new market

Hawkers and small-scale traders who have been operating along the roads and on shop verandahs in Bomet town have been relocated to a new market as part of the plans to re-organise and beautify the town.

Bomet Governor Dr Joyce Laboso said the relocation to the modern market constructed by the county and the National Government is part of the elaborate plans to improve all the towns of Bomet County. “In order to attract investors to the region, we must restore order in our major towns and trading centres starting with Bomet town which is the county headquarters,” Dr Laboso said.

The Department of Urban Planning, in collaboration with that of Environment, has embarked on beautification of the town that will entail planting trees and flowers and constructing walkways and boda boda sheds. The beautification programme will also be extended to other towns. The new market has 166 stalls, 3 ablution blocks, 24 hawkers' sheds, 72 open slots for groceries, two food courts, a borehole with two raised tanks and a market office.

A committee, consisting of County Government officials and hawkers' representatives, oversaw the coordination of the relocation of hawkers to the new market in Bomet town. The representatives were picked following a stakeholders meeting that brought together Chamber of Commerce and Industry officials, shoe shiners, kiosks owners, grocery vendors and artisans.

Hawkers have been selling their goods along the highway, the town streets and on shop verandahs thus posing not only a health risk to consumers of food items but also a risk to motorists and pedestrians. The traders agreed to move to the new site after Dr Laboso convened a stakeholders meeting where she assured them of a transparent process and explained to them the need to have a well-organized town.

The new development has also been received well by shop owners who say some hawkers used to sell their wares on their verandahs especially during the rainy season. In Sotik town, 106 stalls have been built while the main stage has also been modernized.



The new Bomet town market

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE



IGRTC
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Coaching, Consulting & Training

THE IGRTC

The Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee (IGRTC) is established under section 11 of the intergovernmental Relations Act, 2012 and its functions, among others, is to promote intergovernmental relations through consultation, cooperation and coordination, so as to ensure success of the devolved system of governance in the country

COMPOSITION

The technical committee is composed of the Chair and eight members competitively recruited and appointed by the Summit. The Principal Secretary of the state department responsible for matters relating to devolution.

OUR MANDATE

- A Be responsible for the day to day administration of the Summit and of the Council and in particular facilitate the activities of the Summit and the Council
- B Take over the residual functions of the transition entity established under the law relating to transition to devolved government after dissolution of such entity.
- C Convene a meeting of the newly sworn County Secretaries within thirty days preceding the Summit.
- D Perform any other function as may be conferred on it by the Summit, the Council, the Act or any other legislation

ACHIEVEMENT

In the last 3 years IGRTC has realized tremendous progress in fulfilling its core business of facilitating intergovernmental relationships and handling residual functions of the Transition Authority. IGRTC has facilitated the Summit meetings and ensured implementation of its resolutions. The residual function of assets and liabilities is almost complete with 32 counties having submitted their reports, and 15 on progress. IGRTC has progressively resolved disputes between agencies

PROF. KAREGA MUTAHI
CHAIRMAN IGRTC

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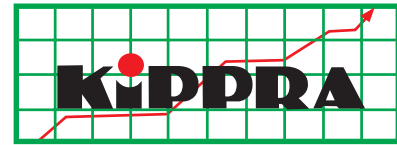
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H.E. HON. WYCLIFFE AMBETSA OPARANYA, E.G.H
Governor, Kakamega County



H.E. PHILIP MUSEVE KUTIMA
Deputy Governor, Kakamega County

Kakamega adopts innovative models to drive the agricultural sector

Agriculture is the mainstay of Kakamega County’s economy. The County’s strategy on development of this key sector is anchored on the need to build on successes we have achieved so far while aggressively adopting innovative models to fast track economic growth, reduce poverty, enhance food security and improve the income of farmers. As we focus on these broad objectives in the coming five years and beyond, promotion of agricultural diversification programmes and commercialization of key agricultural activities assume urgent attention.



H.E. Governor Wycliffe Oparanya in one of many functions in Kakamega sub-counties where households were presented with dairy cows

The County has introduced one-cow Initiative programme which seeks to provide each household an exotic cow to boost milk production and create additional income for poor families. The phased out programme covering all 60 wards in the County will culminate in formation of cooperatives to ease provision of extension services to dairy farmers, milk bulking through establishment of collection centres and production of value added milk products.

Food security is a national concern. Kakamega County is the largest rural county in the country with a population of 2 million people. Crop yields have progressively reduced over the years as a result of overdependence on sugarcane farming, high cost of farm inputs and limited access to the same, declining soil fertility and vagaries of weather among others.

To mitigate the deteriorating food security situation in the County, the Government introduced a Farm Input Subsidy in 2014 whereby farmers are provided with subsidized fertilizer and quality seeds. A mechanized farming programme was also introduced resulting in increased quality and quantity of agricultural production by over 50%. The Government

operates Agricultural Machinery Services for hire by farmers whereby tractors have been purchased to plough, harrow and plant for farmers.

Increased tea production is one of the County’s key strategies to diversify the agricultural sector. Farmers in the tea growing zones of the County including Shinyalu, Ikolomani and Khwisero have been supplied with over 400,000 quality seedlings in readiness for establishment of a tea factory in Shinyalu. A maize milling plant will be established in Lugari Sub-County to provide ready market for the crop and improve farmers’ income.

Fish farming provides the County additional opportunities to diversify its agricultural production. The Government has constructed and stocked fish ponds with improved fingerlings.

County’s strategy to provide accessible and affordable Health Care to citizens

The County Government of Kakamega has demonstrated its commitment to proactively respond to the health needs of its citizens in line with the County Health Ministry’s slogan: “A Healthy County is a wealthy County.”

Health Services is the highest funded amongst all the government ministries and sectors in the County. With a population of 2 million people, the County Government of Kakamega has embarked on measures to provide accessible and affordable health care to its residents to ensure a healthy, active and vibrant citizenry. To achieve this, the county has equipped all level four hospitals with specialized equipment and installed backup generators in all the facilities or their equivalent to improve services and encourage patients to seek medical attention from the nearest health facilities. This has greatly reduced the high number of patients visiting Kakamega County General Hospital.



In addition, the government has constructed, expanded and upgraded health facilities across the county further bringing services closer to mwananchi. Staffing of the existing health facilities has also been prioritized. Coupled with a regular supply of drugs and medical consumables in the public health facilities, the health sector in Kakamega County is set for transformation.

Maternal health care is perhaps the most visible and major health initiative credited to the leadership of Kakamega County, spearheaded by Governor Wycliffe Ambetsa Oparanya. In partnership with UNICEF, over 39,000 mothers have been able to access safe delivery and full vaccination cycle through the *Imarisha Afya ya Mama na Mtoto*, popularly known as “OparanyaCare” Programme. This programme which was launched in November 2014 aims at reducing cases of mother-child mortality, a problem that put Kakamega County at par with the poorest and most under-resourced regions of Kenya prior to devolution. The initiative has dramatically changed the grim statistics. The programme requires expectant mothers to register for pre-natal clinics in a registered county health facility where they receive a stipend six times between four months of pregnancy to 18 months after birth. The initiative has greatly motivated mothers to visit clinics for safe deliveries, ensured immunization of new born babies. Nearly 39,000 mothers are currently covered on this programme.

A modern Teaching and Referral Hospital with 750 bed capacity is one of the County’s flagship projects. The construction is being done in three phases at a total cost of Ksh. 10 billion. Phase 1 will be ready for commissioning within this year.

Road network shines among devolution milestones

Road network upgrading in Kakamega County is one of the most visible devolution milestones, alongside construction of bridges that meet the highest engineering standards as exemplified by the now famous Khaunga Bridge across River Nzoia. Good progress has been made on graveling roads to bitumen standard with an aim of achieving 200 kms of tarmac.



75 meter long Khaunga bridge built to the highest engineering standards

Under 10 kms per ward programme, over 400 kms have been graveled and a further 1,000 kms are under the county maintenance programme. Besides Khaunga Bridge connecting Mumias West, Navakholo and Matungu sub-counties, more bridges have been commissioned across several wards in the County. The Government has also installed 40 high mast lights to improve security around business premises in many of the urban centers. Installation of street lights in Kakamega, Mumias and other town centers has been done in partnership with key stakeholders and development partners.

On improvement of urban areas to spur trade and commerce, construction of modern and branded markets is ongoing. During the second phase of this project, new markets will be established in every sub-county.

Provision of safe drinking water to all citizens is a top priority in the county, more so in urban areas where demand is much higher. In this regard, the Government plans to develop a water and sewerage master plan to guide the development of water and sewerage infrastructure in the entire county.

The Government is also focusing on employment creation as part of its wider objective of fostering a conducive environment for work and leisure in urban areas. Supporting *jua kali* artisans by way of soft loans and equipment is critical in promoting a clean and safe environment in our towns.

Creating enabling environment for a vibrant economy

Trade is critical in promoting and supporting business growth and innovation, especially in key sectors, and strengthening supply chain within the County. To this end, a highly competitive environment will be created for businesses so that they remain resilient and embedded locally. The focus is on creating more jobs, developing local markets, growing small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMES), constructing modern markets as well as refurbishing old markets across the county.

The County has come up with two important bills aimed at economically empowering citizens. Once enacted by the County Assembly, the legal instruments will ensure that investment opportunities are identified in a timely manner to enable investors undertake various ventures to boost job creation. Some of the key projects and initiatives towards the realization of these plans are as follows:

- Establishment of the Kakamega County Investment and Development Corporation which will promote, support and attract public and private investment in various sectors in the county.
- Establishment of the County Micro Finance Company which will provide savings and loan products and services to the SMME sector. It will take over the activities of “Mikopo Mashinani” for traders and farmers to access credit on better terms.
- Provision of an enabling environment for investors to establish major shopping malls which will provide a wide range of services to the citizens of the county.
- Construction of modern markets in all sub-counties in order to provide a safe and secure environment for small scale traders to conduct their businesses.

Recognizing that Kakamega County is endowed with numerous natural resources and sites with potential to be developed into tourism destinations, adequate resources will be allocated to develop the sites and related products and services in the next five years with a view to linking them to local and international tourism circuits.



Harambee market in Matungu sub-county



H.E. HON. DR. WILBER KHASILWA OTTICHILO
Governor, Vihiga County



H.E. DR. PATRICK LUMUMBA SAISI
Deputy Governor, Vihiga County

Governor Ottichilo plan for paradigm shift from subsistence farming to agribusiness

To establish a robust agricultural sector capable of providing both food and economic security to the County, the department has worked to improve this growth by being structured into 5 directorates namely; Agriculture, Livestock, Veterinary, Fisheries and Cooperatives.

In conjunction with all the agricultural stakeholders, development partners and the people of Vihiga; Vihiga County has realized a great foundation of inclusive, market-driven economic growth. In line with Kenya's Vision 2030, the country's long-term development plan. Its main activities being increasing agricultural productivity and incomes for smallholder farmers, building more resilient farm bases and increasing access to affordable financing for farmers, entrepreneurs & businesses and improving the overall business environment to attract private investment.

Agriculture Plans projected in the CIDP 2017 – 2022: Formulation and domestication of relevant legislation policies and regulations; Development of a soil sampling & testing center and a data center for the agriculture sector and dissemination; Promote horticulture and selected cash crops for local and export market; and adopt enterprise value chains and co-operatives strategy for sustainable agriculture sector development.



Fisheries Plans projected in the CIDP 2017 – 2022: Completion of Mwitoko Aqua-Culture Training and Fingerling Production Centre and establish Innovation Farmers Training Centre equipped with a furnished office block and conference facility for farmers and value chain actors; and enhance extension services.

We believe in investing in new ideas and technologies that have the potential to improve the productivity and incomes of smallholder farmers and groups. A lot of emphasis and investment will be put in the agricultural sector and in particular smallholder agriculture in Vihiga County with a focus on shifting from subsistence farming to commercial agribusiness. This is a precondition for achieving high and sustainable growth, poverty reduction and food security.

Governor Ottichilo plans to upgrade Vihiga County Referral Hospital (VCRH) to Level 5 hospital on course

The County Government of Vihiga new vision was based on the premise that, for a people to be productive, they must be healthy first. To this end, the County Government of Vihiga has established two directorates in the Department of Health Services; Directorate of Medical Services and directorate of Public Health. To ensure quality and uninterrupted access to medical services in the county, the department of health services received the biggest budgetary allocation of Ksh. 1.3 billion in the 2017/18 supplementary budget.



Vihiga County's health flagship project is the 160-bed capacity state-of-the-art modern hospital plaza at Vihiga Referral Hospital in Mbale that is under construction. Upon completion; once fully equipped, Vihiga County Referral Medical plaza will be the top public medical facility in the lake basin region. The six-floor facility will have two theatres; a renal unit, Intensive Care Unit (ICU), a High Dependence Unit (HDU), 64-bed capacity female ward including a medical, surgical and a gynecological ward. A pediatric ward with a 60-bed capacity inclusive of a medical, surgical ward and an isolation unit. A 20-30 bed capacity private/executive ward, a consultant's floor and a medical hall. The last floor will be an open Terrace with a canopy roof for open air medical related activities, including a light weight helicopter landing area in case of emergency evacuations.

The County Government has also allocated more resources on preventive health as a way of mitigating high costs incurred on curative health care.

The department has further embarked on the completion all stalled health facilities across the County, equipping and staffing them to ensure effective health service delivery to the people of Vihiga County.

Vihiga qualifies for Ksh. 1.25 billion for major urban development under the Kenya Urban Support Program

The County Government of Vihiga through the department of Transport and Infrastructure has given prominence to high impact projects. Over 37 markets across the County are set to be installed with high mast flood lights ensuring there is an ample working environment and security for the business people. The program is in partnership with Rural Electrification Authority (REA) through their Matching Fund Program.

The County Government of Vihiga is establishing a county mechanical unit to reduce the expense of servicing and maintenance of its motor vehicle and machinery. This is also in line with the promotion of technical and vocational education in the county as it provides practical internship opportunities to student from TVET institutions who undertake mechanical courses.

The County Government in partnership with the China Overseas Construction Company (COVEC) is constructing new modern markets and bus parks, charcoal stores, shoe shining booths and ablution blocks in major market centers like Chavakali, Majengo, Mbale and Gambogi. Streets lights will also be installed along the roads where the earmarked markets are constructed.



Vihiga County has qualified for World Bank's Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP). The World Bank will fund the development of Vihiga Municipality to a tune of 1.25 billion shillings within 5 years. The program will see major towns within the Vihiga Municipality upgraded. The areas of concern under this program will include infrastructure, street lighting and waste management.

ESRI International, Airbus and Locatel; Geospatial technology companies, are establishing Vihiga County Development Integrated System (VCDIS) to strengthen the GIS department. ESRI and Airbus have offered the ICT infrastructure, specialized GIS equipment and the latest satellite imagery of Vihiga County and its resources from space to support county spatial planning, land mapping and management and resource mapping among other programs.

The new government re-establishes the economic viability of Vihiga County

Vihiga County is organizing its first ever Investment Conference to be held from 24th–28th of May, 2018. The conference will bring together both local and international business communities and organizations, providing a platform to the county to showcase its economic and entrepreneurial potential. The conference will mainly focus on the Governor's agenda in enhancing health services, supporting modern agricultural technologies towards food security and job creation in the county.

The County Government of Vihiga is enhancing automation of revenue collection. The new technology will make it easier and convenient for a trader to pay tax and license renewals. So far, the department of trade and finance have successfully completed mapping of all businesses within Vihiga county in preparation of the automated revenue collections system.

Trade and Entrepreneurship Fund is being set up to provide soft loans to Small and Medium Enterprises (SME); critical to poverty eradication campaign by the County Government. Vihiga County Empowerment Fund Bill provides guidelines and regulations on how the fund should be managed.



County Government of Vihiga has successfully reached an agreement with EPZ for the establishment of an EPZ plant in Kaimosi, Hamisi sub-county. The Governor has already signed a lease agreement with the Friends Church Kaimosi for 35 acres of land for the project. The industrial park, the first ever in the region, will be of immense economic value to the residents and the region. Products will be manufactured for export and also value addition on products such as avocados, mangos and pawpaw among others. Bamboo products will be produced at the industrial park for export.

Vihiga County is getting its own Granite processing factory from the National Government through the Ministry of Mining and Petroleum; intended to explore the abundant granite stones spread across the County.



039

BUNGOMA COUNTY



H.E. HON. WYCLIFFE WAFULA WANGAMATI
Governor, Bungoma County



H.E. PROF. CHARLES NGOME KIBANANI
Deputy Governor, Bungoma County

Bungoma County on course to pilot commodity exchange

Bungoma County is well on course to pilot a commodity exchange as a way of linking farmers directly to markets. In February, Bungoma Governor H.E. Wycliffe Wangamati played host to International Trade Principal Secretary Dr Chris Kiptoo whose brief was to seek partnership with the County in setting up the Commodity Exchange as a way of promoting export trade.



Bungoma Governor H.E. Hon Wycliffe Wangamati (right) with International Trade Principal Secretary Dr Chris Kiptoo on a tour of Chwele as part of plans to pilot Commodity Exchange.

At the core of Governor Wangamati's growth strategy has been a push to revamp agriculture in the County. Through the Commodity Exchange, H.E. Wangamati hopes to cushion the farmers from exploitation by cartels.

"Through the Commodity Exchange, we help ease farmers' access to markets and enable them earn more from their crop," Governor Wangamati said. "Through a Farmers' Fund, the County will buy, process, package from farmers and store all farm produce." he added

Dr Kiptoo said he was following up on the Governor's earlier invitation to explore ways of partnering to set up a Commodity Exchange as a way of promoting agricultural exports.

Commodities earmarked to trade at the Commodity Exchange include maize, beans, green grams, Soya beans, carrots, cabbage, tomatoes, groundnuts, kales, onions and coffee.

AT A GLANCE:

- 148,280 bags of fertilizer (50kg) given out for free and 61,280 bags (50kg) subsidised. 103,790 farmers have benefited.
- 74,140 farmers have so far benefited from certified maize seeds
- 80,000 seedlings of Tissue Culture Bananas given to farmers in Mt Elgon and Kimilili
- 500,000 seedlings of tea distributed in Mt. Elgon and Kimilili.
- Automatic weather station set up.
- Mobile Soil Testing Lab. To date, machine has tested 3,500 samples at a subsidised fee of Ksh. 800 per sample.
- Nine tractors for hire at subsidised prices.
- Maize dryers bought. To date, 20,500 bags of maize dried.
- Mobile cereal moisture meters-2/Ward to determine grain moisture before storing to curb aflatoxin.

The changing face of healthcare in Bungoma

Prior to 2013, hospitals in Bungoma were few and far between. The sick trekked for miles in search for treatment and where they existed, they were inadequately resourced; poor equipment, poor staffing and shortage or sometimes complete lack of drugs. The then Bungoma District Hospital was crowded and poorly resourced – a situation that compromised treatment even for basic ailments. Other satellite hospitals - Kimilili, Webuye, and Kapsokwony – were poorly resourced too.

Today, the story of healthcare in Bungoma County is a different narrative – one that tells of a transformation so fundamental that almost each of the 45 wards has a functional dispensary managed by a clinical officer. At least one facility in each of the 9 constituencies has been upgraded to a sub-county hospital with matching resource in personnel, equipment and drugs. In health, the County Government has prioritised several areas:

Equipment: The County has invested in medical equipment including:

- **Theatre** – Besides the County Referral Hospital, four of the nine sub-county hospitals (Webuye, Naitiri, Kapsokwony and Kimilili) are equipped with functional theatres – a result of which patients no longer travel distances for minor or normal procedures. CS is the commonest of procedures in these facilities, which has inadvertently helped reduce maternal mortality.



Bungoma Governor H.E. Hon Wycliffe Wangamati (right) flags off a consignment of drugs to 133 health centres across the County in February 2018.

- **Renal Unit:** Bungoma County Referral Hospital is home to a functioning renal unit, which serves up to 10 patients per day for four days in a week. The unit has reduced the distance covered to other hospitals and attendant costs.
- **New Born Unit:** All sub-county hospitals now have fully functional new-born units for underweight and pre-terms – thanks to devolution. Less fatalities among new borns are being recorded.
- **Lab:** The County Referral Hospital is also home to an ISO-certified lab. Many tests like prostate cancer screening that were only possible in Nairobi and Eldoret facilities are being done at the lab.
- **Drugs:** Thanks to an MoU between the County Government and the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA), shortage of drugs is history. In the MoU, KEMSA will supply drugs at short notice. Already, KEMSA has supplied Ksh. 47 million worth of drugs to 133 Level II and Level III health facilities in the County. Another consignment of drugs worth Ksh. 20 million was dispatched to 10 Sub county hospitals.

Network of roads opens up Bungoma County

Planning is perhaps the only ingredient for success. Nowhere has this fact been more evident than in the laws that breathed life into devolution. From roads, health and sanitation, education to agriculture, CSDP continues to inform what investment goes where to achieve maximum impact in the County. Five years since inception of devolution in 2013, the road network in the County is improving gradually. To date, the County has done up to 65.64km of tarmac roads cutting through urban and rural areas. Another 502 kms of murrum (gravel) roads have been done.



Part of the Brigadier-Misikhu Road under construction

Using the County's own machines, 260.3 kms of road have been graded while 84.3 kms of road have been done with Nzoia Sugar Company and West Kenya Sugar machines. Up to 15 bridges and box culverts have since been done. In housing, the County has in excess of 3,000 workers, 800 National Government staff, business people, and college students. However, the county has only 450 residential houses. To meet the housing demands, the County Government in partnership with National Housing Corporation (NHC) is set to build more than 500 staff houses.

The department of Housing is also constructing three-storey 2-bedroom residential flats with eight units each. The building will be ready for commissioning in June. The department has also renovated 67 houses in Upper Milimani, Tongareni Township and Malakisi health centre and Lower Milimani. In collaboration with the Kenya Slum Upgrading Program KENSUP, the County is also set to launch a slum-upgrading programme to improve livelihoods of people living informal settlements.

The department is also in the process of developing a civil servant housing scheme as part of efforts to promote home ownership. This is being done in liaison with the National Government department of housing, Civil Servant Housing Scheme and National Housing Corporation.

Bungoma bets on loans to grow small holder entrepreneurs

Under Devolution, Counties are expected to catalyse business as part of the wider national strategy to boost household incomes and cure the ever-growing trade deficit. It's in this context that Bungoma County has invested hundreds of millions in Trade, Energy and Industrialisation. Through public participation, the County has undertaken several key projects towards the attainment of its objectives.

Street lighting: Since 2013, The County Government has installed 145 solar lights on 39 markets in the County. Another 15 high mast floodlights were installed at Kanduyi, Lugulu, Miyanga, Kamukuywa, Chwele, Cheptais, Lwakhakha, Mayanja, Nasyanda, Samoya, Kamutyong, Kamusinga, Musese, Khwiroro and Mabanga. As a result, many markets are operating till late due to improved security. Improved security is gradually catalysing 24-hour economies in several other markets especially those situated around main roads and highways. In partnership with Kenya Power, the County Government of Bungoma has kick-started the second phase of lighting up all markets in the County. By the end of the exercise, the County will have installed a total of 859 lights in the second phase.

Trade loans: To create employment, the County Government has extended credit facilities to 7,042 loanees. A total of Ksh122 million in Ward Trade Loans has been disbursed. The County Government has in place an automated loan management system. Training of SMEs: As part of enterprise development, the County Government has also trained 86 groups drawn from the Jua Kali sector on sound business management skills.

Market Stalls: The department of trade has constructed 10 modern market stalls in Tongaren, 10 in Mbakalo and 10 in Kanduyi. The stalls have boosted hygiene and provided a conducive environment to traders and shoppers alike.

The department is renovating Miyanga, Ndalua and Matisi markets. Lwakhakha and Mateka markets are done. Industrialisation: The County Government is developing the cottage industries. When fully operational, the different industries will be key to boosting agriculture through agro-processing, packaging and value addition.



Part of the lights that have boosted security in markets across the County.



H.E. HON. SOSPETER ODEKE OJAAMONG
Governor, Busia County



H.E. MOSES OKHOBHA MULOMI
Deputy Governor, Busia County

Mechanised farming, improved access to farm inputs enhancing food production

In crops sub-sector, the goal of the County Government of Busia was to increase acreage under different crops, increase conveyance and utilization of irrigated water, ensure that farmers have access to supply of the right farm inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and agrochemicals besides expanding agricultural mechanization services. With this in mind, agriculture has achieved a lot in a span of three years and the impact on beneficiaries is evident.

Under Inputs Access Programme, a total of 8,000 farmers have benefited from seeds and fertilizers as part of social protection for the vulnerable farmers in the county. The County Government went an extra mile and issued 150, 000 tissue culture banana suckers to farmers in all the 35 wards and distributed a total of 18,000 bags (50kg) of lime to farmers.

In its commitment to mechanising agriculture, “the County Government of Busia purchased 14 New Holland tractors complete with ploughs translating to two tractors per sub-county.

A total of slightly over 1,500 acres have since been cultivated, with Ksh. 3 million being realised in Appropriation and Aid (AinA). This translated to 20 per cent increment in opening up new land for crops production.” says Dr. Moses Osia Mwanje, CEC Agriculture and Animal Resources. Also the County Government enhanced extension support services by purchasing 35 motorbikes for extension officers. Every ward received one motorbike which has increased mobility and farmer visits.

Another milestone is the Agricultural Development Fund (ADF), thanks to devolution. The fund started in a small way but it has expanded immensely. With the first batch of Ksh. 38 million dispatched to farmers, beneficiaries received their loans in each of all the 35 wards, therefore improving the living standards of farmers and locals. As a measure towards increasing conveyance and utilisation of irrigated water, many projects have been accomplished in different areas within the county. The achievements in this sector are as a result of collaboration with the development partners.



Magombe rice scheme in Bunyala Central

Top honors for Busia as Health takes lion’s share of budget

The County Government of Busia’s sustained commitment to improved healthcare saw the county recently voted the best devolved unit that recorded the highest growth in healthcare services across the country. At 37 per cent growth, Busia beat its closest ‘competitor’, Turkana County, which earned 20 per cent growth in the sector. The report, whose study was commissioned to study the impact of the devolution, and compiled by a team led by Auditor-General Edward Ouko, notes that Busia County had, before devolution four years ago, some of the worst health services in the country.

The County Government has also taken adequate measures to ensure that shortage of drugs in local health institutions has become a thing of the past. A drugs store was built at Matayos with adequate drugs stocked to cushion against any shortages.



The newly constructed KMTCC, Busia

Drugs at the stores can last for three months before they are replenished. The move is also meant to cushion against theft of drugs, which used to be a common phenomenon in the health institutions across the country.

Currently, the County Government is putting up a modern laboratory, High Dependency Unit (HDU) and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the Busia County Referral Hospital. This will save patients the pain of seeking medical care in other hospitals which are outside the County.

Maternal deaths have declined considerably, thanks to the purchase of seven state-of-the-art ambulances, one for each sub-county. This has made it easy for patients to access health facilities within the shortest time possible.

Since 2013 when devolution took effect, the County Government has employed over 400 new health staff including 200 who were under Economic Stimulus Programme. This brings to 1,300 the total workforce in the health sector. Also to address the shortage of health workers, the County Government has put up a Medical Training College at Busia County Referral Hospital which will play a key role in training health workers.

Enhanced road network key to busia county's development

Before devolution, bad roads and poor accessibility to remote places was a common feature in Busia county. This hampered business, agriculture and accessibility to health services. It wasn't surprising to see a pregnant woman being ferried on a wheelbarrow to nearest health facility simply because an ambulance could not pick her due to poor state of roads. At the time, the entire county of Busia had only 700 kilometres of murrum roads. This contributed negatively to the economic growth of the county.

Under the leadership of H.E. Sospeter Odeke Ojaamong, Busia County has transformed. Today farmers can easily access markets for their farm produce, businessmen and women can access markets in remote places, patients can easily access health facilities irrespective of their location. It's also important to note that some markets or places have become vibrant and even the price of land has increased due to enhanced accessibility. What led to this sudden transformation? When Governor Ojaamong took over the leadership of Busia county, his agenda was to improve the welfare of Busia residents and good roads was among his key priorities. In light of this, he embarked on opening of new roads in all 35 wards in Busia county. A total of 1600 kilometres of murrum roads have been opened so far, and also the County Government continues to maintain these roads together with the 700 kilometres which existed before devolution.



Ongoing tarmacking of feeder roads in Busia and Malaba towns

Governor Ojaamong's commitment to make Busia County a 24 hour economy led to set up of 170 solar powered mass lights and over 360 streetlights across the county. This improved security and also increased hours of doing business therefore leading to economic empowerment.

"My County Government is committed to construct more, wider and proper roads and streets, to upgrade prioritized rural access roads and ensure that all roads in our major towns are upgraded to bitumen standards." H.E. Ojaamong says.

Busia County Government has undertaken a facelift of Busia and Malaba towns by tarmacking feeder roads in the border towns. This has enhanced accessibility and also appeal of both towns. This has also contributed to conducive environment for doing business in the two towns. It's important to note that before devolution, Busia County had no single kilometer of tarmacked feeder roads.

Ksh. 67m boost for cooperatives as Busia tops in new World Bank business survey

Busia County is a land full of opportunities in terms of trade, industrialization and tourism. According to the Third Report of Doing Business in Kenya 2016, which was released by World Bank Group, Busia emerged top in starting business and enforcing contracts in Kenya. This has seen a number of investors across all sectors flocking in to capitalise on the sound investment climate.

The friendly business environment has really contributed to the growth of a number of commercial banks in Busia County. Busia is now home to more than 8 banks that have eased monetary transactions across the county for various personal, group and county development. Micro finance institutions have also experienced a tremendous growth in the whole county. This has promoted self-reliance among the youth, women and all business people who have acquired loans to start, maintain or expand their businesses.

The County Government of Busia through the leadership of H.E. Sospeter Odeke Ojaamong, played a key role in establishment of new societies and nurtured the already existing ones with an aim of revamping the cooperative movement as a vehicle to mobilise funds. The Cooperative Enterprise Fund was established to offer loans at a minimal interest rate to small cooperative initiatives. This has seen the formation of new cooperatives in the county, through guidance of setting up of new societies and nurturing the already existing ones with an aim of revamping the cooperative movement as a vehicle to mobilize funds. Women and youth entrepreneurs have been given considerable emphasis.



One of the newly constructed markets

"To date Ksh. 67 million has been disbursed to 54 cooperative societies, effectively promoting self-reliance among the youth and women with an improved business environment across the county. Through this fund a number of businesses have been established and they are running well. These include; real estate, transportation, fish and chicken farming among others. Through these loans many jobs have been created therefore economically empowering youth and women." says Governor Ojaamong.

To achieve the strategic objectives, a comprehensive programme for fencing all open air markets in the county has been a success. The County Government refurbished 33 markets with proper fencing, construction of toilets and installation of mass lights to enable proper running of the businesses to a 24-hour economy.



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The **Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF)** is a Kenyan State Corporation under the Ministry of Water and Sanitation and established under the Water Act, 2016, with the mandate to provide conditional and unconditional grants to the Counties and to assist in financing the development of and management of water services in the marginalised and underserved areas.

WSTF previously existed as the Water Services Trust Fund prior to the repeal of the Water Act, 2002, which had established it.

INVESTMENTS IN THE COUNTIES

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Rehabilitated Kiathamba Spring, Bwathonaro WRUA, Meru County (Water Resources investments)



Commissioning of a Result-Based Financing Project, Embu County



Water Kiosk in Manda Maweni Island, Lamu County (Rural investments)

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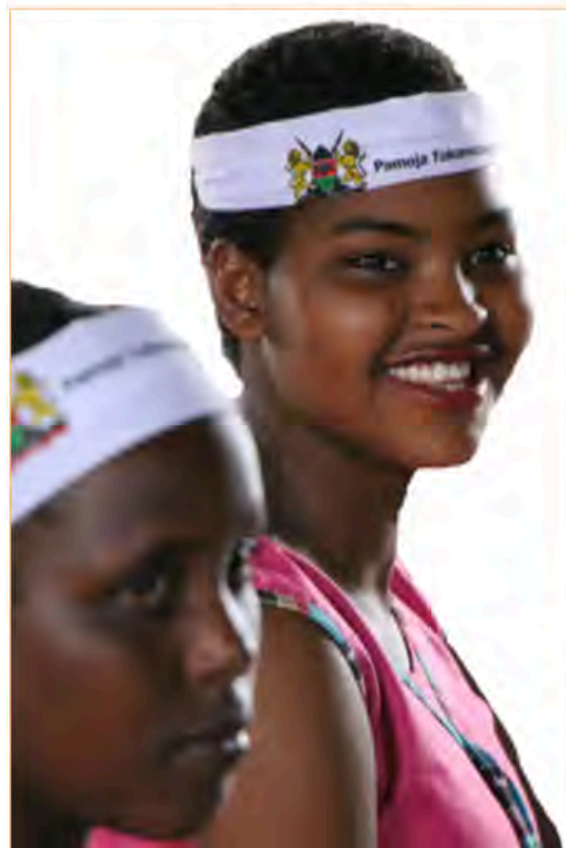
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H.E. CORNEL RASANGA AMOTH
Governor, Siaya County



H.E. DR. JAMES OKUMBE
Deputy Governor, Siaya County

Launch of subsidized tractor hire service operations in North Uyoma ward

The Governor, County Government of Siaya H.E. Cornel Rasanga Amoth, launched 'The 2018 Siaya County Tractor Hire Service' on 15th January 2018 in North Uyoma Ward, Rarieda Sub County which saw 28 tractors released to farmers for land tilling purposes. The objective of the tractor hire service launch was to sensitize the Siaya County citizenry on effectiveness and efficiency of farm mechanization to



His Excellency Cornel Rasanga Amoth (on the driver's seat) when he officially launched The Siaya County Subsidized Tractor Hire Service in North Uyoma Ward, Siaya County. The Governor was accompanied by area MCA Booker Washington (left) and a local farmer

achieve food security in the County and thereby encourage farmers to embrace mechanization even at their own levels. Apart from its visible impact on food security, the Siaya County Tractor Hire Service programme which was initiated by the Governor three years ago has managed to create awareness to the small holder farmers on the relative cost and time benefits of mechanizing land preparation. So far Siaya county has about 90 other tractors that are privately owned and are supplementing the government subsidy.

Since 2013, the County Government of Siaya has continued to provide subsidized tractor hire service programme to maximize production of all arable land within Siaya County. To date 13,500 acres of cumulative land area has been prepared under this subsidy program. During this ensuing planting season, the County Government of Siaya is targeting 4,800 acres of land to have been prepared for farming through this initiative. Notably, the cropping potential per season in Siaya County is 125,000 acres giving an annual estimate of 250,000 acres for the two seasons in a year. The currently available capacity of the 28 county tractors can only achieve around 15% of this acreage. The Governor has prioritized the acquisition of more tractors through purchase and hire to achieve at least 50% of this in the next five years.

During the launch, the governor, encouraged farmers on the important place agriculture holds in the overall county economy and promised to accord the farmers the necessary support including subsidized seeds and fertilizers. The governor noted that the main objective of this subsidy is to sensitize the community on effectiveness and efficiency of farm mechanization to achieve food security in the county and thereby encourage farmers to embrace mechanization even at their own levels. Local elected leaders including the area Member of County Assembly and various County Government officers graced the subsidy launch occasion.

Rasanga on a mission to expand insurance coverage

The National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) seeks to double the number of Siaya residents registered to benefit from its health insurance coverage within the next one year. In an intensive recruitment drive in partnership with the health department of the County Government of Siaya that will see community health volunteers and ward administrators as mobilization agents, all county staff and citizens will be targeted for NHIF coverage. Siaya County has 283,000 households presently.

Speaking in Kisumu while hosting a delegation from the NHIF headquarters led by Mr. Gibson K. Muhuhu, the Deputy Director of Registration and Compliance, Siaya Governor His Excellency Cornel Rasanga noted as a priority the need for universal healthcare coverage within Siaya County and committed to prioritize actualization of the noble partnership between NHIF and The County Government of Siaya.

The partnership will include identification and profiling of the socio-economic data of targeted beneficiaries to inform extent of health coverage, training for Community Health Volunteers in collaboration with other health actors e.g. AMREF to promote NHIF uptake and comprehensive healthcare coverage of all County Government staff through NHIF.



His Excellency Cornel Rasanga Amoth, hosts a delegation from NHIF Headquarters on Universal Health Insurance coverage

The Governor directed the health department officers present during the meeting to ensure linkage of NHIF uptake to other county services e.g. fertilizer access, tractor hire services access and access to farming seeds among other departmental activities for intergration purposes and to increase the said uptake.

Mr. Muhuhu intimated that registered citizens were poised to now benefit from NHIF payment for minor surgeries by its beneficiaries. The Governor also emphasized to the health department officials present the need to ensure improved quality of service in the health facilities within the County so that patients would prefer public health facilities for comprehensive healthcare.

The meeting was graced by the Governor's Health Advisor Dr. Okwesio, Health Department Chief Officer Madam Dorothy Owino, Health Department Director Dr. Omondi Owino, Chief of Staff in the Office of The Governor Mr. Walter Okelo and several senior NHIF Officials from The NHIF Headquarters and their Kisumu office branch.

Governor's directive on makeshift structures in major urban areas within Siaya County

His Excellency Cornel Rasanga, The Governor, County Government of Siaya has reiterated that the planned implementation of the Public Land Audit Report will be consultative, human and all-inclusive of all relevant stakeholders including those affected and whose structures are likely to be moved in the process. The County Government of Siaya in November 2017 issued notices to small scale traders doing business in makeshift structures along the roads of Siaya Urban Centers to vacate and create room for urban plans to be actualized.

The Governor while speaking with journalists mid December 2017 stopped the execution of the notice of public land evacuations until further deliberations on the most effective methods are adopted by his pending cabinet. Most of the affected traders had blamed a section of County Government staff for the illegal allocation of the business spaces and requested for more time to relocate. It is hoped that the implementation of the public land audit report will create space for more organized towns, targeted revenue collection and the upcoming of modern permanent structures for effective business execution within the county.



A view of major housing developments within Siaya County.

The intention to evacuate had been issued by the governor during an earlier release of the Siaya County Public Land Audit Report at his boardroom where he had declared that illegal makeshift structures along road reserves and other public pieces of land must be brought down to open up road reserves, which had been grabbed by cartels and unscrupulous individuals.

The Governor also cautioned revenue and County law enforcement officers against approving establishment illegal structures in areas reserved as public land. He regretted that despite recruiting law enforcement officers, lots of illegal structures have engulfed big towns in Siaya County hence jeopardizing the beautification of the towns. Even after the Siaya Bus Park and motorists stage was developed to modern standards by the County Government of Siaya, touts opted to do business along the road junctions thus putting lives of the members of the public at risk.

Women in Entrepreneurship; the Siaya case study

When the government passed a law on the ban of use of plastic paper bags most Kenyans wondered how they were going to operate without them. Having seen the plastic paper bags as an essential commodity most people found this outrageous and unacceptable. For one Tereza Akinyi Okidi a resident of Siaya County, this came as good news to her as she seized the opportunity to make similar bags but then out of papyrus reeds. She also makes gift bags, papyrus egg-trays and serviette boxes, banana leaves, maize husks, cuach grass, pumpkin roots, and leaves. The bags, she says, unlike others, are unique, strong, environment-friendly, durable and can last for even ten years if well taken care of.

Mrs. Okidi who is stationed at the Siaya Cultural Centre, near Huduma Center, also does tie and dye and makes different types of items such as traditional men's shirt and trousers, ladies' 'bubu' and bags. She has had different customers from all walks of life and met prominent personalities during arts exhibitions like former President Mwai Kibaki, Siaya Governor Cornel Rasanga, the former Kenyan ambassador to Tanzania Chirau Ali Makwere, the former Kisumu Governor Jack Ranguma, Deputy President William Ruto, the current Siaya Senator James Orengo, Bondo member of parliament Gideon Ochanda, Honorable Omingo Magara among others. Although she targets both local and foreign customers, one of her major challenges is to get the local people to start appreciating her products which she describes as traditional.

"In most situations, I have learnt that the foreign tourists are always more willing to buy and appreciate traditional ornaments and attires than the local people who shy away from the same. People have not yet started valuing culture and cultural items", according to Mrs. Okidi

As one enters the gate of Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Sports, one cannot evade the beautiful scenery of products boldly on display at the door step and around the wall of a small rounded traditional hut. "If one has the passion for what they do, they can never give up on it no matter what challenges come their way until they attain their vision." Mrs. Okidi pauses.



Papyrus seats



042

KISUMU COUNTY



PROF. PETER ANYANG' NYONG'O, EGH
Governor, Kisumu County



H.E. DR. MATHEW OWILI
Deputy Governor, Kisumu County

Practical steps to food sufficiency and sustainability in Kisumu county: Joining the league of food exporters

The County Government of Kisumu banks on revitalizing agriculture for food security and agribusiness. The move involves implementation of programmes such as promotion of sustainable land use, enhancement of agricultural credit and inputs, improvement of productivity output and promotion of market access and product development.

Embraced new technologies and value addition to boost food production in all wards and sub-counties with agricultural mechanization stations and provision of subsidized farm operations to farmers in the County. Mechanization has also enhanced land preparation in good time and at affordable costs and generation of revenue to the County. This initiative is a clear sign of the County Government's commitment to food security and value addition for economic growth of the lakeside region. This thought out plan has kicked off with the identification of the potentials of the various Sub Counties and commencing the implementation of programmes that would accentuate their potentials in the immediate and long term.



New farming methods introduced to intensify rice production in traditional rice growing regions

The 10,000-litre capacity milk cooling and processing plant being built in Muhoroni Sub County with the collaboration USAID, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and Heifer International is a product of this roadmap. The program also includes an accelerated breeding program using hormonal therapy targeting the local breeds that will not just increase the number of cows in the milk production but also the quality and quantity of milk produced per animal.

Rice farming has been a sure source of livelihood to thousands in the rice value chain. The County Government has focused on improving rice productivity in the Ahero, West Kano and the Awach schemes by introducing breeds that would give better yield per acreage, putting more farmland under rice irrigation and improving the irrigation infrastructure.

Rehabilitation of the water intake at Kasimba in Ahero and the irrigation canals within the West Kano irrigation Scheme has been completed ensuring sustained water supply to the 400-acre scheme with a production potential of rice worth Kshs. 72,000,000 per harvest.

Plans are at an advanced stage to commence the reclamation of the 16,000-hectare swamp land within Kobura ward of Nyando Sub County, Mboha Valley in Seme Sub County and Nam Thoe of Kisumu East. Putting this massive land resource into horticulture and other agricultural production will ensure that the county joins the league of food exporters.

Universal Health Coverage: Vision 2022

The dream to introduce mandatory Universal Health Coverage in Kenya has flown against very strong headwinds. The Captain who attempted to navigate this treacherous path and laid the framework of the current working system – NHIF Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o now finds himself as the Governor of Kisumu County. In his manifesto, Universal Health Coverage takes centre stage and he did not waste a minute in the delivery of this vision.



Kisumu County envisions a Universal Health Coverage for all its 1.6 m residents. Construction of new facilities and upgrading of old ones is ongoing. 28 new health facilities have been constructed in the last 4 years.

Kisumu has rolled out a 780 million shilling plan that seeks to put all the 1.6 million citizens of Kisumu on mandatory Universal Health Coverage by 2022.

The delivery of this 4-year phased programme starts with the enrollment of all indigents numbering about 300,000 in year one and progressing to the other cadres in the subsequent years. Through a community health strategy, the mobilization and enrolment of the beneficiaries is currently ongoing with support from the existing county administrative structures and Community Health Volunteers.

It is gratifying to note that the National Government having identified universal health care as one of its key pillars and working with the

World Bank in the implementation of the same have identified four counties to pilot the scheme; Kisumu being one of them. The smooth uptake of this programme will come with the improvement of infrastructure and facilities of the county's health centers and better managed referral system.

Cancer having emerged as one of the top mortality causes in Kenya has become a real cause of concern. The absence of comprehensive cancer care centre in the western region and even countrywide has given birth to the dream of the Western Comprehensive Cancer Centre at the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH). The construction of this centre, an initiative of the County Government of Kisumu, will see Kisumu offer comprehensive cancer management and with a capacity to absorb all the cancer cases in the western region and beyond.

Management of primary Health Care is one sure way of managing the spiraling health budget in the county. To this end, the County Government of Kisumu has embarked on a programme of identification and recruitment of Community Health Volunteers (Nyamrerwas) into the government work force. The CHVs in collaboration with the Village Councils will be responsible for the Government's dissemination of the primary health agenda at the village level.

Kisumu primed for urban renewal

Kisumu Urban Renewal kicked off in earnest with the implementation of the French Government funded Kisumu Urban Project (KUP) and the World Bank funded Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project (KISIP). The two projects have city roads improvement to bitumen standards, Urban Planning, construction of sewer lines in the informal settlements, lighting of informal settlements, solid waste management and improvement of selected schools' infrastructure.

The completion of these projects which are at advanced stages will improve the environment as well as lay the foundation for safer trading conditions while ensuring that security is also enhanced.

The KUP funded Kaloleni roads will set the stage and catapult the re-development of this estate which has been in existence for over seventy years. Already, Ksh. 135 million has been set aside for the slum upgrading project. This will entail bringing the people of Kaloleni in a conversation that will arrive at the best possible method of rebuilding and reallocating the new houses.

Kisumu is one of the few cities sitting on the shores of a water mass. It is such a paradox that the city was built with her back to the lake. The Lake Front Development that seeks to change the city to face the lake and excite the consumption of offerings of the lake has been set in motion. This initiative that brings together partnerships of the UNHABITAT and the City of Kisumu will revolutionize the activities along the city lakeshore.

Plans are underway to build a promenade that will run along the lake line from the Nyanza Golf Course to Dunga which is by the shores of the lake. The National Government through Kenya Pipeline Company Limited has completed a 1.7 Billion Oil Jetty at the KPC Depot in Kisumu. The jetty with 1 billion-litres a year capacity, is positioning Kisumu as the regional petroleum market, and will increase marine transport in the lake as most of the oil to the region will be transported by barges across Lake Victoria.



An aerial view of one of Kisumu City's main streets

Enterprise development for sustainable livelihood

The County Government of Kisumu in partnership Kenya Industrial Estates (KIE), Lake Basin Development Authority (LBDA) and Nile Poultry Ltd – a local company dealing in poultry and poultry products have come up with a poultry enterprise project that seeks to develop structures that will produce poultry and products sufficient enough to meet the demands of the local market and for export.

This will be done by developing capacity (manpower and infrastructure) to achieve an output of 1,000,000 broilers per month and 1,000,000 eggs per day within the twelve months of the program.



The CEC member for Trade, Business & Energy Hon. Alice Moraa and the CEC member for Economic Planning Hon. Richard Ogendo award cheques to 81 traders totalling Ksh. 6.7 million to boost SME's at a recent function.

The cornerstone of this 100 million shilling project will contract farming. While it reduces the pressure from the investor to set aside capital for acquisition of land and the headaches around employee management, contract farming empowers the individual farmer and enables him to be an entrepreneur who is then able to manage his time as he deems fit and expand his income. The program will be scaled up to develop a strong and sustainable poultry export business with the target markets in other counties in Kenya and countries in East and Central Africa.

The effects of climate change continue to reverberate around the globe and with very minimal technical capacity for mitigation especially in growing economies like Kenya. This informed the commencement of the construction of a 300 million shilling Biotechnology Centre in Muhoroni Sub County to equip practitioners in this field with technical skills in renewal energy and climate change.

The centre will be equipped with demonstration sites for bio gas and Bio Technology as well as stately conference facilities that will also be a revenue source for the county.



H.E. CYPRIAN ARCHELIUS OTIENO AWITI
Governor, Homa Bay County



H.E. HAMILTON ORATA ONYANGO
Deputy Governor, Homa Bay County

Investing in post-harvest storage facilities to enhance agricultural productivity and food security

Agriculture is a key sector for the County's sustained economic growth. It is the leading income contributor at the household level being the main stay of household food security. To enhance food security Governor Awiti has increased farm productivity and area under cultivation significantly with the provision of agricultural inputs to 4,800 farmers and acquisition of 8 tractors complete with disc plough and harrows. The tractors were acquired to speed up agricultural mechanization and minimize the cost of land preparations.



His Excellency the Governor for Homa Bay Hon Cyprian Awiti launching the tractor hire services project in Ndhiva Sub County

The department has strengthened and provided agricultural extension and education services across the County thus enabling adoption of good agricultural practices and increasing farm production. 574 farms have been established as technology transfer sites (based on tissue culture banana, pineapples, sun flower, maize and sorghum,) thereby enhancing adoption of modern agricultural technology and increasing farm output.

Currently the County Government is undertaking an accelerated value chain development in dairy farming which is intended to increase milk production in the county and meat product by Provision of Artificial Insemination and livestock breeding upgrade to improve the quality of cows for milk and meat. The project is being carried out in Kasipul, Rangwe and Karachuonyo sub-counties. It will be up scaled to other sub-counties. 1088 cows have been inseminated and 800 cross breed calves sired.

Cage fish farming has steadily grown in the County as a strategy to ease pressure on Lake Victoria. It's important to note that Homabay County hosts more than 80% of this lake. Currently there are 23 cage farms with a total of 662 cages. Production of farmed fish has therefore increased improved food security. The County has partnered with two private companies in the production of fingerlings in support of cage fishing along high potential beaches.

Going forward the department seeks to establish a post-harvest storage facility at Kigoto in Suba sub-county(Gwassi) targeting 2,000 farmers in Gwassi and over 23,000 farmers across the county. The silos will store up to 200,000bags of maize at any given time. The department earmarks for other maize storage facilities in maize-growing sub-counties in the next five years.

Provision of primary healthcare to people of Homa Bay

At the advent of devolution in 2013, the delivery of health services in Homa Bay County was at its lowest ebb. Nearly all the health institutions suffered staff shortages. Drugs were inadequate and patient transfers were hampered by lack of ambulances.

Universal Health Care is a key strategic pillar in our county development plans. For a country faced with one of the biggest disease burdens in the country, Homa Bay County has carefully selected its projects, to help address the challenges. Today, the County Government has improved the situation through massive investment on health services as outline below:

The County has been able to procure drugs and non-pharmaceuticals for all 260 gazetted health facilities. A total of 711 additional health personnel have also been recruited to curb staff shortage.

The burden of HIV&AIDS and other diseases has been reduced as a result of investments in at least 309more personnel, additional comprehensive care centers and improved public health and sanitation. HIV prevalence has decreased marginally from 27% in 2013 to the current 25%.

The County Government has constructed modern maternity wards in Ndhiva, Rangwe, and Kendu Bay Sub-County Hospitals. The County Referral Hospital has also been renovated. Delivery in health facilities has improved from 46% to 56% while maternal mortality rate has declined from 673 to 583 per 100,000 live births while under 5 mortality rate has declined from 170 to 130 per 1,000 live births

The County Government Procured highly digitized medical equipments including Renal and dialysis machines, X-ray, CT scan and ultra sound



Governor Awiti and his deputy inspecting the newly installed renal equipment

machines. They have been installed at the hospital to save patients the agony of travelling to Kisumu and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, Eldoret in search of such facilities. A satellite medical training college (KMTC) has been established in Oyugis, Rachuonyo South while construction work is ongoing in Sindo, Suba sub county where a second one is to be established through partnership with the Kenya Medical Training College. This is to help address the inherited staff shortages at public health facilities

As part of promoting healthy living and preventing chronic diseases, a comprehensive County Community health strategy has been implemented with 2,147 CHWs being recruited in the process across 243 community units to emphasize household health beyond clinical care.

The county envisions provision of Universal Health coverage by promoting enrollment of households into NHIF scheme to enable them access care at level 2,3,4 & 5 and to provide basic care (primary health care) to county residents. The department has put resources and created partnerships with NHIF to ensure households are registered.

Investing in infrastructure to unlock our economic potential

The 5 years of devolution in Homa Bay has seen the first tarmac road built by the County Government. The Kadongo-Gendia Road. The 33KMs road improved to bitumen standard with funds from the County Government has enhanced mobility in Rachuonyo sub-county. The County conceived this idea because effective road network plays a major role in economic development.

The County has opened up 450 kms of road network across the 40 wards thereby improving mobility and accessibility across the County significantly by using own equipment either inherited from the National Government or those acquired by the County Government. Over the last three years, the sub sector has acquired 4 motor graders while one motor grader, 3 rollers and 1 excavator as donations. In addition the road network has been significantly improved with 13 single span bridges built, 3 box culverts built, and several foot bridges.

As part of collaborative efforts with both the National Government and African Development Bank (ADB), bituminization of 200 KMs of road network that include Mbita-Sindo-Sori, Oyugis-Kendu Bay (C 26), Oyugis-Rodi Kopany (C 18), Oyugis-Gamba, Suneka-Asumbi-Rangwe, Imbo-Olare (D 216), Kadel-Kanyadhiang'(D 219), Misambi-Karota, Ndiru-Kodhoch-Onyeye-Wikondiek-Kanyadhiang'roads is ongoing.



A section of the tarmacked 33km Kadongo-Gendia road

The County Government has also collaborated with the Kenya Airports Authority and upgraded the run way at Kabunde Airstrip to 1.2KMs and constructed the terminal. The airstrip is fully operational with daily flights between Homabay and Nairobi opening the County for business and improving the economy. A total of 300 fully functional solar street lights have been erected as part of efforts to boost security and extend business hours for traders within Homabay and Oyugis towns.

The Department has also motivated and facilitated private investors who have invested in ferries and water busses thereby improving accessibility to the islands within the County.

The County Government plans to improve to Bitumen Standard 29 kilometers of the Marindi-Magina-Pala-Kowuonda road (E 1017, D 212) within the next five years to improve mobility and increase economic growth.

Homa Bay to enhance growth of manufacturing sector by completing animal feeds and maize processing plants

The County Government has endeavored to increase the knowledge base and capacity of small businesses. It has done so by training 150 small scale traders and provided them with loans to start their businesses. The County Government established a Trade Fund with Loans amounting to 10.6 Million issued to 150 Small and medium traders across the county.

Businesses have also been stimulated and income poverty addressed among over 2000 vulnerable women and youth who have benefited from 1,014 assorted economic stimulus equipment including car washing machines, welding machines, brick making machines and saloon equipments that were acquired and distributed to them.

The overall trading environment is also being improved with Mbita market already upgraded as a result of partnership with the National Government. Oyugis market is also being upgraded in collaboration with the National Government while UNHabitat in partnership with the County Government is also upgrading Nyakwere market.

Despite all these efforts, the County Government has also established the Homa Bay County Aswekra Fund. The project has so far benefited over 2000 SMEs women business traders popularly known as the Aswekra with distribution of Ksh 5 million. This is a continuous process as the formation of the market Aswekra structures is ongoing for distribution of the same in the whole county. These initiatives have improved access to better market environment, increased business hours and revenue sources together with improved access to cheap business credit.

The County has since registered and revived 10 cooperative societies and provided capacity building.

As part of the big four agenda the county plans to enhance the growth of the manufacturing sector by completing the animal feeds processing plant at Arujo in Homa bay town. The industry targets the raw materials which include; pyrethrum, rice by-products, omena, maize and other agricultural products. The objective is to produce quality subsidized animal feeds.



Various saccos have been empowered with workshop equipment



H.E. ZACHARY OKOTH OBADO
Governor, Migori County



H.E. NELSON MAHANGA MWITA
Deputy Governor, Migori County

Migori promotes food security and nutrition

In order to achieve its mandate of promoting food security, the County Government of Migori has come up with relevant initiatives. Before the inception of County Governments, accessing ploughing tractors was difficult and expensive. But the County Government purchased five tractors and disc ploughs. This has led to large tracts of land being prepared and there is timely land preparation and planting.

Agriculture department has initiated a farm input programme where farmers are provided with seeds and fertilizers at subsidized prices. This has led to supply of DAP and NPK fertilizers to 7,539 farmers while 12,000 farmers were supplied with maize seeds; increasing the average yield of maize from 6 to 15 bags per acre. A fruit nursery has also been established at Oyani Farm. As a result, the sector has distributed 73,000 hardened tissue culture banana plantlets to 5,000 farmers.

Sugarcane takes long before harvesting. Therefore, the County Government of Migori initiated dairy farming to cushion farmers as they wait to harvest canes. The county government has bought and given to sugar cane/ tobacco farmers 300 in-calf heifers/cows. 49 Sahiwal bulls have also been introduced to farmers in drier areas moreso Nyatike to help upgrade the zebu cattle in the area.

To improve on cattle genetics for better milk production the County Government has invested in Artificial Insemination (AI) service. Initially, one insemination was costing a farmer up to Ksh. 2,500. But the County Government purchased 16 AI kits for subsidized services of Ksh. 50, Ksh. 100 and Ksh. 700 for zebus, crosses and grade animals respectively.

The Fisheries sub-sector has purchased and distributed to farmers more than 1,139,000 fish fingerlings. The county also helped farmers to construct 70 fish ponds and stock the same with fish fingerlings. The fish farmers also benefitted from 2,757,200 kgs bags of fish feed.



Governor Okoth Obado gives dairy cows to farmers in Wasio Village, Suna East sub-county. 300 dairy cows have been distributed to farmers across the county.

Infrastructure, health workforce are our key pillars

To provide integrated, responsive and high quality client-centered health care services to the people of Migori, the County Government has identified infrastructure and the health workforce as key pillars.

In the first year of devolution alone, Migori County allocated Ksh. 38 million for developing paediatric ward, surgical ward and county medical store much more than Ksh. 12 million given in 3 years before devolution.



Governor Okoth Obado at a county's renal unit at the County Referral Hospital. The County Government has initiated many projects at the referral hospital.

To score in service delivery, the department first elevated Migori District Hospital to the Migori County Referral Hospital (MCRH). This increased bed capacity from 80 to 120, increased access to services and reduced referrals to other counties.

Therefore, to improve services at the MCRH, many projects such as: state-of-the-art laboratory, dental and ENT unit, pediatric ward, renal unit, surgical ward, face-lifting of the wards and outpatient, perimeter wall, solar lighting and walk way have been initiated.

Skilled health care is necessary. To achieve this, the County Government in partnership with the National Government has established two Kenya Medical Training Colleges (KMTCs) at the MCRH and Kehancha Hospital to offer training to students whose population of 50 per cent come from within the county.

Of the 10 public hospitals, only two had functional theatres, a situation that led to high numbers of referrals to MCRH. This in turn led to delays in getting the required emergency services. In efforts to save the situation, the county's health department has constructed and equipped two theatres in Awendo and Rongo hospitals.

Health department has also constructed wards at Kegonga, Nyamaraga, Ntimaru, Karungu and Uriri and carried out face-lift on 100 dispensaries and health centres and bought five fully equipped land-cruiser ambulances for effective emergency service deliveries.

The County Government has recruited 541 new staff including specialists. This gives a total of 1, 477 health workers in the county.

Migori invests in roads for improved trade and movement

Migori County's Roads and Public Works is a sector that aims to facilitate provision, construction and maintenance of quality government buildings and other public works for sustainable socio-economic development.

Migori town is a land locked area. Again, congestion in town has led to unending traffic snarl-up within the town and along Kisii-Isebania highway. Therefore, to decongest the town, the County Government has built Kiringi Bridge that crosses River Migori in town.

Initially, there was poor access to government offices; dusty roads, leading to poor sanitation in offices. There were also many cases of motor cycle accidents during rainy seasons and high cost of transport. However, this has been a thing of the past after the upgrading to bitumen standards of A1-access to County Government offices-Ombo-A1 Road to improve access to the offices and to improve sanitation in town.

The Uriri-Oria road has also been upgraded to bitumen standards. The work is ongoing and is expected to connect Migori to neighbouring counties such as Homa Bay and to improve trade and movements in the region.

Currently, several roads of about 2000Kms have been opened in all the 40 wards in the county to increase accessibility, improve security, increase business opportunities as kiosks springing up by the road sides and to reduce cost of motorist maintenance.

The county has also constructed 20 box culverts and foot bridges in various wards in the county that have improved trade and transport locally. The department realized that not all county roads can be done in time through contracts. Therefore, it purchased equipment such as: roller, excavator, grader and low bed trailer so that roads can be maintained in good time.



Kiringi Bridge that crosses River Migori in Migori town. The bridge was built by the County Government to decongest Migori town and also to ease trade and movements within the town

County empowers youth to save and invest

Before devolution there was little investment in market infrastructure and trading environments. From the inception of devolution, the County Government has allocated resources to construct market shades, waterborne toilets and VIP toilets. The department is constructing 17 market shades, two VIP toilets per sub county and thirteen waterborne toilets across the county. On completion, 816 traders will be accommodated in the market shades. Four waterborne toilets are already operational.

The County Government took over the management of Joint Loans Board and facilitated disbursement of loans to traders to provide affordable credit to small and micro-enterprises. Through this initiative 97 traders have received loans totaling to Ksh. 11.7 million. To ensure effective management and to improve efficiency in revenue collection, the County Government took over the management of the new modern market at Awendo.



Governor Okoth Obado addresses public during opening of Awendo modern market. The County Government has constructed more market shades across the county.

On Consumer Protection and Fair Trade Practices, trader's equipment are annually verified to ensure they are accurate. The inspections are carried out on a number of trading premises to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements with respect to pre-packaging for the buyers get value for their money. The department has also purchased instrumentation and calibration equipment, to ensure consumer protection and fair trade practices and to enhance the quality of legal metrology services.

So far, the County Government has facilitated registration of eight (8) Sub-County Bodaboda SACCOS to empower youths, create jobs to the youth and to help members mobilise savings and invest. This move has directly created 200 jobs to the youth. By the end of 2016/2017 FY the SACCOS had a combined savings of Ksh. 2,580,050 and a total asset value of Ksh. 22,383,263. Through the office of the county's First Lady, 37 Kuku ni Pesa SACCOS were formed to economically empower. Through this initiative, a total of 37,000 chicks have been distributed to women.



H.E. JAMES OMARIBA ONGWAE, CBS, EBS, OGW
Governor, Kisii County



H.E. JOASH MAANGI GONGERA, MBS
Deputy Governor, Kisii County

Multi-billion sugar complex to boost Kisii county economy

The agro-processing sector in Kisii County is set to receive a major boost with the planned establishment of a Ksh. 5 billion Sugar Complex in South Mugirango sub-county.

The County has received approvals from relevant state agencies including the National Environment Management Authority, Kenya Sugar Directorate and the Kenya Forest Service for the sugar factory.



Kisii Governor James Ongwae and Kanoria Group Chief Finance Officer Vinod Vora sign a Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of the Kisii Renewable Energy and Sugar complex in South Mugirango Sub County.

In a petition signed by Governor James Ongwae, the County has sought the approval of the Senate to excise part of Nyangweta Forest to house the multi-billion-sugar complex that is expected to create over 5,000 direct and indirect jobs for locals.

Once complete, the factory will have a capacity to crush 5,000 tonnes of cane per day, produce; 10 megawatts of power to the national grid, 15 million litres of ethanol, 10 megawatts of power and 172,500 metric tonnes of sugar making it the second largest sugar factory in Kenya after Mumias.

The Indian investor has already registered Kisii Renewable Energy and Sugar Factory Company Limited to run the sugar factory. The investor was identified following the successful Kisii Entrepreneurship Summit in 2016 where the County showcased trade and investment opportunities to local, regional and international investors. Currently, sugarcane farmers incur heavy losses due to high transportation costs to factories in neighbouring counties and delays in harvesting due to congestion.

The sugar complex will significantly transform the county's economy and improve the livelihoods of sugarcane farmers. Expected benefits include better prices for cane, job creation, ready market for farm produce, improvement of infrastructure and social services and increased revenue to the County through cess and other levies. The sugar complex which will be the only factory in the entire Gusii region will serve farmers from South Mugirango, Bomachoge Chache, Bomachoge Borabu, Bonchari and Bobasi sub-counties who grow sugar cane in small and large scales.

The sugar complex will significantly transform the county's economy and improve the livelihoods of sugarcane farmers. Expected benefits include

A survey by the department of agriculture revealed that about 4,155 hectares of land in Kisii County is under sugarcane growing. Current production stands at 266,341 tonnes annually with a yield of 75,000 tonnes per hectare.

New 250 - bed ward to help decongest county referral hospital

Over the past five years, the county has invested in infrastructure upgrade, installation of modern equipment, strengthening primary healthcare and improving human resources for the health sector.



A section of the new 200 bed ward built by the County at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital (KTRH). Once complete, it will increase bed capacity at the hospital to 700.



A section of the 250 bed capacity ward at Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital. Upon completion, the bed capacity at the premier hospital will rise to 700 thus easing congestion.

One key project is the construction of a 250 bed capacity ward at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital (KTRH) to help decongest the facility. Current bed occupancy stands at 150 per cent in some wards since the public hospital cannot turn away patients.

The new five-storey ward features a laundry area, a doctors' meeting room and a basement store for non-pharmaceuticals. Once complete, the hospital's capacity will increase to 700 beds and facilitate re-opening of the amenity wing to allow consultant doctors admit patients at the hospital. As part of this upgrade, the County has established two more theatres increasing the number to seven (7) up from two in 2013.

Another flagship project is the establishment of a KShs.2billion Modern Cancer Diagnostic and Treatment Centre at KTRH. The project is co-financed by the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) and the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD).

Already, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) has been established with construction set to begin in June this year. It will be fully equipped with theatres, four examination rooms, mammograms, lecture rooms, two shielded rooms for x-ray, a CT Scanner, a 12-bed ICU and 40-bed patient ward. The cancer centre will boost early detection of the disease and reduce the cost incurred by patients who have to travel to Nairobi and even overseas for treatment. Additionally, the County has built a modern anatomy laboratory at KTRH. With a capacity to hold 100 bodies unlike the current morgue, which has a design capacity of 24 bodies, the anatomy laboratory will be used for pre-clinical studies by Kisii University's School of Medicine. It will house histology and gross anatomy laboratories, a funeral parlour and a chapel – facilities similar to those at Chiromo Hospital. Construction is complete awaiting installation of cooling facilities.

Integrated street lighting beams Kisii as businesses enjoy a 24-hour economy

The dream to have Kisii town and its outlying markets to operate businesses around the clock has come to fruition. This follows the successful implementation of an integrated street lighting project that has now offered residents a 24-hour economy.



Traders sell their wares under solar street lights installed at Magena market, Bomachoge Borabu sub-county

Governor James Ongwae who was recently re-elected to serve his second and final term spearheaded the installation of street lights in Kisii town and major markets to enable residents and traders operate round the clock.

“We have installed over 530 solar lights in over 72 markets across the county while other additional markets are earmarked for lighting this financial year. We have also installed 50 high mast lights (mulika mwizi) across the county. The street lights have had a tremendous impact on the economy by facilitating the growth of a 24-hour economy,” says Governor Ongwae.

The county has also installed high mast lights in all major sub county headquarters that boost business. Traders carry out their business until late in the night without a worry about security. Kisii residents acknowledge that before devolution, trading long hours in Kisii town and its environs was a pipe dream as most of the markets were dark and insecure to do business.

“We have an agreement with an investor who has managed to put up 200 solar powered street lights in Kisii town's central business district. This will go a long way in boosting security, as well as, attract investors to our region,” says Governor Ongwae.

Thanks to the street lighting initiative, working hours for traders have increased and this has boosted businesses, a significant step towards employment and wealth creation. Implementation of the second phase of this project is underway and it will include residential areas and 160 other market centres across the county.

“Some towns in rural areas previously shut their businesses by around six or seven, but these days business thrives until 10:00pm or 11:00pm in towns like Keumbu, Gesusu, Nyacheki, Ogembo, Nyamache and Marani,” says urban development CEC Onderi.

Banana processing plant to increase earnings to Kisii county farmers

The Kisii County Government plans to establish a Ksh. 133 million banana factory to boost earnings to farmers through value addition. The multi-million processing plant will be established through a collaborative arrangement between the County Government and the European Union (EU) to strengthen the banana value chain for increased income.

Already, the County Government has identified the required 1.6 hectares of land in Kisii town, conducted a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), a market potential survey and a feasibility study on the project. Farmers have been organized into a County Co-operative Society with each of the nine sub-counties having a member on the management board. Each of the 45 wards has a producer marketing group and collection centres.

Once complete, the banana plant will process 80 tonnes of banana daily into various products for the local and international market. It will produce banana flour from cooking varieties like *Ng'ombe*, *Nusu Ng'ombe* and *Uganda Green*. The plant will also produce wine from the ripening varieties of banana including *Giant Cavendish*, *Dward Cavendish*, *Williams* and *Apple*. The banana value chain has witnessed declining productivity due to poor agronomic practices, high disease and pest infestation, use of non-certified banana suckers, poor marketing and lack of organized markets. Studies show that 32-40 per cent of the green banana is lost due to perishability and farmers lose out to middlemen.

Over the past five years, the County Government has crafted interventions to address productivity challenges through distribution of the 500,000 suckers of the disease resistant and early maturing Tissue Culture variety of banana. Current banana production in the County stands at 365,000 tonnes annually. Much of the Kisii banana, the cooking variety, is sold through middlemen in Mombasa, Eldoret, Kisumu, Nairobi and Nakuru. The plant is also expected to increase farm income for banana farmers in the County and surrounding areas from the current Ksh. 8 per kilogram to Ksh. 14. The factory will create about 1,000 direct and indirect jobs throughout the value chain.



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NYAMIRA COUNTY



H.E. JOHN OBIERO NYAGARAMA
Governor, Nyamira County



H.E. AMOS NYARIBO KIMWOMI
Deputy Governor, Nyamira County

Farmers smile all the way to the bank with vegetable value addition

Figures:

- 51,000 –plantlets of tissues culture have been distributed and established.
- 80- Green houses purchased and distributed to groups.
- 3,600 Kgs of local vegetable seeds distributed to groups.
- 10,000-Households supplied with fertilizers.
- 556 -Common interest groups established and trained on flagship projects.

A group of elderly women sit next to a big tree in Nyamira township ward. They are members of a women group known as Nyairicha Women group. On this day, they have come together to exchange traditional vegetable seeds.



Some grow the spider weed (*Chinsaga*), the African black night shade (*Rinagu*), jute mallow (*mrenda*) and the conventional vegetables like *Sukuma wiki* (Kales), spinach, onions among others. Those who grow manage to exchange their farm-saved seeds with those who grow kales, etc. This group is one among hundreds in Nyamira that work with the County Government in the local vegetables value chain initiative, one of the agriculture department’s flagship project.

“We provide them with quality planting materials, soil testing and agronomic extension services to boost food security and nutrition,” explains Governor John Nyagarama. Since the start of the project, 80 green houses have been purchased and distributed to groups and over 10,000 households supplied with fertilizers. The county has also established 556 common interest groups through which over 3,600 Kgs of local vegetable seeds have been distributed. “We have trained and supported more than 556 common interest groups the entire local vegetables value chain right from production to marketing. A group like Nyairicha collected over Ksh. 300,000 from the sale of local vegetables within the last three seasons of the year 2017. This is massive earning for rural women,” says Mrs Peris Oroko, the Executive Committee Member for Agriculture.

For value addition, once the vegetables have been harvested, the County Government procured solar driers that were given to farmers in groups across the 20 wards. Again, the drying of the surplus vegetables provides enough dry but ready- to -consume vegetables for the local, national and international markets. “The County Government gives a platform where farmers meet with buyers. Such linkages ensure that the vegetable business has a ready market,” Governor Nyagarama explains.

According to scientists, indigenous leafy vegetables are nutrient-rich and some of them have medicinal values that keep common diseases at bay. The vegetables also contain low fats and calories which mean they have low cholesterol and contain compounds like potassium, dietary fibre, folate, Vitamin A and Vitamin C which are essential for body functioning. The farmers have also been trained on the formation of management structures from the wards, sub-county and county stakeholder platforms to manage the production, management and sell of local vegetables.

Nyamira hospital elevated to county referral status

Before 2013, the Nyamira County Referral Hospital did not have a fence, piped water and most of its toilets were full, smelly, without doors and unclean. The situation was so saddening that patients admitted in wards had to go outside the hospital to access health facilities. The roofs of most of the buildings in the hospital including the kitchen, radiology room, mortuary and wards were leaking. Bodies could not be stored in the cold room at the mortuary since the place was prone to flooding and leaking through the roof and walls.



Since the commissioning of the then Nyamira District Hospital in 1979, little efforts were made towards maintenance of the hospital, equipping and staffing to ensure that its service delivery matched the changing population socio-demographics as well as the dynamic shifts in the epidemiology of diseases in Nyamira. With the start of the County Government of Nyamira in 2013, the County identified the upgrading of the Nyamira District Hospital to a fully-fledged and functional Nyamira County Referral Hospital as one of its flagship projects.

The county started with physical rehabilitation and renovations works among them roofing of the kitchen, radiology and mortuary departments all of which

had leaking flat roofs that made it difficult for services to be offered. It erected a 120,000 litre capacity high and low level water storage reservoirs which have a capacity to hold a further 40,000 litres. After that, embarked on various infrastructural developments that include a three-room operation theatre, an 80-bed amenity wing, a doctors' plaza and an ablution block for in-patients.

So as to assist health workers to properly diagnose and treat diseases, the county went on to invest in an array of quality, accurate and reliable medical equipment including assorted surgical equipment, facilities for a five-bed ICU, nine renal dialysis machines and a CT scan. The CT scanning services are currently utilized by averagely 6-10 clients per day who come from both within Nyamira County and the neighbouring counties. The services help the county to raise Ksh. 1.5 million in revenue months. The renal dialysis services serve between eight to ten patients per week. The services have saved patients from travelling as far as Moi Referral and Teaching Hospital and Kenyatta National Hospital.

With proper infrastructure and equipment, the County Government has also invested in strengthening its human resource. Since 2013, specialists at the facility have doubled. It now boasts of two gynecologists, two surgeons, one radiologist, two pediatricians, an orthopedic surgeon and a physician. The referral hospital also has a referral centre served with seven ambulances located at sub-counties.

Nyamira prides itself in opened up expansive road network

Figures:

1,235 kms of opened and gravelled roads since 2013.

756 kms of graded roads since 2016.

396 kms of graveled roads since 2016

Since 2013, the County Government of Nyamira has made tremendous progress in opening up and graveling of roads. Previously a county prominent for impassable roads, over 1235 km of roads have since been opened up and graveled in the last four years.

In the 2016/2017 financial year, the County managed to open up 512 kilometres of road, grade 756 kilometres and gravel a total of 396 kilometres of county road. The expansive road network is supported by various assorted structures including installed pipe culverts, foot bridges and box culverts. So far, the County has constructed 3,140 kms of cross access culverts.



"The opened up roads include back streets in major towns like Nyamira, Kebirigo, Nyansiongo and Keroka which are now connected with solar powered street lights extending the time businessmen can trade," says John Omanwa, the Executive Committee Member for Transport, Roads and Public Works. The road projects are designed in a way that new roads open up various social amenities including hospitals, churches, social halls and schools.

So as to minimize on costs incurred in road construction, the County has acquired its own road construction equipment which includes four tippers, two motor graders, an excavator, a water browser, two backhoes, two rollers, a low bed and one high sided truck.

Nyamira turning its markets to a 24 hour economy

Figures:

8- Number of markets renovated.

8-Number of toilets constructed in markets.

Before 2013, the County Government of Nyamira had only four modern markets. These markets did not have toilets and fences. As one of the county's flagship projects of creating a conducive environment for trade and investments, the county has since constructed and renovated eight markets. The newly constructed and renovated markets include Mokomoni, Ikonge, Magombo, Nyabite, Keroka, Mosobeti, Girango and Magwagwa.

The County Government has also constructed 16 toilets in various markets and fenced Mokomoni, Magwagwa and Manga markets. Most of the new markets now have electricity and there are street lights in the towns and market centres making it possible for businesses to continue running after dawn. The markets further have display tops which are lockable, toilets for both genders, garbage collection points, water tanks and electricity. The new modern markets which include all-weather roofing, well done floors and drainage systems now provide shelter to hundreds of traders who previously worked under the scorching heat from the sun and rains. The markets have display tops, lockable locks, toilets for both genders, garbage collection points, water tanks and are connected to electricity. They also include an enclosed open air market space and the markets are also fenced with a perimeter wall for safety purposes and proper furnished offices for its committee members.



His Excellency Governor John Nyagarama explains that investing in markets has a multiplier effect in the economy. "When you construct a single modern market, the effect is that you support many other businesses which include motorcycles, car hire services and hotel businesses," the governor said.

Through the markets, the Executive Committee Member for Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, Hon Omwansa Muga explained that the county offers affordable loans to the business community. "So far, we have disbursed Ksh. 11.8 million in loans to 200 beneficiaries. We have also carried hundreds of training and sensitization sessions with traders," Mr Muga said.

In the 2017/2018 financial year, the County plans to fence three more markets and repair at least one. It will also establish and strengthen a total of 25 market committees.



H.E. HON. MIKE MBUVI SONKO, EGH
Governor, Nairobi County

Nairobi embraces innovative food production technologies

Food, agriculture and forestry encompasses production and management of livestock, crops, fish, forestry and animal resources. Food security, nutrition and safety which are considered daunting tasks are among many services practiced in Nairobi. However, following the devolvement of the Sector, Governor Mike Sonko developed strategic objectives to promote food and nutrition security in line with SDG2, promote agribusiness initiatives among women and youth and provide quality animal healthcare.



Nairobi County Agriculture Staff demonstrating on multi storey vegetable harvesting at Kirigu Primary School, Dagoretti South sub-county

Agriculture in the County is mainly rain fed and is inadequate in meeting the animal and crop water requirements. Therefore, in use are technologies like water harvesting, protection of the riparian areas and adopting technologies that use minimal water such as micro gardens, hydroponics, automatic drinkers for livestock and water conservation structures. Nairobi produces 20% of the local food demand while 80% comes from other counties.

The county has installed 32 greenhouses, 14 fish tanks, 7 fish ponds, 5 milk dispensers, 7 poultry & 6 rabbit units and reaches over 15,000 farmers with extension messages and technologies annually. The County has produced best farmers since 2013 under the National Farmers' Award Competition.

In promoting tree cover and increasing soil and water conservation, the sector is set to increase forestry cover in the Eastlands of Nairobi and the Aberdare catchment areas.

The sector has adopted Urban Early Warning and Early Action initiative on food security surveillance to detect the food situation. Regular surveillance informs on action required and appropriate response to be taken by the Disaster and Emergency Council. Access to agricultural financing is mainly through banks and table banking.

On policy, the county has developed the Nairobi City County Urban Agriculture Promotion and Regulation Act, 2015 and the Agribusiness Strategy. The County is developing Food System Strategy.

Focused health delivery bears fruit for city residents

Nairobi County has formulated various policies to address inequalities in the health sector. The guiding policy documents are; Nairobi County Health Policy (2016 - 2025); Nairobi County Health Sector Strategic and Investment plan (2013-2019); Nairobi County Health Accounts (2014) and the Nairobi County Partners' Engagement framework (2017).

With a population of 5 million people, the county has 108 public health facilities (4 referral hospitals, 104 health centres and dispensaries).

In March, the Governor commissioned an oxygen plant at Mama Lucy Kibaki Hospital to ensure adequate supply of oxygen at the busy referral hospital and adjacent county health facilities.

At Mbagathi Hospital, the county constructed a 120-bed capacity maternity wing, a modern 112 body capacity mortuary and 6-bed capacity Renal Unit serving 16 dialysis cases a day. Plans are underway to conduct the first renal kidney transplant at the facility.

The referral hospital and 19 maternity units have been equipped and renovated to operationalize the Linda Mama Program. Further, 4 health centres are offering Kangaroo Mother Care Centers of Excellence with newborn units that are powered with solar energy supply.



Nairobi Governor Mike Sonko pays a courtesy visit to a patient undergoing dialysis after the launch of a Diabetes Renal Unit at the Mbagathi hospital.

At the Ngara health center, a Methadone Clinic offering Medically Assisted Treatment to substance users has enrolled over 400 drugs addicts. A stand-alone multi drug resistant (MDR) TB clinic was established in Bahati to cater for MDR TB patients.

The county has procured 153 cold chain fridges and 8 power back-up incinerators and 5 ambulances to enhance service delivery. In collaboration with stakeholders, the County has made major achievements in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, HIV and Tuberculosis indicators and has strengthened Community Health Services.

50,000 Titles as Nairobi gears to deliver affordable housing

Nairobi County Government has renewed its commitment to deliver affordable housing to city residents. This strategic intent is comprehensively captured in the County manifesto, housing, policies, plans and programmes.



County staffs apply AEA-Patching technology to fill potholes along Kimathi Street. The technology is able to fill a typical pothole in between 3-5minutes.

The County owns approximately 17,000 social rental housing units whose rent is highly subsidized. These units have been earmarked for redevelopment under the urban renewal programme to accommodate more residents and ensure that the land is prudently utilized. The first phase of the re-development project of Old and New Ngara, Pangani, Suna Road, Ngong Road Inspectorate Uhuru and Jevanjee/Bachelor is at an advanced stage. City Hall is also carrying out a feasibility study for redevelopment of pre-colonial estates in Eastlands.

The Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project (KISIP) in Kayole Soweto and KCC Kangundo Road has been completed. Additional 13 informal settlements have been earmarked for improvement under the KISIP project.

City Hall in partnership with the Ministry of Lands is set to issue 50,000 title deeds to land owners, which will enhance security of tenure of the plots.

This will unlock the economic and social potential of the community, enhance County's revenue and minimize land conflicts.

Infrastructure

To provide quality, equitable and sustained social-economical and physical infrastructure services, the County administration has embarked on ambitious infrastructure upgrading in all its ten sectors. City Hall launched an online permit management system which aims to make the process of applying for and getting building permits easier and convenient for property developers.

Proper infrastructure ensures prompt delivery of services, enhances productivity and accelerates job creation opportunities hence creating wealth. To ensure that the roads last to their optimal life span and mitigate on flooding, the county has constructed 59 kms of drainage systems.

In an effort to make the City a 24-hour economy, the County has installed 39,000 street lights and 12,000 high mast.

Skills development to drive Nairobi's trade and manufacturing sector

Nairobi County contributes to about 60% of the Kenyan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Trade activities contribute immensely to the success of the Kenyan foreign and domestic earnings.

The County leadership recognizes the vital role played by trade and in an effort to support the trading activities the administration has put in place structures and mechanisms to create an enabling environment for the players. In this connection, the County automated and decentralized the issuance and payments of trade permits, greatly eliminating delays.

The County is constructing four additional markets to ease pressure on the existing 43 wholesale, open air and retail markets. It has also rehabilitated and modernized some of its retail markets improving and enhancing customer attraction. The additional markets will accommodate over 2000 small scale traders.

Manufacturing

The county is host to 80% of all industries in the country, contributing 10 % of GDP. To promote industrial growth, Nairobi County is addressing the key challenges of export of unfinished and semi-finished products by creating conducive environment through infrastructure development and legislation.

Residents are set to benefit from the construction of a leather go down equipped with tooling machines for production of leather finished products. Over 1,000 Micro and Small Enterprises will benefit. The County has set up skills development facilities and Micro Finance Development Fund to empower small-scale business for youth and women.

County Industrial Development Centers in Lang'ata and Dagoretti were strategically established and equipped with lathe machines for youth from the vocational centres to apply their skills in metal fabrication and auto spare parts production hence improving their job's opportunity chances.

On the trade front, Governor Sonko has put in place mechanisms to support inter-county trade through regional economic blocks. Inter-counties trade will be achieved through market linkages of MSEs with large company's through vertical and horizontal linkages.



Ongoing construction of a three storey market in Westlands. The market will accommodate 384 small scale traders



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Maarifa Centre is a knowledge sharing and learning platform for capturing lessons and experiences from the 47 County Governments. The vision of the centre is "To be Kenya's Premier Knowledge Sharing and Learning Platform for Effective Governors and Services Deliver for Sustainable Development."

Section 20 (b) of the Intergovernmental Relations Act 2012, provides that one of the functions of the Council of Governors is to share information on the performance of counties in the execution of their functions with the objective of learning and promotion of best practice.

Through the centre, COG will collate, share and promote the application of best practices, experiences, lessons and innovations from all counties in Kenya and from other countries, for the purpose of improving service delivery and influencing policies that promote devolution and welfare of citizens.

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