



Nyeri County 019

The Official Newsletter of County Government of Nyeri



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• • • *It is all about you*



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VISION

A wealthy county with happy, healthy and secure people.

MISSION

To create and sustain an environment that unlocks potential of the people of Nyeri to achieve progressive socio-economic growth by running an open government.

CORE VALUES

- Growth (Ūkūria) • Transparency (Waragania)
- Accountability (Ūigĩrĩriki)

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Message from Nyeri Governor



H.E. HON. MUTAHI KAHIGA
GOVERNOR - NYERI COUNTY

Through this periodical, I am pleased to once again apprise you of the strides we have collectively made. From the moment we set out on a voyage of transformative leadership, I have continued to reaffirm my commitment to strengthening our capacity to deliver quality and accessible services to the people of Nyeri.

This is only possible through an accessible and accountable government. Together we have achieved some very specific and tangible transformative development goals that are visible when you walk through our streets and villages all over the county, across the eight sub-counties; Nyeri Central, Kieni East, Kieni West, Mathira East, Mathira West, Mukurweini, Tetu, Othaya. While taking stock of our notable progress this year, we are grateful that we emerged at the top of the World Bank Kenya Devolution Support Program that evaluated us on financial integrity and accountability among other parameters. We moved from position two last year in 2019 to position one this year and received Kshs. 184 million as a reward for the excellence. This is a testament to our zeal, team effort, dedication, resilience and commitment. This is our shared success as the people of Nyeri because it has brought improved service de-

livery and financial rewards to our county.

These funds have helped us to set up one of our flagship projects; Naromoru Level 4 Hospital in Kieni constituency with a 175-bed capacity, which is in the completion stage.

On another front, Nyeri was awarded Kshs. 236 million by the Kenya Urban Support Program. Through this funding, we have put up a state-of-the-art Modern Bus Termini in Nyeri town. This facility will decongest town and

create new opportunities for businesses with over 1000 stalls, an ICT Hub and decent space for mechanics and truckers to do their business. This is in line with our dream of making Nyeri town a magnificent city to increase our tourist numbers and build a thriving local economy. The project is 90% complete. We intend to commission these two flagship projects in the course of year 2021.

This past year has been a tough year that has tested our resilience and mettle but like the phoenix, we shall rise again from the ashes and declare victory upon Nyeri and its great people. We have been severely tested due to the global Covid-19 pandemic but our trajectory this far fills us with hope that a brighter future lies ahead. Our resilience and commitment is the beacon that illuminates our path towards greater accomplishments for the people of Nyeri. We remain anchored in our desire to transform lives and create a greater, mightier Nyeri for us all.

We are modeling the most comprehensive Post Covid Economic Recovery plan that is all encompassing. Our priority remains creating an enabling environment for economic growth and job creation, providing quality services to citizens and serving the

residents in an accountable and transparent fashion. We have witnessed amazing collaboration and support from development partners and the business community. We reiterate our commitment to the people of Nyeri. We have taken this Coronavirus challenge positively to do a critical analysis and overhaul of our health sector as an interconnected system. Naromoru Hospital will be a game changer in our health strategy. Not only will it heavily decongest our Referral Hospital but it will also provide services to a huge unserved population.

Economic empowerment has remained our key priority since inception. We have delivered a superior infrastructure that is a growth catalyst in Nyeri county. The investment in the rural roads is meant to ensure that each citizen is properly networked at the ward level. This is an economic boost to guarantee that agricultural products get to the market in good time. Secondly, we are giving a facelift to our towns including tarmacking of our major county roads and bus parks. This initiative will reduce congestion and create a conducive environment for traders.

A cordial working relationship with the County Assembly of Nyeri has led to increased productivity and the realization of what devolution is to our people. As the first county to set up an exploratory ward fund, we involve 'Wanjiku' through public participation in all the projects we undertake. In light of our mission, 'To create and sustain an environment that unlocks potential of the people of Nyeri to achieve progressive socio-economic growth by running an open government', we are committed to carrying out the best standard practices in serving the people of Nyeri wholly and unreservedly.

This newsletter will give you an insight into the work that all our 10 departments have rolled out in line with our agenda of sustainable economic transformation. My office remains open to the public and I value your feedback immensely because you are a key stakeholder whom together, we shall scale to even greater heights for a better Nyeri for us all.

Enjoy your readership of this publication.

A STREAK OF WINS



Nyeri county continues to bag commendable victories in a show of dedication and devotion through its leadership under the stewardship of H.E Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga. The County Government of Nyeri is a tight ship that is run with diligence and its stellar performance this far is evidenced through the streak of wins under its belt. Despite the hurdles faced in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic, this is the year that Nyeri county rose to the top position in the World Bank's Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP) rating. Nyeri is now among the best run devolved units, having tied at Position One with three other counties in the World Bank rating (Makueni, Nyandarua and Elgeyo Marakwet). In 2019, we were ranked at Position Two before emerging at Position One in 2020. The tranche of money awarded is what the Governor Kahiga led administration is using to construct a Level 4 facility in Naromoru, Kieni East.

Nyeri's rise is due to having accomplished set parameters in five key areas; Public Financial Management, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Human Resource and Performance Management, Civic Education and Public Participation and Environmental and Social performance. The KDSP program is financed by World Bank and seeks to support capacity building and institutional strengthening.

On another score, Nyeri was

awarded Kshs. 236 million by the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP). Through this funding, we are putting up a state-of-the-art Modern Bus Termini in Nyeri town that will cost Kshs. 600 million during the first phase. This enormous facility

that is now settled on what was previously an illegal garbage site, will tremendously decongest town and create new opportunities for businesses.

Similarly, this is the year that we emerged position one in the implementation of the Kenya Climate Smart Agricultural Program (KCSAP). This is a program that aims at increasing agricultural productivity and building resilience to climate change, reduce/remove greenhouse gases and enhance achievement of national food and nutrition security as part of the Big Four agenda.

Nyeri County through the Department of County Public Service Management was also awarded by the County Pension Fund as the best county in timely payment of employee pension and member affiliation.

Nyeri County has also been selected among the pilot counties for the coffee revitalization program which will be undertaken through the National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Project funded by the World Bank with an aim of reforming the coffee sector.

This is the year that in partnership with the Nyeri County Assembly, Governor Kahiga assented to the Nyeri County Flag and Other Symbols Bill, 2020. In the spirit of institutionalizing devolution within Nyeri, we now have a county flag, a coat of arms and a seal.

Previously, the County Government of Nyeri's Finance Team was recognized by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) as being in Position One among all counties in Kenya for its adherence to procurement laws and regulations with a 75% success. The Finance department also put Nyeri on a pedestal for being among only 12 counties that were hailed by Treasury CS Ukur Yatani for clearing their pending bills.

The County Government of Nyeri will continue being dedicated in serving the interests of you, our esteemed stakeholder in Nyeri county.



From left KCSAP coordinator Alice Gichuki, Agriculture CEC James Wachihi and H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga receiving the trophies after the Department of Agriculture emerged position one in the implementation of Kenya Climate Smart Agricultural Programmes (KCSAP). On the right is Agriculture Chief Officer Ruth Mwangi.

Department of Transport, Public Works, Infrastructure & Energy



Kirimukuyu footbridge which is connecting Kirimukuyu ward in Mathira West and Aguthi/ Gaaki ward in Tetu sub county.

To improve on road network connectivity that will ensure reliable transport of goods and services, the department completed and opened up 300 km of roads, graveled more than 660 km and upgraded 13 kilometers into bitumen standard. To accord village connectivity, seven-foot bridges and eight box culverts were constructed.

To ensure an orderly urban life and attract visitors and inves-

tors, the department has developed a good parking management in county's major towns. Mukurwe-ini and Mweiga bus parks have contributed greatly to the betterment of the towns. To ensure there is power connectivity and to allow researching, exploiting and promoting use of alternative renewable energy, the department spent Kshs.12 million for rehabilitation of high mast flood lights. The department lit 95 trading centers with installation of

streets lights which is a total of 75 kilometres of street lights. All this has been undertaken to ensure security and longer working hours for our small scale traders in the town centres.

On renewable energy, 40 solar-powered street lights were installed at a cost of Ksh.16.7 million. The department also spent Kshs. 1 million for construction of efficient biogas energy at Aguthi-Gaaki ward.



The new Mweiga Bus Park which was upgraded using cabro paving blocks.



The newly tarmacked Library- Nyewasco road in Nyeri town.



The newly tarmacked Express- Barclays road in Karatina ward, Mathira East sub-county.



Kinyariti box culvert in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East sub-county.



Newly installed street lights at Kwa J trading centre in Thegu River ward, Kieni East sub-county.



The second phase of Kianda road, Nyeri town upgrading to bitumen standard has kicked off.



The new Kahiga - Kahira-ini footbridge in Kiganjo / Mathari ward.



Upgrading of Mugumo-ini - Whispers - Kamuyu road in Kamakwa ward, Nyeri Central sub-county.

Department of Health Services



The ongoing progress of Naromoru Level 4 Hospital in Kieni East sub county.

The department embarked on a major infrastructure development program starting with the flagship project in Naromoru Level 4 Hospital which is a major milestone for the current administration and is nearing completion. This hospital was constructed using funds that were awarded to the County Government of Nyeri through the KDSP Program after attaining position two and subsequently, position one.

The county government also embarked on the construction of Mt Kenya Hospital Isolation Ward, renovation of the County Referral Hospital and renovation of various health facilities.

The health sector cannot reach its full potential without partnerships and collaboration with development partners. In partnership with AMREF Health Africa team, the county government launched a Covid-19 Emergency Response Project funded by the European Union. Mama Packs were also distributed to health facilities across

the county and given to new-born mothers. So far 1,793 mama packs have been distributed in six sub-counties.

The Wheels for Life project aimed at assisting pregnancy related emergencies during curfew hours with the aim of reducing the mortality rate of pregnant mothers and new-born was also launched.

The department also engaged in an advocacy, communication and social mobilization on Covid-19 preventive measures and sensitized members of the clergy across the eight sub-counties on Covid-19. A multi-sectoral effort for a fumigation exercise was also done in various facilities and premises. The

department held a commencement occasion for the Nyeri Community Health Covid-19 Prevention Program done in all the eight sub-counties. The Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) were equipped with reflector jackets, bags, first aid boxes, Covid-19 health messages, additional masks and sanitizers. A Covid-19 re-sensitization of staff at Wambugu ATC Farm was also done. The Department of Health in conjunction with Diabetes Management Institute (DMI) trained 25 Community Health Extension



A state - of - the - art new born unit at Mukurwe-ini Sub County Hospital which caters for pre-term babies.



Upcoming inpatient ward at the Mt. Kenya Amenity Hospital near Nyeri town.

workers attached to health centers on management of diabetes which was further cascaded to Community Health Volunteers to guide in diabetes self-management and psycho-social support.

The County Covid-19 Contingency Plan was developed and Kshs. 30 million Covid-19 fund was provided in the supplementary budget. The county also received a conditional grant of Kshs. 124.3 million for Covid-19 emergency preparedness. The department also trained 48

ToTs on Covid -19 supported by MOH and 100%.All Health Care Workers were sensitized on Covid-19 prevention, control and management.

The department achieved some world class statistics on some key service delivery indicators: Fully Immunized Children Coverage stands at 99%; 4th Anti Natal Coverage 70%; Skilled Deliveries 99%; HIV patients on ARVs 99%; and HIV patients achieving viral suppression 97%.

To enhance human resource capacity, 102 health care workers were recruited across all cadres through the County Public Service Board.



The newly refurbished Kahuru Dispensary in Iria-ini Mathira ward, Mathira East sub county.



H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga during the launch of the Wheels for Life programme which is aimed at assisting pregnancy related emergencies.



H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga during the launch of the County Anti-microbial Stewardship Interagency Committee (CASIC) Work Plan.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga receiving some of the 75 new computers from Health Services department for distribution to the different health centers across the county. Health CEC Dr. Rachael Kamau, director Dr. Nelson Muriu among other officers handed over the computers to the governor.

Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries



Officers from the Department of Agriculture and officers from the national government pose for a group photo after inspecting Kiria dam masonry tank in Watuka, Gatarakwa ward, Kiini West sub county.

The county emerged top in the implementation of the Kenya Climate Smart Agricultural Projects (KCSAP) among 24 counties in the country. Under the KCSAP through the World Bank funding, the county was allocated Kshs. 260 million for funding micro projects, sub projects and producer organizations.

Already four sub projects worth Kshs. 195 million, three producer organizations and one private public partnership worth Kshs. 115 million was approved by the World Bank.

The County was allocated Kshs. 17 million under the Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP II) which is funded by the Government of Kenya and Sweden International Development Agency (SIDA) for the capacity building of value chain actors along cow milk, indigenous chicken and Irish potatoes value chains. Some of the beneficiaries are organized farmers groups in commercial villages including Kiambogo-Kianjogu Farmers Group members who harvested a bumper

harvest having received certified potato seeds from KCSAP and certified seeds from the county government.

Potato commercial farming attracted over 10,000 farmers producing 83,766 tonnes earning Kshs. 1.37 billion in 2019/2020.

Nyeri County is implementing a pilot programme on fertilizer e-voucher subsidy program in two wards i.e. Konyu and Karima wards. The process commenced with farmers' registration into the National Ag-

riculture Information Management System. Coffee farmers in the two wards are accessing fertilizer at the nearest selected dealers.

Further, the department procured manure for coffee farmers in Mahiga ward under ward specific project worth Kshs. 2 million.

The county is among the pilot counties for the coffee revitalization program spearheaded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperative Development in collaboration with the county governments. The low productivity of coffee is as a result of increased acidity in our soils, reduced use of correct fertilizers due to high cost, and generally poor agricultural practices. To address this, the department purchased three soil-scanning machines. To contribute towards the Greening Program, the department established a fruit tree nursery at Wambugu ATC Farm with a capacity of over 100,000 grafted avocado and grafted macadamia seedlings with the aim of providing quality seedlings to the farmers.

The department continues to



Kiambogo-Kianjogu Farmers Group members in Mugunda ward celebrating their bumper harvest after the county government provided them with potato seedlings.

support dairy farmers with pedigree breed A.I semen to increase the milk production; value addition has also been sustained through provision of 26 coolers, backup generators and solar heating equipment. To improve on the breed of live-stock, the free A.I services have been introduced to farmers reaching at least 1,000 farmers monthly. The county has procured four vehicles to increase coverage of the service, So far, over 35,000 dairy cows have been served.

The directorate of veterinary services has been carrying out annual vaccination programme to control notifiable diseases with over 90,000 animals being vaccinated for a period of one year.

The department also turned

dairy farming into a great commercial enterprise earning our farmers Kshs. 3.5 billion from a total of 178,000 dairy cows and over 80% of the households keeping a dairy cow cumulatively producing 115 million litres of milk.

Apiculture – Bee keeping also become popular on account of its cost effectiveness on land and labour. The hive population stands at 9,600 for the Kenya Top Bar, 6600 for Lang troth and 5,400 for Log Hives earning farmer Kshs.3.1 million.

The department also procured 255,000 Tilapia fingerings, which were stocked in 30 public dams and 45 fish cages. Also 248 bags of fish feeds were distributed to boost youth groups managing the fish cages.



A bee farmer with the Vision Women Group in Gakawa ward, Kieni East sub-county.



The recently installed milk cooler at Mathaita Farmers Cooperative Society in Narumoru / Kiamathaga ward, Kieni East sub county. This will help improve quality and quantity of milk in the area.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (left) with Agriculture CEC James Wachihi inspecting one of the dams which is being desilted under KCSAP.



One of the green houses at Wambugu ATC Farm which is being used for potato cuttings production.



An excavator desilting Lusoi dam in Thegu River ward, Kieni East sub county.



Farmers who are beneficiaries of Aquaculture Business Development Programme harvesting fish at Kabarú ward, Kieni East sub county.



Beneficiaries of KCSAP funds from Mugunda ward, Kieni West receiving a dummy cheque from H.E Mutahi Kahiga and area MCA Hon. Joseph Ndiritu.



The department has procured four vehicles to increase A.I services coverage.

Department of Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development



The ongoing Nyeri Main Bus Termini at Asian Quarters which is one of the county flagship projects, funded under the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) by the World Bank.

The Nyeri Main Bus Termini at Asian Quarters is one of the county flagship projects funded under the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) by the World Bank. The project is aimed at decongesting Nyeri town CBD and boosting the urban economy. In the first phase of the project, Kshs. 600 million was allocated. The project involves construction of 1,000 trading stalls, 98 booking bays, bus parking spaces, ticket offices, fire post, police post, sacco rooms, taxi bay, market, revenue offices, an ICT hub, a block of offices among others.

The department also upgraded local roads (some tarmacked while others were murramed) within the five wards in the Municipality of Nyeri.

The department embarked on the preparation of a County Spatial Plan. This is a 10-year Geographical Information System (GIS) based County Physical Development plan. The purpose of the plan is to sustainably guide social, economic and infrastructural developments in the County. Stakeholder visioning workshops were done in all the 30 wards successfully. The situational analysis was carried

out and the draft plan has been completed. The County Spatial Plan is in the final stages.

The Housing Unit development plans focused on advancement of affordable and suitable housing especially to urban areas that are growing rapidly. The department embarked on developing systems that allow controlled and sustainable land use to secure the future of the county and develop a GIS data-based system to secure land tenure for public utilities and urban areas development program.

The county government in collaboration with the national government under the Kenya Infrastructure Support Program (KISP) finalized the planning, survey and registration planning and surveying of colonial villages. 14 advisory plans for colonial villages were finalized and approved by the County Assembly. The department is in the process of facilitating the registration of 1,000 which include (title deeds) relating to the same. 2,500 development applications (building plans, subdivision schemes, change/



Workers upgrading the roads using cabro paving blocks within the ongoing Nyeri Main Bus Termini at Asian Quarters, Rware ward, Nyeri town.



An aerial view of the upcoming Nyeri Main Bus Termini at Asian Quarters, Nyeri Town. INSET: A team from the Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP) during the monitoring and evaluation visit at Nyeri Main Bus Termini. They were accompanied by the Nyeri Municipal Board members and Lands CEC Dr. Kwai Wanjaria (3rd left).

extension of users, and renewal/extension of leases) were considered for approval.

Over seven policies and bills which have been developed on the legal and legislative framework are awaiting approval and adoption.

The department played a great role in resolution of boundary disputes, demarcation and alignment of boundaries. The department has achieved the following; survey of 20 access roads in 12 wards. It has held public participation meetings geared towards building consensus on public land alienation and resolving ownership disputes. These include areas of Ngorano, Gitugi, and Mutonga. Survey works were undertaken for the following centers, Mutonga, Ngorano, Kabebero, Othaya, Nairutia Police Station, among others.

In conformity with the KUSP directive, the Nyeri Municipality Board was sworn in February 2019 and embarked on implementation of the delegated functions by the county executive committee. The board has been involved in planning and expansion of Chaka and Othaya towns.

The Nyeri Integrated Urban Development Plan was developed, which is a 20-year development plan that provides the legal framework on project planning and development control in Nyeri Municipality.



A team of surveyors, cartographers and physical planners from the department visited Warazo Jet Business Centre in Kabaru ward, Kieni East and picked coordinates of boundaries and structures.

Department of Water, Environment, Irrigation, Natural Resources & Climate Change



Solar powered Kienjoro borehole project in Mugunda Ward, Kieni West sub county.

In the last three years, the department has drilled 46 boreholes in partnership with various stakeholders such as Upper Tana, Tana Water Development Agency, Amref, Sportpesa and LEFT. This has increased water supply from 65% three years ago to 80% by 2020 in rural areas and 80-90% in urban areas. The department also extended pipeline works managed by community based organisations in rural areas by 234Kms, constructed 33 masonry tanks with water storage and 12 intakes translating to an increase of 25,000 households with access to water.

In the financial year 2019/2020, the department recorded the completion of six water tanks and roofing of a tank for Kirika project in Naromoru/Kiamathaga, Kieni East.

The county built four 225m³ masonry tanks in the following areas- Endarasha, Gatarakwa, Aguthi/Gaaki and Kirinyaga/Nyange, two 150m³ masonry tanks in Barguret and Thung'ari. It also procured pipes and fittings for 40 community water projects to cover 120 Km under ward specific funding cutting

across all wards.

Due to the frequent low river water flow, the sector invested on the drilling of ground water sources and eight boreholes which have been equipped and operational. These are Biricha in Mugunda ward, Mureru in Gakawa ward, Mapema Primary School borehole in Kabaruru ward and Lachuta in Gatarakwa ward. Others are Charity Kaaga in Gatarakwa ward, Ex-pages in Mweiga ward, Gatina in Konyu ward and Naromoru town in Naromoru/ Kiamathaga ward. Further, 14 boreholes were retrofitted with solar panels and

three intakes were constructed in Bamboo Hill intake, Mutoigo intake and Kiahuria intake.

The department completed construction of two treatment plants with a capacity of 2000m³ per day each for Narumoro and Titie. The two are awaiting electricity connection at a cost of Kshs. 7 million this financial year to operationalize. Phase 1 of these plants cost of Kshs. 25.5 million while Phase 2 was at a cost of Kshs. 30.83 million.

A transfer of Ksh. 4 million to Mathira Water and Sanitation Company (MAWASCO) for



The County Government of Nyeri has constructed a water treatment plant at a cost of Kshs. 34 million in Kieni East sub county and Tana Water Works Development Agency (TWWDA) has financed a new water pipeline at a cost of Kshs. 10 million.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga commissioning Kabati borehole project in Kieni East sub county.

pipeline extension has already been executed.

The directorate is also undertaking survey, mapping and identification of community forests and so far it has identified five community forests that is Tumutumu, Karima, Gachirichi-ri, Ngamwa, and Gatumbiro. The exercise is still ongoing to identify and reclaim the remaining community forests that are Karundu, Karindi, Wangere, Thangathi, Gacuthe and Chania ridge.

The department also implemented projects funded under the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) and other partners.



Solar powered Mapema borehole project in Kabaruu ward, Kieni East sub county.



Biricha Borehole project in Mugunda ward, Kieni West sub county.



From left Tetu sub county administrator Jemimah Ruheni, Water Chief Officer Pauline Ndegwa and CEC Fredrick Kinyua consulting during a public participation on the Kahira-ini Bulk Water Project in Tetu.



Water pipes for the ongoing Ihuririo Irrigation Water Project in Iria-ini Othaya ward.



Gitero Solar Powered borehole in Narumoru / Kiamathaga ward, Kieni East sub county.



From left Cooperatives director Peter Theuri, Economic advisor Ndirangu Gachunia, Coffee Cherry Advance Revolving Fund national coordinator Eng. David Njogu, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga, KPCU Chairman Henry Kinyua, Agriculture CEC James Wachihi, Trade Chief Officer Ibrahim Adan and Chief Officer Ruth Mwangi after a meeting on Coffee Cherry Fund.



H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (Centre) with all the CECs during the signing of performance contracts in his boardroom.



H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (second left) with Mukurweini leaders during the launch of learning materials at Mukurweini library, Mukurweini West ward. On the right is Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia.



Donation of PPEs worth over Kshs. 5 million from Equity Group Foundation to help fight against Covid-19.



Laikipia Governor H.E Ndiritu Muriithi and his Nyeri counterpart H.E Mutahi Kahiga during the official opening of NewFortis Sacco Nanyuki branch.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre) when he hosted British High Commissioner to Kenya H.E Jane Marriott (next to governor). On the left is Nyeri County Commissioner Loyford Kibaara. Others are officers from the county government.



The new Kirichu Thagwanja footbridge in Kiganjo / Mathari ward.



Nyeri CS Ben Gachichio (second left) hosted a team from the World Scout Parliamentary Union Kenya (WSPU). Others; WSPU President Hon. John Kiaria who was accompanied by Hon. Florence Mutua, County MP, Busia (Chairperson WSPU) and nominated Senator Hon. Sen. Petronilla Were and Gender CEC Esther Ndung'u (left).



The new solar powered Ex-pages borehole project in Mweiga ward, Kieni West sub county.



The New Tekangu Farmers Cooperative Society held a public meeting to discuss the revitalization of coffee at Thamaru Technical Training Institute in Kirimukuyu ward, Mathira West sub-county.



Nyewasco staff and Nyeri youth planting part of the 10,000 tree seedlings in honour of the late Managing Director CPA Peter Gichaaga.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga met with Pakistan High Commissioner to Kenya H.E Saqlain Syedah (Centre) as a start of a fruitful collaboration between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the County Government of Nyeri.



From left Nyeri County Attorney Kimani Rucuiya, County Public Service CEC Beth Karimi, new Solid Waste Management Chief Officer Violet Koigi, H.E Mutahi Kahiga, new Gender Chief Officer George Mwangi, Gender CEC Esther Ndung'u and Nyeri CS Ben Gachichio after the new chief officers were given their appointment letters by the governor.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (left) with Gender CEC Esther Ndung'u, Nyeri nominated MCA Hon. Patrick Mutahi and Nyeri women leaders after the launch of the sensitization forum for women on the county socio-economic re-engineering and recovery strategy.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga, ICT CS Joe Mucheru (centre) and Kieni MP Hon. Kanini Kega when they officiated a Youth Graduation Ceremony in Thegu River ward, Kieni East sub county.



The newly recarpeted Chieni road in Nyeri town.

Department of Education & Sports

In the last three years, the department constructed 21 new workshops and classrooms, renovated 13 others and fenced five Vocational Training Centres (VTCs). Also, 54 classrooms were put up in ECDE centres, 96 new toilet blocks were constructed while old buildings in 42 ECDE centres were rehabilitated as well.

The department invested Kshs. 6.7 million in enhancing the infrastructure in Karatina, Gite-ro, Gathuthi and Nairutia VTCs and an extra Kshs.1.4 million in



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga handing over chairs to one of the education officers for use by the ECDE pupils.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga handing over computers to one of the education officers to be used by students in VTCs centers.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (Centre) and Rware MCA Hon. Paul Kanyari handing over cheques to Elimu Bursary Fund beneficiaries.

purchasing of tools and equipment.

In the last financial year, the department built nine new classroom blocks, renovated 11 old classrooms and nine new ab-

lution blocks in a bid to perfect and complete the ECDE dream throughout the 30 wards to ensure in delivering the highest quality of pre-primary education to the future generation.

Permanent perimeter walls were constructed at Ruring'u, Karatina and Gichira stadia while six other playgrounds were fenced using concrete poles and chain link.

The County Government of Nyeri spent a total of Kshs. 240 million on the Elimu Bursary Fund program for the last three years. Over 51,000 students benefitted from the funds. Within the same period, 120 bright and needy students in secondary schools, two per ward, also benefitted from a full Governor's Scholarship program.

The department also hired 800 ECDE caregivers and also eight principal education officers to improve learning in ECDE centres.

Learning materials worth Kshs. 9.3 million was also distributed to 436 ECDE centers benefiting about 23,000 pupils. Three youth polytechnics; Githiru, Thangathi and Kabebero also benefitted with learning equipment.

Balls, uniforms, nets and other assorted sporting materials were acquired through ward specific programme.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (Centre in white coat) and Chinga MCA Hon. Kiruga Thuku handing over cheques to Elimu Bursary Fund beneficiaries.



The new Gathehu ECDE classroom in Magutu ward, Mathira East sub county.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (Centre), Rugi MCA Hon. Cyrus Ngure and Mukurwe-ini Central MCA Hon. Kenneth Gatheru handing over cheques to Elimu Bursary Fund beneficiaries.



The new Kamuyu ECDE classrooms in Kamakwa ward, Nyeri Central sub county.



Ongoing construction of a new multi purpose hall at Nairutia Vocational Training Center in Mugunda ward, Kieni West sub county.



Jovial Elimu Bursary Fund beneficiaries receiving their cheque from H.E Mutahi Kahiga (Centre) and Dedan Kimathi MCA Hon. Gibson Wahinya.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga and Wamagana MCA Hon. Sebastian Mugo distributing ECDE learning materials at Wamagana ECDE Centre in Wamagana ward, Tetu.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre), Ruguru MCA Hon. Erastus Muriuki (right) and Education CEC Margaret Macharia handing over cheques to Nyeri Governor's Bursary Scheme beneficiaries.



Department of Trade, Tourism & Cooperatives

Prof. Wangari Maathai's monument at the Mau Mau Heroes Park, Nyeri town.

In the last three years, the department has improved trading environment by constructing and rehabilitating 34 markets, rehabilitating and constructing of 15 market sheds, constructing 151 stalls, ca-bro-paving, perimeter fencing and constructing six ablution blocks.

The department worked closely with the Enterprise Development Fund (EDF) board to ensure that this fund is affordable. Moreover, the fund has enabled creation of employment through business expansion and technology acquisition, asset finance and promoted self-employment. 87 enterprises so far have benefited with loans worth Kshs. 28.3 million. With the market friendly interest rates, it is anticipated that more citizens will benefit in the medium term.

The directorate of Tourism also mapped out all tourist attraction sites in the county. The Cooperative movement was strengthened through capacity building of 641 cooperatives management committee members to improve governance.

Further, to develop and sustain Nyeri County's heritage, the county installed the Prof. Wangari Maathai Monument at the Nyeri Heroes Park to honor our departed heroine, who is renowned for environmental conservation efforts. The department installed the Field Marshall Dedan Kimathi Monument at Kahiga-ini site in an effort to celebrate the Mau Mau heroes and heroines and the park was named 'Mau Mau Heroes Park'.

The department plans to develop the county tourism and heritage sites such as the Wangari Maathai Park to improve the park and create a revenue

stream for the county. To increase visitor numbers at tourist sites, the department has planned to develop the Ndomboche/ Kahuru falls site by constructing nature trails to the falls and the Mau Mau caves.

On the legal and legislative framework in the management of county markets, the department developed a market management policy which is now at the final stage of drafting a Market Management Bill and will gazette the market areas in the county, improve market governance and bring dependability into the business environment within Nyeri County.



Officers from the department led by Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives CECM Diana Kendi (centre in specs) with a team from the Kenya Film Commission after visiting Heroes Park.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga during the disbursement of the KShs. 30 million Enterprise Development Fund. On the right is Trade CEC Diana Kendi while on the left is Kabaru MCA Hon. Njiiri Wa Wanjira and Hon David Kabatha of Iria-ini Mathira ward.



The ongoing construction of Mihuti market in Rugi ward, Mukurweini sub-county.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (Centre) with other stakeholders after the disbursement of the KShs. 30 million Enterprise Development Fund.



The new Ihwagi Market in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East Sub-county.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (Centre) with other stakeholders during the disbursement of the KShs. 30 million Enterprise Development Fund.



H.E. Mutahi Kahiga and his Laikipia counterpart H.E Governor Ndiritu Muriithi (seated centre) after signing an MoU for a joint inter-county governmental relationship between the County Government of Nyeri and the County Government of Laikipia. Others are from the two governments.



Some of the beneficiaries of the Nyeri Enterprise Development Fund being flagged off by the governor.

Department of Gender, Youth & Social Services



Officers of the County Fire Emergency Unit. At the centre is Gender, Youth and Social Services CEC Esther Ndung'u.

The department in partnership with NACADA embarked on the construction of a drug and substance rehabilitation and treatment center at Ihururu, Dedan Kimathi ward, at a cost of about Kshs. 20 million. The facility is expected to complement the rehabilitative and treatment efforts against drug and substance abuse currently being offered at Karia rehabilitative center. It is expected that the facility will be operationalized soon. The facility will accommodate approximately 85 patients at any given time to get the much-needed treatment.

The county also embarked on the construction of other supporting facilities in the rehabilitation center such as the septic tank, staff housing and an ablution block to support the smooth operations of the facility.

The department also procured two state-of-the-art fire engines to support disaster man-

agement in the county. This has seen an improvement in disaster response leading to saving more lives and property.

The department also made significant investments to ensure that the state of the county disaster preparedness is the best since devolution started.

For social response, the department offers material support for disaster victims such as foodstuffs, clothes, blankets, mattresses and household goods among others. It also continues to create awareness on disaster management and safety at domestic levels to the general public through various platforms.

During the last year's rains that wreaked havoc in parts of the county, the department facilitated the smooth relocation of over 120 affected persons to safe spaces across the county including building houses through private sector support. In the last one year, the fire unit responded to 212 fires that were reported to them and 18 rescues mostly drowning.

There are ongoing efforts to decentralize disaster management



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (right) hands over the appointment letter to George Mwangi who is the new Chief Officer of the department.

including firefighting by establishing more fire stations. In this regard the county government has embarked on operationalizing a fire station in Kieni West and Othaya sub-counties at Kiawara and Othaya town respectively.

The county government plans to establish a leather training center and a hub in Rukira Vocational Training Centre for the county. Trainers of Trainers (ToTs) have already been trained and currently the department is conducting a market survey to purchase leather equipment. It is envisaged that youth in the county will be able to produce leather products competitive even in the interna-



Progress of Kariki Social Hall in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East sub county.

tional markets. During the last financial year, the procurement process for leather machines commenced at a cost of a Kshs. 7.9 million and this financial year the county has provided Kshs. 5 million towards the same.

The department also implemented a youth empowerment program in Iria-ini ward, Othaya sub-county, where youth groups benefited from business startup merchandise worth Kshs. 1.5 million.



Staff from the department and youth volunteers in action during the second round of fumigation exercise in an effort to fighting Covid-19 pandemic.



H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga and Iria-ini MCA Hon. John Theuri (Centre) during the launching of the Youth Empowerment Program in Iria-ini ward, Othaya sub-county.



Progress of Muruguru Social Hall in Gatitu / Muruguru ward, Nyeri Central sub county.



Staff from the department visited the victims of Ichuga in Equator area in Gakawa ward, Kieni East victims after a fire incidence burnt their houses. This is one of the functions of the department.

Department of County Public Service & Solid Waste Management



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga launching the third internship programme which engages 200 interns annually to gain experience for one year.

The Department has been running the County Payroll by 10th of every month thereby enabling the 4,052 employees to be paid in good time and hence a key motivator to the staff. To enhance efficiency, the unit is undertaking an exercise to ensure all staff have acquired payroll numbers under the unified payroll numbers, so as to do away with manual payroll.

The County strives to ensure that its staff members have a medical cover and a work-injury and group life cover. The department remained committed to building the capacity of our youth and so have two unique programs that were very successful; the one-year internship program and the three months industrial attachment.

Each year, the government strives to engage 200 youth for a one year internship program in all areas of County operations, who are competitively selected through the County Public Service Board and are then attached to a mentor. A total of 528 interns have been enrolled for the last three years. Since the current government took over the leadership of this county in the year 2017, over 571 attaches have benefited from the industrial attachment program.

To enhance efficiency, the unit of solid waste management purchased 29 skips, three skip loaders and litter bins that are placed in strategic points within the Nyeri CBD, estates and highways. This has tremendously im-

proved solid waste management within the municipality. An average of 292 tonnes is collected weekly and 1,169 tonnes monthly within the municipality.

In the provision of sanitation services, the unit has increased its waste management trucks through procurement of two trucks, one side loader truck and two skip mounted loaders. This adds to the previous five trucks procured last financial year. This increases the fleet to 11 and a total number of 27 skip containers.

The unit has also fenced off two of its waste dumping sites i.e Karindundu in Karatina, and Gikeu in Othaya. There is a proposed transfer station that is Blue Valley in Nyeri Central which is also fenced.

In July 2019, sanitation services within the Municipality of Nyeri were delegated to the Nyeri Municipal Board with a view to improve efficiency and align the function with Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (amended in March 2019). The county government undertook to increase refuse collection efficiency by seconding three Public Health Officers, four 59 sanitation workers to the Municipal Board.

To address the challenge of garbage collection, the board has also developed a Solid Waste Management Plan & Policy.



This is one of the three skip loaders procured by the directorate of Solid Waste Management.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga and Public Service CEC Beth Karimi (next to banner) with some of the interns and chairman of the County Public Service board chairman Paul Kimondo (right) during the launch of the 3rd internship programme.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (right) hands over the appointment letter to Mary Violet Koigi as the new Chief Officer of the directorate of Solid Waste Management Sanitation.



Part of the newly recruited 200 interns during the launch of the 3rd internship programme.



Newly erected perimeter wall at Gikeu dumpsite in Karima ward, Othaya.



H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (receiving trophy) with the other officers. The County Pension Fund Trophy (CPF) was after the announcement of Nyeri, through the County Public Service Management as the best county on timely payment of employee pension and member affiliation.



The department staff held a clean up exercise in King'ong'o area, Nyeri Town.

APPOINTMENTS



Newly appointed Special Advisor to the Governor Dr. Christopher Wamwea.



Newly appointed Political Advisor to the Governor George Washington Kariuki.



The County Public Service Chief Officer Hon. Joseph Kanyi King'ori with H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga.

Finance Department



From left Economist Gibson Mwangi, Director Economic Planning Stephen Mathenge, Finance Chief Officer John Ngugi, Finance CEC Robert Thuo, Economic Planning Chief Officer Francis Kirira and Economist Chris Gathogo ahead of the reading of FY 2020/2021 budget.

Although the revenue collection in the County was affected by Covid-19 pandemic, the collection is rising up every day as a result of internal control mechanisms set by the department of Finance & Economic Planning to seal leakages of revenue.

It has also enhanced a good working relationship with county assembly especially in approving the finance bills on time.

The department contributed immensely in the Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP) which led to the county attaining position two and subsequently, position one. The funds awarded constructed Naromoru Level 4 Hospital which is almost complete.

On land rates, both the department of Finance and department of Lands are in the process of coming up with a new valuation roll that will be friendly to the local residents.

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga has been supportive in approving waivers on penalties and interest that affect Nyeri residents.

The County Government of Nyeri led in the compliance of procurement laws, rules and procedures.

The department was recently recognized by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) as position one among all counties in adherence to procurement laws with a 75% success.

Nyeri County was one among the only 12 counties that had no pending bills. In the FY 2017/18, the county allocated Kshs. 592.8 million to cater for the pending bills accruing from the previous year.

This amount was arrived at by the verification committee which verified the pending bills, thereby informing the budget allocation and subsequent payment of all the eligible pending bills.

In the FY 2018/19, the pending bills amounted to Kshs. 360 million and were allocated funds in the supplementary budget for in the same FY as budgetary reserves. Some pending bills particularly the recurrent ones were also settled as 'first charge' in the respective departmental votes in

line with the PFM (County Government) Regulations of 2015.

There is an electronic revenue management system - NyeriPay in place which the County Government procured with the aim of enhancing revenue collection. The system has reduced revenue leakages through human-cash handling and increased efficiency in service delivery and reporting. Through NyeriPay, there is a customer support service that works around the clock where customers receive answers to their questions promptly.



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga accompanied by members of the Nyeri County Assembly during the signing of the Nyeri Finance Bill 2020 into an Act. Seated with him is the Nyeri County Assembly Finance Chairman committee chairman Hon. Erastus Muriuki. Standing third left is Finance CEC Robert Thuo. On the right is Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia.

Voice of the People



**Allan Gitonga,
Businessman.**

Through the County Government of Nyeri, different ECDEs and youth polytechnics around the county have been renovated which has eased learning and facilitated a favourable learning environment for learners. It has also created job opportunities through development of various projects.



**Matthew King'ori,
Businessman.**

The County Government of Nyeri has renovated many bridges in various wards which has eased movement and prevented related road accidents. Moreover, the government has benefited many young people through the internship program that is carried out annually.



**Maureen Buluku,
Entrepreneur.**

Various renovations have been carried out in the health care facilities which have eased the provision of medical services. The county government has also joined hands with the national government for the transmission of the electricity in remote areas. In addition, the government has improved security through the installation of street lights and high mast flood lights.



**Wycliffe Nyambura,
Public Service Officer.**

The government has created job opportunities for the youth through partnership with national government programmes such as the 'Kazi Mtaani'. Such programmes have led to the containment of crime and drug abuse amongst the youth.



**Maryann Gathigia,
University student.**

The county government has benefitted many students through the provision of bursary funds, the upgrading of various roads which have facilitated and eased movement. However, the government should create more job opportunities for the youth.





H.E. Mutahi Kahiga (left) and his Laikipia counterpart H.E Governor Ndiritu Muriithi after signing an MoU for a joint inter-county governmental relationship between the County Government of Nyeri and the County Government of Laikipia.



From left Economic Advisor Ndirangu Gachunia, Agriculture CEC James Wachihi, a team from Hungarian Embassy Zsofia Antal, Head of Trade & Development Tamas Robert, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga, Captain Margaret Ikuah of Magnus Aircrafts, Chief of Staff Paul Wambugu and Personal Assistant to the governor Nahashon Mung'ora after a meeting with the Hungarian team.



Inspection of the newly tarmacked Classic- Ngangarithi Primary-Muthaiga road. From left Chief of Staff Paul Wambugu, H.E Mutahi Kahiga, Transport CEC Muthui Kariuki and Director Governor's Press Carol Nderi.



Health Services Chief Officer Newton Wambugu (left standing) and director Dr. Nelson Muriu (Centre) after awarding certificates to the lab managers and technicians after successful completion of a training on biosafety and biosecurity.



Staff from the department of Health Services participating in physical body exercises during the World Mental Health Day.



Officers from the department of Gender, Youth and Social Services donated assorted foodstuffs as a way of sharing the joy of Christmas with the inmates of Nyeri G.K Maximum Prison.



Gender CEC Esther Ndung'u (Centre) with some of the beneficiaries who benefited with dignity kits from the Gender department during the launch of the 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence.



Marsabit officers from the Department of Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development visited the County Government of Nyeri to benchmark on zoning of products, market management, space allocation and general management of Nyeri markets.



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