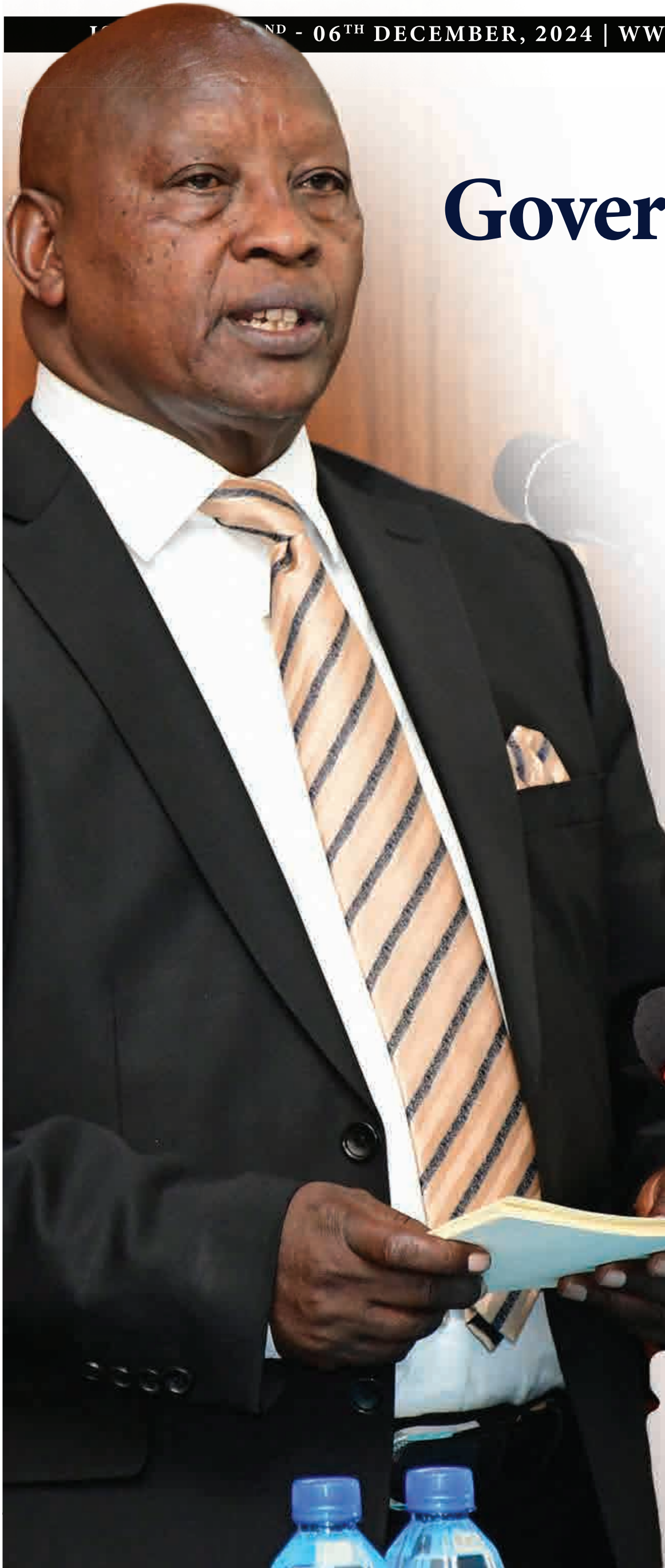




Newsletter



ND - 06TH DECEMBER, 2024 | WWW.NYERI.GO.KE | 0721 019 019



Governor Kahiga's 2023/2024 Scorecard

*Story by Governor's Press Unit
Compiled by Joseph Wambugu*

Nyeri Governor H.E. Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga PhD, EGH outlined his scorecard for the financial year 2023/2024.

Speaking at the Nyeri County Assembly while delivering the State of the County Address, the Governor noted that all departmental projects and programs were implemented within the purview of the CIDP, the ADP and in pursuit of the SDGs. He was accompanied by the Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E. David Kinaniri, Speaker Hon. Mwangi Gichuhi among other officials and MCAs.

This marks his second County address in his second term as Governor of this great County of Nyeri. As this administration takes stock of the gains made, challenges encountered and future projections, he was proud to note that Nyeri County continues to make exemplary strides across all sectors.

The Governor also congratulated the County Assembly Members for having been recognized as a very hard-working assembly and urged them to remain focused on the needs of Nyeri's citizens. Together let us make Nyeri Great!

Below are some of the highlights:

Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Aquaculture Development:

Agriculture continues to be the backbone of our County's economy, and is the major contributor to our GDP and plays a critical role in the realization of food security.

Continued on page 2, 3, 4



CECM Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Aquaculture Development James Wachihi flagging off 378 liners and 399 cover nets. These materials were distributed across all the sub counties to support fish farmers.

To motivate farmers and improve coffee production, through cooperative societies, the payment of the cherries was reviewed to an average of Ksh. 100 per kilogram.

To increase coffee production, 20,000 coffee seedlings were procured and distributed to farmers; We too procured and supplied 151 (16-litre) knapsack sprayers to farmers and also procured and supplied 410 tonnes of organic manure.

Similarly, to improve the livelihoods in semi-arid areas, in collaboration with National Government, the department distributed 13 tons of sunflower seeds to over 7,000 farmers. This is a new entrant to our value chains and a worthwhile endeavour at diversification for our farmers.

The county also benefited from the E-subsidy programme fertilizer that benefited 135,000 farmers. In the year under review, farmers were able to increase subsistence food production that ensured food security in the county.

To support the tea farmers to increase production, the department distributed 40,000 tea seedlings to Ragati and Chinga tea factories and also rehabilitated

Thuta Tea Collection centre in Dedan Kimathi Ward.

In the year under review, the department procured 22,000 avocado Haas seedlings which were distributed to farmers in both Chinga and Mweiga wards.

In the livestock sub sector, In the year under review, the County procured and distributed 379 dairy goats to farmers. The goats provide supplementary income to the farmers through the sale of milk and the dairy goats.

Nyeri County is one of the leading counties in breeding of the dairy goats. Many

farmers have benefited due to dairy goat farming.

The department procured and distributed 52,293 distributed one-month old chicks and in collaboration with the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP) the department procured and distributed 445,000 fingerlings, 6,060 bags of fish feeds, 586 pond liners and 37 cover nets to fish farmers. This will as well improve the fish farming and fish-eating culture to Nyeri population and become a new source of protein.

To ensure healthy dairy herds and sustainable milk production, in the year un-

der review, 77,317 animals were vaccinated against notifiable diseases and 16,412 dairy cattle were inseminated under animal breeding programme. The County was able to provide affordable AI services all over the county.

Department of Trade, Tourism, Culture & Cooperative Development

The County has undertaken several market improvements to enhance business environments to ensure a clean and business-friendly environment.

In the year under review, the county undertook market improvement initiatives to enhance business environments that include: the installation of prepaid meters at Karatina Market Hub; the construction of a shade at Nairutia Market; the building of a walkway at Soko Mjinga; the renovation of the ablution block at Kimahuri Market; the construction of stalls at Ihururu Market; and the development of Kamakwa Market.

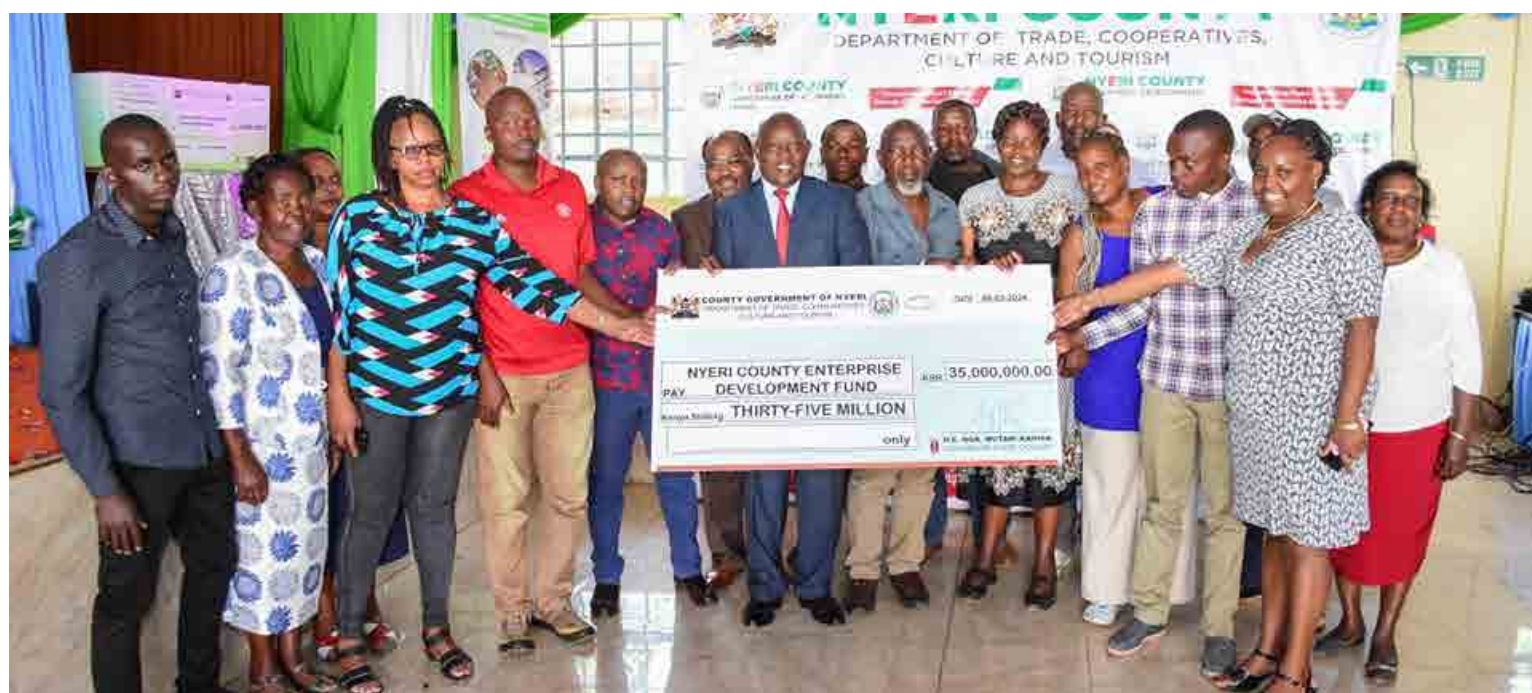
The Nyeri County Enterprise Development Fund continues to be a leading fund in lending of credit to Small and Medium Enterprises with a view to creating informal employment.

In the year under review, over 200 borrowers benefited from the credit at an interest rate of 5% on reducing balance.

This Fund has created jobs and employment opportunities to new entrepreneurs that are able to scale up their micro and medium enterprises. Similarly, the credit has also enabled the acquisition of modern technology, effectiveness and efficiency and competitiveness to businessmen.

Additionally, the EDF has played a key role in asset financing that allows businesses to purchase essential equipment and infrastructure development.

To foster industrial growth and support research and innovation in the year under review, the County Gov-



Nyeri Governor H.E Dr. Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH accompanied by Deputy Governor H.E David Kinanirir was delighted to preside over an Enterprise Development Fund (EDF) cheque disbursement ceremony where a cumulative total of Ksh. 35 million shillings worth of cheques was disbursed.



Nyeri Governor H.E Dr. Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH presided over the disbursement of bursary cheques to 240 bright but needy students across Nyeri County through the Governor's Bursary Scholarship Program that I initiated in year 2018 to aid students who hail from vulnerable backgrounds secure their future.

ernment embarked on the construction of the County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP).

This initiative will transform and revolutionize the agriculture value chains by providing a centralized hub for the aggregation, processing, and value addition of agricultural produce.

The County is also keenly considered the promotion and scaling up of the informal sector by empowering the Jua Kali sector, to create jobs to our graduates from the Vocational Training Centers. In the year under review, the County established a modern fabrication center at Gakindu CIDC.

This modern facility is designed to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of artisans by providing access to improved infrastructure, tools, training opportunities and ultimately promoting the growth of small-scale manufacturing over and above job creation.

To enhance production efficiency in the cooperative societies, the Department procured and installed a water pipeline at Githiru Coffee Factory. This initiative will not only lower the operational costs by ensuring a steady and affordable water supply, but also enhance the factory productivity by reducing dependency on cost-

ly alternatives.

In the Dairy sub sector value chains, through the cooperative sector, procured and installed a milk pasteurizer to Slopes Dairy Cooperative Society. This initiative will not only improve the quality of milk production but also yield more income to the dairy farmers.

On the tourism sub sector, Nyeri continues to undertake tourism promotion services to ensure the County becomes a destination of choice to local and international tourism.

The County signed an MoU with the Kenya Film Commission and this will position Nyeri as a prime filming destination. Further to the above, the Karuna-ini site has been improved by building a Gazebo to sit visitors and an ablution block.

Our long-term goal is to put up a Mau Mau Museum and we are awaiting allocation of more land from the National Land Commission.

Department of Education, Training & Devolution

Education provides a foundation for development, the basis on which much of our economic and social well-being is built. My Government has taken a lead in

improving ECDE education in the County. In the year under review, 34 new ECDE classrooms were constructed, the construction of 10 new toilet blocks was undertaken and the renovation 13 ECDE classrooms and fencing of one ECDE center have been completed.

Nyeri leads among the very few counties that have an ECDE working structure with 798 teachers all hired on the new terms of their scheme of service and majority of whom are on permanent and pensionable terms. From utilization of this funding, the County enrolled 20,236 children in the year under review. Our dream is to provide school milk to all of these pupils.

Through the Elimu Fund Bursary, the County Government supported education to students from vulnerable family backgrounds. 60 KCPE candidates who scored a minimum of 350 marks were awarded full scholarships. Further to scholarship awards, 240 students spread across all levels in the secondary education enrolling for form one were provided with uniforms, shoes, and other personal effects. Since this noble initiative began, two cohorts of the scholarship program have completed form four and proceeded to university.

The third cohort of 60 students sat for KCSE this year. In addition, the Coun-

ty Government supported 17,500 needy students in secondary schools and tertiary institutions by awarding bursaries.

In the year under review, my Government was able to mobilize financial assistance from Nyeri people living in the Diaspora and we were able to provide scholarships to 40 needy students spread across the County who scored 350 marks and above in the KCPE.

Transport, Public Works, Infrastructure & Energy

On the Infrastructure sub sector, Nyeri County was recently ranked as the best-performing County in the roads sector. Some of the achievements in the year under review were as follows:



Installed stand alone street light along Classic - Muthaiga - Ngangarithi road.



Nyeri County Assembly during the State of the County Address by H.E Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH

The Department upgraded 93.615 kilometers of earth road, to gravel/murram standards; 800 meters of (0.8km) of new roads were opened to improve on mobility. These roads improved connectivity and marketing of agricultural goods and services that benefited the farmers in reduction of the post-harvest losses and the costs of doing business and maintenance of the vehicles within the County.

During the same year, four box culverts and one Foot-bridge were constructed that improved connectivity between communities and the neighboring counties.

There is an increasing demand to work beyond 12 hours in the business community. This cannot be achieved without installation and maintenance of street lights to ensure enough visibility to the customers and business communities.

In the year under review, the Government also installed 368 street lights and rehabilitated 5 flood lights

Department of Gender, Youth,

Sports & Social Services

Recently, we launched the Youth Development Policy which attests to the importance the County attaches to the youth development programs.

My Government continues to undertake research and development in the pro-

motion of Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services to ensure that women are empowered and the youth are engaged in income-generating activities.

In the year under review through the Department, we provided business start-up Merchandise that were issued to the youth groups. The teenage girls were sensitized and provided with

dignity kits in all sub- counties.

Athletics is conspicuous in the national map for producing some of the leading sportsmen/women in Kenya. Lately, athletics has become one of the best-paying careers worldwide.

To promote this activity, the County started the Mountain Ultra Marathon

and Central Region Cross Country championship to engage the youth from all the sub-counties. We are planning to open up sponsorship for these events to reward the winners and in doing so, the majority of the youth will be attracted to venture in athleticism.

Department of Water, Irrigation & Climate Change

In the year under review, the Department of Water, Environment & Climate Change remained steadfast in its mission to protect the environment, mitigate against climate change and promote sustainable development across Nyeri County.

Our relentless commitment to environmental stewardship has thus solidified our position as the leading County in forest and tree cover and coverage rates of 40.1% and 45.7%, in that order respectively Kenya.

In the year under review, The Water and Sanitation Bill of 2024 was developed and is awaiting enactment; the County procured and



Mountain to Mountain Ultra Marathon



KISIP II team inspecting the ongoing informal settlements upgrading in Nyeri County.

delivered 81.5km of pipeline to increase the water distribution for Kabendera and Kabunda boreholes in Kieni West and Kieni East respectively.

To control flood and storage of water, the County rehabilitated Ngunio dam in Mathira West Sub County, constructed an intake at Iganjo and rehabilitated Mwea B Intake to enhance effective water abstraction from various rivers.

The Department of Environment has also made significant progress in environmental conservation. Over 40,000 assorted tree species and 17,017 fruit tree seedlings were distributed and planted by institutions and community groups. These efforts do not only improve tree cover and biodiversity but also promotes food security and carbon sequestration, which is critical in mitigating climate change. Further, in collaboration with partners such as Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund Trust and Kenya Forest Service, over 2 Million trees were planted in the last Financial Year.

Through Climate Action (FLLoCA) program; Two solar driers have been constructed at the Chorong'i and Thage-ini Coffee Factories. The two solar driers will enable the coffee factory to reduce the drying

time of the cherry beans by 50% while at the same time maintaining quality, reducing labour cost and ultimately increasing farmer incomes.

Further, through FLLoCA, one Water Intake for the Gatei Water project in Magutu Ward was constructed to increase water accessibility for the citizens; Seven boreholes were rehabilitated at Rongai, Kimahuri, and Warazo Jet boreholes in Kieni East, Mahiga, Kare-ra, and Treffos boreholes in Kieni West, and Ndimaini borehole in Mathira East.

To conserve the environment and mitigate climate change, 14,000 fruit seedlings were distributed to the community groups across the County. This will not only boost food and nutrition but also security to sequester carbon dioxide to mitigate climate.

Department of Lands, Physical Planning & Urban Development

Nyeri being an agriculture-based economy, the role that land plays in the economic development cannot be overemphasized. In the year under review, The Department engaged a con-

sultancy firm that planned, surveyed and prepared Titles for 15 ex-colonial settlements and market centers in Warazo jet, Karundu, Uaso Nyiro, Gikoe, Njigari, Chieni, Ngaini, Githiru, Kiamwangi, Gakanga, Thunguma, and Kiandere at a cost of Ksh. 26 Million. The project is ongoing and it is at the final stage of processing 1,124 titles.

The County Government of Nyeri in collaboration with the Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project II (KISIP 2) embarked on the rehabilitation of in-

formal settlements through infrastructure Works. These settlements include; Ihwagi in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East Sub-County, Mweiga (Kiawara and Gikomo) in Mweiga ward, Kieni West sub-County, Kiawara informal settlement in Rware ward, Nyeri Central sub-county.

In Tenure Regularization, the County through the KISIP2 initiated planning and survey for two settlements namely; Gitunduti and Ndumanu villages. The settlements have benefited from tarmacking of the main

access roads, construction of stormwater drains, street lights and high masts, footpaths, installation of dumpsters and access to clean water.

Department of County Public Service & Solid Waste Management

The Department placed 200 young certificate, diploma, and bachelor's degree holders in an internship program. In the year under re-



Launch of the fifth internship programme at Culture Centre, Nyeri town.



A clean-up exercise in Chaka town.

view, the County engaged a fifth cohort that gave an opportunity to interns to gain hands-on experience in the work environment annually while, at the same time, isolating them from harmful traits of drugs and substance abuse practices and exploitation.

Additionally, the County Government offered attachment opportunities to students as part of the requirements for them to be exposed in their field of training. Over 500 individuals have been offered attachment opportunities from various learning institutions of higher learning.

In the year under review, the County incentivized the staff through promotions to improve the work environment. A total of 1,328 officers were promoted in various staff cadres. The promotion has improved the performance and productivity of the workers.

On Solid Waste Management, the increasing volume and complexity of waste associated in the modern economy is posing a serious risk to ecosystems and human health. It is estimated that, every year, Nyeri County generates an estimated 42,000 tonnes of solid waste.

In the year under review, the County started the construction of drainages at Gikeu dumpsite in Othaya at an estimated cost of Ksh. 5.5 Million. This will enable the County to improve in sustainable environmental management culture.

Further, the Department adopted measures to accelerate the transition from linear to a circular economy in waste management as guided by the National Strategic Solid Waste Management Policy. This is a shift from the previous “buy-use-dispose” linear approach, to a more elaborate circular economy that advocates for “zero waste”.

To realign in zero waste culture, the County is reviewing the Nyeri County Solid Waste Management Policy and Regulations, to anchor it to The National Sustainable Waste Management Policy 2022. This will provide a comprehensive framework that prioritizes recycling, waste reduction, and resource recovery.

Department of Health Services

In the year under review, the County invested heavily in promotive and preventive health care services.

The County continued to offer quality curative and promotive healthcare services to our customers in all health facilities.

The Department invested in specialized services such as renal dialysis, oncology, Intensive Care Unit (ICU), High Dependence Unit (HDU), Diagnostic laboratory and imaging services and other basic equipment required for high level of care treatment.

The County officially opened the Ihururu rehabilitation center to address the effects of drug and substance abuse. This facility does not only offer services to Nyeri drug addicts but also other counties across the country use the facility. The County also achieved a viral suppression of 96%. this is an indication of the County’s commitment to treat and reduce HIV Aids prevalence among the County citizens.

Offering efficient curative services may not be possible without adequate infrastructure.

In the year under review, the County has made remarkable strides in improving the health infrastructure across all facilities.

Some of the key projects implemented during the review period are;

The completion of the emergency Unit at Karatina Level 4 Hospital; the construction of Phase I toilet block at Iruri Dispensary; the construction and completion of Kangurwe Dispensary Phase 2; the installation of solar systems at the County Referral Hospital to cut on huge electricity costs; the completion of the perimeter wall, gazebo, and walkways at Narumoru level 4 Hospital; and the refurbishment

of old hospital buildings at Mt. Kenya Hospital to cater for amenity services.

Department of Finance & Economic Planning

Governor Kahiga also commended the achievement of the Nyeri Health Fund Services for exemplary revenue collection. In the year under review, the Fund collected Ksh. 740 Million from a target of Ksh. 573. Million. With this trend, we are optimistic that, the hospital facilities will be able to provide real-time healthcare services and hence improved service delivery to all healthcare customers.

In financial management, we have ensured and sustained expenditure and fiscal discipline, which has given the county a clean bill in the absorption of the annually allocated budgetary resources from the national treasury as well as the externally disbursed resources.

We have also ensured that the development budget is retained according to the statutory requirement of 30% of the total budget.



H.E Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH receiving a new Endoscopy machine at the Nyeri County Referral Hospital which was in collaboration with Goal Smile Italy and the County Government of Nyeri.

NCRH Unveils New A&E, Oxygen Units



Story - Barbara Wambui
Photo - Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri County Governor H.E Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga EGH, PHD accompanied by Deputy Governor

nor H.E Kinaniri Waroe unveil the newly Renovated Emergency Department as well as the newly constructed Oxygen Manifold at the Nyeri County Referral Hospital (NCRH). This project was jointly undertaken by the Polish Development Co-operation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Republic of Poland, the Emergency Medicine Kenya Foundation (EMKF), and the County Government of Nyeri.

During the inspection the team which included the Head of the Polish Development Co-operation Pawel Pijanowski, were given a guided tour of the revamped 13-bed capacity A&E facility by NCRF's

Emergency Medical & Critical Care Specialist Eric Waruinge, showcasing the Unit's modernized beds, vitals monitors, oxygen-ready ports and contemporary nurses' station. According to Mr. Pijanowski, a number of Polish NGOs together with the Polish government had contributed around USD 283K towards essential, health-related projects in Nyeri and across the country. The 8-cylinder capacity Oxygen Manifold combined with the refurbished and expanded A&E facility is guaranteed to boost the quality and speed of care to Nyeri's citizens. Like-minded partnerships such as these can only improve and elevate Nyeri County's level of healthcare. Earlier on, the Polish delegation had paid a courtesy call to the Governor's office.

Mt. Kenya Hospital Emergency Dispatch Center Launched

Story - Barbara Wambui
Photo - Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Dr Mutahi Kahiga was accompanied by Head of the Polish Developmental Co-operation Pawel Pijanowski to Mt Kenya Hospital where they officially launched the Nyeri County Emergency Dispatch Centre. The first of its kind in Nyeri County dubbed "Ambulensi", this distinct 24-hour platform will provide essential, real-time communication between emergency medical staff and facilities, emergency services such as ambulance, police and/or fire departments, and the patients or care-givers requiring medical or rescue assistance. As the first point of contact for individuals seeking urgent assistance, the Dispatch Centre will amongst other tasks:

- . Find out the location, details of what has happened and condition of the patient;
- . Give first aid advice to people facing life-threatening situations;
- . Dispatch crew and vehicles to the scene;
- . Pass on essential information to the crew as they proceed to the scene.

The launch of this pivotal service has been made possible through the County Government of Nyeri under the Department Health Services in partnership with the Polish Development Co-operation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Republic of Poland and the Emergency Medicine Kenya Foundation (EMKF). As part of the demonstration those in attendance were taken through a real-time simulation of how the platform works, beginning with the call coming in to the dispatcher, the assessment of the situation and up to dispatching the ambulance. The timely addition of this Emergency Dispatch Centre to the health infrastructure of Nyeri County will go a long way in bringing even more closer essential health services to the people of Nyeri County, while further advancing the County's mission of a Healthier, Secure People. Dispatch Centre number: 0717 001 649



sible through the County Government of Nyeri under the Department Health Services in partnership with the Polish Development Co-operation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Republic of Poland and the Emergency Medicine Kenya Foundation (EMKF). As part of the demonstration those in attendance were taken through a real-time simulation of how the platform works, beginning with the call coming in to the dispatcher, the assessment of the situation and up to dispatching the ambulance. The timely addition of this Emergency Dispatch Centre to the health infrastructure of Nyeri County will go a long way in bringing even more closer essential health services to the people of Nyeri County, while further advancing the County's mission of a Healthier, Secure People. Dispatch Centre number: 0717 001 649

WWW.NYERI.GO.KE | 0721 019 019

The 20th Anniversary Celebrations of Disability Inclusion in Kenya Marked in Nyeri County



Story & Photo Rozina Gathoni, Cyprian Muriithi

Led by Nyeri County Commissioner Mr. Ronald F. Mwiwawi, Chief Disability Officer Mr. Kenneth Kabene, Hon. Lucy Mugure Wanyitu, Hon. Pauline Nyokabi Gichuki and other stakeholders came together to mark the 20th anniversary celebrations of Disability Inclusion. . The event took place in Nyeri Central and gave an opportunity to the duty-

bearers to reflect on the successes of the past two decades and to discuss what could be done to achieve more to enable and empower persons with disabilities in Kenya to help themselves through access to relevant information, essential services and a supportive community. The event brought together various stakeholders, including NCPWD, the County Assembly, County Department of Social Services, NGAAF, World Vision, DTSK, ACK Imarisha Maisha Project, Met-

ropolitan Sanctuary, Nyeri Disability Network, Social Development, and the Directorate of Children Services Department of Finance, Department of Health, Department of Public service, CPSB among others. The celebration underscored the importance of continued collaboration and advocacy to create a more inclusive society for persons with disabilities. It was marked by engaging contributions from the County Department of Social Services.

Key significant strides made in Disability Inclusion by the Department include an operational Persons with Disabilities Act (2022), the distribution of assistive devices to over 1,000 PWDs through partnerships with organizations like Metropolitan Sanctuary and Walkabout Foundation, Disability mainstreaming through advocacy and sensitization on compliance and adherence to various requirements pertaining the welfare of the PWDs and consideration in the robust Social- Economic Em-

powerment program. Additionally, the County has empowered over 2,000 people through the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) program, with a specific focus on PWDs to access business opportunities and partnerships with key stakeholders in various activities, programs and projects. Despite these successes, challenges such as limited funding, physical barriers to accessibility, and high unemployment rates among PWDs continue to hinder full inclusion. The County Government of Nyeri remains committed to overcoming these obstacles through increased funding, enhanced accessibility, and broader access to assistive devices. Moving forward, Nyeri County is dedicated to strengthening its disability-inclusive programs, ensuring that PWDs have equal access to healthcare, employment, education, and other essential services, empowering them to fully participate and achieve full potential in all aspects of life.



Download

NYERI COUNTY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.nyeri.go.ke

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
0721 019 019
CALL OR WHATSAPP

Launch of the Tupande Youth in Agriculture Programme



Story - Rozina Gathoni & Cyprian Muriithi

H.E Governor Dr Mutahi Kahiga in his capacity as Vice Chair of the Council of Governors (CoG) officially launched the Tupande Youth in Agriculture Program in partnership with Mastercard Foundation and CoG. The purpose of the launch held at the White Rhino Hotel in Nyeri town was to mark the start of the Mastercard Foundation's campaign to inspire more youth to choose agriculture-based

careers, so as to boost agricultural productivity in Kenya. Tupande by One Acre Fund has coined the term Agri-COOLture, to reflect their endeavor to make agriculture attractive, viable, and lucrative to the youth. The youth will have access to several packages to help them get started in agriculture, such as:

- Training and capacity-building youth on high-value crops offered by Tupande on vegetables, potatoes, agroforestry, nutrition, irrigation, and soil health.

- On-boarding Youths (individual and groups) to the Tupande Microenterprise to access starter kits (irrigation kits, chicken, dairy goats, bee hives, and tree seedlings, such as macadamia and avocado). Some of the starter kits will be free, while others will be at reduced prices (on credit) to ease uptake. These include the Starter Capital Award: Award youth groups with asset-based starter capital, Chicks, Macadamia seedlings, Avocado seedlings, Seeds (Managu, Tomato, and Saga), and Irrigation kits.

Led by their team lead Yael Hartman who is the Global Director-Government Relations and Policy, the team articulated their plans to involve the youth in Nyeri County in Agriculture by targeting youth in the age bracket of 18-35 years. One Acre Fund, which operates in Kenya under the Tupande brand, is working with the Mastercard Foundation to launch a four-year partnership project called Reshaping Kenyan Agriculture for Dignified Youth Livelihoods, which will target at least 300,000 youth in the 34 counties where

Tupande operates up to the year 2026. The goal is to improve the lives of young people, their families, and the wider community by changing their perspectives on agriculture, boosting agricultural productivity, gaining access to suitable financing, and opening up lucrative markets. This will lead to long-term income increases. Fifteen field events across the region targeting the youth are already in the pipeline among other activities. Early this year, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the County Government of Nyeri and Tupande by One Acre Fund. One Acre Fund primarily invests in farmers to help them increase their yields and their profits because enhancing their productivity will translate to feeding healthy communities and creating thriving economies. One Acre Fund serves over 1.5 million farmers in 9 countries in Eastern and Southern Africa; Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Uganda, and Ethiopia.

Nyeri County holds Climate Change Planning Committee meetings across Wards

The Department of Water, Environment, and Climate Change in Nyeri County successfully conducted ward climate change planning committee meetings in all eight sub counties. The meetings aimed to identify and address locally led climate-related challenges while promoting collaborative problem-solving at the grassroots level. In a ground-breaking addition to the agenda and in collaboration with Nyeri County's Departments of Health as well as of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries - Nyeri County, together with our partners REACT, the team sensitized the ward climate

change committees on the interconnection between antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and climate change. The presenters highlighted how improper use and disposal of antimicrobials in both human and animal health exacerbate resistance, posing a threat to public health and environmental sustainability. The committees were advised to adhere to guidelines on antimicrobial usage and disposal. This includes avoiding overuse in livestock, promoting alternative solutions to disease prevention, and ensuring proper disposal methods to prevent environmental contamination.

CECM Meets Newly Appointed Hospital Board Members

Story by Catherine Muthoni

Department of Health Services CECM Dr. Joseph Kiragu held a brief meeting with the newly appointed Hospital Board Members for Naromoru and Ihururu Level IV Hospitals, shortly after their vetting, appointment and gazettelement by the Nyeri County Assembly. The meeting served as an orientation to familiarize the members with their roles and responsibilities under the HSF Board, which was established in 2021 to oversee the utilization of hospital-collected funds for effective

expenditure management. Health Services Chief Officer Mr. Ibrahim Adan congratulated the appointees on their selection and emphasized the need for vigilance in budget reviews and accountability to ensure proper management of funds at the hospital level. Dr. Kiragu lauded the members for securing their competitive positions and described them as vision bearers for their respective hospitals. He urged them to prioritize humanity-centered service delivery, effective resource oversight, and

strategic development planning. He also revealed plans by the department to organize training sessions for all the board members to further enhance their capacities. The CECM then handed over appointment letters to the various appointees, giving them mandate to kick start service delivery in their respective hospitals. The Department of Health remains committed to strengthening hospital governance and improving service delivery through effective resource management.

Maternal and Perinatal Health in Focus



Story & Photo - Catherine Muthoni

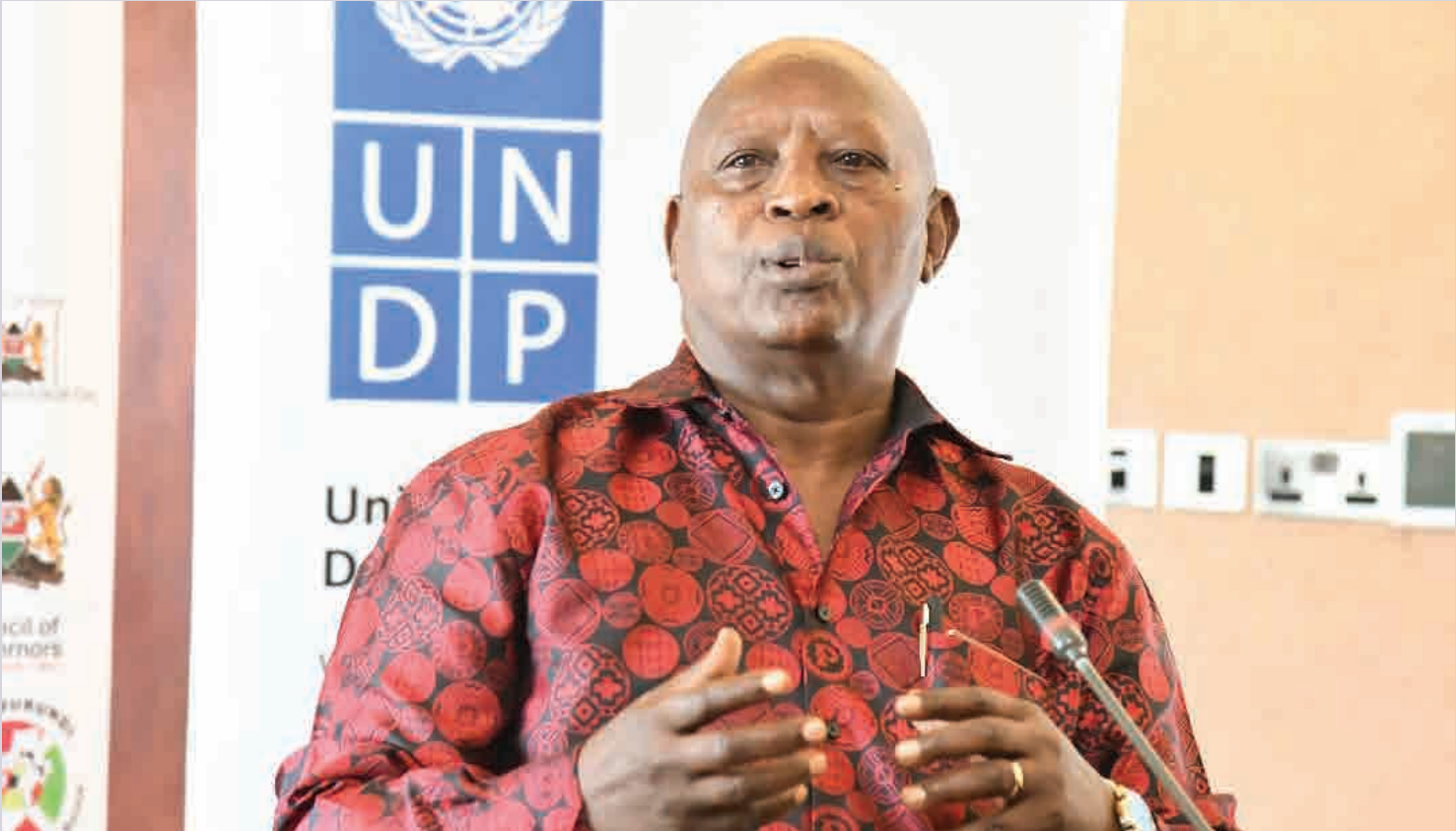
The Department of Health Services in collaboration with Jacaranda Health, successfully held a Maternal Perinatal Death Review (MPDR) Sensitization Meeting in Nyeri County. This critical forum brought together 40 dedicated participants from various healthcare sectors, including Government of Kenya (GOK) facilities as well as Faith-based and Private Level 6, 5, and 4 hospitals. The event gathered a multidisciplinary team of experts, including gynaecologists, paediatricians, medical doctors, and nurses working in paediatric and maternity departments, to address the rising concern of maternal deaths in the community and hospitals. Key discussions included:

1. Sensitization on Maternal and Perinatal Death Review (MPDR) guidelines and addressing near-miss reviews in health facilities and the community.
2. Strategies to sustain responses and reduce avoidable causes of maternal and neonatal deaths.
3. A deep dive into the new dashboard integrating data from the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS) and the PROMPT/EmNOC project on maternal and perinatal health trends.

This collaborative effort marks a significant step in improving maternal and neonatal outcomes across the county.

SDGs and Agenda 2063 Regional Forum

Effective local planning is crucial for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063, as it drives service delivery and economic growth at the grassroots level. During a vibrant session moderated by the Council of Governors Vice Chair H.E Dr Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, PHD, EGH, key stakeholders, including Principal Secretaries from Uganda and Tanzania, delved into how local governments can maximize their impact. Discussions highlighted the importance of aligning local plans with regional integration opportunities, such as the EAC Common Market and Customs Union, and strengthening legislative frameworks to empower both national and subnational governments.



Key outcomes underscored that resources must follow functions to enhance service delivery, and robust policies are essential to spur development at the community level. The session also emphasized the need for active representation of local governments in regional engagements and the importance of monitoring and sharing best practices for peer learning. County Governments reaffirm their commitment to effective planning, collaboration, and accountability to drive sustainable development and regional growth.

Nyeri County Marks World AIDS Day 2024

Story & Photo - Barbara Wambui, Rosebelle Wambui

Nyeri County's Department of Health Services in conjunction with the office of the Deputy County Commissioner, as well as various strategic partners, stakeholders and invited guests came together to commemorate World AIDS Day 2024 in style. The colourful event themed: "It's A Race Against Time : Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Men and Boys" was held at DEB Muslim Primary School.

While addressing those present Nyeri Central DCC Maina Ngunyi pointed out that a high percentage of men were living with either poor or failing health due to undiagnosed illnesses, appealing to men-folk to stop fearing and shunning hospital visits. He encouraged those health partners present to continually engage with men in their communities inorder to reduce the

perceived stigma surrounding men, hospitals and healthcare; and that it was not just a perview for women, but for the entire community, for the benefit of the community. Other key speakers at the fete included Nyeri County PMTCT Lead Douglas Mwangi, Joseph Muriithi - CACK, Nyeri Central, NSD-CC Regional Coordinator Kibe Ranji, Philia Mission Kenya ED Joseph Otieno and NGAAF Coordinator Ms. Penina Waitthera, who all, while addressing the guests, emphasized the need for men to know their HIV status. "It is not a death sentence. And living with the virus does not make you a victim; as long as you live positively" World AIDS Day is a global commemoration first observed in 1988 by the World Health Organization (WHO) to steer global attention to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This day highlights

the value of education, guaranteeing access to life-saving medications, and eradicating prejudice and stigma against people with HIV. It also serves as a reminder that everyone must work together to achieve the goals of zero new infections and zero discrimination. Also highlighted was the rising cases of suicide among the youth and young professionals. Mental health as part of overall health remains a key part of overall wellness; with a good number of participating entities providing free counselling services for the day. Guests and participants got involved in other activities including a 10km amateur road race, 2km walk and skating competitions for all ages, a tree-planting session as well as an awards ceremony for the winners and participants of the competitive races.



Nyeri County Strengthens Efforts Against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Story & Photo - Catherine Muthoni



The Nyeri County Antimicrobial Stewardship Inter-agency Committee (CASIC) held a meeting to conduct a mid-term review of the implementation of activities in its 2023-2025 Work Plan. The CASIC Work Plan, launched during the 2023 World AMR Awareness Week, outlines strategic objectives, intervention areas and specific activities aimed at combating AMR. It outlines Nyeri County's AMR response guided by the

One Health approach, integrating efforts from the Departments of Health Services, Environment, and Agriculture. This collaborative model leverages inter-sectoral partnerships in tackling this global health challenge. This midterm review, supported by ReAct Africa, is part of the committee's M&E activities and is key in monitoring progress in implementing the work plan within the county. The review allowed CASIC members to

assess the implementation of planned activities, identify areas for improvement, and develop strategies to intensify AMR response. Moving forward, the Committee remains committed to ensuring that Nyeri County is at the forefront of addressing AMR through coordinated and sustainable action. Together, we can safeguard the effectiveness of antimicrobials for future generations.

Tetu Youth Sensitization on Mental Health

Story - Kennedy Njanjo

Tetu sub-county Assistant Director Vet Madam Anne Njora and Mbaa-ini VTC Manager Grace Ncugune Mathenge in conjunction

with Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO) held a very successful sensitization of VTC youths on mental health. The sensitization

meeting was conducted at the Mbaa-ini VTC hall.

National Child Justice Month

Story & Photo - Rozina Gathoni, Cyprian Muriithi

The Department of Gender, Youth, Sports, and Social Services has made a significant contribution to National Child Justice Month by providing assorted food-stuffs and sanitary towels to the children and their families. This effort demonstrates the Department's commitment to addressing the immediate needs of children while promoting their overall well-being. This year's National Child Justice Month focuses on enhancing child justice through preliminary inquiries and diversion, with the aim of promoting rehabilitation, reintegration, and dignity for children in conflict with the law. Under



der this initiative, various stakeholders, including organizations like World Vision, Kids Alive Kenya, and the Nyeri Law Courts have united to advocate for a child-centered justice system.

This collaboration underscores the importance of collective efforts in creating a supportive environment that prioritizes the rights and welfare of children.

Honorable Chief Magistrate Elena Ndiritu affirmed the Judiciary's commitment towards securing the rights of children and hastening children cases. The Judiciary appreciates

the County Government and especially His Excellency the Governor for this substantial gesture.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY

For

**STREETLIGHTS
MAINTENANCE
CONTACT:**

0800724800

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
CALL/WHATSAPP
0721 019 019



Courtesy Call by newly-posted County Commissioner

Story - Carol Nderi
Photo - Kennedy Karanja

To the new Nyeri County Commissioner Ronald Mwiwawi, karibu sana Nyeri. H.E Dr Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga enjoyed a tête-à-tête with the new CC as he welcomed him to Nyeri County. CC Mwiwawi paid a courtesy call to the Governor's office and expressed earnest interest in working with the County Government of Nyeri for the betterment of the people in this wonderful county. This administration looks forward to an enhanced partnership and a cordial



working relationship with him and by extension, the National Government. Karibu tena Nyeri.

KDSP II County Programme Implementation Unit (CPIU) Sensitization



Story - Carol Nderi
Photo - Kenneth Ngatia

On behalf of Nyeri Governor H.E Dr. Mutahi Kahiga EGH, Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri officially opened a sensitization workshop for the County Program Implementation Unit (CPIU) under the Second Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP II). Its implementation in Nyeri County has been ongoing since March 2024 and is

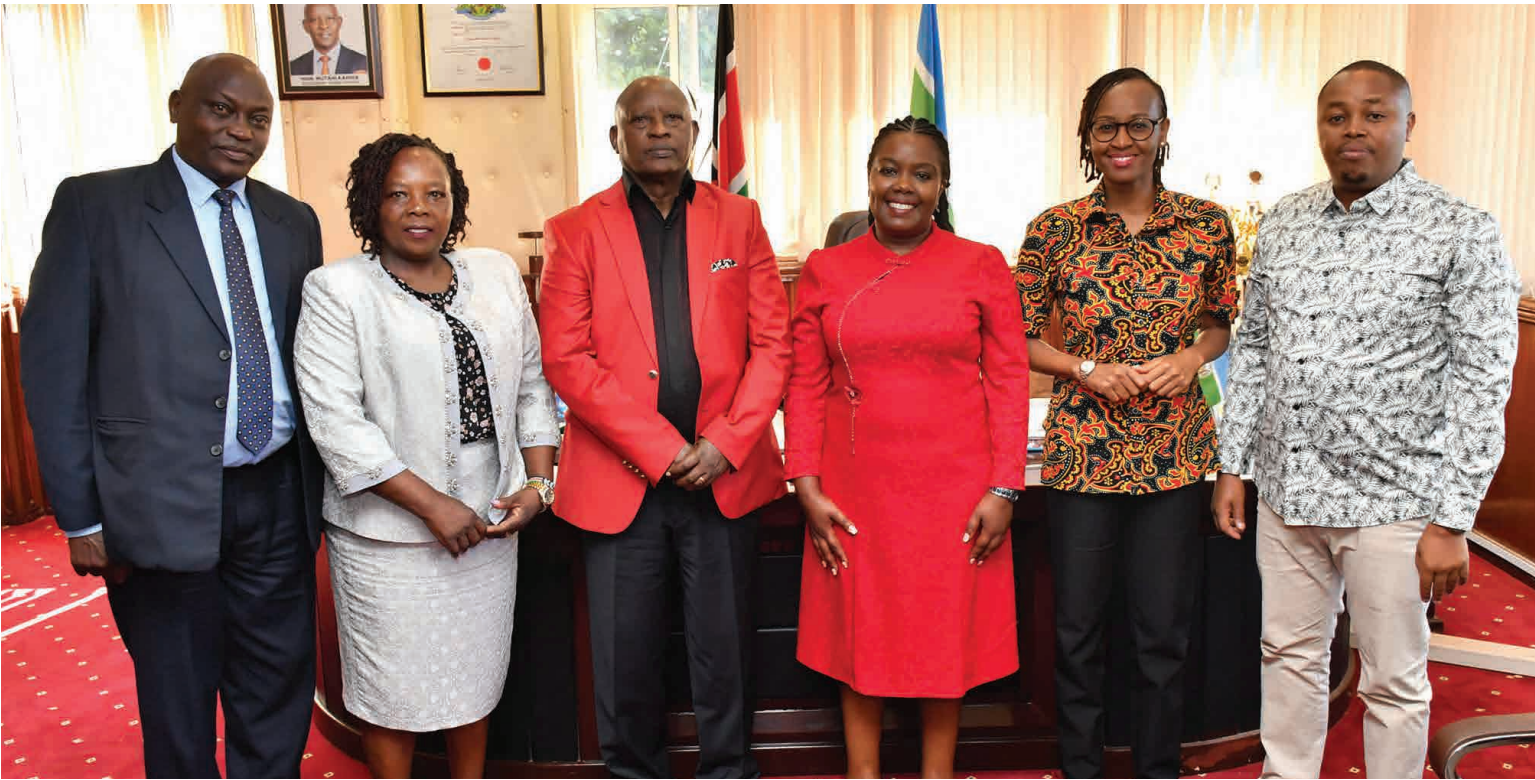
spearheaded by dedicated officers drawn from county departments, tasked to oversee its execution and serve in different committees. It is intended to strengthen county performance in the financing, management, coordination, and accountability of resources. There are 2 committees and one unit that are mandated to ensure that KDSP II will be a resounding success. The two committees are the County Program Steering Committee (CPSC) chaired

by H.E. the Governor and the County Program Technical Committee (CPTC) chaired by the County Secretary. There is also the County Program Implementation Unit (CPIU) chaired by the Program Coordinator. In the two-day workshop, the CPIU members were taken through the KDSP II work plan, Verification Protocols, Financial Management and Accounting Procedures, Procurement and Contracting, Environmental, Social, Health and Safety Safeguard

Arrangements, and Capacity building procedures among others. The three Key Result Areas (KRAs) are; Sustainable Financing and Expenditure Management, Inter-governmental Coordination, Institutional Performance, and Human Resource Management, and Oversight, Participation, and Accountability. Nyeri County greatly appreciates the Kenya Devolution Support Program due to the benefits gained from KDSP 1. The County benefited from

an investment grant that enabled it construct a 175-bed level 4 hospital in Naromoru. Additionally, in the Annual Capacity Assessment of FY 2018/2019, Nyeri County was declared number 2 overall and received Ksh. 229.7 million from the investment grant and the following FY 2019/2020 declared number 1 jointly with three other counties and received Ksh. 184.7 million.

International Labour Organization courtesy call



Story - Barbara Wambui
Photo - Kennedy Karanja

H.E Governor Dr Mutahi Kahiga was pleased to re-

ceive the International Labour Organization (ILO) Program Leader Hellen Rintari who paid a courtesy call to his office. ILO is a specialized agency of the United Nations

that brings together governments, employers and workers' organizations including employees on matters of labour. In Nyeri County's context, ILO is especially interested

in forming a mutually beneficial partnership focusing on the area of child labour, child welfare and social protection, youth transition to decent jobs, and youth livelihoods.

According to Hellen, ILO would make a substantive contribution in the areas of vocational training, Training of Trainers (ToT), provide linkages to financial institutions as well as source for off-takers for youth-centric enterprises, including assisting Nyeri County to map out international aspects and best practices for the Youth Policy being launched today. The County Government of Nyeri recognizes the importance that strategic collaborations such as this one with ILO bears to the wellbeing of Nyeri's citizens, and reiterates its continued support for such efforts that aim to safeguard the wellbeing and safety of the County's children and youth.

KUSP II team visit Nyeri for 1st Performance Assessment



Story - Barbara Wambui
Photo - Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri Waroe on behalf of Governor H.E Dr. Mutahi Kahiga EGH received a team from Acal Consulting representing the State Department for Housing and Urban Development, who came in for a briefing.

The session was led by Lands CECM Simon Gachunia and Nyeri Municipal Board Chair Jeremiah Ichaura, and outlined a 2-day itinerary for the 1st Annual Performance Assessment of the Kenya Urban Support Programme II (KUSP II) currently being implemented in Nyeri County.

The KUSP II Programme provides grants to counties for the improvement of service delivery. This being the first year of the 2nd cohort under this programme, the Consultants led by team leader John Karanja were on a 2-day undertaking to analyze, verify, and report on the current progress of the cycle's implementation.

Following this briefing, the Department of Lands and Acal teams then held an entry meeting where they undertook an assessment of agreed upon parameters. While commenting on the outlined modalities, Mr Ichaura gave strong assurances that Nyeri County was well on course in its schedule, and in line with the submitted checklists.

The County administration expressed confidence that the Consultant's findings and performance report at the end of the evaluation exercise would be more than satisfactory.

Elimu Fund Board to distribute more bursaries, scholarships



Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri Waroe officially closed Elimu Fund Board workshop meant to review the annual operations of the fund as well as come up with a strategy and the way forward to improve the education sector, including seeking more partnerships to ensure more students benefit from the bursary and scholarship programmes.

The Board led by the chair Solomon Magongdu Mworio noted the continued support by the County Government through the Department of Education Training and Devolution to educate the needy kids through the Governor's Scholarship and Bursaries. In the last five years, over Kshs. 300 million Elimu Fund bursaries have been disbursed to students across the

30 wards. Further, another 300 beneficiaries have benefited through the Governor's Scholarship program which offers full sponsorship to two bright students from vulnerable backgrounds. The County Government of Nyeri is committed to supporting education of children from underprivileged backgrounds.

SRC Stakeholder Engagement with Nyeri County

Story - Barbara Wambui & Photo - Kennedy Karanja



Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E Kinaniri Waroe held a consultative meeting with a team from the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) led by Commissioner Abdiwahab Abdi. The SRC team was in Nyeri County as part of a monitoring and evaluation exercise on the implementation of SRC advice and capacity building on the SRC mandate. This assignment is currently taking place across all 47 counties, support-

ed by the KDSP II programme. Also present was Director Administration Solomon Chengecha. After this meeting, the SRC team held comprehensive sessions with the HR, Finance, and Administrative departments to assess the level of adherence to the mandates, as well as provide any technical assistance or verifications required. Speaking at the meeting SRC Deputy Director Grace Odhiambo reiterated the

Commission's stand on clear, concise engagement with its high-level stakeholders as well as the significance of the data being collected directly from counties; it currently relies on other agencies for this central task. Nyeri County affirms its continued support for this undertaking and applauds the Commission's ongoing efforts in sensitizing and building capacity for the County staff.

Kirimukuyu Ward Youth Receive Sports Equipment

Story by Rozina Gathoni, Cyprian Muriithi

The Department of Gender, Youth, Sports, and Social Services, under the leadership of Chief Officer Joe Gethi, in partnership with the MCA of Kirimukuyu Ward, Hon. Muriithi Ndagita, distributed sports equipment and essential items to local teams in Kirimukuyu Ward. The distribution included football boots, uniforms, balls, and a washing machine, aimed at supporting

the development of sports and improving the facilities available to the community. The washing machine is intended to help maintain the sports kits and uniforms, ensuring they stay in good condition for regular use. This initiative is a significant step in empowering the youth of Kirimukuyu, providing them with the necessary resources to enhance their skills and engage in posi-

tive, healthy activities. It also demonstrates the commitment of both the local leadership and the Department to fostering sportsmanship, youth development, and community well-being. The support will go a long way in encouraging more young people to participate in sports, helping them to develop discipline, teamwork, and a sense of achievement.

PROMPTS and EmONC Dashboard Sensitization Meeting

Story - Catherine Muthoni

The Nyeri County Department of Health Services, in collaboration with Jacaranda Health, successfully held a two-day meeting to review the progress of the PROMPTS and EmONC Mentorship programs. The meeting also marked the official introduction of the real-time data dashboard aimed at improving maternal health services in the county. The new dashboard integrates critical data from systems such

as the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS) and Jacaranda Health. It provides stakeholders with comprehensive, timely insights into maternal health trends, empowering them to make informed decisions for better health outcomes. Participants, who included County and Sub-County Health Management Teams, Nursing Managers and Health Records and Information Officers (HRIOs) engaged in discussions on how to

utilize these insights to enhance service delivery and collaboratively strengthen maternal health programs across Nyeri County. The event was a great success, and we are confident that the tools and strategies introduced will positively impact health outcomes in our communities. We extend our gratitude to all participants, facilitators, and Jacaranda Health, who contributed to making this initiative a reality.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, YOUTH, SPORTS & SOCIAL SERVICES



16

**DAYS OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST GENDER
BASED VIOLENCE**

25TH NOV-10TH DEC, 2024



**THEME: UNITE TO END
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
AND GIRLS**