



Newsletter



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Roadmap towards becoming the Global Scout City



Story by Governor's Press Unit | Compiled by Sheila Indusa

Kenya's Scouting Movement under the Kenya Scouts Association (KSA) 's leader-

ship continues to grow and expand. Just this past week a number of calender events

were held to commemorate significant milestones in the Movement's headway. KSA

is currently Kenya's largest Voluntary Youth Movement with over 1.4 million boys

and girls and over 40,000 Scout leaders.

Under the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2023-2027 under the general economic and commerce affairs, priority sector, Nyeri County undertook "To develop, preserve and promote sustainable tourism and culture for wealth creation", through key activities such as Mapping and developing the county tourism and cultural heritage sites; Tourism Funding mobilization, Tourism promotion and marketing; Capacity building of tourism, culture, and hospitality players, and; Promoting strategic partnerships and linkages in tourism.

This brings us to the recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Nyeri County and KSA, represented by Nyeri Governor H.E. Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga and KSA Chief Scout Professor Jacob Kaimenyi respectively.

Continued on page 2

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The parties agreed on the establishment of a partnership and collaboration agreement for the development of the cultural sector across various departments, including Trade and Tourism, to boost economic growth in Nyeri County.

In line with this, Nyeri County has identified several investment opportunities that can be facilitated by the Investment Promotion Unit, including:

- Establishment of the Nyeri Botanical Garden;
- Development of curio and handicraft shops at tourist attractions in the County;
- Creation of socio-cultural recreational centres;
- Establishment of cultural tourism training centres;
- Development of a Cultural Art & Craft Gallery;
- Setting up of fast food restaurants;
- Creation of leisure gardens, amusement parks, and nature trails;
- Establishment of the Nyeri County Conference Centre;
- Investment in greenfield and brownfield tourism operations;
- Promotion of advertising and hospitality opportunities in the rehabilitation and repackaging of historical monuments and other scenic sites in the County;
- Development of the Lord Baden-Powell Gravesite-Memorial and Entertainment Park;
- Establishment of wildlife corridors to enhance tourism attractions; and,
- Promotion of cottages and homestays.

The County Government of Nyeri is also committed to:

- Work closely with KSA and other stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education, KESSHA, KEPSHA, and educational institutions to support the growth of scouting membership in the county.
- Collaborate with KSA to establish a Scout Brass Band for use in scouting events, county events, and national celebrations.
- Work with the National Land Commission to help KSA acquire title deeds for its various land parcels in Nyeri County.

Nyeri County is a firm advocate of sustainable tourism, in that, in the tourism experience we can, together, protect the environmental health and socio-cultural distinctiveness of Nyeri County tourism destinations while contributing to economic vitality.



Governor Kahiga Attends Health Summit



Devolution has transformed healthcare, making it more accessible and responsive to local needs. Counties have tailored services to unique challenges, improving health outcomes across Kenya.

The 1st health summit 2025 convened by the DP H.E Prof. Kithure Kindiki brought together National & County Gov'ts to discuss current issues in the health sector including the implication of the USG stop work order, implementation of Taifa Care, National Equipment Service Program, and Human Resources for Health.

The summit culminated with recommendations in reorganizing health workforce to ensure continuity of services, exploring alternative funding mechanisms for health investments & expediting payment of pending SHA reimbursements to healthcare facilities as well as allowances for CHPs.

These steps aim to stabilize the sector & ensure that healthcare delivery remains uninterrupted. The Deputy President emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts between National & County governments to guarantee that every Kenyan has access to quality, affordable healthcare.

The leaders present reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening UHC through improved intergovernmental collaboration and pledged their support for the successful implementation of the SHA framework.

The summit marked a pivotal moment in Kenya's journey toward health equity and sustainability. By addressing systemic issues & fostering cooperation across all levels of government, the nation is taking bold steps to ensure that healthcare remains a priority for all its citizens.

The collective resolve demonstrated at the summit underscores a shared vision of a healthier, more prosperous Kenya.

Honouring the Legacy of Field Marshal Dedan Kimathi



The County Government of Nyeri, through the Department of Trade Cooperatives, Culture and Tourism in collaboration with the Dedan Kimathi Foundation, commemorated the 68th anniversary of our national hero, Field Marshal Dedan Kimathi.

Celebrated annually on the 18th of February, the county commemorated the legend with a tree-planting exercise at Dedan Kimathi Mau Mau Park, Kahiga-ini.

Led by Chief Officer George Mwangi from the Department of Trade, Cooperatives, Culture, and Tourism, this initiative symbolizes the resilience and enduring legacy of our freedom fighters.

We celebrate our forefathers and their resilience in ensuring peace and freedom from the colonial rule.

Jasiri Programme for Gender Based Violence Survivors



Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services CECM Esther Ndungu joined the Centre for Rights Education and Awareness (CREAW) Asst. Program Officer Jami-la Gacheri, among other stakeholders, during the official launch of the Jasiri Programme at YMCA Hall, Rware ward, Nyeri Town Centre. The Jasiri Program is a

transformative initiative empowering young women aged 18–35 who are survivors of Gender Based Violence (GBV) or are at risk, with access to dignified employment opportunities by equipping them with essential skills for starting and managing businesses, concessional funds, and providing them with business grants.

The 40 participants from the 1st Cohort received training on entrepreneurship, financial literacy, business development, and life skills training, along with connections to broader economic opportunities to foster self-reliance. They were to later receive grants to start their business. While officially opening the program, the CECM

thanked CREAW and other implementing partners for coming up with this transformative initiative that aims addressing several systemic and several barriers hindering GBV victims from empowering themselves economically, regain independence and build sustainable livelihoods. Further, she emphasized on the importance of inde-

pendence for young women by encouraging them to seek out opportunities to start their own businesses. She also urged the trainees to take advantage of the program in order to equip themselves with essential management skills, enhance their knowledge, improve their capacity to handle financial resources effectively as they seek other income generating activities that can empower them and enhance their financial stability. This impactful program is implemented by the Jasiri Consortium, comprising CREAW, Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS Kenya), Collaborative Center for Gender and Development (CCGD), Centre for Domestic Training and Development (CDTD) and Advocates for Social Change Kenya (ADSOCK) in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation. Together, we can cultivate into a space where every individual is free from violence and empowered to pursue their dreams.

VTC Managers Undergo Training at Wambugu ATC

Nyeri County's Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri joined the Department of Education, Training, and Devolution, led by CECM Margaret Macharia and Chief Officer James Kiretai for their quarterly meeting with the VTC managers at Wambugu ATC. The meeting, which also served as a workshop, focused on:

1. Basic bookkeeping.
2. Maintenance of account records across various sectors within the department.
3. Financial management.
4. Accountancy in the department.
5. Graduation planning for the FY 2024/2025.

The department plays a crucial role in organizing and conducting training sessions



while also linking trainees to industry. It has partnered with the KCB Foundation to skill 728 youth who sat for the NITA exams in August 2024. The department has 26

VTCs, offering various courses, including Plumbing, Building and Construction, Welding, Cosmetology, Hair and Beauty, among other trades. The department recognizes

the importance of such workshops in equipping managers with essential knowledge, skills, and attitudes to enhance their managerial competencies. The department's commitment

to these training initiatives reflects its dedication to imparting valuable, practical skills that will have a lasting, positive impact on the people of Nyeri County.

World Condoms Day Commemoration

Every year on February 13th, the world unites to observe World Condoms Day, a global initiative dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of condoms in preventing HIV, STIs, and unplanned pregnancies while also promoting global

access to them.

This year, the Department of Health – Nyeri South Sub-County, in collaboration with @National Syndemic Disease Control Council (NSDCC) , Nyeri CDC Twaweza, Amref Health Africa in Kenya

Project Thrive, and Maisha Youth, commemorated the day at Mathenge Technical Training Institute.

The event guided by the theme " Vybe ni Safe, Just Use It" , was observed alongside Valentine's Day, creating a youth-centered,

interactive platform that combined entertainment, and health services to raise awareness and empower young people with vital sexual health information.

Kenya continues to grapple with Tripple Threat with young people aged 15- 24

years contributing to 30% of new HIV infections, making targeted prevention efforts a national priority.

Condoms remain one of the most effective tools in the fight against HIV, STIs, and unintended pregnancies, offering over 95% protection when used correctly and consistently. However, significant gaps persist, particularly among young men who have lower HIV testing rates and suboptimal uptake of treatment.

Speaking at the event, Douglas Mwangi, the Nyeri County CDC Twaweza Program Officer, emphasized the importance of safe sexual practices and regular health screenings in reducing the spread of HIV and other infections.

The Dean of Students Mr. Robert Kamau, Mathenge Technical Training Institute, on behalf of the management, expressed gratitude to the organizers for hosting the event at their institution. He encouraged students to embrace the healthy behaviors they had been sensitized on.



GSK, Amref Bio-Tech Teams Courtesy Call



Nyeri County Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri, on behalf of His Excellency the Governor Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, was pleased to receive a contingent of bio-technicians and researchers from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)

Pharmaceutical accompanied by Amref Health Africa officials during their courtesy visit to the county offices. The GSK team, comprising nationals from 19 international countries, in partnership with the Department of Health Services, were on

a fact-finding and mapping tour to Ruguru Health Center (Mathira West sub-county) and Warazo Health Center (Kieni East sub-county) targeting households currently receiving support in the areas of non-communicable diseases, maternal

health and Tuberculosis (TB) treatment. While addressing those assembled, Amref Country Director Dr. Meshack Ndirangu recognized the 30-year strong working relationship with GSK, adding that flattening the ma-

ternal mortality curve was quite within reach. Adding to the dialogue was Health Services Director Dr. Nelson Muriu who noted that additional training for Nyeri County's Community Health Providers (CHPs) in neonatal and under 5s care, to supplement maternal care, was key to providing wholistic management for this critical segment. Also worth noting that the GSK team recently and successfully climbed Mt. Kenya in order to raise funds for this initiative. This Administration is glad to be part of this initiative and values the continued ongoing partnership with Amref Health Africa and GSK, and give assurance of our commitment to the success of this endeavour.

CoG Committees Retreat



Great discussions at the Council of Governors Executive and Liaison, Management and Business Committees retreat in Naivasha. Governors reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening devolution, enhancing county funding, and improving intergov-

ernmental collaboration. Key resolutions include advocating for the reinstatement of KES 400.1B as equitable share, ensuring full transfer of funds for devolved functions, and fast-tracking intergovernmental sector forums and legislative reviews.

Further, County Governments will cease contributing to Tier II under the NSSF Act, Cap 258 as per the exemption under the Act for beneficiaries of a pension scheme funded out by the Consolidated Fund.



Nyeri Governor Meets with MITI CS

To ensure that activities of the Department of Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services are aligned with the needs of the community, resources are used efficiently, and it maintains effective coordination and collaboration, the department held a consultative meeting with both Gender, Social Services, and Special Programs Committee and the Youth and Sports Committee. Key objectives of the engagement was to enhance

performance and strategic planning. Through consultation and collaboration with the committees, the department ensures that its programs and projects are well-planned and coordinated. This strategic planning process ensures that resources are optimally allocated, policies are effective, and there is a unified vision for development. The engagement between the department and the committees often begins

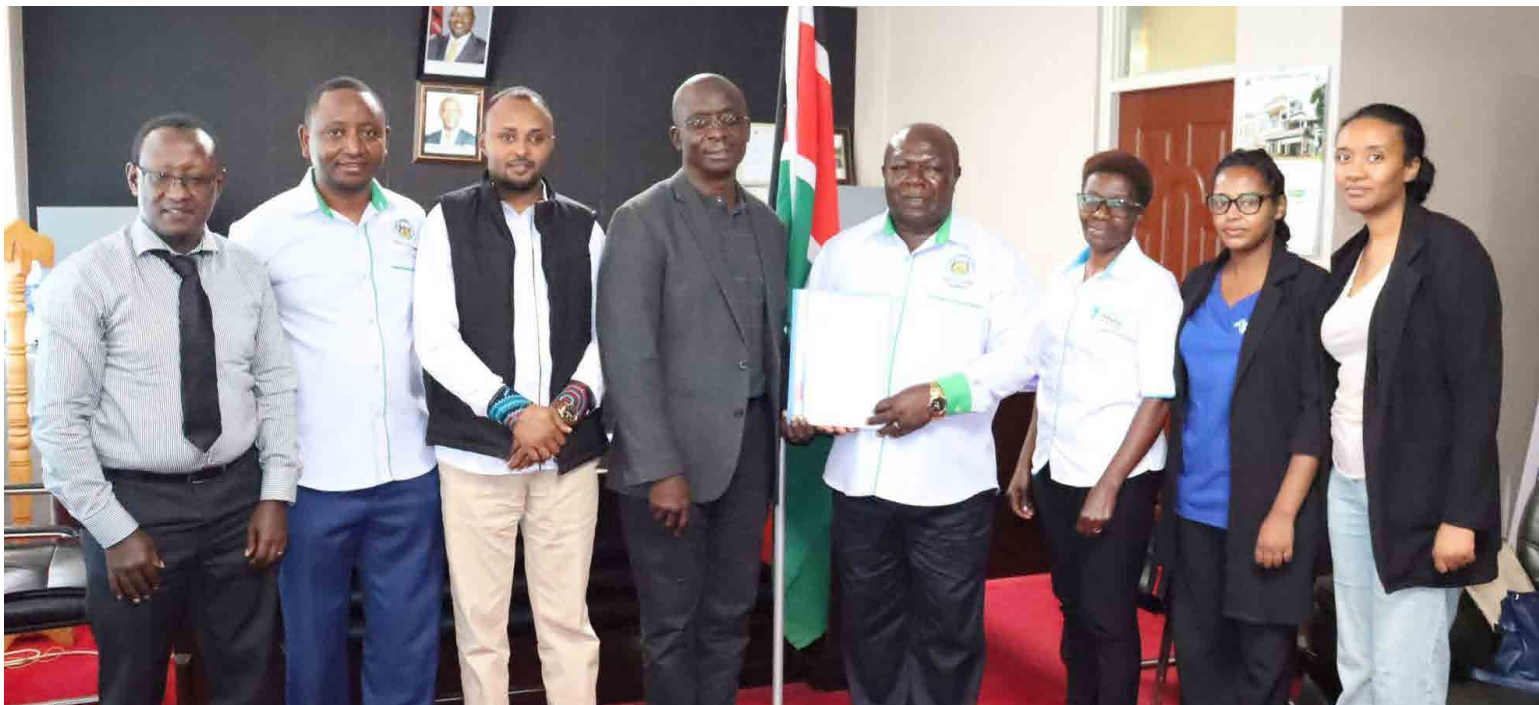
with a review of ongoing programs, consultation on policy formulation and amendments, budget and resource allocation discussions, as well as serving as a feedback mechanism. Through regular interaction and collaboration, the department aligns its programs with the needs of the community, improve service delivery, and foster an environment of accountability, inclusivity, and growth for all residents.

CGN Signs MOU with AIC Kijabe Hospital

Story & Photo - Catherine Muthoni

The County Government of Nyeri, through the Department of Medical Services and Public Health, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AIC Kijabe Hospital. AIC Kijabe Hospital is a registered private not for profit medical institution with accredited teaching programs under the Directorate of Education. Its primary mission is to train competent health professionals while providing quality medical services. This MOU establishes a collaborative partnership between AIC Kijabe Hospital and Nyeri County Referral Hospital. The agreement is designed to:

1. Expand the scope of prac-



2. Support both the National and County Governments in acquiring qualified and

- competent healthcare professionals.
3. Optimize resource utilization, including financial, human, and infrastructural assets.

The MOU will be effective for five years, with the possibility of renewal upon mutual agreement. This partnership marks a significant step towards

strengthening healthcare training and service delivery in Nyeri County.

Mukurweini Groups Receive Economic Equipment



The Department of Gender, Youth, Sports, and Social Services distributed economic equipment under the Wezesha Programme for Mukurweini Central Ward for the 2024-2025 period. The primary objective of this programme is to support a range of income-generating activities, transforming them into viable economic ventures for organized groups,

which will eventually evolve into established businesses contributing to the county's socio-economic development. The County Government of Nyeri is dedicated to enhancing the economic sustainability of small-scale business owners and will continue to foster an environment that facilitates their success. A total of 12 groups received items such

as a concrete mixer, poker vibrator, 600 plastic chairs, and six 100-seater tents. Through the sub-county officer Mr. James Mwangi Mwangangi, the groups were individually sensitized on various topics, including financial planning, business management, and other aspects of group dynamics.

International Women's Day Planning Meeting

The Department of Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services held a successful consultative meeting with relevant stakeholders on the upcoming Women's Day in collaboration with CREAW. Among other discussed issues were: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) identification of the key directorates working on GBV, setting the stage for a focused and coordinated approach and Male inclusivity. Gender Chief Officer Joe Gethi, who was present, put emphasis on the importance of continued collabora-

tion of stakeholders, and the need for a unified approach to ensure progress in the fight for gender equality. A significant part of the meeting was dedicated to planning for the upcoming International Women's Day celebration, with discussions around creating impactful events that would highlight the issue of GBV and empower women. Gender CECM Esther Ndungu highlighted the importance of inclusivity in the upcoming Women's Day celebrations. She emphasized that men should be actively in-

involved in the celebrations, recognizing their essential role in supporting gender equality and fostering a more balanced society. The CECM stressed that by including men in these festivities, it would help promote a more unified approach to gender issues and enhance the collective effort toward empowerment. These remarks were made as her closing statement, underlining the need for a collaborative effort in advancing both women's and men's rights for a better, more inclusive future.

