



The solar dryer has enabled the coffee factory to reduce the drying time of the cherry beans by 50%

Nyeri Transformational Coffee Dryers

Nyeri County has earned the distinction of being ranked the best in forest cover and environmental conservation, with approximately 45.7% tree cover and 40.8% forest cover, countrywide.

Over the past few years, the County has observed shifts in weather patterns and an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, impacting both our rural and urban communities.

These changes have posed challenges to our agriculture, water resources, and overall resilience in the county, with an increase in disasters during extremes in weather - drought and high rainfall.

The County Government of Nyeri, under the stewardship of Nyeri Governor H.E. Mutahi Kahiga, PhD, EGH, has established several legal frameworks to address the challenges of climate change.

These encompass the:

- Nyeri Climate Change Act of 2021,
- Nyeri Climate Change Fund Regulations,
- Integration of Climate Change Activities into the County Integrated Development Plan for the period 2023-2027 and corresponding annual development plans.
- Nyeri Participatory Climate Risk Assessment, 2023



- Nyeri Climate Change Action Plan, 2023- 2027

These plans, in alignment with both global and national legislation, play a pivotal role in fortifying resilience within the county. These plans have also been done under the effort of the Department of Water, Environment and Climate Change led by CECM Fredrick Kinyua.

The County Government of Nyeri also developed a Nyeri County Climate Information

and Communication Strategy 2023 - 2027 to facilitate dissemination of Climate Information to our stakeholders.

Multiple communication channels and platforms are used to disseminate climate information including electronic e.g social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and print media,

Other platforms include, county climate outlook forums / workshops (CCOF), exhibitions, shows, and community

gatherings (baraza

The target audience includes General public; religious leaders; journalists; community leaders; schools, politicians and other policy and decision makers.

On this note, the Department of Water, Irrigation, Environment, and Climate Change jointly with the World Bank-funded Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Program, Kenya (FLLoCA) Program, initiated many proj-

ects in Nyeri County, which have transformed lives as the County adapt to climate change.

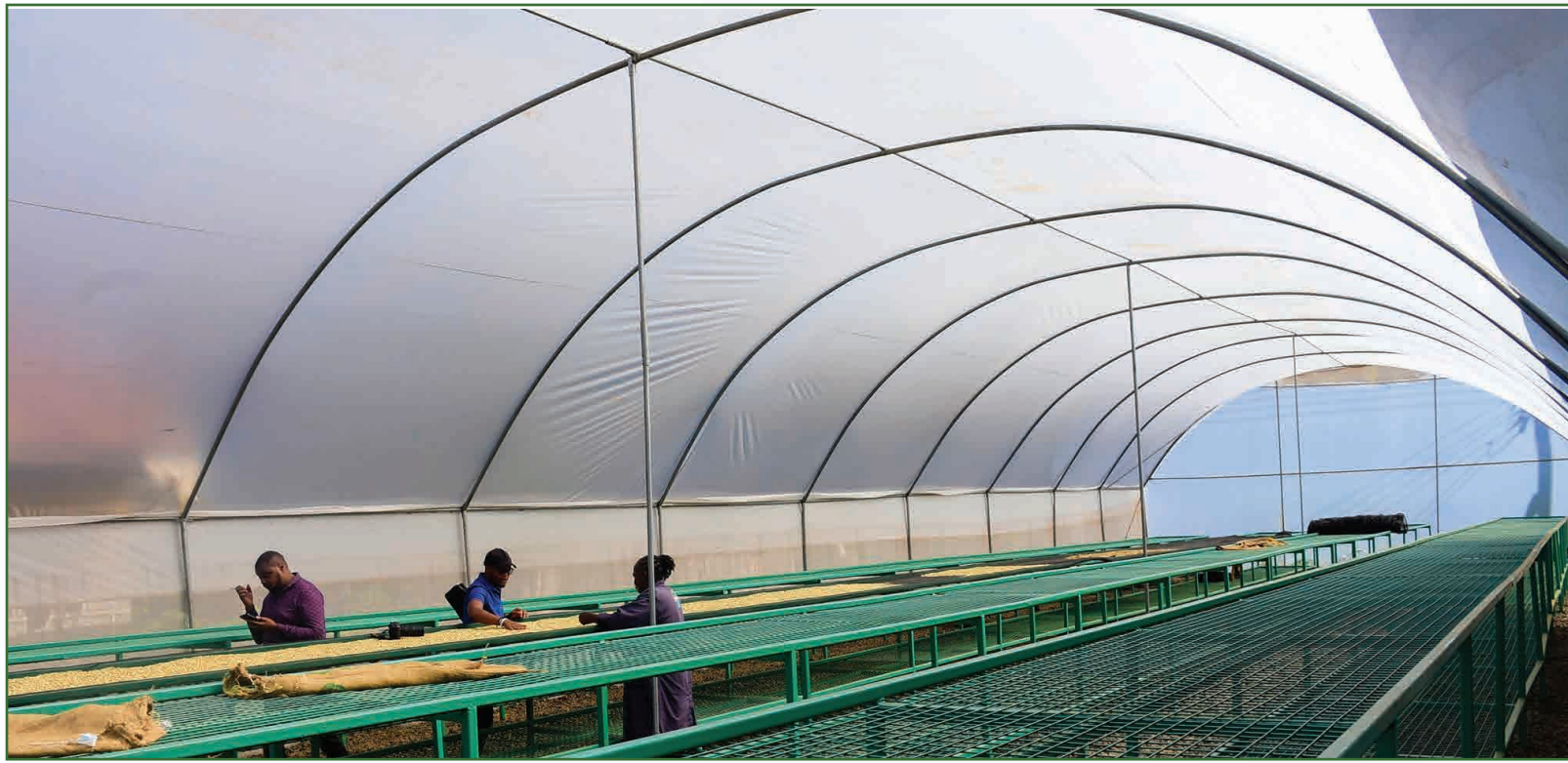
The projects involve drilling of solar-powered boreholes, construction of coffee solar dryers, Installation of Institutional energy-saving jikos in selected ECDEs and 29 VTCs and construction of water intakes.

Continued on page 2

DOWNLOAD
Our **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

+254 721019019 | www.nyeri.go.ke





Other programmes include the distribution of water storage tanks, promotion of agroforestry in all the 30 wards through the provision of fruit tree seedlings to farmers, and the Spring protection program in Muthangira in Mugunda ward in Kieni West Sub County.

But there is one unique project of a solar dryer in Chorong'i Coffee Factory in Ruring'u ward, Nyeri Central Sub County, which has changed the quality and quantity of coffee farmers in the area.

There has been a tremendous improvement of coffee production through the adoption of climate adaptation technology, the installation and construction of solar dryers and coffee beds at several coffee factories, including Chorong'i, Thage-ini, Kiamariga, and Gachuiro in Nyeri County.

The project has indicated an immediate impact, which includes:

- Post-Harvest Loss Reduction - Extends the shelf life of coffee
- Reduction in the Operational Cost of the factory
- Translating to higher pay for

farmers, higher Market Value

- Dried produce like coffee fetches better prices due to improved quality and demand.

- Energy Efficiency - Solar dryers use renewable energy, reducing reliance on slow, costly, and unsustainable drying methods like direct sun drying.

Chorong'i Coffee Factory's official James Maina noted that Solar coffee dryers offer a cheaper, convenient, and environmentally friendly way to dry coffee, leading to faster drying times, improved quality, and potential for higher prices, while also reducing labor costs and preventing contamination.

old drying beds, the capacity was only 16,000 Kgs but under the new project, the factory can handle up to 16 tonnes.

Alice Wanjia, a Factory Manager at Chorong'i Coffee Factory in Nyeri Central Sub County Solar dryers allow for faster drying compared



The solar dryer has enabled 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.

He also thanked the County Government of Nyeri and FLLoCA for the partnership which has led to improved coffee production.

The project was completed in June last year. By using the

to traditional sun drying, potentially cutting drying time by half or less, saving labor and operational costs.

The Manager added that the factory witnessed improved Coffee Quality as enclosed

solar dryers protect coffee cherries from rain and humidity, preventing mold and mildew growth, and ensuring the beans are dry.

In the old drying beds, coffee took two weeks to dry up while in the solar dryer, it takes only less than 14 days.

She added that is cost-effective and leads to higher quality coffee dried using solar dryers, which can fetch higher prices, ultimately leading to increased profits for coffee farmers.

Solar dryers are relatively simple to build and operate using local materials, resulting in lower costs compared to traditional or mechanical drying methods.

A farmer David Wahome added that solar dryers require less manual handling and turning of the coffee during the drying process, reducing labor costs and Solar dryers also use renewable energy, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and lowering carbon emissions.

The improvement of the quality has led to more income for farmers which has raised the local economy of the area as the farmers have more money in their pockets than before.

Reports released last year showed that Chorong'i Coffee Factory, affiliated with the Mutheka Farmers' Cooperative Society, achieved the highest price of Sh 42,183 per 50kg bag in a recent coffee auction last year.

The overall auction generated Sh566.9 million, with the highest price achieved by the Nyeri-based Chorong'i Factory. This price was significantly higher than the previous auction, which generated Sh382.9 million.

Download

NYERI COUNTY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

www.nyeri.go.ke

Gitunduti, Ndumanu Residents Briefed on their Socio-Ecnomic Survey Reports



Following the successful data collection and preparation of the socio-economic survey reports, GeoSurv Systems Limited (Consultant) and the County Project Coordinating Team (CPCT) led by Project Physical Planner Joseph Njomo presented the findings to the community members at Gitunduti and Ndumanu informal settlements in Magutu ward, Mathira East sub-county. This socio-economic survey report presented detailed findings and analysis of the social aspects and economic situation of the residents of both settlements. The report highlighted valuable insights concerning the physical and natural environment, population and demographic characteristics, economic activities, infrastructure, and utility services as well as land and housing. The teams also used this engagement to carry out a verification exercise of the list of beneficiaries, conduct visioning to guide in preparation of draft proposals and community participatory planning. These activities were meant to involve the stakeholders in the planning process.

Transforming Health Care in Nyeri

AMREF’s Project Thrive has significantly transformed healthcare delivery in Nyeri Central Sub-County, Kamakwa - Mukaro Ward, with Gitero Dispensary as a key focal point. The project, rooted in context-specific and community-based approaches, has improved access, quality, and uptake of health services. By combining technical support, logistical improvements, and community empowerment, it has fostered inclusive and participatory public health governance. A detailed analysis of data from May 2023 to April 2025 showed notable increases in service utilization, reflecting both improved capacity and responsiveness to community health needs. Beyond infrastructure, Project Thrive has reshaped healthcare engagement by introducing new systems and participatory models that strengthen the bond between providers and the community. Local residents are now more involved in health-related decision-making, enhancing trust and shared responsibility for outcomes. The project also tackled social determinants of health—like education and sanitation—amplifying its overall impact on public health. AMREF’s locally adapted, data-driven model has not only improved Gitero Dispensary’s functionality but also offers a replicable approach for strengthening health systems elsewhere. This report highlights the importance of strategic partnerships, community engagement, and ongoing evaluation in building resilient, people-centered healthcare systems that can respond to dynamic health challenges.



Investing in Education: Investing in Nyeri’s Future

By supporting bright, deserving students through bursaries, the County Government of Nyeri is not only lifting the best weight of financial burden from families, but also opening doors of opportunity that will shape the leaders, innovators, and change makers of tomorrow. Every child, regardless of their background, deserves a fair chance to learn, grow, and thrive. Nyeri County reaffirms that commitment. While representing the Governor, H.E. Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH, together with the Department of Education, Training, and Devolution—via their CECM, Margaret Macharia, assisted by the Chief Officer for Education and Devolution, Dr. Lucy Ndumba—Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri presided over the issuing of scholarship cheques to the scholarship students. The Governor’s Scholarship Programme is supporting 178 students with full scholarships for Form 2, 3, and 4 students from the eighth sub-counties in Nyeri County, alongside 34 students sponsored by Nyeri People in the Diaspora. While addressing those present, he reiterated the importance of students gaining self-awareness regarding the kind of learners they are, particularly in terms of comprehension. “Do they understand while being actively taught? After one session of practice? Or only after multiple revisions? This understanding helps students adopt study plans best suited to their learning styles, enabling them to tap into their full potential, avoid burnout, eliminate poor grades, and persevere rather than give up when faced with academic challenges,” he added. He further encouraged them by saying that, even though some may have performed poorly, there was still time to rise from the ashes. With targeted effort toward their weak areas, they could bounce back to their former glory, especially since they had already proven their academic merit by qualifying for the scholarship program. “The resources are at your disposal—exploit them to the fullest. It’s better to read one book and understand it than to read ten and not grasp a word.” The gathering was also delighted to be joined by a former student of Kagumo Secondary School who benefited from the program, scored an ‘A’ in KCSE, and is now headed to Kisii University to pursue Medicine. The ceremony was held at the Governor’s Office grounds.

Lest We Forget the Struggle: An Homage to the Mental Wellness Journey



Many, many people, almost too many to count, suffer silently from mental illness in one form or another. Fear of stigmatization, discrimination and outright rejection forces them to not speak out or ask for help. “Common” knowledge about the negative effects of stigma targeting those burdened by mental illness may not be as common after all; and understanding what it looks like and how to address it can go a long way in helping our family, friends and loved ones.

It is often said that “Mcheka Kilema Hafi Bila Kumfika”, loosely translated: A person who laughs at a cripple will not die before becoming one. Simply put, be careful of how you perceive others in relation to yourself. For if it be in a negative light then the same, in one form or another, may befall you and/or your close ones as well. For those who believe in karmic retribution well there is it.

Mental health issues have been with us, part of the fabric of our existence for eons. From the days of yore when the mentally unstable were locked up in dark, dank rooms, restrained with chains and ropes, beaten, insulted, experimented on, and basi-

cally shunned as a laughing stock or a cautionary tale, how Society handles its mentally afflicted speaks volumes towards its own collective mindset.

Fast forward to the fast-paced, modern world of today; people are now ‘woke’ to these issues Or are they? How can we better take care of our mentally ‘struggling’, be they family, friend and foe?

Established Policies and Plans: Excerpts

Kenya Mental Health Policy 2015-2030: People with mental disorders experience disproportionately higher rates of disability and mortality. Mental disorders frequently lead individuals and families into poverty. Homelessness and inappropriate incarceration are far more common among people with mental disorders than for the general population, and having mental disorders exacerbates their marginalization and vulnerability. Persons with mental disorders often have their human rights violated, as a result of stigmatization and discrimination. Many are denied economic, social and cultural rights, with restrictions on the rights

to work and education, as well as reproductive rights and the right to the highest attainable standard of health. They may also be subjected to unhygienic and inhumane living conditions, physical and sexual abuse, neglect, as well as harmful and degrading treatment practices in health facilities.

They are often denied civil and political rights such as the right to marry and found a family, personal liberty, the right to vote and to participate effectively and fully in public life, and the right to exercise their legal capacity on other issues affecting them, including their treatment and care. As such, persons with mental disorders often live in vulnerable situations and may be excluded and marginalized from society, constituting a significant impediment in the achievement of national and international development goals.

Workplace Mental Wellness Guideline 2023: Globally, it is estimated that 15% of the working population has at least one mental health condition. In Kenya, this implies an estimated 3.7 million of the 24.9 million workforce might be living

with a mental health condition. Moreover, there is a direct economic impact of employee mental health problems on employers and businesses through increased absenteeism, a negative impact on productivity and profits as well as an increase in mitigation costs.

Kenya Mental Health Action Plan 2021-2025: This Action Plan envisions a Kenya where mental health is valued and promoted, mental conditions are prevented and persons affected by mental conditions are treated without stigmatization and discrimination.

It relies on six cross-cutting principles and approaches namely:

Universal health coverage: Regardless of age, sex, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity or any other status and following the principle of equity. Persons with mental health conditions should be able to access, without the risk of depriving themselves, essential health and social services that enable them to achieve recovery and the highest attainable standard of health.

Human rights: Mental health strategies, actions and inter-

ventions for treatment, prevention and promotion must be compliant with the Constitution of Kenya, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other international and regional human rights instruments.

Evidence-based practice: Mental health strategies and interventions for treatment, prevention and promotion need to be based on scientific evidence and/or best practice, taking cultural considerations into account.

Life course approach: Policies, plans and services for mental health need to take account of health and social needs at all stages of the life course, including infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood and older age.

Multi-sectoral approach: A comprehensive and coordinated response for mental health requires partnership with multiple public sectors such as Health, National treasury, Education, Security, Employment, Trade, Judicial, Housing, Social and other relevant sectors as well as the private sectors.

Empowerment of persons with mental disorders and psychosocial disabilities: Persons with mental health conditions, psychosocial, intellectual and cognitive disabilities and their families should be empowered and involved in mental health advocacy, policy, planning, legislation, service provision, monitoring, research and evaluation.

Underlying Factors or Triggers

Mental health triggers are myriad; without fear or favour cutting across age, gender, social, educational or financial status, family pedigree, creed, race, politics or any form of ‘ism’ past, present or yet to be generated. Research broadly describes a trigger as a situation, place, person or thing that provokes

an intense or unexpected emotional response, or causes a person to re-experience a past trauma. While in this state of being triggered, one may feel overwhelmed, panic, withdraw, cry, act out, or react defensively. Common types of emotional triggers include: - Loss or grief. Change. Stressful situations. Fear. Negative memories. Past trauma. Relationship issues.

A Silver Lining Enter Kamoko Health Center

Welcome to Mahiga Kamoko Health Center in Mahiga ward, Othaya sub-county. Host to a very vital mental health clinic attended by among many others from the area, Beatrice Wangui and Edward Kihu.

Meet Beatrice. A 50-year-old mother of two children - one in grade school, the other in high school - and a dedicated daughter to her elderly mother. Her mental issues manifested at class 7, with dizzy spells, disorientation, fainting and collapsing. This went on past her high school and past her college days where she was undertaking a tailoring course.

During this period, she was diagnosed with epilepsy and depression, and put on various medications to alleviate her symptoms and help her cope. But hope and light finally appeared in the form of a scheduled monthly mental health clinic at Kamoko Health Center, established with the ongoing support of Amref Health Africa. Here, Beatrice is now not only able to get monthly follow-ups re her health status, but also her monthly supply of medication as well as nutritional training on best food combinations to manage her conditions and overall wellness. With this support Beatrice is also consistently able to fend for herself and her family by utilizing the tailoring skills she learned at college, supplemented by various odd jobs available within the community.

We also have Edward. At 47 years he is married with two children in grade school and high school. A university graduate and career man whose upward trajectory within the banking and media sectors was cut short by mental challenges, Edward suc-



cumbed under work, home and extended family-related pressures to violent outbursts and alcoholism. Subsequent interventions led to sobriety but also led to severe depression. In the course of this turmoil he ended up losing his livelihood.

However, as we speak, and through the timely, convenient and accessible intervention at Kamoko Health Center’s monthly mental health clinic, Edward is able to obtain regular medication to treat his depression, nutritional and anger management counseling, and finds a like-minded support group in fellow clinic attendees. Not only that, he has tapped into his professional experience in the banking sector to impart skills and empower others on money management.

Nyeri County’s Pivotal Partnership with Amref Health Africa

The importance and role of strategic partnerships within Nyeri County’s health sector, initiated under the leadership of Nyeri Governor H.E Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga PhD., EGH, cannot be understated. The Department of Medical Services & Public Health led by CECM Dr. Joseph Kiragu, through which this Partnership is operationalized, continues to push forward its mandate in advancing quality healthcare for all; driving lasting health improvements for Nyeri’s residents.

Amref Health Africa, headquartered in Kenya, is the largest Africa-based interna-

tional non-governmental organisation (NGO) with over 60 years of engagement with governments, communities and partners to increase sustainable health access in Africa.

Okay, Now What

Mental unwellness is a crisis that continues to decimate communities financially, socially and productively. But, as we can see, all is not lost. Going by the interventions continually being implemented by Nyeri County (through

public to the same, one may rest assured that progress is at hand, slow but sure. We remain encouraged and positive that a paradigm shift is at hand that will turn the tide in terms of individual and collective progress. With this in mind, one can draw hope one day at a time knowing that there is light at the end of the tunnel. That help and support is readily available, but one clinic visit away. The over 40 attendees at Kamoko Health Center monthly mental health clinic can attest to this.

Health Services CECM Dr.

of Nyeri remains committed to working closely with all stakeholders to ensure the well-being of our communities”.

Therefore, Lest We Forget

People compose their ‘good-bye’ statements every day. Create their goodbye scenarios; quietly empty and close their accounts; bequeath property both owned and leased; close off and finally detach themselves from family, colleagues and friends. Let’s begin to truly see these signs for what they are, and if any hint or red flag should rise, take a second to ask: Hi, are you okay? This one question could just save a life.

For those on the slow but steady path to wellness, connecting with others, laughing even at the most mundane of things, being supportive even silently, keeping pets, connecting with nature, music and dance, a good book (for those with the patience), smiling, meditating on encouraging prayer lines, energetic and lively physical activities such as exercise or practicing some dance moves as you do your chores... are but some of the options readily (and inexpensively) available to promote peace and restoration.

Above all, let us all try to be as present and observant as possible, shall we? For by acknowledging these wounds, we allow them to air, and start to heal.



the cascading of national and international frameworks) in collaboration with its affiliates and partners such as Amref Health Africa, this situation is receiving the attention and seriousness it rightly deserves and is due.

And with the cooperation and awakening of members of the

Kiragu also commends Amref Health Africa for its commitment to strengthening the County’s health capacity, further affirming the County’s openness to collaboration and pledging continued support for initiatives that enhance healthcare service delivery.

“The County Government

In Support of Disaster Preparedness and Risk Management Journey

Fire is a double-edged force—essential to human advancement from ancient hearths to modern industry, yet capable of devastation when mismanaged. Its utility in cooking, heating, construction, and power generation relies heavily on respecting its inherent dangers.

International Firefighters' Day (IFFD), observed annually on May 4th, was established in 1999 following the tragic deaths of five firefighters in a wildfire in Victoria, Australia. This date aligns with Saint Florian's Day, paying tribute to the patron saint of firefighters and honoring the courage of those who risk their lives to protect communities and the environment.

In Nyeri County, we have witnessed many fire incidents; A particularly harrowing incident occurred in September 2024 at Hillside Enderasha Academy, claiming the lives of several students and injuring others. Between January 2024 and March 2025, the Disaster Risk Management Directorate responded to 341 fire



seasons.

Human activities such as charcoal production, illegal logging, and land clearing often spark these fires, threatening biodiversity, disrupting livelihoods, and contributing to climate change.

Meanwhile, the County Gov-

ernment of Nyeri on the other hand organized a three-day fire safety sensitization roadshow covering Karatina, Nyeri Central, and Kiawara.

The Sensitization program included fire prevention, fire safety, awareness and dissemination, First Aid training, and drowning prevention all aimed at equipping the public with life-saving skills and promoting a culture of safety.

Nyeri County continues to face recurring fire outbreaks, affecting homes, schools, businesses, and forests.

In support of the Disaster & Risk Management Directorate, the County Government of Nyeri under the stewardship of Governor H.E. Dr. Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH deployed fire engines in the areas of Nyeri town, Karatina town and Kiawara township fire stations to help fight fire disasters on time.

Given the rising frequency of emergencies linked to climate change, urbanization, and technological risks, integrating fire safety into disaster risk management is crucial.

Effective prevention strategies, timely response protocols, and strong safety infrastructure are essential for protecting lives, preserving property, and ensuring community resilience.

During the roadshow, emphasis was placed on understanding different fire classes to ensure appropriate emergency response.

Class A fires involving materials like wood, paper, and cloth require water or dry powder extinguishers.

Class B fires—caused by flammable liquids such as petrol or paint—must be addressed with foam or dry powder extinguishers, never water.

Class C fires, which involve electrical equipment, demand non-conductive agents like dry powder.

Class D fires, fueled by combustible metals such as magnesium and aluminum, require specialized chemical powder extinguishers.

Finally, Class K fires in kitchens, stemming from cooking oils and fats, should be handled using foam or wet chemical extinguishers.

A well-rehearsed evacuation plan is vital. Alarms must be activated immediately, emergency services contacted, and evacuees should avoid elevators, stay low to avoid smoke, and test door handles for heat. Provisions should be made for the mobility-impaired, and evacuees must assemble at designated points for head counts and further instructions.

Buildings must incorporate key fire safety features, including illuminated exits, clear signage, smoke and heat detectors connected to sprinkler systems, accessible extinguishers, emergency lighting, and fire-resistant construction materials to contain fire and smoke.

The Deputy Governor H.E. David Kinaniri commended the initiative and encouraged staff to apply the knowledge gained.

Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services CECM Esther Ndun'gu reaffirmed her department's commitment to proactive fire risk management.

Chief Officer Joe Gethi urged widespread sharing of key emergency contacts.

Director of Disaster Risk Management Col. (Ret.) L.K. Teimuge emphasized the need to address security vulnerabilities, reinforcing that preparedness enhances public trust and safeguards government operations.

Through such initiatives, the Department of Gender seeks to enhance public knowledge and responsiveness to emergencies.



incidents—169 at Nyeri Station, 55 in Kiawara, and 117 in Karatina—largely attributed to electrical faults, mishandling flammable substances, and cooking-related accidents. The region's proximity to the Aberdare Ranges and Mount Kenya increases its susceptibility to wildfires during dry

incidents—169 at Nyeri Station, 55 in Kiawara, and 117 in Karatina—largely attributed to electrical faults, mishandling flammable substances, and cooking-related accidents. The region's proximity to the Aberdare Ranges and Mount Kenya increases its susceptibility to wildfires during dry

incidents—169 at Nyeri Station, 55 in Kiawara, and 117 in Karatina—largely attributed to electrical faults, mishandling flammable substances, and cooking-related accidents. The region's proximity to the Aberdare Ranges and Mount Kenya increases its susceptibility to wildfires during dry

incidents—169 at Nyeri Station, 55 in Kiawara, and 117 in Karatina—largely attributed to electrical faults, mishandling flammable substances, and cooking-related accidents. The region's proximity to the Aberdare Ranges and Mount Kenya increases its susceptibility to wildfires during dry



IN CASE OF A **FIRE EMERGENCY**



SOS CALL NUMBERS:

NYERI 0612032961
KARATINA 0721367998
KIAWARA 0741428413

**DIRECTOR DISASTER
RISK MANAGEMENT
0790040299**



Awarding ceremony for KYISA games' teams

Sports have long been overlooked in funding and recognition, with academics often taking center stage in youth development conversations. Yet, talent beyond the classroom continues to push for its rightful place. Through platforms such as the Kenya Youth Inter-County Sports Association (KYISA), young people are gaining the opportunity to develop and showcase their talents beyond the academic sphere.

It's in this spirit that Nyeri Governor H.E. Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH Presided over the awarding ceremony at Town Hall grounds, for the players who represented Nyeri County at the KYISA 10th Edition, 2025 held from April 13th- 19th, 2025 in Homa Bay County.

He was joined by the Deputy Governor, H.E. David Kinari Waroe, alongside officials from the Department of Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services, led by CECM Esther Ndung'u and their Chief Officer, Joe Gethi.

Nyeri County was represented by a 70-member team participating in the following categories:



- Women's Football
 - Women's Volleyball
 - Men's Football
 - Men's Volleyball
- The teams delivered commendable performances. The Women's Football team secured 4th place, the Men's Football team finished 5th, and both Volleyball teams advanced through the group stages. These results reflect not only the players' abilities but also their resilience, discipline, and dedication.

As the County Government of Nyeri continues to support our youth in developing their skills, it's important to emphasize the value of discipline—not only in conduct but also in consistent training and mental preparedness. Growth in sport, as in any field, requires intentional effort and a commitment to refining one's craft.

The event was one way of

celebrating them—not just for their results, but for representing Nyeri County with pride, heart, and honour.

“We want them to know: we see their talent, we value it deeply, and we stand behind them with full support. Meanwhile, we extend our sincere appreciation to the Department of Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services for their continued dedication to youth empow-

erment which is in line with their mandate of empowering the youth through nurturing and development of talent and also the team managers, coaches, and medical staff who ensured the players were well-prepared and supported throughout the tournament,” Said the Governor.

He also encouraged the team to keep working, keep growing as the road ahead is full of promise



Download

Nyeri County Monthly Newsletter

www.nyeri.go.ke

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
0721 019 019
CALL OR WHATSAPP

In support of women's empowerment

"Gender equity is not only a moral obligation - it is an economic necessity. A society that sidelines half its population cannot hope to achieve inclusive growth, social cohesion, or long-term prosperity."

Our women are the backbone of our agricultural economy, the stewards of our homes, the educators of our children, and increasingly, the innovators of our future.

In Nyeri County, the County Government of Nyeri have long recognized this truth. This is why gender equity is a central pillar of our development agenda.

It is on this note that H.E. Governor Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH officially opened the Kenyatta University Women's Economic Empowerment (KU-WEE) Hub Research Dissemination Workshop being held in Nyeri town.

"We are taking deliberate steps—expanding access to credit, promoting women-led enterprises, reforming our budgeting processes to be gender-inclusive, and investing in skills development and



job opportunities for women and girls." He noted.

Governor added that through the Nyeri Women's Fund, a revolving loan facility, the County has disbursed over Kshs. 180 Million to more than 2,300 women-led businesses.

"To bridge the Skills Gap, we've partnered with Nyeri National Polytechnic to offer certified digital marketing

courses for women. As a result, more than 500 young women are now running thriving on-line businesses, tapping into the power of e-commerce," Said Governor Kahiga.

Nyeri County also recognized Child Care as an economic infrastructure and in so doing, CGN piloted subsidized child-care centers near markets and government offices.

He noted that the County De-

partments of Health and Economic Planning are working hand-in-hand to develop integrated strategies that support women's dual roles—as earners and as caregivers.

The Governor added, "We are therefore investing in: Accessible reproductive health services, especially for youth and rural populations, workplace policies that support motherhood, including flexible

hours, breastfeeding stations, and maternity protections; Community programmes that challenge stigma, especially around young working mothers or those returning to the workforce."

Governor Kahiga also acknowledged the development partners, national agencies, researchers, and communities for their continued support.

Sensitization of Communities on Disability Inclusion



The Department of Gender, Youth, Sports, and Social Services, in collaboration with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), held a successful community

sensitization event on disability inclusion in Mukurwe-ini at the NG-CDF hall.

The event focused on creating awareness, promoting inclusivity, and addressing the needs of

persons with disabilities within the local community.

A key highlight of the day was the distribution of sanitary towels and adult incontinence products to caregivers

and persons with disabilities, demonstrating a commitment to preserving dignity and enhancing the quality of life for beneficiaries.

The outreach was both symbolic and practical in meeting the daily needs of vulnerable individuals.

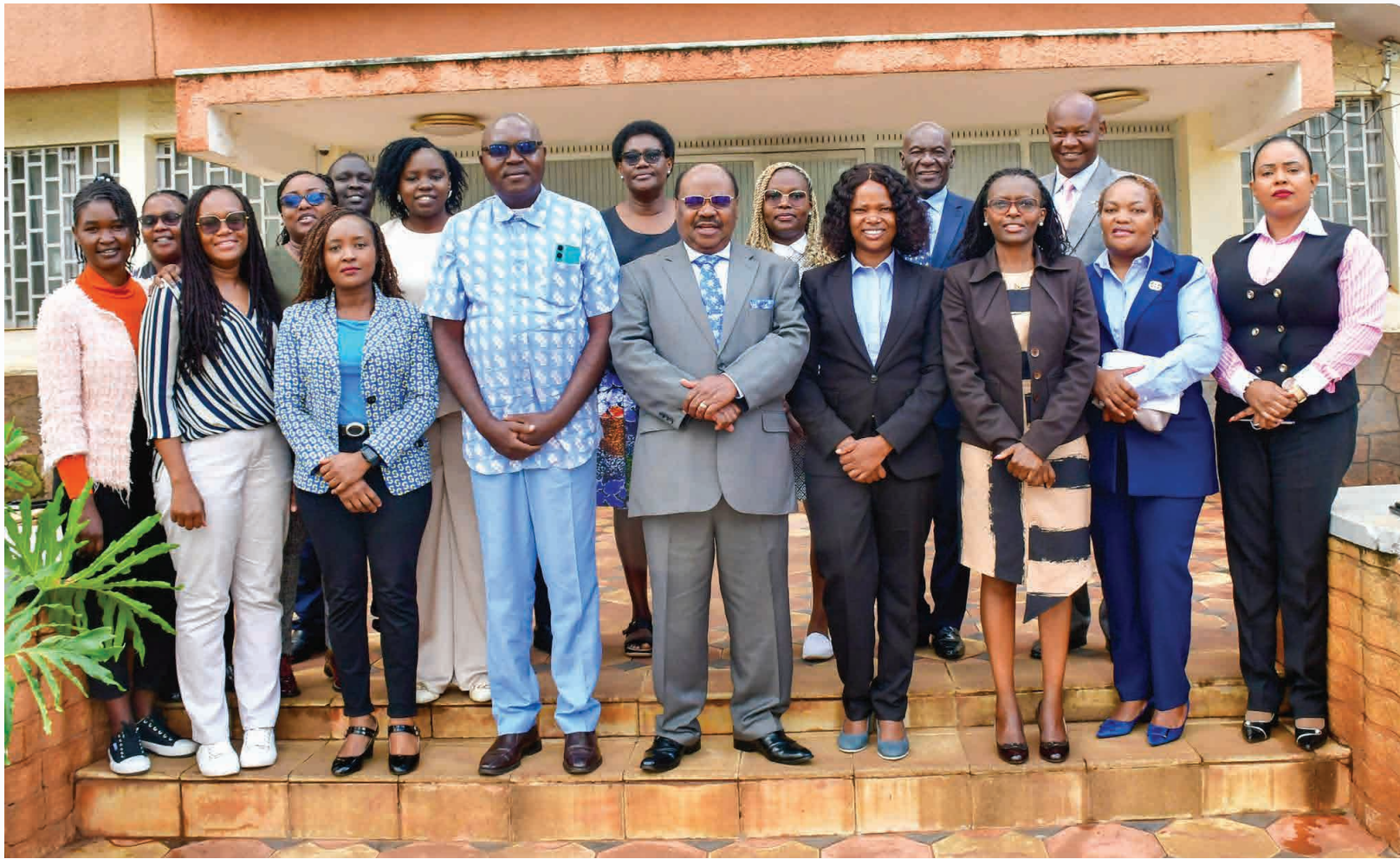
The Sub-County Social Welfare Officer (SWO), Mary Nyathama, graced the event and reiterated the County Government's continued support for persons with disabilities. She highlighted various initiatives such as the provision of assistive devices, support for income-generating activities, and ongoing mapping exercises to ensure equitable access to county programs. She also emphasized the county's goal of mainstreaming disability issues in all departmental operations and promoting inclusive infrastructure development.

The event drew with the participation of key stakeholders, including representatives from NG-CDF Mukurwe-ini, Golden Voices Against GBV, Anglican Overseas Aid, and Central Supermarket Mukurwe-ini, who each played an instrumental role in the success of the day.

Their contributions, ranging from logistical support to awareness creation and resource mobilization, showcased a strong partnership between the government and non-state actors.

The event served as a powerful reminder that inclusive communities are built through collaboration, consistent engagement, and focused action on the rights and welfare of all citizens.

Boosting the fight against GBV



Nyeri’s beauty masks a harsh truth—rising GBV, teenage pregnancies, and silent survivors facing trauma that can no longer be ignored. Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Purity Ngina, PhD, MBS, and CEO of the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), alongside her team from the Technical Working Group on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Femicide, Chaired by Anthony Nzuki. They were in Nyeri County

for a public participation initiative aimed at addressing and curbing GBV and femicide across all 47 counties. During this period, they worked closely with Nyeri’s local technical working group on GBV and femicide. County Government of Nyeri has actively raised awareness of GBV and femicide through various initiatives, led by the Department for Gender, Youth, Sports, and Social Services in collaboration with the County Commissioner. Gender policies have also

been put in place to help mitigate these pressing issues. Over 40 champions have been trained from high-prevalence areas such as Othaya, Kieni, and Mathira Sub Counties. Additional awareness efforts include participation in key events like the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, International Women’s Day, and the International Day of the Girl Child. The County has also made strides involving men, elders, and religious leaders in these conversations.

GBV is a national crisis that spans various forms of violence, including domestic physical violence, sexual violence, emotional and psychological abuse, economic exploitation, and harmful traditional practices. A Gender Rescue Centre has been set up at PGH Hospital to offer victims critical support and to assist with the entire reporting and follow-up process. The County Government of Nyeri recognizes that socio-economic factors contrib-

ute significantly to GBV and femicide. These include limited access to sanitary products for young girls, high rates of alcohol addiction, and increasing radicalization. To address these root causes, the county has established interventions such as the Ihuru Rehabilitation Centre and children’s homes like Neema Children’s Home in Skuta, which support children affected by GBV. In response to rising femicide cases, the County Government of Nyeri joined hands with Usikimye Organisation by Njeri wa Migwi, initiatives such as the Wezesha Programme have also been rolled out. The programme has been allocated over Ksh. 50 Million to support grassroots initiatives—particularly women’s groups across various sub-counties—through the provision of merchandise and resources aimed at boosting economic resilience. The County has also launched the Widow SACCO, designed to support and empower widows toward economic independence. Additionally, thriving community groups, including those for widowers, have been engaged to promote collective healing, resilience, and empowerment.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES & PUBLIC HEALTH



AMBULANCE HOTLINE NUMBER
0116003003



Nyeri Youth Set To Benefit from Training Scholarships



Aspiring youths in Nyeri County are one step closer to a brighter future as the County Government, in partnership with the KCB Foundation, concluded interviews for vocational training scholarships.

The rigorous selection process across 20 of the county's 26 Vocational Training Centres (VTCs), witnessed a commendable turnout of ap-

plicants eager to gain valuable skills.

This initiative underscores the commitment of the County Government and the KCB Foundation to empower vulnerable individuals and youths, including young mothers, orphans, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The scholarships aim to provide access to quality vo-

cational training, equipping beneficiaries with marketable skills for sustainable livelihoods.

A diverse range of ten trades are on offer, catering to various interests and industry demands. These include hospitality, fashion and design, hairdressing and beauty, food and beverage, masonry, plumbing, electrical installation, ICT, motor vehicle

mechanics, and welding and fabrication.

The partnership between the Nyeri County Government and the KCB Foundation was formalized through an MoU signed in January of last year. The success of this collaboration was evident in the first cohort of approximately 1000 students who enrolled in April 2024, successfully completed their training, and

graduated in a joint ceremony. Building on this success, this year's scholarship program has attracted around 2,400 applicants.

The KCB Foundation aims to sponsor 1000 deserving candidates who will commence their six-month training in June 2025 and are scheduled to undertake their examinations in December and thereafter an attachment for the different courses undertaken. This joint effort signifies a significant investment in the human capital of Nyeri County, providing opportunities for socio-economic advancement and contributing to the overall development of the region.

Applicants will be notified of the scholarship award decisions within a few weeks.

Mukurwe-ini Hospital's Outpatient Block Construction Kicks Off



Hot on the heels of a successful site handover at Wamagana Level 4 Hospital, the Directorate of Infrastructure and Public Works—led Arch. John Kagiri officially handed over the Mukurwe-ini Sub-County Hospital site to the appointed contractors. This marks the beginning of Phase 1 construction of a brand-new, modern Outpatient Block.

For years, Mukurwe-ini Hospital has struggled with congestion, creating long wait times and an environment that falls short of what our patients deserve. The outpatient block will be home to essential services such as emergency care, special clinics, dental, pharmacy, and general consultations—has been overstretched. But change is on the horizon.

This new wing is set to transform service delivery. With improved space, a more conducive environment, and enhanced working conditions for healthcare staff, patients will finally experience the quality care they need—without long waits or crowded halls.

This visionary project is a collaboration between the Department of Infrastructure, Department of Medical Services, area leaders; Mukurwe-ini Central MCA Hon. Cyrus Nderitu, Mukurwe-ini West MCA Hon. Atanasio Wa Kabaire, Medical Superintendent Dr. Duncan Kagwa, a team of skilled engineers, dedicated health workers, and our invaluable partners.

Together, we're building more than walls—we're building hope, health, and a brighter future for Mukurwe-ini.

KISIP 2 Project Site Inspection In Mweiga, Ruring'u Wards



The County Coordinator of the Second Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Program (KISIP 2), Beatrice Koech led a routine site inspection at Mweiga settlement in Mweiga Ward, Kieni West sub-county and Kiamwathi settlement in Ruring'u Ward, Nyeri Central sub-county.

The visit involved collaboration between the National Project Coordinating Team (NCPT), County Project Coordinating Team (CPCT), and key stakeholders including the Consultant Gath Consulting Engineers & Losai Man-

agement Ltd and the Contractor High Point & Pinnie Agency Limited.

The settlements will benefit from infrastructure upgrading including but not limited to; construction of tarmac roads with efficient drainage systems, street lights, footpaths, seamless water connections through trunk and consumer connections, solid waste management by installation of dumpsters in-line with the KISIP 2 primary development objective of improving access to basic services in informal settlements.

The Second Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP II) Officially Launched

Nyeri Governor H.E Dr. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga joined colleague Governors led by the Council of Governors (CoG) Chair H.E Ahmed Abdullahi, PS Devolution Michael Lenasalon, World Bank representatives, Chair of the Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee (IG-RTC) CPA Kithinji Kiragu, among other dignitaries and stakeholders during the official launch of the Second Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP II). The launch materialised during a sensitisation workshop for all the County Governors that was in partnership with the State Department for Devolution and other National Implementing Agencies. KDSP II is a four-year World Bank-funded Program supporting the Government of Kenya's implementation of the Devolution Sector Plan. Its mission is to strengthen County Governments in enhancing service delivery and accountability for resources.



The Program builds on the achievements realized during implementation of the KDSP I implemented between 2016 and 2021. It has taken a more refined and results-oriented approach compared to its predecessor, with targeted focus on four transformative pillars.

It is aligned under three key results areas which include:

- Sustainable financing and expenditure management;
- Intergovernmental coordination, institutional performance and human resources management;
- Oversight, participation and accountability.

The Program's expected out-

comes are:

- Improved county public investments which are aligned to citizen service delivery needs and implemented with effectiveness and efficiency.
- Strengthen the oversight role of the citizens.
- Strengthen the role of legislatures in budget scrutiny and

oversight. Governor Kahiga reiterated that KDSP II takes us a step further forward while refining our focus and thus calls for measurable results. The Program emphasizes accountability, performance, citizen engagement, and sustainability of all essential components for the success of devolved governance. He also mentioned that the success of this program depends entirely on how the Council provides support. "As governors, we must translate this support into impact into better financial discipline, better staff management, better service delivery, and greater public trust in our work," he added. CoG in collaboration with the State Department for Devolution will be spearheading the implementation of the KDSP II which is a conditional grant allocation to County Governments.

KCOA 3rd Annual Mt. Kenya Regional Scientific Conference held in Nyeri

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga, PhD., EGH officially opened the 3rd Mt. Kenya Regional Scientific Conference for Clinical Officers, being held in Nyeri County. This iconic gathering brought together health leaders, policymakers, academicians and healthcare workers to learn and share best practices, policies, strategies and innovations towards improving primary health care. The theme for this year's Conference was: "The Role of Clinical Officers in Primary Healthcare Networks in Achieving Universal Health Coverage." Primary Care Networks (PCNs) are a pivotal way of linking and strengthening health care services by building on a person-centered approach to health. To support PCN rollout and implementation, the County Government of Nyeri devel-



oped the Nyeri Primary Care Networks Strategy 2024-2027, to expand and strengthen our vision of 'A Wealthy County with Healthy, Secure People for Shared Prosperity'. In reference to a presentation given by Kirinyaga Universi-

ty's Dr. Charles Omwado, the country currently has 28,712 diploma-level Clinical Officers (COs), 2,154 graduate COs and 4543 higher national diploma (HND) COs. These figures, however, are still way below what is re-

quired in terms of human resource to cater for the increasing demand for the personalized services offered by to these important healthcare providers. The two-day Conference covered a broad range of topics

including but not limited to:

- Cardiovascular risk in middle age and the elderly;
- Career progression and professionalism;
- Clinical excellence in diabetes management;
- Ethical practices in clinical medicine;
- Cancer case studies;
- CCC/TB integration with outpatient services;
- Screening for heart disease in children;
- Mental health burden of chronic illness;
- Bone marrow transplant in Kenya;
- Self care: financial planning.

The County Government of Nyeri continues to wholeheartedly commit itself to support and help facilitate the growth, expansion and elevation of our health sector in terms of resources and staffing.