



Laikipia

The official newsletter of the County Government of Laikipia

WEEKLY
BULLETIN

Inside the New Laikipia Health Service Model



All Laikipia health facilities will provide a uniform quality of service under the LHS

Next time you visit a health facility in Laikipia seeking a service, you'll be a patient of Laikipia Health Service (LHS).

It does not matter where or which facility that you'll seeking the service, but you will be a customer of Laikipia's health system.

This means

On Wednesday, the county Executive Committee chaired by Governor Ndiritu Muriithi approved the transformation of the county health department to Laikipia Health Service to embrace and reflect one spirit, vision and mission.

This is a radical change unseen anywhere in the country and which is likely to rattle cartels that hold the national health sector hostage.

The model is founded on uniformity of service delivery across all the county's 84 facilities to reflect one name, one service, one process, one cost centre, one spirit and one brand.

"We want to reflect to our customers who seek our services that a reflection of one service, that

we are one as a unit; that the quality of our service is the same everywhere," Chief Officer Dr Donald Mogoi said.

For efficiency and effectiveness, LHS will operate through nine clusters for synergy in human resource management and optimization, investments on diagnostic, essential drugs, disease management, referrals.

Refurbishment

It will expand services through leasing of essential equipment as follow: one MRI for LHS Nanyuki, two CT scans for LHS Nanyuki and LSH Nyahururu, Theatre Equipment for LSH-Rumuruti, LSH Ndindika, LSH Lamuria, LSH Doldol. X-ray for LHS Rumuruti, Ndindika and Kimanjo, ultrasounds for LHS Rumuruti, Kimanjo, Ndindika, Lamuria and Doldol. Laboratory equipment for LHS Nanyuki, LSH Nyahururu, LSH East Laikipia, LSH Kalalu, LSH Olmorán, LSH Ngarua, LSH Oljabet.

All services will be carried out through an integrated web-based operations system that will help in intra and inter outlet communications,

data sharing and analytics for decision making. All the 84 LHS outlets will within one year be accredited to NHIF among other health insurers. LHS outlets will share essential health workers to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery and supervision.

Refurbishment, renovation and branding of all the 84 outlets has started. Twenty-two (22) LHS outlets will be operational on 24 hour basis, 7 days a week and 365 days an year, while 62 outlets will be operational on 8 hours basis, 7 days a week and 365 days a year.

All Level 2 outlets will serve as refill centres for specialized health care services, they will stock drugs for management of Diabetes, Hypertension and arthritis.

Medical officers from level 4, Clinical Officers from Level 3 LHS outlets will be visiting the Level 2 LHS outlets on a monthly basis for patient monitoring. Cluster lead outlets will provide the requisite human resources for this reverse referrals.

Specialization

LHS Nanyuki and Nyahururu will provide specialists to level 4 outlets on a monthly basis for reviews of clients requiring specialist clinics and reviews. Elective surgical, obstetric and gynecological and other specialized procedures will be carried through this system in both LHS Level 4 and 5 outlets.

The western block of facilities generally show a rising trend of non-communicable diseases (hypertension, Diabetes, Arthritis). All LHS outlets in the region will invest more on diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of clients presenting with such conditions.

Laikipia East also shows similar trends. LHS Nanyuki and Nyahururu will be the final referral outlets for complicated and severe clients. Specialization will be key in management.

LHS Nanyuki will be the County Critical Care centre, with fully equipped staffed ICU capability. Laikipia North has more communicable conditions. Investments will focus on preventive and promotive programs across LHS outlets, diagnostic capability and management. LHS Kimanjo will be the radiological centre for region.

Sagak Tech is the Transport Solution for Central Kenya Region

Three years ago, a Laikipia motor vehicle manufacturer Sagak Tech Automakers, made a bold move to venture into the manufacture of four-wheeler *tuk tuks* as the ultimate transport solution for the Kshs 2.7 trillion central Kenya regional economic bloc (cereb). After months of struggle through the maze of government red tape, it's initial units are now in the final stages of getting registration. This sets the stage for the firm to venture into mass production. Writer **Nahashon Maina** talked to the company's Chief Operating Officer (COO) **Mr Wollace Kariuki**.

Who is Sagak Tech Automakers? How many employees?

Sagak Tech Automakers is a Private Limited Company based in Nyahururu, incorporated in 2019 with the aim of locally manufacturing and assembling Tuk Tuks and motorcycles that are fuel efficient and adapted to our terrain. The company has 20 employees and aims to grow them to 60 employees in the medium term. The company employed many more indirectly as it has engaged sub-contractors for parts who also have employed other staff.

What inspired the idea of a four-wheeler Tuk-tuk?

The need for a fuel-efficient short distance transport solution prompted the founder Samuel Njogu to begin research and development of a four-wheeler *Tuk-Tuk* as the ones imported from China and India are unstable and could not access some places.

Where's the space of Sagak Tech Automakers in Kenya's competitive motor industry?

In the last couple of years, the registration of new *tuks tuks* and motorbikes has continued to grow steadily and is leading comparing to other sectors such as private vehicles, trailers, buses etc.

So far, how is the level of demand for the BJ50?

The demand for BJ50 has continued to grow with indicative orders of 50 units and five units already paid for deposits.

What's role of Sagak within the context Kshs2.7 trillion Central Region Economic Bloc (CEREB) market?

The CEREB market requires short distance transport solutions for products in a cost-efficient manner. Products such as milk, horticulture, building materials, transport to work and market will be easily sorted by the BJ 50 because of its stability and hardiness. This will create job opportunities for youth not only as drivers but also as distributors, parts manufacturers, mechanics and technicians.

Laikipia is determined to exploit mineral resources, especially iron ore deposits in pursuit of its industrialization agenda, how will this benefit your firm?

The steel industry is not developed in Kenya leading to reliance on imported steel. For manufacture of our units we require specialized steel referred as automotive steel which mostly is imported. Mineral resources in Laikipia if exploited will provide affordable steel locally which will improve the value of local content in our products thus benefiting more from tax incentives making the product more affordable not only in Kenya but also to other countries.

How is Sagak Tech benefiting from collaboration with surrounding universities like Laikipia University, DeKut and Laikipia North TTI as well as Nyahururu VTCs.

Universities like, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, and technical institutes remain a resource to Sagak Tech through provision of technical services such as Computer Aided Designs, Business Development services, research on parts and training of quality welders and engineers.

How is your presence in Nyahururu impacting on local economy?



The growth of Sagak Tech has impacted positively to the economy with creation of Job opportunities and increased interest in the industrial area which saw upgrade of roads in the region. Land owners who initially were not using their parcels of land are now fencing and putting them up for lease as garages and auto mobiles services. The expansion of our company necessitated leasing of a plant that had been dormant for over eight years bringing life to it. Rehabilitation of a common manufacturing center and its equipping with a lathe machine, connecting it to three phase electricity and construction of a spray booth will create more opportunities for the self-employed.

What can you say hinders the growth of motor vehicle manufacturing in Kenya?

One of the hinderances is the legal and policy framework which for along time has supported importation and assembly at the expense of local part manufacturers. Lack of a developed steel industry and technical know-how is another great challenge as our training has much focused on training supervisors without technical persons. Getting a certified welder or fabricator is hard to come by and the few who have trained through apprentice locally cannot satisfy the demand. Lack of finance for research and development is another hinderance as the sector requires a lot of research and development which many investors are not willing to spend in that.

Where do you see Sagak Tech in the next five...ten years from today?

Sagak Tech is among trail blazers in the auto-manufacturing sector and the future is bright. In the next ten years we expect to have established a bigger plant supported by sub-contractors and releasing to the market over 5,000 units in a year.

Your parting shot?

As a country and region, we should not fear to actualize our dreams and we should strive to move forward. We should believe more in ourselves and our products. Other nations are more focused with the welfare of their citizens. It's me and you who will liberate Africa from poverty and unemployment by manufacturing and growing our enterprises.





How My Ebola Experience Helped NTRH Manage Covid-19

By David Serem

When Ishmael Mwangi was tasked with setting up and running the NTRH Covid-19 isolation unit last year, he understood immediately what he was getting himself into.

It was a repeat of his not-so-distant experience at the heart of a scary viral outbreak in West Africa just a few years ago.

In 2015 Mwangi found himself at the centre of a nerve-wracking health crisis experience- six months handling a raging Ebola epidemic that ripped through West African states, overwhelming health systems in the affected countries.

Little did the nurse know that this experience at the centre a helpless situation as the epidemic tore through Sierra Leone and other countries would be valuable in his future career as a healthcare practitioner back at home.

When Covid-19 came calling, and with Kenya prepared for a possible full-blown outbreak, Mwangi could notice the scare in his colleagues who, unlike him, were about to handle a health crisis of this magnitude for the first time.

If his Ebola management experience would for once be useful, the young medic thought, it would be now. Seeing the fright in his colleagues to the point of considering quitting, the situation was reminiscent of his experiences alongside medics of diverse nationalities in West Africa back then.

"We landed in Freetown to a very chilling welcome at a time Ebola crisis was at its peak, and my immediate wish was to hop onto the next plane back home," the medic recalls. According

to the nurse, the situation was so mortifying that the thoughts of him never seeing his family again started to haunt him.

"During our intense preparations for Covid-19, I felt the need to use my own experience to build the much-needed morale among my team," the officer says. "I could perfectly relate with what my colleagues were going through," he adds

Following intensive physical and mental preparations, he saw confidence build among his colleagues and support staff, and within a short time, the team was up and ready to face the pandemic.

By the time they received the first Covid-19 case on April 1st 2020, the staffs were by then upbeat and ready for the task.

Mwangi's colleagues are quick to note his immense contribution to a positive start and sustainability of the isolation centre.

Catherine Mwenda, Senior Nursing Officer in charge of NTRH Covid-19 Isolation Unit, agrees that her colleague's experience with Ebola was a very timely asset when they went into treating Covid-19.

"For us who had no previous experience managing such a highly infectious disease, we found his understanding an immeasurable asset," the officer says.

"Knowledge from books aside, experience from exposure is paramount in treating a disease like this. Mr. Mwangi" she adds.

Mwangi's skills, attitude and exposure have been instrumental in the successful treatment of Covid-19 patients. Over one year down the line and having managed over 400 patients,

the NTRH isolation unit's sustained observation of health and safety guidelines have yielded fruits. Only one of the staff has contracted Covid-19 so far. Going by the Nurse in Charge's sentiments, this is not a mean achievement, having in mind the team's high risk operating environment.

Mwangi, who has a Head of State Commendation title to his name-Heroes and Heroines of Ebola in West Africa-says the that as much as their physical prevention measures helped them keep their staff Covid-19-free, the nurse attributes this achievement more to mental preparedness. Frequent counselling, he says, has played a significant role in keeping the team going.

"For us who are working here, being at the centre of Covid-19 environment makes us extra cautious. We do not take chances here, and we employ extra cautionary measures that might not be in mainstream use," the nurse says. Some of the extra cautionary measures in use here include use of chlorine treated water for disinfection at entrances and exit points and surfaces, with this extending to frequent hand sanitization-gloved or not.

"It's all about cutting the infection risks down to the minimum." Mwangi says.

The isolation unit nurse credits the hospital administration for sustained support that has enabled better Covid-19 response. In particular, the now rapid results for Covid-19 have enabled the unit initiate life-saving treatments early.

The unit has a brilliant track record, having treated a huge number of patients to full recovery.

Emerging Laikipia Smart Towns Spawn New Youth Activities



By Joshua Kinyanjui

Apart from creating conducive environment for growth of businesses, the idea of smart towns is spawning novel activities hitherto witnessed Laikipia County.

The clean tarmacked streets in the emerging smart towns is capturing the imagination of the younger generation of the Laikipia as they try their skills in sports activities that were previously impossible in the county like skating.

Now there is a skating Club in Nanyuki.

The club in collaboration with the County Department of Education, Sports, Youth and Social Services has come up with skating activities for the community within Nanyuki town.

The revamped Marina Car Park next to the County Commissioner's gate all the way down to GT Bank is normally closed every Sunday from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm to create a zone for skating activities by youths.

"We had Nanyuki@100 celebrations in December last year and one of the activities marking the centenary was a skating competition in the CBD on a Sunday. That's where we borrowed the idea from" says James Mwangi, the chief officer.

"Children and youth have been using the newly tarmacked streets of Sipili, Kinamba, Nyahururu and Nanyuki. This has been quite a risk in terms of their safety so we have seen it wise to create skating zones in our towns starting with Nanyuki as a pilot," said he added.

The initiative promotes the development of sports and brands our towns to remain alive within the streets.

With the upgrade of many towns in Laikipia, the skating activities will be rolled out to other towns by providing skating zones to promote growth in all spheres. This initiative will help develop lively towns with more secure streets since people will always feel safe if the streets in the town are busy.

The ultimate goals of having skating zones across all towns in Laikipia is to organize competitions that will promote modern sporting activities.

In addition, skating will be of great importance to the participant's health as they will keep fit as well as develop talent. It will also give them a chance to interact with their peers of different households. On the other



hand, the activity will create business opportunities as the participants together with the spectators will have to

buy food and snacks from business people in the town that in turn improve their economic status.

Soft Security Strategy-the Missing Link in Solving Insecurity in Amaya Counties

For close to three decades the government has been fighting recurrent banditry attacks and private land invasions along Laikipia's border with its western side neighbour with Baringo. Armed raiders mostly from the neighbouring county have been wreaking havoc in Miteta, Kamwenje, Matuiku, 18, Wangwaci, Olmoran among other areas.

Many lives civilians and security officers have been lost. Others have been maimed and scores of families displaced from their land and hundreds of livestock stolen.

Looking at the pattern of these deadly attacks it is easy that they follow a pattern of drought, pasture, water and elections.

The government has always responded to this insecurity by mounting security operations, establishing more police stations and police post, increasing security personnel and increasing number of National Police Reservists (later withdrawn).

With the latest wave of attacks it is clear that the hard security approach alone by the government cannot provide the solution to the insecurity along this belt. It must change tact by drilling deeper into the causes of these conflicts and addressing them appropriately.

But as the vicious cycles of violence in Laikipia have taught us, peace is not just about increasing the number of guns and mounting security operations.

A lasting solution to the banditry attacks and invasions of private lands in Laikipia and the insecurity issue in the entire Amaya region (Baringo, Samburu, Isiolo and Laikipia) the government must address the conflict from the broader context of issues under the veneer of the conflict.

The Government must address socio-economic imbalances in the region. For instance, in Baringo's Tiaty sub county which shares the border with Laikipia, 75 percent of all persons aged three years and above have never been to any form of learning institution, according to the 2019 Kenya National Census report. In Laikipia North sub-county 49 percent within the same age bracket have never been to school. Our policies have been our own undoing. The government has not only invested little in terms of education in this region compared to other regions, its inhibitive policies also make it difficult for community to start schools.

For example, Luoniek location did not have a secondary school for many years. The Government registered the only three primary schools in 2019 and the first secondary school here barely six months ago. To register a school the community needs to prove ownership of at least five acres of land. Most of the pastoral communities own the land communally and the government has never issued title deeds. The community is also required to build at



CS Fred Matiang'i, Governor Ndiritu Muriithi and Laikipia North MP Sarah Korere after a security meeting in Naibor AST camp

least two classrooms.

Beyond the routine security and disarmament operations, the region calls for more investment in educational institutions, roads and town infrastructure, more water sources among other infrastructures.

Such infrastructural development should be accompanied by deliberate campaign to have children in school as well as enterprise development education.

The government must come up with a strategy of encouraging the young people to join school and addressing development inadequacies of the region.

It could borrow a leaf from Uganda where the Government established the Karamojong Development Authority and later the Ministry of Karamojong Affairs to ensure the Karamojong region walks in together with the rest of the country in development.

For instance, why should pastoralists be moving their livestock across the plains in search of pasture when modern technology like feedlots assures of more healthy animals on a small parcel of land? What can the government do to encourage pastoralist communities embrace of such technology by the pastoralist communities?

Governors of Baringo, Samburu, Isiolo and Laikipia counties and other elected leaders under the umbrella of Amaya Triangle Initiative have made some efforts towards peace and economic prosperity of the region.

The county governments are implementing Kshs600 million worth of programmes through the funding of the EU. Each of the counties has committed Kshs100 million this financial for destocking at the time of drought.

It's time for the national government to embrace soft security strategy for the Amaya region for positive results to be realized.

CHRONOLOGY OF LAIKIPIA SECURITY OCCURENCES

January 1998	- 50 killed, 2,500 displaced, - 5 rape cases, 78 homes & stores burned
February 2004	- Land and cattle rustling, 1 farmer died, 5 injured
Sept 6 th 2004	-Invasion of private ranch
Year 2006	-12 dead in attack at Ratia Vil lage and 3,000 head of cattle stolen
March 17 th 2008	-Clashes at Rumuruti -2,650 civilians flee, 300 homes burnt
Sept 16 th 2009	- Kanampio village massacre - 35 people dead, 40 animals dead.
Sept 22 nd 2014	-Wangwachi Area, 55-year-old woman died - 30 sheep were stolen
November 2016	-CS Nkaissery holds meeting in Rumuruti, 6 dead, -Hundreds of animals stolen
February 2017	-Invasion of Kifuku farm -60 Boran cattle stolen
March 20 th 2017	-Affected areas: Ru muruti, Ol Moran and Kirimom - 4 APs shot by Pokot bandits in Mukutan after escorting
July 21 st 2017	-Farm invasions by Samburu -10,000 people were displaced
Nov 3 rd 2017	- Invasion of private ranches
May 24 th 2019	-Bandits raid homes in Matwiku, 1 police officer injured and -500 sheep and unknown number of cattle stolen
July 7 th 2021	-Herders invade ranches (Rumuruti, Mugie, LNC, Suyian)
July 26 th 2021	-2 CSU officers wounded in ambush at Loisaba
July 28 th 2021	-CS Matiang'i, IG and high level security personnel had security meeting Naibor Laikipia. 3 killed so far - More security deployed to the area
July 28 th 2021	- GSU officer killed in Ol Moran

Laikipia County Government Measures to Mitigate Drought



By Peter Matunge

The Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources is implementing a drought response strategy to provide both immediate and short-term solutions to the drought situation in Laikipia North.

Immediate response measures that have been taken by the department include: Deployment of two water bowsers to truck water within Laikipia North Sub-County. Water has been distributed to institutions including schools and dispensaries with bulk water storage capacity.

So far, we have distributed to the following institutions and communities; Kiwanja Ndege Special School, Kurum Primary and Secondary, Sarampa Primary, Kurikuri Primary, Musul Primary and Community, Naibunga Community, Naiperere Primary, Nosrai Primary and community, Loshai Community, Ndikirr and Kimakandura community, Ilmotiok Primary, Dispensary and Community, Ngabolo Primary and Community, Pisha Community, Kurum Dispensary, Soit Oudo Primary, One More Day and Community, Kalalu Primary. Three water points have been constructed at Ndigir, Picha and Loshaki (Kimanjo) locations. The water point comprises one 10,000 litre storage tank and three communal taps. Water is delivered by the bowsers every two weeks at these strategic points.

Medium term measures include rehabilitation and operationalization of boreholes. The Department is working closely with NAWASCO, SNV and BATUK to rehabilitate five boreholes. These are: Doldol II and III BHs (Mukogodo East Ward), Naiperere I BH (Mukogodo West Ward), Bokish BH (Mukogodo East Ward) and Oldupai Loishaki BH (Mukogodo West Ward)

NAWASCO is currently working on Doldol II and III boreholes. SNV and BATUK will be conducting their assessment of Naiperere, Bokish and Oldupai Borehole and will be reporting on the way forward. The two boreholes at Ngerashi and Muarak area which were constructed by KENHA have been handed over to the community.

The boreholes were previously managed by NYAHUWASCO. The community through the elected committee members will be responsible for their operation and maintenance and will receive technical support and capacity building on management and governance issues. To mitigate the adverse effects of drought, there need for regular maintenance of existing boreholes in the region to prevent future breakdowns of equipment.

Mr Matunge is the CECM Water, Environment and Natural Resources



Kurikuri Primary



Communal water points installed at Ndigir



At Picha

Major Growth in SMEs Under Laikipia Innovation and Enterprise Development Programme



Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development CAS Lawrence Karanja and Governor Ndiritu Muriithi looking at products of one of Laikipia SMEs under the programme

By Muriithi John

The number of Laikipia SMEs undergoing incubation under the Laikipia Innovation and Enterprise Development Programme has grown to 1,372 enterprises. This is as a result of intensified efforts by the government to steer more innovators and other businesses to full-scale production. These small and medium enterprises are spread across various business and manufacturing sectors. All county departments have a re-

sponsibility of promoting businesses that deal in related activities to the department. For example, innovators who deal in herbal medicine fall under the Department of Health Medical Services. About 200 county staff from across all the departments of County Government of Laikipia are purposed to hand-hold innovators, SMEs from their initial stages to registered profit making organizations. The programme trains these business development officers on how to take care of all the needs

of business at various stages. The training involves enterprise development basics, business planning, access to finance, marketing, personal leadership skills, client engagement basics, creating industrial economy and development in Laikipia, among others.

Most of the businesses while joining the programme come with varying issues. Most of these problems have been solved to the satisfaction of the businesses. The said issues include; provision of working space, market linkages, intellectual property rights, business plan development, technical and business trainings, product development and design, link to relevant certification, training on financial literacy, training on business plan development, business registration, and funding. Out of the 1,372 enterprises in the programme, 517 are under manufacturing section as the government focuses on ensuring local production of what has been imported, thus ensuring money

remain with Laikipians for economic prosperity. Other categories are:

- wholesale and retail,
- Manufacturing
- Arts, Entertainment and recreation
- Agriculture
- Information and communication
- Professional, Scientific and technical activities
- Education
- Water Supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Electricity and Gas Supply
- Hotel and restaurant
- Accommodation and food service activities
- Financial and Insurance activities

The Programme has sparked ongoing trade negotiations within the Central Kenya Economic Bloc (Cereb) and on Cess and double taxation of manufacturers across the member counties. This will be a great benefit to local businesses which will see a reduction in operational cost in terms of buying raw materials and selling their products within the 10 CEREB counties. One business, Butty Box, that is in the program will be exhibiting at the Dubai Expo 2021, courtesy of the county government. The programme is also preparing for the EAC trade fair that will take place in December 2021 in Mwanza, Tanzania. Mechanization of top graduating enterprises is ongoing (Davina Engineering, Buttybox, Glaciers, Uniform center).

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF LAIKIPIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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2021 INTAKE IN PROGRESS

**MOTTO:
TRAINING TO EMPOWER**

Wiyumiririe VTC focuses on Training and Empowering the youth by imparting them with necessary skills in order to make them all round and better kenyans

COURSES OFFERED

- MOTOR VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY
- HAIRDRESSING & BEAUTY THERAPY
- COMPUTER STUDIES
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION
- FOOD TECHNOLOGY
- TAILORING AND DRESS MAKING
- EXECUTIVE MODERN HOME AND OFFICE CURTAIN MAKING
- WELDING & FABRICATION

Mission
To provide skill based training in Technical courses to a dynamic market through research and technology

Location: Wiyumiririe Ngobit Ward

THE INSTITUTION IS THE EXAMINATION CENTER FOR NITA GRADE I, II, III

15 Frontier-Ward MCAs Meet to Deliberate on Peace in Amaya Region



By Priscilla Chumo, Ol Moran ward

Fifteen (15) MCAs from the frontier wards of Baringo County (Muchongoi, Mukutani, Tangulbei, Silale and Churo), Laikipia County (Sosian, Olmoran, Githiga, Rumuruti and Marmaret), Samburu County (Suguta Marmar, Lodokejek, Wamba West and Kirimon) Isiolo Oldonyiro wards all met under the auspices of Amaya Triangle Initiative (ATI) and deliberated on the conflicts happening in the region. Way forward

1. All illegal grazers will move out.
2. All MCAS will join hands under the Amaya auspices to engage their people jointly on matters peace
3. Mutual agreements to prevail on pasture and grazing
4. Plans should be done by National Government to disarm everyone handling illegal guns

Lastly consistency and follow up on the situation

