



# Laikipia

The official newsletter of the County Government of Laikipia

WEEKLY  
BULLETIN

## Industrializing Laikipia Through Innovative Enterprises

**D**riving along a Nyahururu road on a chilly December morning in 2017, Governor Ndiritu Muriithi noticed a crowd milling around a small home-made car. He asked his driver to stop at the spot.

"Is it working?" He enquired. When the man seated behind the steering wheel responded in affirmative, he promised to come back and have a ride.

Certainly, after attending a general staff meeting at the Nyahururu Social Hall, the Governor did return to the scene. Tagging his deputy John Mwaniki along, they hopped into the car for a ride around Nyahururu.

"The man who has made this is far much better than many engineering professors who have never made anything even a tooth. He has believed in himself. We are going to create a science fund to support such innovators," he would remark on his way back to Nanyuki. A few months into office, Governor Muriithi formed a committee that would start giving his vision of industrializing Laikipia, shape and life. This would not only create jobs, but also increase daily incomes of Laikipia households to Ksh 600 and therefore improve the quality life for the citizens. The seven-member committee was to organise an innovation fair that would bring out and showcase unique Laikipia ideas and products. Its work also entailed bringing on board various partners and stakeholders who would support the innovators in their respective fields to attain mass production as well as linking them to markets. Calls for Laikipia innovations were made. The committee was amazed by the number of those interested. Over 200 met the criteria to join the Laikipia Innovation and Enterprise Development Pro-



gramme and to showcase their ideas at the Fair. Among them was the Laikipia car, BJ50.

### Handholding

After assessing all of them, the committee settled on 50 ideas cutting across various thematic areas like Agriculture, Water, ICT, energy, among other areas. After days of planning the first ever Laikipia Innovation Fair was held on May 30 and 31, 2018. By this time 16 partners were already on board. Kenya Climate Innovation Centre picked six of the innovators for incubation and financial support to help boost their ideas. Innovators were linked to key stakeholders who were also in the room. They included regulators like Kenya Bureau of Standards, KIPi, financiers, researchers Kiridi, universities, among others. This marked the beginning of the long journey towards industrialising Laikipia. Four years down the line Laikipia Innovation and Enterprise Development Programme has been a great success story. From the initial 50, the programme is now handholding 504 Laikipia SMEs. It has 200 business development officers to handhold the enterprises and link them to any support they might need be it financial or skill development. Since the programme began, 74 Laikipia products are in local and international markets. The Kenya Bureau of Standards has so far certified

37 Laikipia products have been certified in the last three years. Sixteen utility models Trade Marks and patents have so far been registered and with the registration of eight others going on. In 2019, ten Laikipia enterprises showcased their products at the 20<sup>th</sup> East Africa Community MSMEs trade fair in Rwanda. It was a chance to learn and market their products.

### Iron ore

"I still sell my products in the East African region and beyond. This would not have been possible were it not fair. The Laikipia Innovation and Enterprise development program has really assisted my business growth' said David Burii who makes maize drier. BJ50 is in mass production in Nyahururu's manufacturing cluster with at least 15 sub-contractors. The county is preparing to start exploiting iron ore and other mineral huge deposits in the county to accelerate the industrialisation process. The county government is also planning and modernising its urban centres support industrialization. It's also refocusing its workers to production and manufacturing oriented enterprise development. The programme has so far created, 1,049 direct jobs. LIEDP director, Winnie Mwangi is optimistic that Laikipia will be leading in the manufacturing sector in the country and the East African region in the near future.



# About Doing Business With County Government of Laikipia

**G**overnments the world over are major consumers of goods and services. They transact business worth billions of dollars in a year. But many people do not know the requirements, processes and procedures involved. Laikipia head of Supply Chain Management MS JOSPHINE KAMAU explains some of these processes .

## How would you describe your typical day as the head of supply chain management?

Busy and demanding. It involves meetings, signing of requisitions, preparation of tender documents, verifying accuracy of departmental procurement, giving professional opinions on various tenders, receiving and coordinating issuing of goods in the store, preparing opening and evaluation of tenders, and most important handling many questions to supplier and contractors.

## What are the roles and responsibilities of the procurement office in the county?

Basically, ensuring that user requests are delivered on time, in good quality, quantity and at the right price. We receive a requisition from a user. Based on the amount of the goods, services or works, we choose the right procurement process to procure it. The process starts with receiving of requisition, choosing the right procurement process in line with Public Procurement Regulations Act threshold, preparation of tenders/quotations opening report, preparation of tenders or quotations evaluation report, writing of local purchase order or local service order, receiving of goods procured, confirming the goods received are as per the users specifications, in the right quality, ensuring they are delivered at the right time and the right prices as per the local purchase order, confirming works delivered are as per the local service order and preparing inspection report.

## Briefly explain the process followed when awarding tenders to suppliers in the county?

For goods, the user first confirms whether what they want is in the store. If they are not, they raise a requisition which is signed by the head of section and the head of department. It's later taken to the accounting officer, and later signed by the head of supply chain management. The departmental accountant confirms that there is money for the requested goods. For a quotation, which is commonly used, the procurement officer gets prequalified suppliers on that specific category of goods, service or works. He randomly chooses at least five suppliers and sends them quotations. After the seven days the chief officer of the user department appoints a committee for opening the returned quotations. The chief officer then appoints an evaluation committee which chooses the lowest bidder based on the estimated costs. The chief officer verifies evaluation report and hands the file over to the head of supply chain management for professional opinion. If in agreement the head of supply chain gives a go-ahead for the award of the tender. The chief officer awards the supplier who is supposed to accept

within 14 days. A contract is signed and a local purchase order for goods issued.

## What qualities do you look for in a supplier or a contractor?

A supplier should have a registered company or business name, provide the required documents for the specific supplies, services and works. We also verify the suppliers company or business name documents like the KRA tax compliance, AGPO certificates, NCA certificates, business permits and such. We conduct market survey and involve technical person in the evaluation. For works we involve a technical person in evaluation and the estimated BQ to have an estimate of cost. For big projects, we carry out due diligence to confirm the supplier is capable of delivering. We also look for the past experience of the supplier. A supplier who meets the above depending on the tender requirements is a qualified supplier.

## How do you ensure safety and cost effectiveness in procurement?

Expertise. Having the right people in procurement roles is one key element in procurement management. A successful procurement team requires workers with the expertise to evaluate suppliers, prepare and negotiate contracts and make sure products and services meet specifications and quality standards.

## How is the procurement office facilitating the promotion of local industry and economic development in Laikipia?

We deliberately give more credit to suppliers with local products. We also procure some products and services strictly from the Laikipians. We also have innovation department whose core business is to look for innovators and mentor them within their specific fields.

## What measures are in place to eliminate possibility of corruption or unethical practices in the procurement process?

Involvement of all departments within the supply



chain is important as this would lead to a uniform commitment to help the organisation obtain product quality, quantity and within the right price. With hindsight, the formation of the supply chain synchronization has also provided clearer perspectives when undertaking of roles and responsibilities from each individual. We ensure that the evaluation reports are highly confidential and the appointed committee is made aware that sharing it with the suppliers is a punishable offence. We are also reducing the time taken to pay our suppliers and contractors.

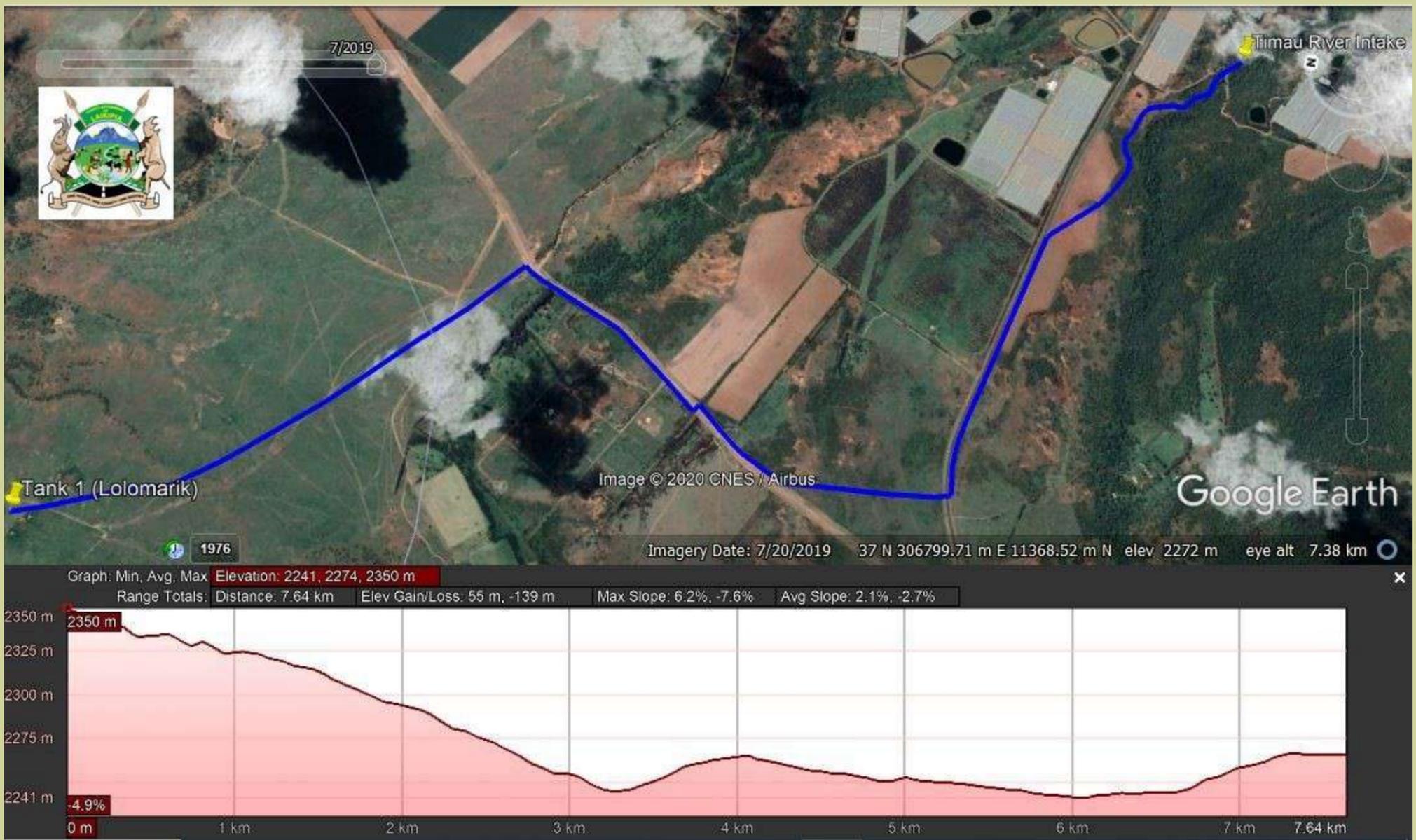
## How is the participation of Laikipia youth, women and persons with disabilities in doing business with Government?

Thirty percent of our procurement goes to the women, youth and persons with disabilities. For work done in the last two financial years youth and women have participated greatly as compared to PWDS. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2021 financial year, 33% of the work done was by women, youth and PWDs. Proportionally youth did 27.9% of the 33%, women did 4.3% of the 33% and PWDs did 0.03% of the 33%. The total value of contracts awarded to youth being Kshs145, 402, 018, women Kshs22, 493,327 and PWDs being Kshs207, 720. According to our data youths are highly participating and we look forward to seeing more women and PWDs participate too. We had training for the preference group and we believe it was beneficial.

## Talk briefly about supplier development programme and its objectives

This involves working with suppliers to improve their performance for the benefit of the buying organization. We have been training our suppliers to build their capacity and making them understand the system. The Government has also made arrangement with financial institutions to support their SMEs especially in this time of Covid-19 pandemic. Our focus is to provide appropriate framework for improving the performance of suppliers.

# Another Transformative Water Project in Laikipia North



After the successfully delivering water to over 20,000 residents of Solio scheme, the County Government of Laikipia has embarked on another transformative water project Mukogodo East ward, Laikipia North sub-county.

More than 7,600 residents of Makurian and Chumvi locations cannot hide their joy as the implementation of the Makurian- Osirwa water project gets underway. The project is set to be complete by December.

It entails construction of intakes on the northern slopes of Mount Kenya, 29.5 kilometres of pipeline, micro tunnelling of Kenha and Kerra roads, 34 kilometres of distribution network, construction of three 225 cubic metre reservoirs and construction of two 150 cubic-metre tanks



In a meeting with Governor Ndiritu Muriithi on April 21 2021 at 10 Mt Kenya Road, the residents were unanimous that the project will greatly transform their lives.

“Our continuous engagement with all the relevant stakeholders is borne out of our own conviction and appreciation that citizens must be at the heart of all decision-making in their socio-economic- political development,” the Governor said.

The project will contribute to adequate water supply for increased production in agriculture and livestock sectors. Already, it has received approval from NEMA after passing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and so has the Water Resources Authority (WRA).

The project will be an impetus for the development of feedlots which are key to transforming the pastoral economy, increase in land value and productivity and more permanent household formations.

“The joy in every project is when it becomes transformative. When it changes mind sets and brings in new perspectives, viewpoints and worldviews from our own deep seated and held outlook and understanding,” the Governor added. Provision of water for production is the main focus of the county government as it seeks to increase manufacturing-oriented production and enterprise. With availability of water, residents of Makurian and chumvi can improve their agricultural activities and pastoral activities thus improving on their livelihoods. Those involved in farming are at a better position to harvest more while pastoralists can increase beef, mutton and dairy production.

“The water will help us in various ways including improving our livelihoods through establishment of kitchen gardens. I personally plan to

plant some beans in my kitchen garden,” Stoya Mintie from Chumvi said.

Others are happy that women will no longer have to walk long distances in search of clean water for domestic use.

“We have been walking for four kilometres in search of water only to come back with only one Jerri can of muddy water. This project will save us all that energy because we will have adequate water readily available in our homes,” commented Michael Lepision from Ositat. Makurian Water Project also aims at reducing livestock migration and promote feedlot, which is part of Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) used in



intensive animal farming. This will also reduce conflict with ranches and neighbours thus mending social relations amongst each other. This will be achieved through close collaboration between residents and government towards the sustainability of the project. Cleanliness and general hygiene will be a reality which reduce disease burden to the county’s economy.

*From political promises to action...*

## Pillar VI: Employable Youth and Entrepreneurship



**T**he County government of Laikipia has consistently maintained a good progress in fulfilling the promises made to the people during the 2017 General Election.

Governor Ndiritu Muriithi's election manifesto was anchored on 12 pillars that included (i) Proper Governance and Accountability, (ii) Job Creation: 30,000 Jobs, (iii) Farming Becomes a profitable business, (iv) Access to clean and Reliable water, (v) Access to Quality and Affordable Health Care, (vi) Employable youths and Entrepreneurship, (vii) Opportunities and Talent Development for young people, (viii) Protection of Life and Property, (ix) Light-up of homes and Markets, (x) Upgrade of roads and Building bridges, (xi) Develop Smart and Green Towns, and (xii) Destination Laikipia. In our fifth installment of 'From Political promises to Action' we are focusing on



Pillar number Six.

### (vi) Employable Youths and Entrepreneurship

To ensure there is a strong base for the learners, the government has created an enabling environment right from the ECDE level. Over the past three years, the government has constructed 19 ECDE centres and 30 five –units pit latrines. It has also provided 55 ECDE centres with water harvesting facilities.

In efforts to ensure all students complete their high school education, the government has been offering bursaries for the vulnerable students in various secondary schools.

The government has rehabilitated 10 VTCs across the county and is refocusing to offer market driven courses as well as become manufacturing business centres. All the VTCs have unique machines to facilitate students to learn modern skills in various areas. Students acquire specialized skills that make them competitive in the job market. Majority of those who have graduated from these institutions have started their businesses and become job creators. Some VTCs like Nyahururu have common user equipment that can be accessed young entrepreneurs before they are able to buy their own. The institutions also offer training to non-permanent students, but people who need only some specific trainings for a short period. Also, some institutions offer quality services to non-students but at a lower price.

Generally, all the VTCs have taken a business model that is enabling them to become self-sustaining. In Nanyuki VTC, the government has introduced an Electrical Workshop to students expand their training. It has also constructed one metal processing workshop. To facilitate a conducive learning environment, the government has constructed a motor vehicle workshop with service pit and a dining and kitchen at the facility. In Nyahururu VTC, the government is in the process to commis-

sion one NMC Super turn Lathe Machine to help in leather materials. This is in addition to construction of a motor vehicle workshop and dressmaking equipment in the facility. In Mohotetu VTC, a workshop and a toilet block are under construction while in Sipili VTC there is also a new workshop. Marmanet VTC is now training in electrical, motor vehicle, dressmaking, hairdressing, carpentry and masonry skills. In addition it will have a Lather machine G to G.

In Wiyumiririe VTC the government has availed equipment for dressmaking, masonry, carpentry and also installed hairdressing equipment.

The Ol-Moran has a new workshop and toilet block, carpentry and joinery, and masonry equipment with a provision and installation of hairdressing equipment in the facility. The government has equipped Rumuruti VTC with hairdressing and electrical machines. there is also a proposed workshop at Rumuruti Vocational Training Centre. Also, there is also a new workshop at Salama VTC. Tigithi VTC has been dealing in food processing equipment and has gone commercial through establishment of a bakery. The facility also has dressmaking and Hairdressing equipment. There is also provision and installation of electrical equipment and furniture. There is also a new dormitory at the facility. A total of 450 youth have been involved in the civil work programs in Nyahururu industrial zone, while over 800 youths have also benefited from the Kazi mtaani program in Maina village. Currently, 100 youths are engaged in the civil work program in Likii village Nanyuki. The aim is to equip the young people with skills in road making technology.

Ward	Bursary Amount	Beneficiaries
Salama	13,044,442	2580
Ol-Moran	8,733,354	1923
Githiga	9,690,846	2064
Marmanet	11,223,653	2,096
Rumuruti	9,075,000	1629
Igwamiti	13,044,442	2580
Sossian	9,670,188	1504
Mukogondo East	8,556,296	1,678
Mukogondo West	5,946,583	1,911
Segera	8,872,500	1,691
Ngobit	9,374,470	1,638
Umande	8,789,500	1,875
Tigithi	9,842,000	1,969
Nanyuki	10,009,923	1,924
Thingithu	10,009,923	1,924

# Commercializing *Rukuri*, the Traditional Meat Delicacy

By Nahashon Maina

Long before European came to colonize them, many African communities had their technology that ranged from tool-making, to medicine as well as food preservation.

Many communities had iron smiths who fashioned out tools and weapons such as spears, dagger and arrows.

Where did such indigenous technologies go? The County Government of Laikipia has been holding indigenous technology fairs in Rumuruti aiming to have some of them commercialized.

One man took the cue from the last Laikipia Indigenous technology fair held in December 2019 by commercializing a packed meat which is preserved using a traditional method as done by Gikuyu and several other communities.

In many cultures honey was used to preserve meat. This was known as *rukuri*. It is an indigenous technology which was effective in ensuring preserved meat could last for a very long time.

Among the Gikuyus, *rukuri* was delicacy preserved and packaged in aged honey that enabled it to remain the same way for a very long time even extending to years.

How does the honey work therefore? The honey preserves the meat by drawing out moisture. This traditional way of preserving meat out stages the modern refrigerators with longevity. But with preservatives and refrigerators, this valuable technology has been forgotten.

One man though remains attached and is using it to make a living. Eustace Muturi, a businessman sells honey and *rukuri* in Nanyuki town.

Muturi is a bee keeper with more than 100 beehives in a three-acre farm where he harvests honey both for sale and for preparing this traditional dish for his customers. The commerciali-



Eustace Muturi at his bee farm in Njogu-ini, Thingithu Ward

zation of this venture has enabled him to sustain his family. We sort to understand this *rukuri* better, and Mr. Muturi gave us an in-depth recipe to this old technology.

In order to make a good *rukuri*, ensure the meat is dry either by drying or roasting it.

This is because when honey comes into contact with water, it ferments to form alcohol. For meat preservation one does not need this, but for traditional Kikuyu brew “Muratina” well, it is very essential.

## Exhibited

Then boil the meat before dipping it into honey. Ensure that the honey is free from contamination. This can be confirmed by looking keenly for the thin layer that should be covering it.

“In early days, Kikuyu men had many cattle which meant large quantity of meat when slaughtered. They had to find a way of preserving that meat as they used to have other ways

of preserving other products such as maize. Since honey was in abundance, they used it,” adds Muturi.

He advises anybody wishing to use honey to preserve meat to make sure its from a reliable source.

Muturi exhibited *rukuri* at the indigenous technology fair organized by the government. The fair was organized with objective of job and wealth creation by tapping available indigenous technology.

The preparation of the *Rukuri* is part of the whole process of bee farming to Muturi. Having been a bee-keeper for 33 years, he prides himself in having extensive knowledge in the insects.

Here, he has planted indigenous trees to help in the pollination process as they need adequate flowering trees.

His work has enabled him to interact with other individuals interested in the business which he says will help to create employment among people.

“I have trained more than 120 people with expectation that they will go out, keep bees and create jobs for others,” Muturi says.

From over 100 beehives he produces about one tonne of honey per year making his business afloat. The father of three sees this sector as very lucrative but requires much patience to succeed.

## Greatest moment

When he got a chance to address HE President Uhuru Kenyatta during tree planting programme at Michinda Primary, Nyahururu in 2013.

“I was approached by Kenya Forest Service to represent farmers and explain to the president about bee keeping, a story of 30 years’ experience I was to tell it in two minutes,” he recalls. “After finishing the president was impressed and requested him to explain more on the same, it was a great moment.”



Governor Ndiritu Muriithi sharing a piece of *Rukuri* in Rumuruti during the Indigenous technologies fair 2019

## Laikipia Devolves NHIF Biometric Registration to Local Health Facilities

**L**aikipia has devolved biometric registration of NHIF members to 61 health facilities in the county.

This brings the service closer to the citizens as the government seeks to onboard more households to the NHIF medical insurance scheme for quicker realization of UHC.

According to Health Services Chief Officer Donald Mogoi, this is intended to ensure that each and every NHIF member to continue registering biometrically. It will also serve those willing to register as NHIF members.

A total of 38,340 principal beneficiaries had their biometric taken during the mass registration exercise which ended on March 26. The exercise also netted 14,611 county employees whose NHIF subscription by the government.

“We are in the process of installing biometric machines in 61 of our health facilities and eventually get to 84 of them, Dr. Mogoi said.

The shift to biometric registration follows a presidential directive. It is expected to enhance health service delivery to the Laikipians.

The NHIF is in the process of phasing out the physical membership cards by July, 2021 and replace them with the secure biometric. This will go a long way in ensuring that on genuine beneficiaries of the programme continue



to benefit.

Previously, NHIF members have been required to carry with them their physical insurance cards and present them before receiving medical care. In case it gets lost, an NHIF member would be required to go through long process to be served in a medical facility.

Once a person has been registered biometrically, finger prints will be used to identify a

beneficiary and their dependents.

“It will enhance accountability as it will be easier to identify that the patient coming to us is actually the member who contribute or a dependent of the contributor,” Dr. Mogoi said.

The county government will also ensure that most of the citizens are insured with NHIF in order to simplify the access to medical care whenever they fell ill. It will also boost the government efforts of attaining Universal Health Care for the residents.

## Nyandarua’s Turn to Learn from Laikipia on Growing Own Revenue



**I**t was the turn of Nyandarua County to come to Laikipia to benchmark on growing own source revenue. The county joins an increasing number of counties visiting Laikipia to learn the best practices in revenue collection.

A team led by Mr Joseph Kihiko met with Laikipia County Revenue Board team to learn effective revenue collection.

LCRB targets to collect Kshs 1 billion this year and by the end of the third quarter it had hit Ksh.585 million which is the highest to be col-

lected within a similar period of the past years.

Governor Ndiritu Muriithi while welcoming the Nyandarua emphasized on the need to first understand the needs and financial situation of the public in order to have mutual cooperation with taxpayers. This will improve the efficiency of the team in revenue collection.

“We normally hold monthly meetings to discuss the progress of revenue collection which has brought outstanding results in the sector,” Governor Muriithi said pointing out that the input of each department in achieving the revenue target is critical.

LCRB is developing strong collaborations, enhancing efficiency in tax administration and developing easier, user friendly and simple service provisions to taxpayers.

“We are impressed by the strategies that Laikipia has put in place and we will return to Nyandarua with new knowledge that will enable our county to surpass its set revenue target,” said Mr Peter Githinji, a member of the Nyandarua Revenue Taskforce.

## Guest Page



By Mwai wa Kihu

On April 19, 2018, I passed through Nanyuki Town. I was coming from further north, on my way to Nairobi. It was not a normal drive past Nanyuki. I had to re-visit a small restaurant there called Nyakio with a lot of nostalgia. It was the second time in 50 years and 33 days.

Thirty three days before this second visit, I had celebrated the Golden Jubilee of an event I have remained proud of. I discovered the town (and that restaurant) on March 17, 1968.

Why don't I start the story from the beginning? In 1968, I was a form two student at Kagumo School (school number 2575). One Saturday, March 16, 1968, during evening prep, I was reading, *Son of a Woman*, a hilarious novel by one Charles Mang'ua.

I was on this chapter where he was describing his escapades in Majengo area of Nanyuki town. In those days, all the place names you read in a book were principally European and American. Nanyuki was in Kenya. So, I asked aloud who had been to Nanyuki. I had not been beyond Kiganjo myself.

Most of my classmates laughed at me and my ignorance and lack of travel experience. One of the classmates, called Mathenge Gathuku (nickname **Kalikaka**, school number 2554) who hailed from Ragati near Karatina was not happy.

He told me, "Muru wa Kihu, I will not let these people laugh at you ever again on account of you not knowing where Nanyuki is. It is a walking distance from here and tomorrow, being and 'Leave-out' Sunday, I will take you there if you want".

More laughter, now because they thought Mathenge was just joking. Nanyuki is exactly 50 kilometers from Kagumo. They could not imagine that it can be anybody's walking distance. I was ready to go.



Nanyuki's Majengo area still retains some of the ancient swahili-style structures. The town is growing at a phenomenal rate and now boasts of the tallest building in Mt Kenya building and modern malls. Below is Cedar Mall at night

## How a 50-km Trek to Nanyuki Turned Kagumo Boys into Celebrities

It was nearly 9 pm but another Mathenge (**Sharubu**), the school's head cook, was still in the kitchen. We went and asked him whether we can have our breakfast unusually early the following morning because we had a mission to accomplish. After describing the mission, he said, "Come any time from 5.30 am. You'll meet me here."

We were there at 5.30 am the following day for two cups of tea and a 'ka-mighty' (popular loaf-end toast) each. He gave us a few slices each to eat during "break time" as we trekked. Just before 6 am, we hit the road (railway really) behind the school's bush, where we used to watch Kipchoge Keino practice for Olympics. (Later that year, on October 20, Kipchoge beat Jim Ryan of New Zealand and all others in the 1500 meters Olympic final in Mexico. President Jomo Kenyatta promoted him to Sergeant to compliment the gold medal).

We chose to follow the railway line since it had a lower slope to climb than the road. The morn-

ing started chilly but the weather improved as the trek progressed. Soon after 9 am we passed Naru Moru, still walking very briskly and enjoying morning sunshine and the magnificence of Mt. Kenya. I had always enjoyed viewing the mountain whether from Karatina, where I was born and bred, or from Kagumo. But this was something else. I had never been this close and Mt. Kenya had never been this beautiful.

By 11 am, we were having a well-deserved cup of tea and mandazi in Nyakio Restaurant. Mission accomplished!! Mathenge told me, "Since we still have a lot of energy left in us, let me show you where the 3<sup>rd</sup> KAR army barracks is". We went back to Nyakio for lunch and then toured the town, giving Majengo a special concentration.

At about 3 pm we boarded a bus for Kiganjo. After walking the last three kilometers from Kiganjo to the school, we were in time for the 6 pm roll call. By then, virtually the whole school knew that there were some two crazy boys who had set off in the morning to walk to Nanyuki. We were already heroes before we returned to school.

We were received the way the Kagumo football team would be received after winning an away match in another top 10 high school. It was like we had just climbed Mt. Everest.

We spent the rest of the term enjoying the limelight, continuously lecturing the other boys on the geographical features on the route none had travelled – on foot.

I hope 'Kalikaka' gets to read this recollection of the day we impressed ourselves. He should know that I am forever grateful to him and get in touch with me for a golden jubilee celebration of the event.

Mr Kihu is an investment and management consultant



# Governor's Day Out to Meet With Citizens, Inspect Development



## Assembly to Vet Governor's Nominees

The County Assembly of Laikipia will this week vet officers nominated by Governor Ndiritu Muriithi in the recent changes in his government. The exercise will take place on 26th and 27th April 2021. Among those to be vetted are CEC nominees and chief officers who have been holding the office in acting capacity. Once vetted and approved by the County Assembly, the nominees will be appointed and occupy the respective new offices. The Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources will have a new CECM Mr Peter Matunge who has been a nominated MCA. Engineer June Kawira Opot is the new chief officer awaiting approval from the county assembly, replacing Mr Evans Kamau moves to the Executive office of the Governor as a Senior Advisor.

In Agriculture where Njenga Kahiro has been acting as the CECM, the CECM will be Ms Wangari Wachira who has the chair of Laikipia County Revenue Board. Dr. Lucy Murugi is now Senior Advisors in the Executive Office of the Governor. Dr. Joseph Lenai moves to County Administration while Ms Rose Maitai moves to Health. Ms Winnie Mwangi who has been the assistant director of Laikipia Innovation Development Programme (LIDP) becomes a chief officer in charge of Innovation and Enterprise Development. Mr Ikinya Muriu Matindi will be the Chief Officer, County Administration & Public Service. Mr Paul Njenga Waweru who has been the acting chief officer Finance and Economic Planning is expected to hold the substantive position. Director Jemimah Kairuthi Mburugu, has been nominated to be the Chief Officer, Department

of Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development after acting as the Co for a while. Dorcas Chelang'at Korir awaits to be confirmed as the Chief Officer, Department of Lands, Physical Planning and Housing after working in acting capacity in the same position. The Governor nominated Eng. Duncan Mwangi Muturi to be the Chief Officer, Department of Roads and Public Works to replace Kenneth Karanja who went to Kiambu to become a substantive chief officer. Mr. Karanja left the County Government of Laikipia while in an acting capacity as a chief Officer. When approved, Emily Kioko will become the Chief Officer in the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. Laikipia County Revenue Board will be led by Alice Kimemia as the following the appointment of Wangari Wachira as the CECM in the department of Agriculture.