

Laikipia County

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER *Report*



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Drafting of GIS Based Spatial Plan

The County Government of Laikipia through the Department of Infrastructure, Land, Housing and Urban Development in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) through its Digital Land Governance Programme, recently undertook...

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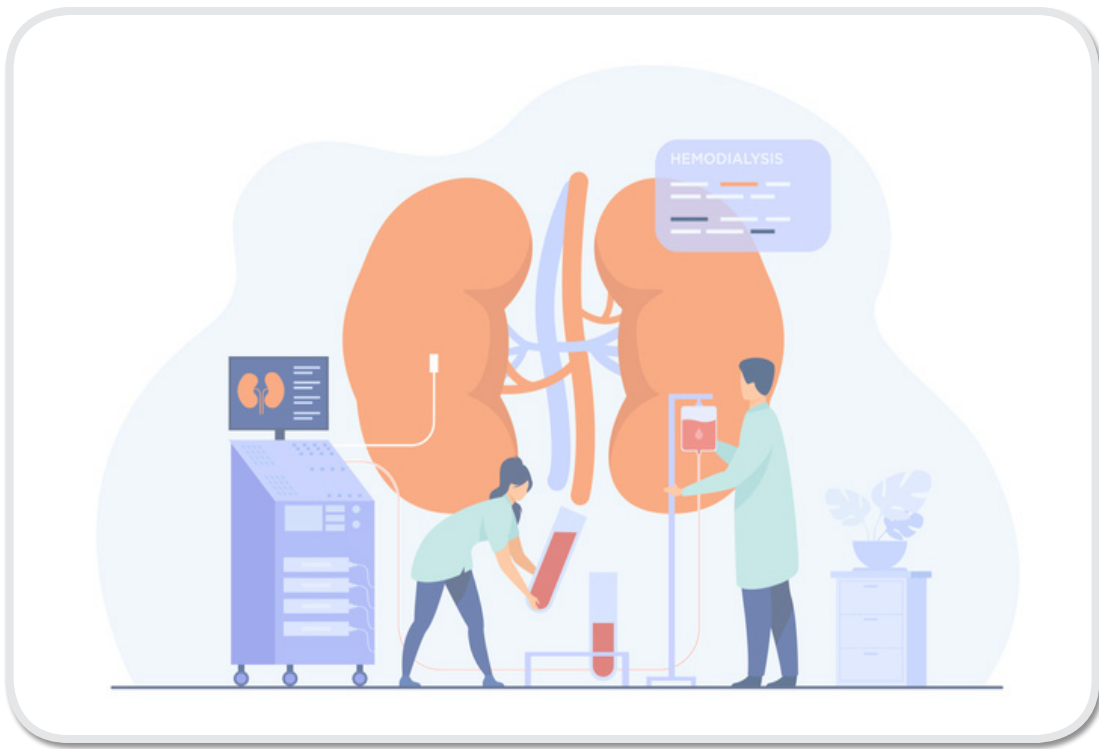
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NCRH RENAL UNIT

NYAHURURU COUNTY REFERRAL HOSPITAL - NCRH

Just to remind you



DIALYSIS CLINICS
MONDAY, TUESDAY,
THURSDAY & FRIDAY

1st Sessions 6AM - 10AM
2nd Session 11 AM - 3 PM



Nyahururu County Referral Hospital Gets an Outpatient Face Lift



Nyahururu County Referral Hospital has expanded the out-patient's waiting bay which comes with several advantages to the customers visiting the facility.

The outpatient department mainly services all walk-in patients and accounts for the largest number of customers in the hospital. The

move was necessitated by the daily growing number of patients.

Expanding the outpatient waiting bay will allow accommodation of a larger number of patients at a given time. This translates into patient comfort ability and safety and consequently enhancing patient satisfaction, reduces anxiety, and increases the likelihood of on-time appointments.

The area is strategically placed where the customer care personnel are able to identify critical cases and send them to casualty area.

In the new extension there will be a mini-laboratory where samples of the patients will be taken from and the clinical officers will be submitting them to the main laboratory for testing. This will reduce congestion in the main laboratory.

Also, registration process will be made easier and clear to avoid confusion to the customers visiting for the first time. Patients using NHIF cards will also have a designated area.

The ample space created in the extension area will improve the hygiene level through prevention of transmission of communicable diseases.

The county government is increasing the number of clinical officers from three to five which will increase the number of patients who can be attended to in a day. This will in turn save on time spent in the hospital by patients.

Report&Images: Esther Muthoni

The Drafting of GIS Based Spatial Plan (2023-2033) at Ward Level

The County Government of Laikipia through the Department of Infrastructure, Land, Housing and Urban Development in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) through its Digital Land Governance Programme, recently undertook a week-long public participation to engage members across Laikipia County on matters County Spatial Plan.

The Department embraced the mashinani engagement model by directly engaging the common wananchi at village level through the Mashinani Development Committees (MDCs). The purpose of these meetings was to present the Draft County Spatial Plan (CSP) and address crucial development priorities and strategies for development with all the stakeholders as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya.

Preparation of the County Spatial Plan is a statutory requirement by the County Governments Act, 2012, Urban Areas and Cities Act and the Physical and Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019.



Public participation - Laikipia East



Public participation - Laikipia North



The County Spatial Plan is a 10-year plan that serves as a visionary development blueprint for Laikipia County, encompassing sustainable land use, human settlement patterns, infrastructure and service delivery, natural resource management, environmental conservation, urban geography, and social development, while considering the needs of the residents.

Key areas to be addressed by the plan include: Planning, survey and titling of market/urban centres and informal settlements, Digitalization and digitization of land processes, Development Control, sustainable development through identification of people responsive projects, value addition and revenue collection.

Spatial planning is a joint responsibility of both the national and county governments with the primary spatial plan being the National Spatial Plan. Hence, collaboration is essential to develop a harmonized and comprehensive framework that effectively addresses the county's unique needs and challenges.

Upon finalization of the GIS Based County Spatial Plan and incorporation of comments from all stakeholders, a notice of Completion will be gazetted calling for comments from members of the public for 60 days.

Thereafter the plan will be submitted by the CECM- Infrastructure, Land, Housing and Urban Development to the County assembly for final approval.

Report by June Yotor
Images by John Muriithi

The Drafting of GIS Based Spatial Plan



Public participation - Nyahururu



Public participation - Laikipia West



Understanding Spatial Plan, GIS, MDCs & Their Implication on County Development

Spatial – means SPACE and WHAT IS IN IT - what has occupied a geographic space.

It could be people, animals, forests, rivers, businesses, buildings, hospitals, crops.

The above is further classified:

Like, if its people, their gender, ethnicity, race, economic status, literacy levels, their profession, and their health data and their distribution in that shared SPACE.

If it is crop in that SPACE, which types of crop do people in that SPACE grow, which crop does well?

If it is forest, what type of forest, are they public, private or community?

If it is businesses, what kind of businesses, which sectors and industries do they belong? For instance tourism, hospitality, education, farming, manufacturing etc.

NOW; The County Government has the Constitutional mandate to ensure proper and sustainable land use management within its area of jurisdiction. The Government's physical and land use planning is cognisant of how all the **above** variables **RELATE** with each other, and how effectively each can inform the decision during land use planning and management, policy development, budgeting and by ex-

ension economic planning; coming up with land use proposals that will ensure proper and sustainable use of land as a scarce resource.

BUT, to completely call the process a **SPATIAL PLAN**, an enabler is injected to properly analyse the data of this particular SPACE. The enabler is called **GIS, Geographic Information System**. As a final product of the County Spatial Plan (CSP), a GIS based Land Information system is developed with detailed attributes of each sector as identified by the County Spatial Plan

This information in the County Spatial Plan can be in images, maps or spreadsheets, either uploaded from hard drives or taken from satellites, drones, or air balloons and fed into the GIS system.

GIS goes further in its storage of this information, it stores the location coordinates of all this information and avails analysed information for policy makers to be able to make informed decisions.

For instance Rumuruti Spatial Plan, Once completed:

If you will search hospitals in Rumuruti, you will get their exact location. Then, you will get total number of hospitals, their staff, their depart-

ments, their assets and their specific location, both in private and public. Further, unrelated, yet related, GIS will tell you the climate of that specific town. Also, it will tell you whether there is a forest nearby. You will also know, literacy levels of people in that area and their ethnicity, also the businesses they venture in. That way, you can get perfect analysis of Rumuruti area, the people, their economic ventures, how they are influenced by environment, and how environs implicates the health of residents.

Moreover, the GIS database will have information on accepted land uses for each zone within Rumuruti, guiding which developments will be done in which area. This will in turn minimize land use conflicts

Note: The County Spatial Plan is a people centred plan that embraced the bottom-up approach in planning by engaging the Mashinani Development Committees, MDCs, across the 15 wards in Laikipia County. It was critical to train the MDCs –on GIS system and the CSP preparation process, because these are the grassroots physical planners, familiar with their SPACES, and therefore, guided by technical officials, can generate factual information that can be fed into the Laikipia County's GIS system.

By Kariuki Stevejackson



County First Lady Calls for Online Child Safeguarding



Laikipia County's First Lady, Her Excellency Grace Wakahora, has appealed for unified efforts to establish a secure digital environment for children, with the aim of shielding them from harm and exploitation.

In recognizing the transformative impact of the digital era on children's ability to exercise their rights, the First Lady has emphasized the urgent need for collective action.

"The lives of our precious children are now intricately intertwined with the digital landscape, which influences their ability to enjoy their rights, while also exposing

ing them to potential transgressions. Without adequate protective measures in place, children become highly vulnerable to online dangers," expressed the First Lady.

She was speaking during the commemoration of the International Day of the African Child at Man-guo Primary School in Igwamiti Ward on June 16, 2023.

This event, organized by Saint Martin CSA, provided a platform for stakeholders to assess the progress made and identify areas needing improvement in the pro-

tection of the children's rights and well-being.

Acknowledging the internet's invaluable role in facilitating children's fundamental rights and freedoms, such as access to education, freedom of expression, and the right to associate, the First Lady stressed that we cannot overlook its significance in the upbringing of children.

She called upon various stakeholders, including the government, private sector, parents/guardians/caregivers, and Civil Society Organizations, to actively promote and safeguard children's rights within the digital sphere.

The event was attended by Honorable Cynthia Muhoro, the Senior Resident Magistrate, Nyahururu Law Courts, Gladys Langat, the Sub County Children Officer, numerous Charitable Children Institutions, and various primary schools among others.

By Njoroge Thuku



Strengthening Laikipia-Meru Friendship & Solving Nanyuki-Meru Matatu Glitch



Governor Joshua Irungu, Governor Kawira Mwangaza and Transport Stakeholders

There will be three Matatu Saccos operating along Nanyuki-Meru from each end following an agreement reached during a public transport sector stakeholders meeting on June 22, 2023 at the county hall Nanyuki.

The meeting that brought together governors of both counties and stakeholders sort to counterbalance the number of saccos, between Laikipia and Meru, operating along the Nanyuki-Meru route thus quelling the long protracted route conflict between the operators in the both major towns.

During the meeting, the stakeholders tabled their grievances and put forward suggestions that would put an end to the rivalry.

“Transport in Meru cannot work

without Nanyuki, neither can Nanyuki work without Meru. Our people are one and they reside in both counties. We must therefore settle our differences so that we work and grow together,” Governor Irungu implored.

Meru Governor H.E Kawira Mwangaza, commended the coming together of the stakeholders saying that it is key to cementing the friendship of the two counties.

“We will work closely with the matatu operators from both counties not only to promote unity but also to encourage expansion of the public sector in both counties,” Governor Mwangaza said during the meeting.

Nanyuki Cabs Chairperson Mwaniki Gichere, while speaking to the media, said that addressing

the issues will promote unity in the sector.

“The stakeholders from Meru are our brothers. Implementation of the decision that we have reached today, will help us work together better than before,” he said.

It was also agreed that both the county governments and the stakeholders will hold follow up meetings to ensure that the decisions made during the meeting will be implemented and uprising concerns are addressed.

Likipia County Secretary Koinange Wahome and other Government Officials from Meru and Laikipia were also present at the meeting.

Report: Irene Warukira
Images: Kipkimei Rutto



HE. Governor Joshua Irungu welcoming HE. Governor Kawira Mwangaza in Laikipia county, at his Nanyuki offices



World Environment Day: Solutions to Plastic Pollution

On June 5, 2023, the County Government of Laikipia joined hands with NEMA, Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Wildlife Service, and other environment stakeholders in celebrating World Environment Day. This year's theme, "Solutions to Plastic Pollution," under the campaign dubbed BeatPlasticPollution called for collective responsibility in speeding up action towards reducing plastic waste in the environment.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of World Environment Day since it was initiated in 1973, and was marked at the Nanyuki Vocational Training Center.

The day commenced with an awareness procession that was flagged off by Laikipia Deputy Governor H.E. Reuben Kamuri, the chief guest for the day. The procession aimed at raising public awareness about the importance of taking precautionary measures to combat plastic pollution.

A clean-up activity in the Majengo area followed, with participants collecting solid waste disposed of in the vicinity. Interestingly, the area had minimal plastic waste thanks to the Department of Water, Environment, and Natural Resources that manages solid waste in the county



Image. Ann Ngunjiri

Environment Day: Laikipia's DG leads county & Nat' officials on a sensitization walk

as well as 'Chumeplasoles," a waste handling business that collects and sorts plastic waste.

The Deputy Governor highlighted the harmful effects of plastics in the environment, from causing pollution to threatening the quality of life. In this context, the D.G. emphasized the government's commitment to eradicate plastic waste through establishment of policies that will support an eco-friendly waste management system.

"Urgent action is needed to end plastic pollution, and as a result, we are exploring ways to protect our environment by prioritizing sustainable waste management practices and policies that will help conserve the environment for a sustainable future," said the D.G.

The CEC Water, Environment, and Natural Resources, Ms. Leah Njeri called for collective responsibility in accelerating robust solutions to plastic waste. On the same note, she proposed the need to adopt a circular economy approach that applies three fundamental principles of reducing, reusing and recycling to enhance solid waste management.

"With the circular economy, we can drive a plastic management system that focuses on moving the plastics in the value chain to promote renewability, durability, and reuse of plastic products, which will not only reduce environmental pressure but also boost our county's economic growth through creation of jobs," she noted.

By Ann Ngunjiri



Boda Boda Shed: Enabling Boda boda business



By Nahashon Maina



Yoghurt Production Venture For Women in Nkado Village



Women in Nkado village, Nanyuki ward have formed a group and beaten all odds to venture in yoghurt production for both commercial and household consumption.

The group developed interests in value addition of milk and reached out to the county livestock production officers to seek technical support to venture into this business.

They were taken through milk value addition trainings for Mala and Yoghurt production using homebased apparatus and locally available ingredients by the county officers led by Mary Isika, the Nanyuki ward livestock production officer,

“We thought it was a complicated process which needed a processing machine but we used the locally available materials to make the yoghurt,” Ann Macharia the group chairlady joyfully commented.

Raw milk sells at an average price of

Ksh. 60 per litre, but after value addition the Yoghurt fetches around Ksh. 180 per litre.

According to the Laikipia East Sub County Livestock Production officer Mr. John Mburu one can use milk, corn flour, and sugar, commercial yoghurt as a source of bacterial cultures for yoghurt inoculation and flavor essence and color.

The farmers were also trained on home based feeds, feed formulation ratios and fortification fodder production and feed conservation to increase their milk production.

Milk value addition for these women has helped in empowering them by enhancing their financial independence, decision-making abilities, and overall contribution to sustainable development.

The group aims at increasing milk production and having a brand for their yoghurt to help them become more commercial.



Report&Images: Mollin Wanjiru



Unveiling the Invisible: Shedding Light on infant Abandonment



Neema House Infant Rescue Centre, Nanyuki, an affiliate of Project 82 Kenya, takes care of abandoned kids in the area when there are no family members to do so. It has a capacity of 30 kids of below two years. They also run a program to care for at-risk expectant mothers. Our Assistant Director of Public Communications Njoroge Thuku spoke with Issa Wawire and Vera Gitonga who are social workers at the facility who shed some light on what goes on while caring for the abandoned kids.

Tell us more about Project 82 Kenya

Project 82 Kenya is a group of Christians from Kenya and the United States working together with a common heart for orphans and vulnerable children. It deals with rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of at-risk children.

How many programs do you run?

Two. In fant rescue center and Tulee Mwana.

Infant rescue centre deals with rescuing children below two years old from Nanyuki and surrounding towns referred by Government officers specifically the children office.

Tulee mwana works with at-risk expectant women to ensure that they live healthy lives. The aim is to reduce infant abandonment issues,

abortions and child neglect by empowering the women with medical assistance/information as well as livelihood support. Tulee Mwana is our preventive intervention for child abandonment.

How is the situation of Child rights in Laikipia?

Children still face significant challenges such as abandonment, neglect, violence, abuse, exploitation, and harmful cultural practices. Among the pressing issues in our county, infant abandonment remains a crisis. We advocate for better practices in our communities and providing services to alleviate these challenges.

In your opinion what is the major cause of infant abandonment?

It can be attributed to poverty, lim-

ited access to health care, cultural beliefs, and societal pressures. Teenage pregnancy, fueled by limited education and awareness, often places young mothers in overwhelming circumstances.

What can be done to remedy this?

In the event that a child has been abandoned, such children could be referred to the sub-county children office who then refers such cases to Charitable Children Institutions case in point, Neema House for care and protection. We also advocate for kinship where relatives of the abandoned child continue to take care of the child. We believe that when we work together, we can reimagine the future of our children together.

By Njoroge Thuku



Sensitization of Ward Committees: to Oversee Climate Change Actions

The Department of Water, Environment, and Natural Resources, through the Climate Change Unit, has embarked on a training program for Ward Climate Change Planning Committees (WCCPC). The step has been made as the county awaits the disbursement of the Climate Change Resilience Investment Grant under the Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) program.

The FLLoCA program is focusing on channeling funds and decision-making power to communities to ensure that support for climate resilience reaches the most vulnerable and marginalized groups. Training of the ward planning committee members, who are community representatives, is thus required to leverage their capacity to actively participate in planning, implementing, and monitoring climate change actions in their respective wards.

The climate change unit held the first training workshop, with the support of the LISTEN project, from June 13th to 16th, 2023, in Rumuruti, where the ward planning committee members from Salama and Rumuruti wards were



sensitized on their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Laikipia Climate Change Act, 2021.

The committees were also enlightened on basic concepts of climate change, existing policy and legal frameworks, project cycles, and proposal writing, as well as the county climate change action plan, which will guide community resilience investment priorities.

The County Director of Climate Change, Mr. John Letai, noted that the training will empower the committees in ensuring active community participation, and guaranteeing climate change resilience funds trickle down to build the communities' capacity to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

“This training will not only strengthen the committees' skills and knowledge in overseeing climate change action but will also foster a sense of ownership, com-

mitment, and accountability during the projects' implementation stage, leading to sustainable outcomes,” Mr. Letai said.

The training took place after the successful completion of Participatory Climate Risk Assessment exercises that involved communities in identifying climate risks and vulnerabilities as well as investment areas for climate resilience at the county and ward levels.

This exercise informed the development of the Participatory Climate Risk Assessment report and County Climate Action Plan, which were validated by communities, stakeholders, and the cabinet and later signed by H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH as documents that represent the capacity needs of Laikipia County.

Report&Images By Ann Ngunjiri



Laikipia Joins Forces to Save Ewaso Nyiro River



The County Government of Laikipia has committed to save the Ewaso Nyiro River following a three-day campaign dubbed 'The Journey of Water' that saw more than 200 participants trek for 25 kilometers along the Timau, Nanyuki, and Isiolo rivers- major tributaries of the Ewaso Nyiro River- to raise awareness on issues affecting water sources.

The campaign, which was organized by the World Wide Fund (WWF- Kenya) in collaboration with Department of Water Laikipia County, commenced on June 6, 2023 at the source of River Timau.

At this point, the water is glassy

and has high volumes, as the river winds through the bends of the rocks and the dense forest vegetation. However, the story changes as the river flows downstream to human settlements.

Human activities such as illegal obstruction of water for irrigation, excessive use of agrochemicals, pollution, encroachment on riparian land and deforestation are lowering the quantity and quality of water, threatening the livelihoods of communities and that of aquatic and wildlife downstream.

The participants made stop-overs along the way to sensitize communities on the urgent need to adopt sustainable water management practices and conserve water from the catchments to taps.

The World Wide Fund - Kenya Rift Lakes program manager, Dr. William Ojwang, called for concerted efforts to protect and restore Ewaso

Nyiro Basin, which is now on the verge of drying up.

"It's time we amplify our voices to protect Ewaso Nyiro Basin ecosystems that support the lives of millions of people and wildlife that depend on it," Dr. Ojwang' noted.

"This walk is a step-up effort to engage stakeholders from diverse sectors, including local communities, government agencies, civil societies, and NGOs, in dialogues that will create a shared understanding of challenges and develop long-lasting solutions related to water management and conservation," he added.

Water, Environment, and Natural Resources CEC, Ms. Leah Njeri, reaffirmed the County Government's commitment to expediting conservation efforts by building local capacity to protect water resources in the county.

"Issues of water affect us all, and as a county, we are going to focus our energies and resources on saving the Nanyuki River and other water sources to promote water security in a sustainable way," she said.

Report&Images By Ann Ngunjiri

Step by Step to World-Class Hospital Care: Kaizen Comes to NTRH

Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital has adopted the 'Kaizen' approach to raise service quality and improve service provision throughout the hospital.

'Kaizen' is a management philosophy predicated on continuous quality improvement, in pursuit of higher productivity and improved quality of services for patients. It derives from the Japanese words 'Kai' standing for continuous, and 'Zen' meaning improvements.

As the Quality Assurance lead Nurse Spelonza Wahome explains, Kaizen was initially created by the Japanese Firm Toyota, as a mechanism to continuously improve productivity levels, while lowering costs and reducing wastage in their manufacturing processes. It emphasizes on incremental but continuous progress centered on the five S (Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain). The hospital management incorporates a six 'S' of safety.

The effects of the mindset are already manifesting across various service points in both the inpatient and outpatient sections.

The nurse explains that departments are better sorting and la-



belonging their resources, and decluttering their workspaces. This has led to faster processing of patients, as they pass through the various service points, reduction of waste and a better working environment for the staff.

Another example of the effects of Kaizen is within the wards. A second round of cleaning, following patient visiting hours in the afternoons, is now standardized across all the wards in the hospital.

Staff are sensitized to properly dispose of different types of waste, in line with infection prevention training carried out within the facility, better sorting and labelling of broken equipment to declutter the workspace.

This training targeted the support staff, as professional staff had already been exposed to infection prevention in their training.

Report&Image: Andrew Maina



Inter County Farmers' Field Day to Promote Climate Smart Agriculture

The Laikipia Isiolo Samburu Transforming the Environment through Nexus (LISTEN) Project in collaboration with the County Department of Agriculture held an inter-county farmers' field day at Nanyuki

Green Stadium in Laikipia East on 30th May 2023.

The training exercise that was officially opened by H.E Deputy Governor Reuben Kamuri provided a learning opportunity geared towards transferring knowledge and skills to the farmers drawn from the farmer groups that are being supported through the project in Laikipia, Isiolo and Samburu counties.

LISTEN is a project that seeks to contribute to increased food, nutrition, and water security in arid and semi-arid counties in Kenya.

The field day brought together around 600 farmers from the three counties with approximately 40 exhibitors showcasing on different Climate Smart agriculture technologies and techniques as well as inputs.

During the forum farmers exchanged ideas and shared their experiences on the best practices



done to increase production in their farms. They also highlighted the challenges they have faced during the dry season citing that practicing climate smart agriculture helped them produce enough for their families.

The DG highlighted the importance of supporting farmers and expressed the government's commitment in supporting climate smart agriculture. He also pledged his support to the partners in order to deliver on the promise of improving the livelihood of the farmers in Laikipia.

LISTEN project has been supporting and working with farmers in Rumuruti, Salama, Segerera and Mukogodo East wards with an aim of contributing to increased food, nutrition and water security in the County. The project has been promoting climate smart agriculture targeting crops and livestock sectors.

The CECM Agriculture Dennis

Kasoo described the field day as an opportunity for the farmers to learn from each other to be able to practice climate smart agriculture and implement sustainable farming practices in the county.

In attendance were the Chief Officer Crops and Irrigation Elizabeth Mwangi, Chief Officer Livestock and Fisheries Mary Gichuru, LISTEN Project team led by Stephen Gichuki and other officials from Laikipia, Isiolo and Samburu counties.

Report&Image: Mollin Wanjiru



CoPaD: Bringing the Conversation of Peace to Mukogodo



The County Government of Laikipia, on the 13th of June, organised a 'peace conversation' meeting for pastoralist communities, living in Laikipia North, at Ewaso in Mukogodo West Ward.

The forum, facilitated by Cooperation for Peace and Development (CoPaD), brought together peace actors including the National Government, County Government and Non-Governmental Organizations that deal with peace interventions, and the local community leadership.

The CoPaD Director Alfred Lengingiro emphasized the importance of peaceful coexistence among people of different ethnic communities in Laikipia County and even the neighbouring communities.

"Our businesses, education, fam-

Our businesses, education, families, region and county will only thrive in a peaceful environment

ilies, region and county will only thrive in a peaceful environment," Lengingiro observed.

Lengingiro reiterated the commitment of H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, to work collaboratively with the National Government in supporting peace initiatives in the County.

Laikipia's Executive and Legislative arms intend to work together to ensure Laikipia and adjacent neighbour communities from the CoPaD bloc have peace entrenched

through proper policy formulation and legislation.

The area MCA, Hon. Nicholas Lempaira, who was present in the meeting, promised to lead the efforts on the floor of the County Assembly to support peace while ensuring projects that complement and support peace are implemented to their conclusive successful end.

CoPaD counties include Laikipia, Samburu, Baringo and Isiolo counties, while the implementing partners include: Northern Rangelands Trust, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, the International Council for Research in Agroforestry, E4Impact Foundation and Community Safety Initiative with funding from the European Union in Kenya.

By Njoroge Thuku



Tigithi Ward Farmers' Field Day

On 9th June 2023 Laikipia County Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries organized a field day in Male village, Tigithi ward, Laikipia East Sub-County in partnership with the Cereal Growers Association to help farmers in peer learning as well as practical utilization of various farming skills.

The Cereal Growers Association is a national non-profit organization comprising member-based farmers that focuses on fostering collective action among commercial cereal farmers. Through collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (DALF), they aim to enhance agricultural production by promoting the adoption of climate-smart technologies.

Over the past four years, the Cereal Growers Association, in partnership with the Department, has been conducting trials on mulching strategies and other conservation agriculture technologies demonstrations in Umande, Tigithi, and Ngobit Wards. The ward agricultural officers have also provided training to farmer groups, empowering them to practice conservation agriculture on their individual farms.

The event took place at Anne Waweru's farm, who is a dedicated

champion of small-scale Conservation Agriculture (CA).

Farmers had an opportunity to explore and evaluate various crop varieties, their characteristics, yield potential under different treatments, and the viability of drought-tolerant and disease-resistant crops. These insights enabled farmers to make informed decisions in their own farms.

Around 250 farmers, stakeholders, and students from Lechugu Secondary School and Malek Girls Secondary School participated in the field day. They gained exposure to a wide range of climate-smart agricultural practices, including organic farming, kitchen gardening, water harvesting, orchard management, conservation agriculture for pigeon peas, beans, sorghum, and potatoes, conservation agriculture tools, poultry management, and biogas technology.

The Sub-County Agricultural Officer for Laikipia East Mr. Joseph Waigwa, urged farmers to embrace the technologies they learned during the field day to achieve sustainable farming through climate-smart methods. He also encouraged farmers to actively engage with



and seek technical support from extension officers to acquire knowledge about proper farming practices.

The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries has effectively utilized farmer field schools and field day events to provide extension support services and reach out to more farmers throughout the county.

By Mollin Wanjiru



Isiolo Benchmarks on Revenue Collection Best Practices in Laikipia County



Revenue board CEO Elijah Kamunya paid host to delegates from Isiolo County who were on benchmarking tour of Laikipia’s revenue board, its structures and secrets of its success in revenue collection.

Welcomed by Koinange Wahome, the County Secretary for the two day-tour, Laikipia was able to share insights on the transformative policies the board has undertaken including expanding tax base, filling in revenue leakages and applying technology in streamlining revenue activities.

The visiting Isiolo team also visited various revenue collection points including Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital to learn more on the day to day revenue collection operations.

Laikipia County Revenue Board has continued to register impressive results in revenue collection and successfully recovering from post-election lug.

“My team is a dedicated team and result-oriented,” the CEO praised his team adding that it requires stringent target follow-up and proper application of technology if

revenue goals are to be realised.

“Here in Laikipia we did not score fairly on our first and second quarters compared to same quarters last financial year, but on our third quarter, our hardwork paid off. In our third quarter of FY2022/2023 we collected Ksh. 343,279,239 compared to the FY2021/2022 whereby a collection of Ksh. 250,410,266 had been collected same period.” The CEO recounted.

Kamunya encouraged the visiting team that same is possible in Isiolo, while also acknowledging that his team too learnt immensely from

their Isiolo revenue counterparts.



Report by
Kariuki
Stevejackson
Imgaes:
Keziah Kirerah



Laikipia County Staff Meeting: Nanyuki - Governor's Compound



HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, convened his first staff meeting on June 14, 2023.

The meeting for Laikipia East and Laikipia North staff was held at Governor's compound, Nanyuki offices.

Governor Irungu Irungu in his

mailed speech to staff committed to ensuring all staff are motivated. "I do not want to hear people refer each other huyu ni wa Muriithi, na huyu ni wa Irungu. You are all my children and public servants." Governor Irungu reassured the public servants.



Laikipia County Staff Meeting: Rumuruti - County Headquarter

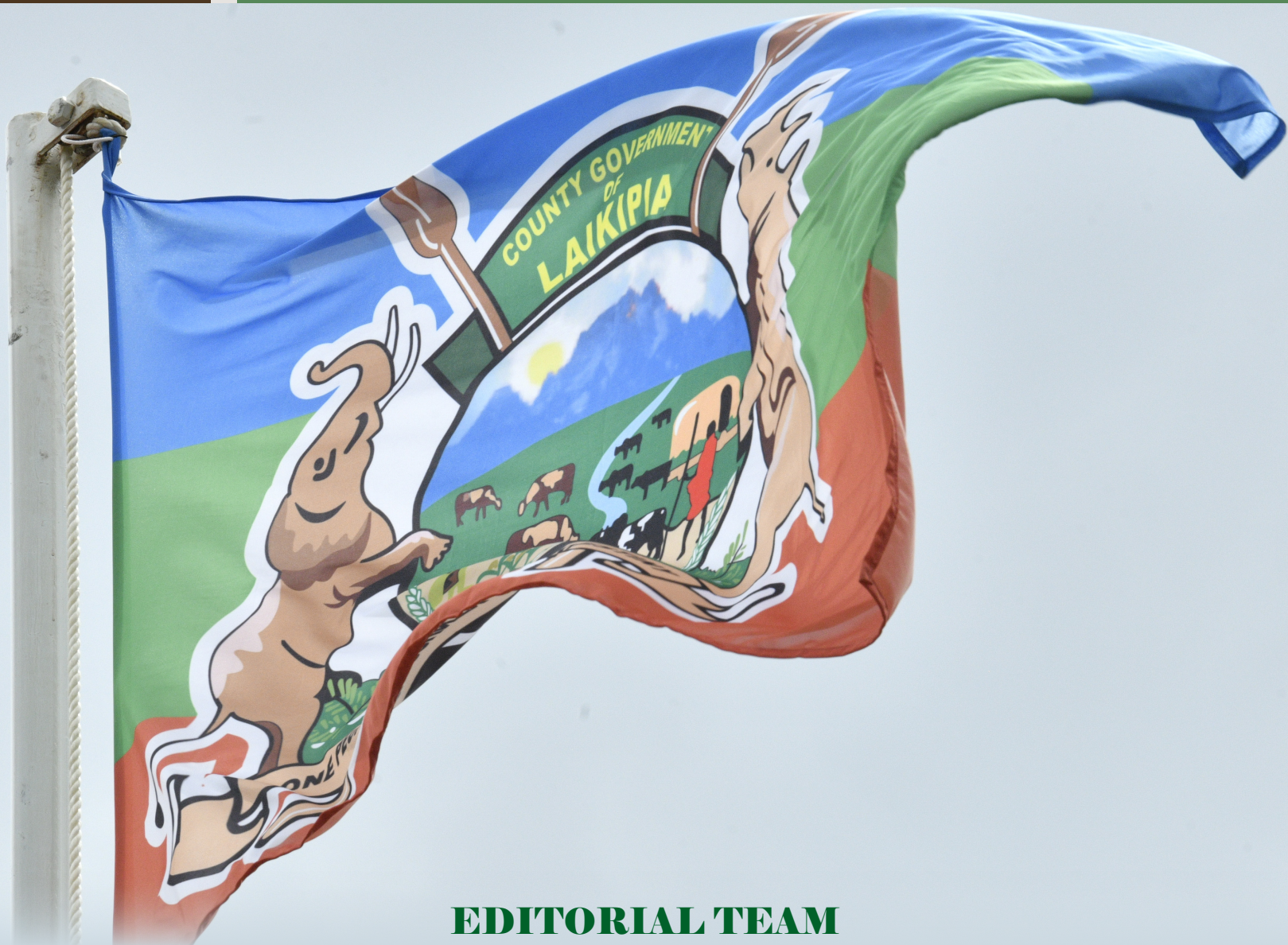


HE. Deputy Governor Reuben Kamuri echoed Governor's message stating that Government will utilize its human in delivering its manifesto to Laikipia residents.

County Secretary and head of public service Koinange Wahome

promised to align the public service into a more efficient and effective service geared towards results; actualization of Governor's manifesto. Laikipia West staff meeting was held on Friday, same week, June 16, 2023 at County Headquarter grounds, Rumuruti (Images by Kipkimeiri Rutto: Report by Kariuki Stevejackson)





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