

Laikipia

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER *Report*



GOVERNMENT OF LAIKIPIA
LAIKIPIA HEALTH SERVICE
Rabal Dispensary was officially
opened and commissioned by:
H.E JOSHUA IRUNGU EGH
GOVERNOR LAIKIPIA COUNTY
ON
20TH APRIL, 2023



Our Main Story

The 6.9 Billion FY2023/2024

Laikipia Budget

“It will be a 6.99 billion shillings budget, financed from Equitable Share of 5.2 billion; from our Own Source Revenue (OSR) that we have projected to collect KSH. 1.4 billion, and from grants which are in excess of 200 million shillings,” Finance CO, Daniel Ngumi, expounds...

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- KCSAP 30M CHEQUE
- FIXING ROADS, ONE BY ONE
- THE TOURISM COUNTY, 031





Dear Stakeholders,

We are pleased to inform you that you can get all our Revenue Services at Huduma centre Nanyuki branch.

Kwa maelezo zaidi tafadhali wasiliana nasi kupitia 0757701850 ama tuma barua pepe kwa

lcrb@laikipia.go.ke

[#Tulipeushurutujengelaikipiapamoja](#)

[#twawajibikanaushuru](#)





28/04/2023

Quick Revenue Update

Let's compare FY2021/2022 & FY2022/2023

	FY2021/2022	FY2022/2023
QUARTER 1	Kshs.183.5M	Kshs. 128.4M
QUARTER 2	Kshs. 203.1M	Kshs. 192.8M
QUARTER 3	Kshs. 250.3M	Kshs. 349.6M
TOTAL	Kshs.636.9M	Kshs.670.8M

2022 being an electioneering year, we started slow pace, but we gained momentum, and we are doing better than last year, same quarter. My TEAM HAICHESS NA KAZI.

How Laikipia Revenue Collection is Fairing

To answer why 3rd quarter we have very clear improvement, I'll say this

Our improvement in the 3rd quarter can be attributed to several factors to a very dedicated revenue collection team, unwavering support from his Excellency Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, revamping of the stalled revenue automation process, concerted efforts of implementing the Finance Act strictly and continuous monitoring and evaluation.

Best 2 departments that have so far performed well?

The on-going revenue automation process was able to comprehensively cover Single Business Permits under structured revenues. This has ensured that issuance of

permits is fully Web based and we were able to roll out Ofisi Mashinani where permits were issued locally at all trading centres and towns in the County. This was the best performing stream at 77% of target with collections of Kshs. 83.1M against an annual target of Kshs. 108M.

Investments in the Health Sector has paid off, we have had significant improvement in Revenue from our Health facilities with performance to date standing at 56% of the annual target of KSH. 582M. Strict adherence to the Finance Act was a key driver in the impressive performance

Elijah Kamunya,

Chief Executive Officer, Laikipia Revenue Board.



The KSH. 6.9 Billion FY2023/2024 Laikipia Budget



On 12th of April 2023 to 14th of April, County Government of Laikipia through Department of Finance and Economic Planning conducted a three-day public participation to discuss budget estimates - of the financial year, 2023/2024.

According to Daniel Ngumi, Chief Officer in charge of Finance, the upcoming FY2023/2024 budget is the largest ever Laikipia County Government has ever made.

“It will be a 6.99 billion shillings budget financed from the Equitable Share of 5.2 billion; from our Own Source Revenue (OSR) that we have projected to collect KSH. 1.4 billion, and from grants which are in excess of 200 million shilling,” CO Ngumi expounds.

For such a huge budget, no doubt, the public participation was vigorous and intense.

“We conducted 62 meetings in all 15 wards. For convenience, we clustered villages in a way all citizens could attend.” Director Public Participation, James Mathenge, explains.

“Our Governor, HE. Joshua Irungu

It will be a 6.99 billion shillings budget, financed from equitable share of 5.2 billion. We project to collect 1.4 billion in our FY2023/24 Own Source Revenue, OSR, and grants are in excess of 200 million shillings

EGH is categorical on the development model his administration has adopted, ‘Mashinani Development Model.’ In this development approach, all villages will be allocated some money, equally, and through village committee elected by wananchi, they themselves shall decide which project they want done in their specific village,” Ngumi attempts to explain the new Sheriff’s unique development model.

Further, government is committed to honouring debt, but, the audited



Public participation at Ol Moran

and verifiable - pending bills. In the FY2023/2024 budget, a whopping 420 million is dedicated to paying pending bills.

“This is a responsible government. Paying our suppliers and contractors is a duty, and also means circulation of money in our county’s economy. *Sababu* those companies have employed our brothers and sisters, and Governor wishes to see private businesses thrive” CO Ngumi oils the conversation, forward.

“Department of Health came closely second after Single Business Permit Stream. With the investments in the Health Sector, we have had significant improvement in Revenue from our Health facilities with performance to date standing at 56% of the annual target of 582 million shillings,” CEO Laikipia Revenue Board, Elijah Kamunya, sheds more light to the conversation.

In Governor Joshua Irungu’s manifesto, Agriculture stands equally tall, up there with Health, appreciating that the sector is the largest employer and economics’ spine.

“And for that reason, KSH. 61 million has been allocated to agriculture, purely for development. Recurrent has been allocated KSH. 21 million. Not to mention the department has conditional grants to the tune of 110 million. This is the biggest funding the department has ever gotten,” CO Ngumi charges.



Public participation at Mouwarak, Sossian

After Wananchi gave their suggestions, non-state actors including NGOs and Civil Societies too, the FY2023/2024 Budget Estimates document proceeds to the Cabinet for adoption. Then, tabled at County Assembly for approval, which they will revert it back to cabinet, with or without amendments.

“By June 30th, we will be having the first ever budget for this administration. Then, all system will ignite, to roll,” Ngumi ends, seemingly excited about the challenging task in his department, yet so fulfilling.

It has indeed been a long journey that started with the making of Laikipia County’s County Integrated Development Plan, CIDP. We proceeded to the Annual Development Plan, ADP, to setting the departmental ceilings in County Fiscal Strategy Paper, CFSP. Now the Budget Estimates stage is done. This journey could not have been more intriguing, Mwananchi’s enthusiasm for change and development was demonstrated in all public participations, and Government can only live up to those hopes and determination, of its people.

By Kariuki Stevjackson

Images Compiled by Sadia Sorah



Public participation at Ngenia market



Public participation at Village 3 in Solio



Beyond Zero Truck Driving Health Equity to the Marginalized

Though the ‘Beyond Zero’ truck is a familiar sight for many Laikipia residents, some are not aware of the crucial work that the staff, led by Nurse Beatrice Maina, are undertaking.

The truck is on a day-to-day outreach mission, providing vital healthcare services among others; screening for breast and prostate cancers in the remotest parts of the county. The staff also conduct nutritional assessments, offer family planning services, offer preventive and promotive health assessments, as well as a wide range of curative services, all of which are provided at no cost.

“We target the marginalized communities where the distance between them and the nearest health facility is quite large,” explains Nurse Betty.

In situations where the team is unable to offer immediate medical care, they establish connections between the residents and the nearest health facility that can handle these cases.

Scores of patients have received vital medical interventions as a result of outreaches, such as the one that took place on March 17, 2023 in Ngoisu-su, Ol Moran ward. At this outreach,



IMAGES: Beyond Zero Team

100 locals received medical interventions, with 20 being diagnosed with severe malnutrition and 16 with moderate malnutrition.

“I would like to see the continuity of the Beyond Zero’s efforts to reach more communities and address issues like malnutrition. I believe in the value of revisiting past accomplishments and ensuring that communities follow through on healthcare instructions for their own benefit,” Nurse Betty said.

The national government first established the ‘Beyond Zero’ campaign to provide maternal healthcare access to expectant women in marginalized areas. The County Government of Laikipia has since prioritized this sector and integrated the ‘Beyond Zero’ truck into the ‘Afya Mashinani’ initiative through Laikipia Health Service. Thus, complementing the county government’s efforts to achieve its healthcare goals.

By Andrew Maina



Dignity to Traders: Every Hustle, Matters



IMAGES: Nahashon Maina

Department of Trade intends to ensure that shoe shiners operate in clean, safe and organized stations they can proudly call,

“MY WORK PLACE!”

The County Government of Laikipia, through the Department of Trade, Tourism and Co-operative Development, has set up shoe shine sheds in Nanyuki town to offer traders the much-needed, decent and favorable working environment.

The sheds, two located opposite Emess Hotel and one at Nanyuki main stage, have provided traders with a decent place of work, saved them from the scorching sun when it is sunny, and from rains when the skies open.

“We are extremely thankful. For a long time, we have endured tough moments when the sun is hot and we always abandoned our work when it starts to rain,” said Paul Kariuki, a shoe shiner at Nanyuki main stage.

“I want to appreciate the county gov-

ernment for remembering us. Our time has finally come and our work has been honoured, *Nii ingiuga thengiu kuri Ngavana nikuonania wira witu ni ahute gitio*, I can only say thank you to Governor Irung’or giving our work respect,” Samuel Kamau, another shoe shiner operating opposite Emess Hotel said.

The Department of Trade is working towards uplifting small traders and ensure them too, operate in clean, safe and organized stations they can proudly call, “MY WORK PLACE!”

“The County Government is committed to improving the working conditions of both formal and informal sectors. Every hustle matters, so we are setting up shoe shine sheds across the county to ensure shoe shiners work in dignified workplaces,” Department Chief Officer Samuel Mahiga noted.

Plans are underway to also set up sheds in Nyahururu town and others in Rumuruti town.

By Nahashon Maina



Fighting the Flooding Menace in Laikipia

The County Government of Laikipia has continued grading and gravelling roads in various wards across the county. New roads are coming up while old roads are also being repaired to ensure Laikipia residents are able to run their businesses

smoothly, especially during this rainy season. To manage floods in towns, shopping centres and in the villages, the department of infrastructure has further installed culverts to drain water off the roads and around urban areas. Some of these works include:

Ward	Number of Culverts	Location
Ngobit Ward	6	Marina-Ngoshei
	6	Plot Poa-Makutano
	12	Segeza Primary Road.
Segeza	12	Primary School to Elkarama
	6	Kariunga-Tumbili
	6	Ngarin'iro centre
Thingithu	12	Njoguini-Makanisani road-Tracker Post
	14	PCEA-Mirera Road
	12	Ruai Road
Nanyuki	6	Githaiga Ngari and Kariuki roads
	12	Maina Plumber road
	18	Mama Mbugua Road
	13	Mukuri Bridge-Muthamina Road
Umande	12	Bethel-Kirimara Road
	14	Chania-mama Kinya road
Mukogondo East	21	Ngarindare to Sang'a
Tigithi	98	Various roads across the ward



Culverts installation - L.West

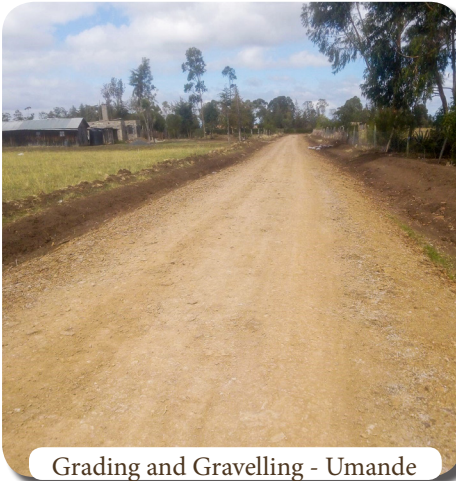
Various Roads Under Construction

Ensuring people get to work, market and schools

Compiled By John Muriithi



Ndurumo-Kabage Rd - Rumuruti



Grading and Graveling - Umande

Grading and Graveling - Umande

Ireru Islamic Road - Segera



Culvert installation - L. West

Culvert installation in Tigithi Ward



Restored Lusoi Hill Ecosystem: Solio Residents Reap Big from the Restored Forest



IMAGE: Ann Ngunjiri

The journey to rehabilitate the forest and return it to its original glory commenced in the year 2013, through a restoration initiative pioneered by SACDEP-Kenya (Sustainable Agriculture Community Development Programme).

Residents of Solio are currently reaping immense resources from the restored Lusoi Hill forest, which spans 259.5 hectares on the border of Laikipia and Nyeri counties. The communities are enjoying streams of fresh water, fresh air, and rich pasture for their animals, among other benefits from the forest's ecosystem.

This has not always been the case, as the forest once suffered from

deforestation, leaving the hill desolate and devoid of resources. The degradation was caused by population pressure, which resulted in encroachment and tree cutting, destroying the forest ecosystem. The situation was dire that it threatened human and wildlife survival - wild animals migrated as the communities received relief food.

The journey to rehabilitate the forest and return it to its original glo-

ry commenced in the year 2013, through a restoration initiative pioneered by SACDEP-Kenya (Sustainable Agriculture Community Development Programme).

In support of this initiative, the county government of Laikipia through the department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources joined hands with SACDEP and other key strategic partners such as KFS - Kenya Forest Service and





IMAGE COURTESY: SACDEP-Kenya FB

CFA – Community Forest Association.

An essential first step was the sensitization of the community on the need to conserve the forest. Then followed the installation of a seven-kilometre solar-powered electric fence around the hill to keep off trespassers and animals from accessing the forest during the long-term intensive planting and growing of trees. So far, over 100,000 tree seedlings have been planted, and the vegetation has now grown to a height of two meters.

During the launch of the Lusoi Hill 5-year Participatory Forest Management Plan, on April 18, 2023, Mr. Joseph Mutura, Executive Director of SACDEP-Kenya, stated that the ambitious action to restore the forest has yielded fruits ten years later.

“Solio rainfall patterns have improved, wildlife is returning, and groundwater is now recharging, as evident in four boreholes, six water pans, and springs adjacent to the

Solio rainfall patterns have improved, wildlife is returning, and groundwater is now recharging, as evident in four boreholes that had dried

forest,” Mr. Mutura noted.

The local communities have also reported a decline in the number of livestock deaths to near-zero during the drought seasons since the forest now serves as a reservoir for water and animal feed.

“The successful rehabilitation of Lusoi Hill Forest serves as an inspira-

tion to put more efforts into restoring forests, which will subsequently pay back by providing diverse resources and suitable environments for both humans and wildlife sustainability,” says Mr. David King’ori, the County Director of Environment and Natural Resources.

By Ann Ngunjiri



IMAGE: Ann Ngunjiri

Launch of the Lusoi Hill 5-year Participatory Forest Management Plan





Saving The Only Lake In Central Kenya, Lake Ol Bolossat



On 15th April, 2023, Laikipia Deputy Governor HE. Reuben Kamuri joined His Excellency the Deputy President Hon. Rigathi Gachagua in the neighboring county of Nyandarua in a tree planting exercise - at an intervention meant to save the fast rescinding Lake Ol Bolossat.

Lake Ol Bolossat is a natural resource whose threat directly weighs into Laikipia County's economy especially Nyahururu town. The lake has greatly been affected by harsh dry climatic conditions.

Nyahururu is hometown to Thompson Falls, one of the highest waterfall in Kenya, and a key Laikipia County's tourists attraction site that attracted over 124,000 tourists, local and foreign, last year. The waterfall's sources its falling river from Lake Ol Bolossat and hence its great importance to Laikipia.

Lake Ol Bolossat is the source of River Ewaso Ng'iro, an important landmark in Nyahururu, in Igwamiti ward.

Threat of the lake drying therefore becomes a Laikipia's serious concern. Other than Thompson Falls, River Ewaso Ng'iro is source of water to most residents and wildlife in Laikipia, passing through lower Laikipia West, Laikipia North, joining Samburu and Isiolo Counties, and diving into ground in Wajir County to surface in Somalia where it joins Jubba River and drains in Indian oceans.

Deputy Governor Kamuri was hosted by Nyandarua County Governor HE. Dr. Moses Kiarie Badilisha, joining other national and county leaders at Ol bolossat Secondary in Nyandarua County

Once vibrant Lake Ol Bolossat: IMAGES: Courtesy: Nyandarua county





IMAGE:Kipkimei Rutto

Over 30 Million Worth Cheque For Farmers

Farmers' Field School is an innovative, cost-effective way where extension officers teach farmers from one farm, test best crop varieties, learn about pesticide control, disease control, ask questions, like a typical classroom, then farmers can replicate that in their individual farms.

On April 4 2023, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH presented Ksh.30,240,000 cheque to representatives of Community Driven Development Committee, CDDC, under the, KCSAP project.

Six farmers' groups from the six Kenya Climate Smart Program (KCSAP) benefitted. They come from; Segera, Tigithi, Ol Moran, Ngobit, Salama and Rumuruti.

The handing over of the cheque was done in the presence the Deputy Governor H.E. Reuben Kamuri, County Assembly Speaker Hon. Lantano Nabaala, County Secretary Koinange Wahome, CECM Agriculture Dennis Kasoo, among oth-

er honourable members of County Assembly and other government officials.

KCSAP is implementing smart agricultural micro programs whose design expected outcome is to increase productivity and create resilience at household level.

By use of Farmers' Field Schools model, the KCSAP program using the agriculture extension officers from the Department of Agriculture, brings together farmers from the targeted six semi-arid wards into a common, knowledge sharing platform.

At this point, the farmers are trained as a group on application of Technol-

ogy, Innovation and Management (TIMs), in their farming activities, on modern, smart agriculture. These efforts are geared towards changing how farmers have been taking agriculture as a norm, to transiting into agribusiness that guarantees food security.

The farmers are expected to prudently invest these resources as they had outlined in their project proposal during application.

The County Government of Laikipia is committed to continue empowering farmers holistically across the county, until farming becomes viable to every willing and committed person.

By John Muriithi



New 300 Oxygen Cylinders at NTRH

Expanding Capacities for Quality Healthcare



IMAGE: David Serem

NTRH has received over 305 oxygen cylinders to match up the growing demand in the hospital.

The 305 cylinders, over half of which were filled with oxygen during delivery, came in various sizes for use at different service points such as theatre, ambulance and for backup.

This is part of a 121 million shillings Medical Oxygen Support Project to Laikipia County through partnership with the National Government, the Global Fund and AMREF Kenya - as part of the national wide oxygen support program.

NTRH is one of the four hospitals benefiting from this project, having ranked high in oxygen consumption at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore necessitating the need for upping the readiness even

further.

This project provides for cylinder refills and distribution to neighboring facilities from the main storage unit at NTRH. It also extends to piping systems to link the storage unit to the points of care. The storage unit is at advance stage of completion.

This investment marks a critical juncture, coming at a time the hospital is on an ambitious expansion

These healthcare development interventions are purposed to improve healthcare in Laikipia, and in making NTRH a premier hospital in Kenya

that is expected to drive up oxygen consumption. A planned expansion of a theatre and operating tables from the current three to at least seven will push up the demand for oxygen.

All these healthcare development interventions are purposed to improve healthcare in Laikipia, and in making NTRH a premier hospital in the greater Mt. Kenya region, and beyond.

By David Serem



Automating Co-operatives' Operations in Laikipia



Department of Trade, Tourism and Co-operative Development, through directorate of Co-operative Development and Marketing is helping to link Co-operative societies in Laikipia to Co-operative Management Information System operated by Co-operative Development Information Centre (CODIC).

Several Co-operatives in Laikipia East and Laikipia West are already linked to the system and are utilizing it in their day-to-day operations.

CODIC is a National Co-operative Organization that offers mobile banking solution and computer systems to Co-operatives, and it is exclusively owned by co-operative movement through buying of shares.

The application of management information system will automate operations of the co-operative societies and enable them to monitor their activities. Some of the functions to

be automated include; loans application and its disbursement, savings account functionality, shares/deposits, and financial accounting and reporting.

“The system has been tested, it is efficient, user friendly, and cost-effective,” Director of Co-operatives, Rosemary Ngugi notes.

The system is designed to generate

real-time financial statements and performance reports that will assist co-operative management in decision making when planning, monitoring, and implementing strategies.

For ease of operation, other systems such as mobile banking, ATM's and agency banking system can be integrated with management information system in one platform to enhance and optimize productivity of co-operatives.

According to the director, the expectation is that the system will solve some challenges experienced in the management of societies such as overdue annual reports. Co-operatives that are linked to the management information system will use it to generate timely reports for members, regulators, and auditors.

By Nahashon Maina

Functions to be automated include; loans application and its disbursement, savings account functionality, shares/deposits, and financial accounting and reporting.



IMAGES: Nahashon Maina



Laikipia, KEVEVAPI Partners in Disease Control



The exercise will culminate by holding practical vaccination demonstration in Sosian ward on 4th May 2023

The Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries in partnership with the Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute (KEVEVAPI) has trained county veterinary officers and private veterinary practitioners in Laikipia on vaccine handling and correct vaccination process to avoid vaccines failure.

“We have heard the cry of many farmers who complain that vaccines and treatment nowadays are not effective. As a department, our focus is to ensure farmers are well equipped with the knowledge on vaccines, and that our officers offer the services needed effectively in controlling livestock diseases in the county,” Mary Gichuru, Chief Officer explained.

In response to this cry, Department of Livestock has deployed a team of veterinary officers from the department and KEVEVAPI, now holding sensitization meetings for farmers in different wards to cover issues of different livestock diseases and disease control via vaccination.

The nine-day sensitization meetings started on 18th April and ended 29th. The animal health officials

covered Umände, Tigithi, Mukogodo West, Mukogodo East, Nyahuru-ruru Rumuruti, Kinamba and Sosian wards with over 150 farmers in every meeting.

The Department has procured dewormers and antibiotics for approximately 300,000 sheep and goats. The Antibiotics have been used to treat animals that were acutely affected by the adverse drought.

“So that our animals’ health is guaranteed. And, when our farmers keep animals, they can confidently plan that their animals will get to the market, and in perfect health. We facilitate agri-business and make it profitable and worth the toil. It is a holistic approach to agriculture,” CO Livestock emphasized.

The exercise will culminate by holding practical vaccination demonstration in Sosian ward on 4th May 2023. KEVEVAPI has donated 4,000 doses of sheep and goats’ pox vaccines and 1,500 doses of Lumpy Skin disease (LSD) to be administered on that day.

By Mollin Wanjiru



Building Climate Resilience at Grassroot Level



IMAGES: Ann Ngunjiri

As part of the response to climate change, the county government of Laikipia, through the department of Water, Environment, and Natural Resources, has adopted and is implementing locally-led climate adaptation approach, as stipulated in the County Climate Change Act 2021, to scale up climate resilience at the grassroots level.

is needed to effect change.

This intervention is supported by the World Bank, through the National Treasury's program dubbed Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA), to promote sustainable climate-related initiatives such as water conservation, natural resources management, and rehabilitation of degraded lands, among others.

A total of 153,000 tree seedlings have been procured and distributed countywide for growing during this rainy season

The locally-led climate adaptation approach 'bottom-up interventions' aims at creating awareness and developing the right mechanisms to empower local communities in building resilience. This puts communities on the front lines of climate adaptation efforts, as they are more aware of the context and what

The FLLoCa program is being implemented through a Ward Climate Change Planning Committee comprised of 11 members with a balanced representation of youth, women, people living with disabilities, minority groups, community-based, and faith-based organizations. The ward administrator will

serve an ex-officio member to provide a link to county planning and development processes.

So far, five committees have been formed through a public participation exercise in five wards: Mukogondo East and West, Segera, Salama, and Rumuruti Ward. The exercise is ongoing to cover all 15 wards in the county.

Further, to this action, the Department of Water and Natural Resources has intensified tree planting exercises across the county, as trees are the most powerful weapon in the fight against climate change. Increased trees mean increased carbon capture, which will help reverse global warming.

A total of 153,000 tree seedlings have been procured and distributed countywide for planting during this rainy season. This is in line with the county's target of planting and growing 1 million trees per year as well as the national goal of increasing our forests from the current 12% to 30% by the year 2032.

By Ann Ngunjiri



Joy Greet Rabal Dispensary Launch: Laikipia's Sure Path to Health Equity



IMAGES: David Serem

Expansion to include maternity ward at Rabal is underway

At the northern fringes of Sosian Ward in Laikipia North, a new structure juts out to interrupt the outlines of the rolling plains of Reteti. This is the latest pride of this remote community, which is for the first time in history welcoming health services at the doorstep.

Rabal Dispensary is the 92nd public health facility in Laikipia, a step that marks a renewed focus on health sector expansion in the County.

Rabal Dispensary has been completed courtesy of the renewed focus on the restoration of health services, in line with Governor Joshua Irungu's pledge under his manifesto.

At Reteti village, excitement was palpable on 20th April as HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, cut the ribbon to officially commission the newly completed health facility.

The celebration, more so from women, was a welcome break from long and costly travels to Kisima, some 30 kilometers away in Sam-

Rabal is the 92nd Dispensary in Laikipia

buru County. This investment is a welcome too for the neighboring Samburu County which has had to strain resources to accommodate populations from Laikipia.

“I can’t describe what this event means to me,” explained Leah Leturji, a resident. “For the longest time, we have had to endure risky journeys to distant health facilities in the event a mother has life-threatening complications,” she added.

Already, a resident nurse has been stationed, with ongoing staff deployment prioritizing on the staff familiar with local dialects to ease the language barrier. Expansion to include maternity ward is also underway.

Magdalene Leleur, another resident, says the investment could not be timelier, owing to the fact that the only time the community have access to healthcare is from occasional health outreaches.

Health CEC, Albert Taiti said Rabal Dispensary’s completion is just but a start of an all out focus on community health, with a piloting program on the same being headquartered in Kimanjo Sub-County Hospital, also in Laikipia North.

By David Serem



IMAGES: David Serem



Laikipia Participates in the 8th Edition of KYISA Games In Tharaka Nithi County



I can promise you, scouting, developing, and supporting talent is among the development interventions that Governor Joshua Irungu is keen at – Sport CO, Jecinta Koree

The 8th edition of the Kenya Youths Inter-County Sports Association games were officially opened by Sports and Youth Affairs CS Ababu Namwamba and Tharaka Nithi County Governor H.E Muthomi Njuki at Kirubia Stadium in Tharaka Nithi County.

County Government of Laikipia was represented by a diverse and gallant team in both Volleyball Men and Ladies.

It is sure a new dawn for Laikipia talents as County through Department of Sports rejuvenates talents and county teams being assured that they will never miss on national sports.

“We will continue nurturing and marketing talent in line with our Governor’s manifesto whose emphasis is grassroot development. I can promise you, scouting, developing, and supporting talent is among the development interventions that Governor Joshua Irungu is keen

on,” Jecinta Koree, Chief Officer in charge is Sport explains.

These efforts are aligned with national government’s Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), by putting more emphasis on sports as a source of livelihood.

The Ag CECEM in charge of Sports Stephen Kisorio, Chief Officer and Director sports were among top officials who joined other County officials from other 47 counties at Tharaka Nithi County.

By Naphtaly Otieno



IMAGES: Naphtaly Otieno



Addressing Agricultural Policy Gaps, in Laikipia

Dennis Kasoo, CECM Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries earlier this month convened a workshop to discuss policy issues in the agricultural sector as well as brief the MCAs on the work plan, projects and programs in the department.

The workshop brought together the Agriculture Committee of the County Assembly of Laikipia led by the Speaker Hon. Lantano Nabaala, the Committee’s Vice Chair Hon. Amina Leila Hussein, Chief Officer Agriculture and Irrigation Elizabeth Mwangi and the Chief Officer Livestock and Fisheries, Mary Gichuru.

The meeting sought to bring members of the County Assembly up to speed on the status, needs, and gaps of policies, bills and regulations in agricultural sector owing to Assembly’s pivotal role in legislation.

“Laikipia lacks sufficient policies and bills in the agricultural sector. Most of the policies that are used at the county level are National bills. There is no adequate legal framework to guide agricultural extension, livestock marketing, slaughter houses, irrigation, agricultural subsidies, grants and food safety,” the CECM noted.



IMAGE: By Mollin Wanjiru

Laikipia lacks sufficient policies and bills in the agricultural sector. Most of the policies that are used at the county level are National bills, and we intend to fix this

Among the various priority policies/plans/regulations discussed included:

- Laikipia County Rangeland Management Policy
- Laikipia County irrigation policy
- Laikipia food & feed safety policy
- Laikipia County Agriculture & Livestock Extension services policy
- CASSCOM Regulations

The County Assembly members pledged their support for the policies that will be beneficial to the farmers and in the budgeting process. They will also help in aligning the policies with the governor’s manifesto.

By Mollin Wanjiru



Kimmanjo Sub-County Hospital Transformation From Human Resource, to Infrastructure

Residents of Laikipia North are some of the biggest beneficiaries of the ongoing health restoration projects in the county, with some of the biggest upgrades concentrated in Kimanjo Sub county Hospital.

Expanded Human Resource Base

11 Nurses

Eleven more nurses have been deployed at Kimanjo hospital, bringing the total number of nurses to sixteen

Clinical Officers:

Three more clinical officers have been deployed, in addition to the two the hospital previously had.

Biomedical Engineer

For longest time, the hospital has never had a biomedical engineer. Now the engineer is already making good progress in resolving technical hitches with the medical equipment.

Medical Officer

Extra one medical officer has been added, giving the inpatient an extra hand in management of patients.

First ever Family Physician

Dr. Alfred Mosiany, the consultant physician, is expected to bring med-



“In medicine, we say that a tired worker is a dangerous worker. An exhausted caregiver may miss on the fine details of care and this may negatively affect decision making. This addition is a huge reprieve to our medical officers who would graciously extend working time to cater for their patients.” Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. James Muchiri explains.

ical consultancy nearer home, cutting the lengthy travels to Nanyuki.

Infrastructure upgrade and expansion

The hospital is undergoing rapid service expansions in readiness to host Laikipia Afya Mashinani Program (LAMP), an integrated primary healthcare program headed by Dr. Mosiany.

Expenditure

Expanding of client base has informed the raising of the limit on supplies expenditure from 800 thousand shillings to over 1.1 million shillings to meet the demand.

Power Fixing

The facility’s dependency on solar power will be complemented by connection to the national grid, currently ongoing.

Water Fixing

A water desalination project is expected to end the inconvenience of saline borehole water. The corrosive nature of the saline water shortens the lifespan of medical equipment, in addition to costly maintenance and replacement of clogged pipes.

Dental Unit

A dental unit is also fast coming up to address the

By David Serem



Laikipia Entrepreneurs Ride on Innovation to Spur Economic Growth

Laikipia is experiencing mushrooming of entrepreneurs who are banking on innovation as key drivers of business models to meet the demands of consumers and spur the local economy by creating jobs.

Young entrepreneurs are deploying newfound innovations to accelerate business growth and applying those

ideas and technologies to improve their operations - making their production more efficient.

The aim of the government is to make such innovative businesses more productive and profitable so that they can invest, expand, and even hire more employees. The support of the county government is in terms of market linkages, intellectu-

al properties right registration, link to strategic partners and business planning development.:

The businesses pictured below and many others demonstrate Laikipia's ingenuity, industry, and innovative spirit that the County Government can only support to enable them blossom to maturity.

By Nahashon Maina



IMAGES: Kariuki Stevejackson



GOVERNOR'S CUP

Top Three

Ward Final Teams

Segeera Ward

- 1. Segeera FC
- 2. Ol pejeta FC
- 3. Rahal FC

Mukogodo East

- 1. Manyagalo FC
- 2. Mia Moja FC
- 3. Redmark FC

Sosian Ward

- 1. Digital FC
- 2. Sosian boys FC
- 3. Poster FC

Nanyuki Ward

- 1. Gatimba
- 2. AMG Sportiff
- 3. Blackstars

Thingithu Ward

- 1. Thunderbirds
- 2. Nanyuki youth
- 3. LYSA

Mukogodo West

- 1. Tumaini FC
- 2. Mighty Warriors FC
- 3. Olapa FC

Umande Ward

- 1. Bluventus
- 2. Ndemu Stima
- 3. White hawks



GOVERNOR'S CUP

Top 3 Ward Final Teams



Githiga Ward

- 1. Githiga FC
- 2. Kamwenje
- 3. Munanda

Igwamiti Ward

- 1. Aspire Bazuu FC
- 2. Blue Tigers FC
- 3. Kauka FC

Ngobit Ward

- 1. Bridge
- 2. Marina
- 3. Withare

Tigithi Ward

- 1. Alaskan
- 2. Chuma
- 3. Kiahuko

Salama Ward

- 1. 8-Stars FC
- 2. Pesi FC
- 3. D.Warriors

Marmanet Ward

- 1. Elganador FC
- 2. Rangers FC
- 3. Melwa FC

Olmoran Ward

- 1. Sipili Allstars FC
- 2. Miharate FC
- 3. Kijito FC

Rumuruti Ward

- 1. Kapkures FC
- 2. Credible FC
- 3. Majimengi FC

Report and images compiled by Naphtaly Otieno
Image impressions by Kariuki Stevejackson





Why Laikipia Is Becoming a Preferred Tourism Destination

Laikipia

County is emerging as a leading destination for safari and wildlife tourism and the County Government of Laikipia has been striving to create an enabling environment for a sustainable tourism industry.

Data from the Directorate of Tourism shows that the number of hotels has tripled from 36 to 108 from 2020 to 2023, in a span of four years with a bed capacity of 2317 as tourists flock to the county for get-away trips.

Laikipia is home to the second largest elephant population in Kenya with about 7,347 elephants. Home to the only Grizzly bear in Africa. Home to the last remaining northern white rhino in the world and home to nearly half of the population of black rhinos in Kenya

Thompson Falls, Nyahururu, for instance, had 124,000 visitors in the last year.

For the longest time, Laikipia has been unexplored by many Kenyans not knowing the hidden gems in Laikipia, a land of vast ranches, wildlife sceneries with countless natural attractions and cultural diversity.

“And we do not want to only depend on international tourists, we are encouraging mostly local tourists,” Paul Kimiri, the Director of Tourism notes. “Laikipia is also home to the black leopard (black panther) and the only bear in Africa,” Kimiri explains.

Laikipia is today recognized as one



IMAGES: Nahashon Maina





of the most diverse and sustainable tourism destinations in Africa.

According to a census conducted by Kenya Wildlife Service in 2016-17, the Laikipia plateau hosts the highest population of wildlife freely roaming in the rangelands covered with few trees, a marvel for the county.

Laikipia is home to endangered species such as rhinos roaming across a vast breathtaking conservation landscape that is a mosaic of private and communities-owned sanctuaries.

The county is home to the second largest elephant population in Kenya with about 7,347 elephants, the only Grizzly bear in Africa, the last

Tourism data shows that Thompson Falls, Nyahururu, last year had 124,000 visitors, local and foreign tourists. Hotels in Laikipia has tripled, from 36 to 108 from 2020 to 2023, a span of four years with overall a bed capacity of 2317 .

remaining northern white rhino in the world and home to nearly half of the population of black rhinos in Kenya.

Laikipia is no longer a transit route for tourists, today, it is one of the most sought-after safari destina-

tions. Plans are underway to revive and rehabilitate Kiromo Game Reserve by the county government to attract more tourists.

“We have invested heavily to market domestic tourism,” Alex Tunoi Marketing Manager Kenya Tourism Board (KTB) said. “We have launched a six months campaign titled, ‘You deserve a Holiday,’ as we want you to ‘Tembea Kenya’ and enjoy the destinations.”

Tunoi was speaking during KTB Laikipia County Edition on 25th March organized to engage hospitality operators in an interactive session to showcase the products and packages Laikipia has to offer.

By Nahashon Maina



IMAGES: Nahashon Maina





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