

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



# Laikipia County

Our Vision: An Inclusive County With Sustainable Quality of Life



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**President Ruto in Laikipia West where he commissioned a modernized KCC Factory**



## 834 Plots Set for Title Deeds

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## President Ruto's Development Tour in Laikipia County

### Affordable Housing Project, Roads, and Refurbished KCC

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# LAIKIPIA COUNTY AJIRY EMPOWERMENT CENTER



Music Production



Podcast



Computer  
Packages /  
Programming





### 834 Plots Cleared For Titles in Likii Village

A total of 834 plots have been cleared for Issuance of Allotment Letters to owners in Likii villages, Nanyuki ward.

This decision was reached after a long process of plot verification and endless land ownership disputes resolution meetings.

Lack of vital ownership documents have hindered development of land in Likii for decades because there cannot be permanent business structures or homes in a land that do not have title deeds or lease agreement documents.

Alive to this reality, County Government of Laikipia in collaboration with National Land Commission NLC have been working around the clock to ensure the issue is conclusively resolved.

During a stakeholders meeting presided over by Governor Joshua Irungu EGH on January 8, 2024 at Likii centre, it was resolved ownership pending disputes of 344 plots will be addressed to ensure the affected residents also get their allotment letters and eventually title deeds.

Already, there is a Dispute Resolving Committee in

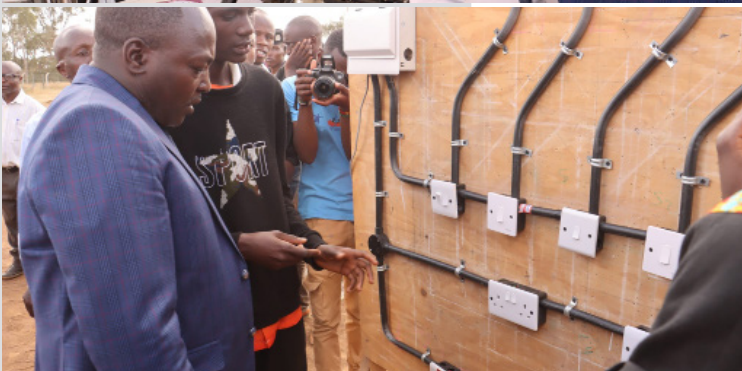


place to look into the various issues for the 344 cases. This committee, headed by CECM Infrastructure, Mr. Ekwam Nabos, comprises key officials including the CO Lands and Physical Planning, Mr. Kenneth Kibara, the County Physical Planner, the County Surveyor, the NLC Coordinator, the County Attorney, and Likii Village Representatives.

The ownership disputes revolve around verification of competing claims, deceased owners and their heirs, cases of double allocations, contested land claims, and incidents of plots not captured in the Survey Plan.

Article: John Muriithi and June Yator  
 Images: Nahashon Muhia

### Historic Graduation of 370 Technicians



Laikipia Governor, HE Joshua Irungu EGH, on January 30, 2024 presided over a historic graduation ceremony for 370 Grade Test technicians from 10 vocational training institutions ran by the county government.

It was the first time ever the institutions conducted a formal graduation ceremony to confer completion certificates to graduates who had successfully completed a two year program undertaking various Grade Test courses.

The colourful ceremony saw the governor personally present the completion certificates to the graduates donned in official graduation gowns in the presence of parents, family, friends and guests at the Rumuruti stadium as their names were called out one by one.

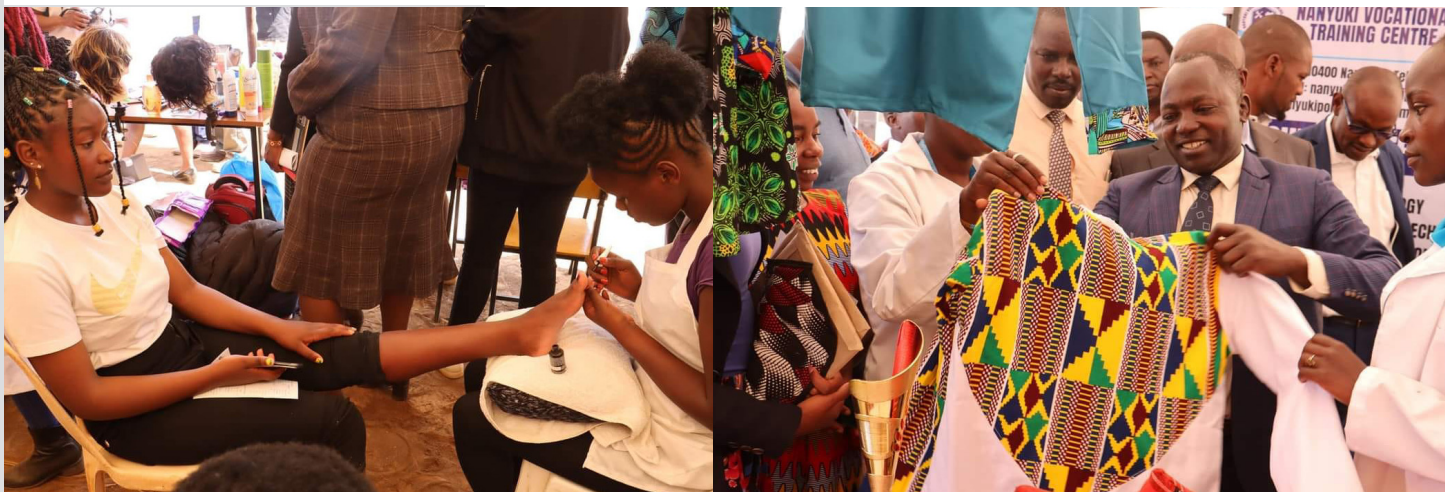
The governor said the formal graduation ceremony had been introduced to mark a new beginning of changing the negative perceptions about Vocational Training Centers offering technical industrial skills at Grade Test level were for academic low performers whose achievement in practical vocational training did not attract the pomp and glamour accorded to other levels of training.

He said he was impressed by various inspired innovative exhibitions on display by students undertaking various courses from motor vehicle diagnosis and repair, electrical, masonry, plumbing, garment, making, beauty, food and beverage making skills

“Indeed, I have directed the Department



### Improving Lives in Laikipia Through Technical Training



of Education to make this graduation a regular county government annual calendar event for our graduates to showcase their talents in innovation, creativity and enterprise. Those who demonstrate viable enterprising skills will benefit from the Laikipia Enterprise Development Fund to incubate their ideas to fully fledged businesses,” the county chief said.

The negative perceptions have been blamed for low enrolment into well-equipped VTCs with a combined admission capacity of about 2000 students less than 1000 students of the VTCs' capacity, despite the county government allocating a generous bursary of ksh 10,000 per student per year. In his address, the governor announced a new policy to extend bursary support to

students enrolled in VTCs run by churches.

During the graduation ceremony the governor also launched a two-year action research pilot program aimed at reversing negative cultural attitudes about Vocational Training Centers to make them produce skilled technicians who are equipped to meet labor market needs and expectations.

The pilot program conducted in Rumuruti and Nyahururu VTCs is a collaborative initiative between the county government, St Martin CSA and Comundo development agencies.

When successful, the findings from the two-year pilot phase will be used to inform rolling out the revamped training program to all 10 VTCs in the county.

It involves equipping the two research institutions with modern training tools, machines and retraining instructors to align their teaching skills with the newly introduced Competence Based Training curriculum (CBET).

Researchers from Laikipia University have also been roped in to conduct analysis about skills needs in the labour market so as to inform training and curriculum planning to reflect market requirements.

The county government also signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to with St Martin CSA to provide a framework of continued collaboration in various spheres of service delivery to the people of Laikipia.

Article: Gakuu Mathenge  
Images: Nahashon Muhia

## Governor Irungu Meets NLC Chairperson



To cement efforts of streamlining land sector in Laikipia especially in urban centres, HE. Governor Joshua Irungu visited National Land Commission offices on January 23, 2024 where he was received by the Commission's chair, Mr Gershom Otachi.

The two leaders' discussions centred on resolving land ownership question once and for all in Laikipia, especially in informal settlements of major towns namely Maina Village in Nyahururu town and Likii village in Nanyuki town.

For the longest time these informal settlement have grappled with ownership tussles that have at times turned violently ugly making development of the said land unproductive – owners afraid that their property might be

destroyed in future in claim that the land is contested.

“My administration is also keen to expedite actions on the amalgamation of the Nyahururu market, Government Livestock Holding Grounds, Stock Routes and conclusion of the Rumuruti Spatial Plan,” Governor Irungu explained to NLC Chair.

Governor noted that urban centres that do not have proper and clear land ownership system discourages investments since investors depend on legal ownership documents to set up factories, industries

and companies.

The National Land Commission Chair Mr. Otachi promised the Governor that NLC will maintain the close collaboration his agency has with Laikipia noting that Laikipia is among few counties that have come out boldly to settle the sensitive land query.

The County Boss was accompanied by Laikipia County Assembly speaker Lantano Nabaala, CECM in charge of Roads, Public Works, Lands and Energy, among

Article: Kariuki Stevejackson  
Images: Jackline Mariga



### New ECDE Model for Laikipia County Children



The County Government of Laikipia has adopted a new modern Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) improvement model involving rolling out comprehensive facilities that cater for holistic needs of the little learners.

New features in the comprehensive ECDE designs include improved hygiene, sanitation, safety, comfort, dignity and security considerations for the children.

The new model under implementation involves modern learning spaces furnished with age-appropriate and child friendly furniture that come in beautiful multiple colors.

According to Chief Officer Mr. John Gichuki, the new modern facilities also will come in comprehensive designs comprising roof water harvesting guttering, 10,000-litre water storage

tanks, modern swings, ablution facilities and security perimeter fencing to ensure safety of kids and equipment.

“The modern facilities are a departure from traditional designs of just a classroom building and traditional desks that meant kids had to climb up and left their legs dangling for the whole time they are in class. We have introduced child friendly desks that come in four sets of age and size appropriate chairs that are comfortable to sit on,” he said.

Laikipia County boasts of some 443 government-run and 170 private-run ECDE centres.

The new desks are designed and made by Vocational Training Centres in Laikipia.

The County Government of Laikipia is continually rolling

out ECDE facilities to bring as many as close to each village and settlement areas as possible to ensure easy access by children.

Some 30 new centers are lined up for construction across the county in the coming two-three months.

The government is also considering tented mobile ECDE centers to cater for kids among pastoralist communities.

“However, the tented mobile ECDE units come with the requirements; the teachers have to be competent in local languages, be willing to live within the community and move with their pupils when the families have to relocate in search of pastures. These dynamics come with unique staffing challenges the government is thinking about,” Gichuki said.

Article: Mathenge Gakuu



## Hospital Board Members Induction Meeting



The recently appointed hospital board members for six Laikipia Health Service (LHS) hospitals have undergone a three-day induction workshop in Nyahururu from 29th to 31st, January 2024.

This workshop sought to provide the board members with information, tools and contacts required to make their roles effective and efficient as they serve the people of Laikipia.

The board members were drawn from six hospitals, namely; Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital (NTRH), Nyahururu County Referral Hospital (NCRH), Rumuruti Sub-County Hospital, Ndindika Subcounty Hospital, Doldol Sub-County Hospital, and Lamuria Sub-County Hospital

Individual boards got an opportunity to interact with their respective managements, understanding the status of the hospitals as presented by the respective managements, and with the management input set their most urgent priorities which becomes the initial agenda of the Boards.

While closing the three-day event, H. E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH described the training as a crucial necessity that will help various hospitals to utilize resources for maximum service delivery in the county.

“Training hospital boards charged with providing oversight and stewardship to our hospitals is a milestone towards prudent utilization of resources, culture of quality healthcare provision as well as quality training of

Human Resources for Health Services and infrastructural developments,” the County Head said.

Training of the hospitals’ board members aligns with the Governor’s commitment towards the realization of his vision of health and wellness, promoting a healthy working community in the county.

USAID Tujenge Jamii (UTJ) and USAID Uongozi wa Afya Thabiti (UAT) facilitated the this training.

Joining the Governor was Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri, CECM Health Mr. Albert Taiti, Chief Officer Health Dr. Timothy Panga, and other senior Government officials.

Article: Eether Muthoni  
Images: Kipkimei Rutto



## The Clean Energy Saving Jikos Initiative



On January 23, 2024, the County Government of Laikipia convened a follow up meeting with representatives from Department of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Energy to discuss and assess the progress of the distribution of improved energy-efficient cooking stoves that are set to benefit up to 2,000 households in the first phase across Laikipia County.

The meeting held in Nyahururu was led by the Chief Mr. Kenneth Kibara.

This distribution initiative is aimed at replacing the traditional use of firewood in rural homes with advanced cooking stoves. The comprehensive

goal is to substantially mitigate deforestation and environmental degradation, thus reinforcing efforts towards climate change mitigation.

Scheduled to commence in February 2024, the distribution effort seeks to facilitate access to affordable,

reliable, sustainable and modern energy sources. This will ultimately enhance the overall quality of life for all residents of Laikipia by ushering in a transition to more efficient and environmentally friendly cooking methods.

The programs' key target include rural local groups, residents in informal settlements, individuals with disabilities, women's groups, the elderly as well widows and widowers.

In attendance was CO Education, Youth and Social Services Jecinta Koree. The Ministry of Energy was represented by Sharon Wekesa and Rukia Bakari.



## Nature-Based Solutions for Land Restoration Project: World Agroforestry Visits Laikipia



water management, tree growing, and wood fuel.

The anticipated outcome will encompass the establishment of a rural resource center, which will serve as a training hub, a demonstration nursery site for tree planting and growing, and a business hub for high-value trees. This resource center will ensure the project's impact extends beyond environmental restoration, to promoting community development and resilience.

"Our support for this nature-based land restoration project is not just a commitment to environmental conservation; it is a pledge to create a thriving, climate-resilient county. Together, we will harness the power of nature to build a better future for our communities in Laikipia," H.E Governor Joshua Irungu said.

The team later visited the Nanyuki Vocational Training Center, where the model demonstration land to set up a rural resource center was proposed.

In attendance were H.E. Deputy Governor Reuben Kamuri, CECM and CO Water Environment Natural Resources and Climate Change Ms. Leah Njeri and Mr. Samuel Abraham Lemanyishoe, respectively, CECM Education Mr. Stephen Kisorio, Director Environment and Natural Resources Mr. David King'ori, Director Climate Change Mr. John Letai, and Acting Director Water and Sanitation Services Mr. Robert Mworira, among other county officials.

On January 9, 2024, a team from World Agroforestry (ICRAF), paid a courtesy visit to Laikipia County, with an aim of bolstering a collaborative partnership between the two parties for the upcoming landscape restoration project planned for implementation in Laikipia East sub-county in April 2024.

The team was led by Prof. Catherine Muthuri, the Kenya Director and Regional Convener for East Africa.

This one-year project supported by UK PACT will focus on promoting nature-based solutions and a gender transformation approach in landscape restoration. Key components include integrating context-appropriate sustainable

Article: Ann Ngunjiri  
Images: Kipkimeiri Rutto



## 41 Women Groups Benefits with Tanks, Beehives and Dam liners



Governor Joshua Irungu EGH joined by Jang Hee Im, Country Director of Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) launched and flagged off distribution of water tanks and beehives under the Women Economic Empowerment through Climate Smart Agriculture (WEE-CSA) project to women group in the county.

The event took place on 26th January, 2024 at Governor's Compound along, Nanyuki.

Materials flagged off were; 80 tanks with capacity of 3,000 litres tanks each, 117 bee hives, 71 dam liners, eight water pumps and 24 shade nets to 40 groups from three wards: Tigithi, Umande and

Mukogodo East.

This development intervention aligns with the Governor's manifesto pledge of distributing 50,000 tanks across the county by 2027.

"This project aligns with our commitment to provision of clean water for domestic use to all households by year 2027," Governor Irungu said.

Mr. Jang Hee Im affirmed his organization's commitment to community empowerment, especially women, by ensuring the household's economy is stable and sustainable.

"We have selected about 900 women from 41 groups in Laikipia which we are

working with. They are being trained and offered assets with an ultimate goal of helping them stand on their own," Mr. Im said.

The project is funded by Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and jointly implemented by UN Women in partnership with FAO and Hand in Hand Eastern Africa.

The beneficiary groups have been extensively trained by the county agricultural extension officers in various climate smart technologies in vegetable farming, kitchen gardens, potatoes production, dairy goats, bee keeping, bean production and indigenous chicken production.

Present during the launch were: Laikipia Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri, CECM Agriculture Mr. Dennis Kasoo, Chief Officer Agriculture, Ms. Elizabeth Mwangi, Chief Officer Livestock and Fisheries Ms. Mary Gichuru, Chief of Staff Mr. John Wambugu, Ms. Carla Mucavi, FAO Kenya Office Representative, and Mr. Dan Bazira and Deputy Country representative UN Women.

Article: John Muriithi  
Images: Nahashon Muhia

## President William Ruto's Development Tour in Laikipia County



The County Government of Laikipia kicked off 2024 on a robust gear, with the Head of State, HE President William Ruto, spending a whole day in Laikipia East and West launching economically consequential projects on January 10, 2024.

Accompanied by Deputy President, HE Rigathi Gachagua, and his host, Governor HE Joshua Irungu EGH, President Ruto launched the first phase of Affordable Housing project in Laikipia in Nanyuki Municipality where 200 modern units are expected to be completed by October this year before embarking on phase two.



The President announced Affordable Housing Projects target to build thousands of units across Laikipia County, and which are expected to generate thousands of direct and indirect jobs for the youth and suppliers of various inputs like sand, cement, stones, and steel, among others.

From Nanyuki, the head of state proceeded to Lamuria to inaugurate the Ngobit-Withare-Lamuria-Ngobit tarmac Road at Lamuria Ngareng'iro intersection in Laikipia East Constituency.

The Ngobit-Withare-Lamuria-Ngobit opens up an agriculturally rich region that was for years held back by lack of reliable all-weather road networks.

The safety, security and economic benefits ushered in by the new road to the local community are enormous, beginning with immediate





## Affordable Housing and Road to a Refurbished KCC



connections to markets in neighboring counties, and influx of investors and many absentee landowners who for years were hesitant to begin productive activities due to poor road connections and security concerns that came with it.

The Presidential working tour concluded in Nyahururu town in Laikipia West where he commissioned a modernized KCC Nyahururu Milk Factory whose capacity is poised to scale up from current daily processing of 80,000 litres to 150,000 liters per day.

The factory boasts of a catchment of milk supply from at least five counties in close proximity with Nyahururu – Laikipia, parts of Nyandarua, Nakuru, Baringo counties among others.

According to County Department of Agriculture, the Laikipia produced some 35 million litres of milk in 2022 earning farmers millions of shillings in economic returns.

Primary milk producer co-operatives are among most vibrant rural enterprises in Laikipia, and through which county government uses as an outlet to funnel low cost credit to farmers to stimulate economic transformation.

Article: Gakuu Mathenge  
Images: Nahashon Muhia



## Full Scholarship for Bright and Needy Students in Laikipia from Ol Pejeta and KCB Foundation



### KCB Foundation Scholarship

In yet another similar event presided over by Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri on January 17th, 2024, a total of 15 students received their cheques from Laikipia-KCB partnership for bright, needy students - full scholarships as they join form 1.

"Today we are issuing these beneficiaries with cheques worth Ksh 35,000 shillings each for their school fees. On top of that, we are providing every student with Ksh 30,000 in cash for their shopping and other basic commodities," said Ms. Olipha Ongeru, the KCB, Branch Manager, Nanyuki.

The DG commended the KCB group for their noble generosity in promoting education in Laikipia County which opened pathways for the youth to pursue their dreams besides impacting development of human capital in our country.

"Because I know you are hardworking students and you will continue with the same spirit, let your good results be accompanied by good characters. To my fellow parents, we encourage ourselves to continue with our God-given calling of providing mentorship, to the learners, encouraging them at every turn," the DG said

In 2024, the County Government of Laikipia has committed resources to fully sponsor 60 needy and bright students for their entire high school course, four from each of the 15 wards.

### Ol Pejeta Conservancy Scholarships

The County Government of Laikipia has partnered with the Ol Pejeta Conservancy and KCB Foundation to offer full scholarship to bright students joining Form 1 this year, hailing from underprivileged families in Laikipia County.

Governor Joshua Irungu EGH unveiled the partnership at his office Compound in Nanyuki on 9th January, 2024 where the Ol Pejeta Conservancy presented a cheque worth Ksh. 18.2 million to 116 beneficiaries.

"The kind sponsor has committed to pay school fees for your children. But these students will require more support for moral and holistic development. We have a duty as parents to continue directing and leading them in the right paths as diligent parents," the Governor said.

Article: John Muriithi  
Images: Nahashon Muhia



## Youth Empowerment at Laikipia Ajiry Center



The Laikipia Ajiry Center is continually empowering the youth in Laikipia County and beyond through training of tech skills and offering a platform of budding artists and creatives through a state-of-the-art recording studio.

The facility offers training through comprehensive computer classes in various computer packages including basic computer operation, Microsoft office suite, digital literacy and the recording studio enables the Laikipia budding music artists to record music and podcasts.

Registration of classes has progressively increased and the first and second cohorts are actively engaged in the simultaneous training programs, hence expanding their educational opportunities.

The center is also providing career talks to the young minds by providing them with knowledge, inspiration and direction they need to build bright futures.

By empowering youth and women through platforms of expression and training that sharpens their tech skills, the center has laid the foundation for meaning change, enhancing opportunities and quality of life for the people of Laikipia.

The center is open Monday to Friday from 8 am to 5pm.

Article: Irene Ndiritu  
Images: Naphtally Otieno

## Laikipia Secures Five-Year Extension of Partnership with Leading Water Fund



H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu, EGH, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on January 24, 2024 to secure a five-year extension of partnership with the Upper Tana Nairobi Water Trust Fund. The MoU was signed at the Athi Water Complex offices in Nairobi.

"This MoU cements our enduring commitment to a collaborative partnership in environmental conservation along the Upper Tana watershed basin that also comprises Murang'a, Nyeri, and Nyandarua counties," he said.

Bulk of rivers flowing to and through Laikipia County flow from Mt. Kenya and the Aberdares Ranges Water Towers, and, hence, Laikipia County is invested in what

happens within as well as downstream.

Since 2017, the Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund Trust has been in Laikipia, actively driving the environmental conservation initiatives in Solio, Tigithi Ward. These initiatives include the promotion of agroforestry, which has resulted in the growing of 550,000 assorted agroforestry seedlings in farms.

The Trust Fund has also supported restoration and protection of riparian reserves and the installation of terraces and grass strips to combat soil erosion. Over 50 kilometers of land have been conserved with grass strips.

A significant focus has also been on promoting efficient

water use, leading to the installation of water harvesting structures such as water pans on farms. So far, 900 water pans have been pegged and lined, with farmers receiving subsidized water pan liners for 24,000, 50,000, and 100,000 liters. This has resulted in intensive water harvesting during the rainy season,

expanding irrigation and food security capabilities for irrigated production during the dry season.

These initiatives that have directly benefited 5,826 households in the newly settled Solio area.

Present during the MoU signing: Mr. Antony Kariuki, the Trust's Conservation Programme Manager; Engineer Michael Thuita, Chairperson, Board of Trustees; and Ms. Edith Alusa, Executive Director, as well as Laikipia CECM for Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change, Ms. Leah Njeri.

Article: Ann Ngunjiri  
Images: Jackline Mariga



## 93rd Public Health Facility, Maili Nane Dispensary



On January 26, 2024, Umande ward residents woke up to good news, the opening of a new dispensary at Maili Nane.

The facility was officially opened by H.E Governor Joshua Irungu alongside Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) Managing Director, Mr Joe Sang.

The dispensary marks the 93rd public health facility in Laikipia fully built by Kenya Pipeline Company as part

of their community empowerment program. The County on the other hand is required to deploy health personnel to run the facility.

“This is momentous day, to see a government agency undertaking such life-changing collaborative intervention here in our County, Laikipia,” Governor Irungu said.

On his part, KPC Managing Director Mr Joe Sang appreciated the partnership with Laikipia saying his agency is keen to partner with institutions with political good-will like Laikipia.

“This KPC’s social investment program is aiming to improve healthcare access, focusing on preventive care and early detection of illnesses,” the MD explained.

Governor Joshua Irungu reiterated his commitment to implementing his key development pillar of quality health and ensuring there is a health centre in every sub location by 2027.

“And that why I have kept insisting, who takes the

credit does not matter, what matters is, have we answered the call of uplifting our people’s lives? I will partner with every development partner who supports our CIDP to ensure we implement our social covenant with Laikipia people,” the Governor passionately explained.

On behalf of Umande ward, the area MCA Hon. Daniel Mugweru appreciated KPC’s noble intervention in his ward, promising that Laikipia County Assembly too, supports all development partners who seek to uplift socio-economic status of Laikipia residents.

“And we can promise our development partner KPC that this facility will have competent health officials and necessary supplies to ensure it lives up to its noble purpose, providing quality and efficient health services to people of Umande ward,” health CECM Albert Taiti said, while closing the opening ceremony.

The Deputy Governor HE. Reuben Kamuri was also present and gave remarks in support of the initiative, together with Chief Officer of Health Dr. Timothy Panga and other senior Government

Article: Kariuki Stejackson  
Images: Kiplkimei Rutto

## Cooperative Leaders Trained on Governance and Compliance



County Department of Trade in partnership with CIC Group has been training leaders of Cooperative Societies across Laikipia with a spotlight on governance and compliance issues to enhance their abilities to deliver services to their members and societies.

Topics ranged from bookkeeping and auditing, filing of the wealth declaration, the indemnity form, and annual and KRA

returns.

While addressing the forum at Eastward Hotel in Nyahururu on 26 January 2024, Trade Chief Officer Mr. Samuel Njuki called upon the leaders to diligently serve their members with outmost trust.

"The training is crucial as cooperatives operate in an ever-changing environment, hence the need to ensure

sustained capacity building," Mr. Njuki asserted as he assured them of department's support in achieving their mandates.

The CIC Group's emphasis was on the leaders insuring cooperative loans to mitigate member losses in the event of an unforeseen occurrence, such as death.

The group Managing Director-Cooperatives, Mr. Robert Nyakenogo observed that leaders exclude themselves from becoming personally liable in cases of loan default. He noted that insuring loans become less risky for cooperatives than managing that risk themselves.

On the other hand, cooperatives have appreciated their loan uptake from the County Revolving Fund, noting that 163 cooperatives have benefited from loan to the tune of Ksh 210 million.

"The department plans to increase the allocation to LCCDRF Kitty in the next financial year to ensure more cooperatives are able to access low-priced loans to revitalize their activities," the Chief Officer informed the leaders.

Article/ Images:Nahashon Maina





## Governor Meets Nanyuki Business Community



H.E Governor Joshua Irungu, EGH on 15th January 2024 held a consultative meeting with the Business Community from Nanyuki municipality and its environment in Nanyuki to discuss ways of deepening collaboration to improve the business environment and take advantage of emerging opportunities including the Affordable Housing Projects in the County.

Among top items in the agenda included necessary modalities to be put in place to implement the vision of a 24-hour economy in Nanyuki Town.

Over 100 business representatives drawn from diverse business sectors; including the real estate, manufacturers, public transport, second hand clothes dealers, jua kali, boda boda youth enterprises and co-operatives, beauty and salons, sand harvesters, were in attendance.

Majority of the members raised concerns that there was a general concern that normal government services will be disrupted following the relocation of the Laikipia County Headquarters from Nanyuki to Rumuruti last October.

The Governor assured that due diligence had been put in place at all essential service action stations to ensure smooth transition with minimal disruptions if any, to ensure seamless service delivery to all citizens in the County.

Another major concern raised related to allocation of sufficient resources to the newly created Nanyuki Municipality Board to enable it discharge its legal mandate without undue hindrances.

The Governor however reassured the business community that his administration was keen to expedite transfer of all functions and their attendant budgetary allocations to the Municipality Board as spelt out in the law.

Governor Irungu also assured the business community once verification processes were complete, cleared bills would be settled with speed.

Currently, the county government is working on a policy to guide strict settlement of invoices for services delivered in the same financial year to avoid accumulation.

The County Government delegation present included Deputy Governor, Hon Reuben Kamuri, County Secretary, Hon Koinange Wahome, CECMs Stephen Kisorio (Trade) and Purity Hon Purity Kendi Gitonga (Administration), COs Mr. Samuel Njuki, (Trade), Eng. Peter Macharia (Roads) and Mr. Daniel Ngumi (Finance), Mr. John Wambugu (Chief of Staff), among others

Nanyuki Municipal Board Chairperson Abdi Sola Guyo, and Ndegwa Gitonga, Chairperson Laikipia Chamber of Commerce, were also present.

Article: John Muriithi  
Images: Kipkimeiri Rutto

## Preparation of Health Soccer: Boychild Empowerment Program

Laikipia County Deputy Governor, H.E Reuben Kamuri, on 19th January, 2024, held a consultative meeting comprising staff from the Office of the Spouse of the Deputy President (OSDP), community stakeholders, and senior county executives to fine tune preparations of Health Soccer Boychild Empowerment program, Laikipia Chapter, scheduled for February.

The meeting held at Governor's Compound, Nanyuki offices, was a follow up of 2023 Edition of the Tournament patronized by the Second Lady, Pastor Dorcas Rigathi.

Pastor Dorcas has been in the forefront championing for empowerment of the boy child across the country through male-child emancipation programs geared towards highlighting the plight of male child especially those who had fallen into alcoholism, drugs and substances abuse.

"Why football? Football brings a sense of teamwork, discipline, and many youth are enthusiastic about playing the game," Mr. Thomo Nyamgom, the OSDP lead person said.



Mr. Thomo observed that football do not keep youth engaged, but it also keep grow their physical and mental strength. He added that the participants will also get mentored and trained on financial literacy and self-employment opportunities and networking options available to them.

"It is our responsibility to take care of our young people and assist them navigate their tough journey through adulthood. Through sports and talent development activities, we fight the substance menace that has affected them," DG Kamuri said.

During the meeting, Laikipia County Commissioner Mr. Joseph Kanyiri, assured office of the OSDP that the tournament will be conducted with strict adherence of laid down rules and fairness.

Present also were: Ag. Education and Sports CEC Mr. Stephen Kisorio, Agriculture CEC Mr. Denis Kasoo, Governor's Office CO Mr. Stephen Lapian, CO Livestock and Fisheries Ms. Mary Gichuru and other stakeholders like Kenya National Chamber of Commerce, and members of the clergy were also in attendance.

Article: John Muriithi  
Images: Jackline Mariga



## Laikipia Holds First CMT Meeting For 2024



The County Government of Laikipia's County Management Team (CMT) started year 2024 with a review meeting on January 3rd, 2024, presided over by Governor Joshua Irungu EGH.

The meeting took place at Rumuruti County Headquarters to review the progress made in 2023 and set new targets for 2024.

Taking place at the beginning of the year, this first CMT meeting aided in identification of challenges experienced in 2023, and ways to improve service delivery to the people of Laikipia going forward.

The county government is focusing on completion of ongoing projects, providing clean water to every family within a kilometer and also expanding healthcare facilities to every location among other major projects.





## New CPSB Secretary Sworn In



Mr. Josephat Lekamario was on January 5th, 2024 sworn in into office as the Secretary and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Laikipia County Public Service Board (CPSB) at County's Headquarters in Rumuruti Municipality.

HE. Governor Joshua Irungu oversaw the swearing in ceremony.

“With the impressive qualifications and a wealth of experience in our team of esteemed County Public Service Board members, I am confident that our human resources management will be strengthened, leading to greater efficiency and effectiveness in serving the people of Laikipia,” HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH expressed his optimism in Mr. Lekamario's.

The service board is comprised of seven members led by a Chair, Vice Chair, and the CEO who heads the secretariat and other four board members.

The County Public Service Board (CPSB) is charged with the responsibility of developing and implementing human resource policies and frameworks for the County Government in line with the relevant laws while also;

Establishing and abolishing offices in the County Public Service; appointing persons to hold or act in offices of the County Public Service; exercising disciplinary control over and removal of persons holding or acting in public service offices, among other responsibilities within the Public Service Commission guidelines.





## Tapping Into International Livestock Market: Governor Joshua Uirungu Meets PS Livestock



President Dr. William Ruto has been able to secure high value international markets for animal products and Laikipia County is swift to position herself as the main beneficiary of that market.

In this light, on January 23, 2024, Governor Joshua Irungu paid a courtesy visit to Livestock Development Principal Secretary, Hon Jonathan Mueke, at his office at Ukulima House.

Key point of discussions was deliberate focus on scaling up the productivity along production value chains in livestock farming – including; live animals, meat, milk, eggs, chick, feed, medicine, and leather, among others.

“Our discussions centred

on commercialization of animal feeds, disease control and mass vaccination. The strategy we can deploy to ensure our farmers in Laikipia can benefit from Livestock keeping utilizing new found international and local market,” the Governor explained.

The County Government of Laikipia has set up five hay storage units and has lined up more units in the coming months and years to boost hay grass banks during wet seasons for use during dry seasons.

According to CECM in charge of Agriculture, livestock and fisheries who was in company of Governor at Ukulima House, in few months’ time, Laikipia

County will be producing more than 40 metric tonnes of Soya to boost the animal feeds value chain.

This augments Laikipia’s potential in livestock sector and immense job and wealth creation opportunities that the livestock industry have.

On December 14, 2023, President William Ruto announced the coming up of a leather manufacturing company in Naivasha, but more appealing is his promise on imposing tax on imported leather and promotion of locally manufactured leather product. Laikipia County being among top livestock keeping counties in Kenya can only benefit from these interventions hence Governor Joshua Irungu’s visit to Ukulima House to set pace for Laikipia County’s livestock revitalization strategy.

The Governor was accompanied by CECM Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Mr. Edwin Kasoo and Livestock and Fisheries

Article: Kariuki Stevejackson  
Images: Kipkimei Rutto

## Equipping Ol Moran VTC: Education Department Partners with Tyrus and Esther Foundation.



the foundation committed to also provide internet connection to the VTC's computer lab and facilitate two ICT trainers to offer online Job training for the youth at Ol Moran Vocational Training Centre.

To augment the development partnership, the County Government of Laikipia signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tyrus and Esther Foundation that will see even much deeper collaboration between the foundation and County Department of Education, in VTCs equipping and capacity building.

County Government of Laikipia continues to attract more development partners in its effort to implement its CIDP 2023/2027. This is in appreciation that funds from Own Source Revenue, Exchequer and Grants cannot be enough to meet all development needs across the County and hence seeking for partners who can supplement its efforts.



On January 29 2023, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu welcomed a kind donation of 20 automatic sewing machines, 20 computers, two mobility carts and 10 water backpack from Tyrus and Esther Foundation.

The donations were meant for Ol Moran Vocation Training Centre to add up to the existing learning and training equipment in the education facility.

In the intervention package,

Article: Kariuki Stevejackson:  
Image: Kipkimei Rutto



## Strengthening KCB and Laikipia County Government's Relations



Kenya Commercial Bank Corporate Manager on January 26, 2024 paid HE, Governor Joshua Irungu a courtesy call in his Nanyuki office where they exchanged ideas on enterprise and education support among other areas that both institution shares interest on.

The Kenya's largest bank by asset, KCB, is one of Laikipia's key development partners. Laikipia County Stimulus Fund has KCB as a key partner where the County and the bank has an MoU that provides Laikipia traders with a subsidized credit facility.

In the arrangement, loans borrowed from KCB bank at 12.5 interest is shared between the borrowing Laikipia trader and County Government of Laikipia whereby the County foots 5 % while the borrower meets the remaining 7.7 percent.

This arrangement extends even to Self

KCB Corporate Manager Pays Visit to HE. Governor H.E Joshua Irungu EGH

Help Groups (SHGs). For Cooperatives however, the County Governments meet 6.5% of the interest while the borrower is charged 6% per annum.

Additionally, KCB bank has over the years awarded scholarships to students in Laikipia recently being January 19, 2023 when fifteen students were awarded full scholarships to colleges by the bank, again complementing County Government's bursary kitty.

Governor Joshua Irungu EGH expressed his gratitude to the bank noting that the bank's zest for business growth is also His administration's key objective and as such, joined at the hip.

Article: Kariuki Stevejackson: Image: Kipkimeiri Rutto



Pictured: DG. HE. Reuben Kamuri, KCB Nanyuki Branch Manager Ms.Oliphia Onger, Ag. Education CECM Mr. Kisorio, CO Mr. Gicuki among other county and bank officials during scholarship award ceremony

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## **Our Vision**

**An Inclusive County with Sustainable Quality of Life**

## **Our Mission**

**Facilitate Integrated Development for Socio-economic Prosperity of People of Laikipia**

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