

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Laikipia County

Our Vision: An Inclusive County With Sustainable Quality of Life



www.laikipia.go.ke



H.E Governor Irungu kicks off bursary distribution exercise in Githiga ward, Laikipia West



NTRH Medical Camp Reached Over 1600 Patients

Teaching and innovation were the key themes of the Orthopaedic Camp run by Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital, in conjunction with Future Health Africa.

page. 20 & 21

14,336 students benefit from over Ksh 72M Bursary Fund

Centre for Extremely Deprived Children (CEDC) Gets 5 million, for the first time

On February 5, 2024, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu Laikipia County, climbing EGH commenced the first time ever been disbursed in from the previous year's issuance of the 2024 Ksh. 50,000,000 million bursary cheques in shillings, to Ksh. 72,750,000 million shilling. Githiga Ward, in Laikipia West sub-county.

This year's bursary kitty categories are fashioned ... is the largest to have

page. 3 TO 6



LAIKIPIA COUNTY TRAININGS

- Computer Packages (1 Month)
- Forex Trading (3 Months)
- Digital Marketing
- Vocal Coaching Lessons
- Music Business
- Podcast Sessions



WORKSHOPS:

- Financial Management
- Mental Health
- Personal Branding
- Marketing
- Basic First Aid Training (Kenya Redcross)
- Sexual Health and Family Planning

IT'S FREE!!



**Location: Nyahururu,
DCC Compound**

In Partnership with



A total of 14,336 students benefit from over Ksh 72M Bursary Fund

On February 5, 2024, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH commenced the issuance of the 2024 bursary cheques in Githiga Ward, Laikipia West sub-county.

This year's bursary kitty is the largest to have ever been disbursed in Laikipia County, climbing from the previous year's Ksh. 50,000,000 million shillings, to Ksh. 72,750,000.

"My commitment to turning around our economic status is holistic. There is no way we will sustainably improve economically when we are listed below average in literacy levels," the Governor told the jubilant beneficiaries at Githiga.

The funds that are in six categories are fashioned to benefit every level of education.

"We have beneficiaries for those in day high schools, those in boarding high schools, those pursuing their education in our vocational training centres, including those pursuing their education in both colleges and in Universities, "Ag. CECM of Education explained.

In a first time category to be funded by County Government of Laikipia is Centre for Extremely



Deprived Children (CEDC) in Nanyuki.

"Note, we have allocated five million shillings to this special school, for the first time since the facility was handed over from defunct municipal council to county government. This is evidence of our holistic approach to funding all our children's education, regardless of their circumstances," Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri noted during the event.

Mr. John Gichuki, Chief Officer in charge of Education promised Governor Irungu that all the 14, 336 bursary beneficiaries across all 15 wards were selected, vetted, and awarded fairly within the laid down laws, regulations and procedures.

"And we intend to even increase this bursary allocation to a larger fund, in line with Governor Joshua Irungu's manifesto

of ensuring 100 percent transition from ECDE level, to primary, secondary, and to tertiary levels," CO Gichuki explained.

The bursary fund intervention is paralleled by similar efforts in improving County-led vocational centres across the county by equipping them through direct funding and through partner-sourcing, while also employing more trainers and improving terms of service for those in service to ensure the 10 county VTCs have capacity to produce competitive labour force, for individual learner's economic self-growth, and for overall county growth.

Immediately after Governor Joshua Irungu commenced the event at Githiga ward, across the wards, CECMs and COs oversaw the exercise from February 6, to February 9, 2024.

Article: Kariuki Stevejackson
Image: Nahashon Muhia

Bursary Allocation per Ward

Igwamiti ward
5,724,000

Githiga ward
4,381,000

Marmanet ward
5,119,000

Ol Moran ward
4,265,000

Salama ward
3,790,000

Rumuruti ward
4,502,000

Sossian ward
4,393,000

Segera ward
4,099,000

Mukogodo East ward
3,342,000

Mukogodo West ward
3,941,000

Nanyuki ward
4,900,000

Umande ward
4,219,000

Ngobit ward
4,461,000

Thingithu ward
4,416,000

Tigithi ward
5,998,000

**Total Bursary
Kitty Countywide**
72,750,000

All Students Beneficiaries per Ward

Igwamiti ward

1,173

Githiga ward

987

Marmanet ward

1058

Salama ward

811

Ol Moran ward

847

Rumuruti ward

933

Sossian ward

975

Segera ward

835

Mukogodo
East ward

595

Mukogodo
West ward

855

Nanyuki ward

1094

Umande ward

871

Ngobit ward

926

Thingithu ward

911

Tigithi ward

1465

Total beneficiaries
Countywide

14,336

Bursary Categories & Distribution per Ward

Wards	Day High Schools	Boarding High-Schools	Colleges and Universities	Vocational Training Centres	Scholarships
Laikipia County Bursary Categories Distribution Per Ward - Laikipia West					
Githiga	566	271	242	4	4
Ol Moran	419	210	136	77	5
Marmamet	510	313	215	15	5
Rumuruti	472	254	162	42	3
Salama	460	168	162	7	4
OL Moran	419	210	136	77	5
Salama	460	178	162	7	4
Igwamiti	544	386	113	25	5
Laikipia County Bursary Categories Distribution Per Ward - Laikipia North					
Mukogodo East	151	273	150	17	4
Mukogodo West	468	237	131	15	4
Sossian	472	265	221	13	4
Segera	324	365	136	6	4
Laikipia County Bursary Categories Distribution Per Ward - Laikipia East					
Nanyuki	571	385	115	19	4
Thingithu	356	410	133	8	4
Umande	468	243	152	3	5
Tigithi	858	532	50	21	4
Ngobit	423	332	146	21	4
Special Category	Extremely Deprived Children (CEDC)				5,000,000

Promoting Responsible Waste Management

The Department of Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change has embarked on a multifaceted approach towards promoting responsible waste management across the county. With a firm commitment, the department's efforts are extending beyond mere routine cleanups to encompass proactive strategies aimed at prevention, reduction, and sustainable disposal of waste.

At the forefront of these efforts is the strategic installation of 16 trash bins in Nanyuki town. This initiative, undertaken on February 6, 2024 in collaboration with Olpejeta Conservancy and the Leo Project, represents a tangible step towards creating cleaner and healthier environments for residents and workers to live and work in.

Speaking during the installation exercise, the Director of Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. David King'ori, underscored the significance of these bins in the town.

"By strategically placing these new trash bins, we are not just improving cleanliness; we're fostering a culture of responsible waste



disposal that ultimately enhances public health and environmental sustainability within the Nanyuki community," Mr. King'ori said.

In addition to this initiative, the Department is also actively involved in large-scale waste management exercises such as the compaction of county dumping sites. This exercise aims to efficiently manage waste by compacting it and optimizing the available disposal space. Furthermore, by reducing the volume of waste, the Department also seeks to

mitigate environmental risks, including soil and water contamination, while simultaneously minimizing the potential for leachate formation.

These proactive waste management practices demonstrate the County Government of Laikipia's commitment to the broader goal of preserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable waste management, forging a cleaner, greener and healthier future for all.

Article: Ann Ngunjiri
Image: Ann Ngunjiri

The Revival of Saltlick VTC in Laikipia North

Twenty years ago in Mukogodo West, Laikipia North Sub-county, contrary to what many say that Laikipia North has never had a Vocational Training Centre, the region had one, its name, Saltlick Vocational Training Center.

However, today, what is left is vandalized blocks and dilapidated roofs that once trained men and women from up North. Lack of funding and neglect led to its closure, dimming technical trainings up North, and depriving the regions its constitutional liberties of equality.

When H.E Governor Joshua Irungu toured the facility on February 12, 2024, what he found is state of desolate at the school, only birds singing, animals roaming, and probably playing cite for children, but he had other plans.

“My administration has resolved to inject resources for refurbishment and equipment to restore this education facility to its former glory” the Governor declared to local residents’ surprise.

The County leader immediately tasked a team of county government officials and some local leaders to prepare the Bill of Quantities (BQs) and draw up the plans



needed to make the facility operational.

“Saltlick Vocational Training Center (VTC) will be operational by end of this year, and I can assure you it will have its first intake in January 2025,” Governor Irungu said, adding that Saltlick will be joining the other 10 counties under County Government in training.

The team in charge of resuscitating Saltlick VTC include Chief Officer for education, Mr. John Gichuki, county engineers, clerk of works and county architect among others.

During the tour, it was also agreed that local leadership be part of the Saltlick VTC management upon revival.

Key also was to expedite granting the facility land ownership documents.

Chief Officers of Education Mr. Mwangi Gichuki informed the residents that Laikipia County is seeking partnership with Duty Free Shops at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) to provide international outlets for women and youth beadwork producers from Laikipia North, and as such, women especially in the trade should not lose hope.

“And Saltlick will train our women on making even more quality beads to improve their products’ competitiveness at the job market,” the Co explained.

Article: Stevejackson Kariuki
Image: Nahashon Muhia

Reviewing Rangeland Policies and Laws Across Laikipia, Isiolo and Samburu Counties.

Laikipia County Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the LISTEN Project hosted a three-day inter County Agricultural Sector steering Committee (CASSCOM) workshop in Nanyuki from 1st to 3rd February, 2024 to delve into the current status of agriculture, rangeland policies and bills across Laikipia, Isiolo and Samburu counties.

Laikipia, Isiolo, Samburu Transforming the Environment through Nexus (LISTEN) is a project that supports the three counties with the objective of building resilience to climate change by improving water and livelihood resource management in the Ewaso Nyiro River basin. It aims at achieving increased production and incomes, improved institutional capacities and programming for inclusive climate resilience at the County level.

Representatives from the three counties have developed a road map for co-ordination of resources to help in the processes of formulating policies that will enhance productivity, address agriculture and environmental concerns, and ultimately contribute to a resilient and thriving



agriculture sector. The project will partner with each county to fully support the formulation of these policies to the final stage.

“The three counties experience similar climate change challenges. As such, it is prudent that they spearhead for joint management and utilization of resources to promote sustainable development across the region,” CECM in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Dennis Kasoo, said during the workshop.

Mr. Dennis Kasoo also emphasized on the importance of aligning goals across the counties as well as sharing knowledge and challenges in order to achieve food security.

“Agriculture bills and policies play a crucial role in shaping a country's food security, rural development, and overall economic stability. They impact farmers' income, market access, and sustainable agricultural practices. Effective policies therefore can enhance productivity, address environmental concerns, and ensure fair trade practices, thus contributing to a resilient and thriving agricultural sector,” the CECM explained.

The workshop brought together CECMs, Chief Officers, directors, project coordinators and other top County Officials from the three Counties.

Article: Mollin Wanjiru
Image: Mollin Wanjiru

Nanyuki and Thingithu: Public Participation Meeting for County Fiscal Strategy Paper



County Department of Finance, Economic Planning and County Development kicked off public participation for County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the FY2024/2025, in Nanyuki and Thingithu wards, on February 16, 2024..

The County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) document is a budget policy document that sets expenditure ceilings for county governments – the desired goals and priorities for the following year, FY2024/2025.

Nanyuki and Thingithu wards held their public participation meetings in Nanyuki County Hall in a meeting that engaged key stakeholders including Assistant County Commissioners (ACCs), Chiefs, Sub-chiefs, Nyumba Kumi Initiative members, People Living With Disabilities, Village Focal Persons, members of the Mashinani Development Committees (MDCs) among others.

The resources are divided between both arms of Government, the County Executive and the County Assembly and they are designed to hugely be invested in development intervention programs and in enactment of development legislations.

The Deputy Governor, H.E Reuben Kamuri, during the meeting, emphasized the importance of members of the public honoring public

participation calls, to give their input on proposed allocations as part of their civic duty of participating directly on how their government is spending their resources.

"The input given by these key leaders makes an integral part of budget decisions, we will take every suggestion into consideration and incorporate them in the final document," Chief Officer in charge of Economic Planning and County Development, Mr. Burje Mohamed echoed the DG's assertions.

While facilitating the two-wards' CFSP public participation meeting, Mr. Julius King'ori, director budget, called on other key stakeholders including the Chamber of Commerce, Faith Based Organisations and Civil Society Groups to actively participate in the process, as they too, educate their members on their role in budget-making process.

Mr. Stephen Lapian, Chief Officer in charge of Governor's Office reiterated H.E Governor Joshua Irungu, EGH's commitment to a process that is people-centred, especially in budget development, "because Governor's development roadmap, the CIDP, will be successfully implemented if we have successful budget-making process, and diligent implementation process."

Article: Irene Ndiritu

The Making of FY2024/2025 Budget

The Laikipia County Fiscal Strategy Paper, 2024

Resource envelope

Resource Envelope 2023/2024 - 2024/2025		
Revenue source	Supplementary	Projection
	2023/2024	2024/2025
Equitable share	5,358,246,532	5,583,119,805
Own Source Revenue	1,475,000,000	1,475,000,000
Total	6,833,246,532	7,058,119,805

Public Finance Management Act, 2012 - Section 117. (1)

The County Treasury shall prepare and submit to the County Executive Committee the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for approval and the County Treasury shall submit the approved Fiscal Strategy Paper to the county assembly, by the 28th February of each year.

Proposed Draft Ceilings 2024

Departments	Allocation (Ksh)	Percentage %
Health	2,709,961,773	38
Finance	1,014,803,155	14
Administration	776,059,812	11
Education&Sports	659,692,424	9
Infrastructure	529,430,059	8
Agriculture, Livestock Fisheries	296,133,641	4
Water E, NR & CC	274,569,387	4
Trade, CO, ED & T	240,469,554	4
County Assembly	557,000,000	8

Improving Digital Literacy in Salama Ward

H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH on February 19, 2024 presided over the launching of the Kiamariga Digital Community Hub in Salama ward.

The hub which was constructed and equipped by American Tower Communications Kenya (ATC Kenya) in partnership with Safaricom Ltd, has eight laptops, a 54 inch television LCD screen, charging booths, free internet Wi-Fi, and metallic work benches within a space that can accommodate over 50 ICT learners.

County Government of Laikipia will take charge of security and management of the facility as well as employing ICT instructors to train the youth and issue KNEC certified credentials on short digital online courses.

This hub will also be linked with the Rumuruti Library by use of portable servers that are also equipped with electronic library resources to enable local teachers research on CBC-compliant teaching content.

Members of the public can also access e-citizen public services with free Wi-fi. The facility has been installed with solar power to ensure



continuous power supply.

To strengthen the relationship, the county government signed a partnership agreement with the ATC to continue exploring best ways the larger community at Salama ward can be unlocked through digital literacy programs, online jobs creation and innovation, to economically uplift the community.

Accompanying the Governor was County Secretary

Mr. Koinange Wahome, Ag. CECM for Education, Mr. Kisorio Biwott, Chief Officer Education, Mr. Mwangi Gichuki, Chief Officer Administration, Mr. Mike Kemboi, Salama Ward MCA Hon. Samuel Mugambi, ATC Kenya CEO Mr. George Odenyo, Safaricom representative Mr. James Langat, among other government and corporate officials.

Article: Irene Ndiritu
Image: Nahashon Muhia

Expo Offers Entrepreneurs Marketing, Networking Platform

The Department of Trade, Tourism, Cooperative and Enterprise Development in partnership with Njiiri B Promoters organised a two-day Business and Agri Expo at Nanyuki Stadium on 9th and 10th February 2024 that attracted over 80 exhibitors.

The expo brought together business owners and emerging start-ups in Laikipia who engaged with various industry experts to derive the best practices that, when implemented, can upscale their enterprises operations.

The exhibitors were drawn from real estate, dairy, honey processors, hospitality, renewable energy, and Saccos operating across Laikipia. The expo is one of the ways to continuously engage entrepreneurs and offer a networking and educational platform through which business owners and innovators can exhibit their products and services.

In the course of the two days that the event took place, attendees got a chance to visit and interact with exhibitors and gain knowledge in critical areas of their interest. It was also a great opportunity for businesses to connect with potential clients.



"I want to assure entrepreneurs that the government is committed to hand-hold businesses to increase their production and link them to the market. We have already put in motion plans to have Laikipia products certified by KEBS to access the market," H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH said during the closing ceremony of the expo.

The governor called upon entrepreneurs to apply for two fund loans offered by the county government at a low-priced interest rate of

6% per year to inject money into their businesses and spur their growth. The county offers the Enterprise Fund for self-help groups and the Cooperative Revolving Fund for cooperative societies. The two funds are domiciled in the Department of Trade.

In attendance were Laikipia County Assembly Deputy Speaker Hon. Anthony Theuri, Chief Officer of Trade Mr. Samuel Njuki and other government officials.

Article: Nahashon Maina
Image: Nahashon Maina

Empowering Laikipia Women to Participate in County Development

On February 2, 2024, Governor Joshua Irungu EGH played host to a diverse delegation of stakeholders ranging from National Government representatives, development partners, UN Agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), financial institutions, and other stakeholders, all who are pivotal in Governor's strategic approach to women empowerment.

The discussion delved into how women can be empowered economically to effectively complement their male counterparts in county building.

It is that meeting that set stage for the ongoing open forums now entering sixth meeting on 6th March, 2024, at Githiga ward.

Fast forward,

Three weeks after the February meeting, on 21st February, H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH started off the women empowerment open forums in Nanyuki.

The meetings have targetted women groups' leaders across the county with five meetings having been done by end of February.

In Laikipia East, the meetings were held in both Nanyuki and Ngobit in Laikipia, in Laikipia West hosted in Nyahururu and Rumuruti town, while in Laikipia North, Dol dol hosted the meeting.

Over 2,000 women leaders have attended these meeting and are expected to educate their fellow women in their respective groups what they learned, especially on active involvement in public participation during budget-making processes.

Prominently, discussions also revolved around Governor Irungu's main manifesto



Over 2000 women across the county participated the development conversation with Governor Irungu

development pillar which is water provision.

“It is not by accident that I’m paying keen attention to women in relation to water” the Governor has often told the women leaders in all the meetings.

Laikipia County’s water masterplan has in it plan to roll out 300 water projects across the county to ensure no person treks for more than a kilometre in search of water, by 2027. Most of the projects are in motion already. The newly acquired water drilling rig has so far sunk over 30 boreholes that awaits equipping and renovations of existing boreholes is on course.

“On top of all these efforts, we have also devised a plan to provide 50, 000 water tanks of 3,000 litres each to households, but it will be on a fair cost-sharing formula. Beneficiaries will only foot 35 percent of the total cost while government and development partner absorbs 75 percent. This project targets women in groups within Laikipia, registered or not,” the Governor elaborated.

For transparency and accountability, consensus in all the meeting was that respective ward County Development Assistants (CDAs) will be the only link between the County Government and the women groups to ensure there is one source of factual and reliable information in every ward, especially in terms of mode of payment.

Further into the discussions, development partners and departmental heads including CECs, COs and CEOs also got to explain how their individual dockets operate and impact on women empowerment.

Laikipia County Development Authority (LCDA) led by the authority’s Chief Executive Officer, Mr. James Mugambi is leading the tanks' funds mobilisation drive.



Article: John Muriithi
Images: Kipkimei Rutto/Nahashon Muhia

One Stop Market in Nyahururu Town

It was an engaging day for the Mitumba business owners and the grocery vendors in Nyahururu as CO Land, Housing & Urban Development, Mr Kenneth Kibara alongside CECM Trade, Stephen Kisorio hosted representatives from the State Department for Housing and Urban Development on a site visit to the various markets. The purpose of the visit was to survey and plan for the construction of a state-of-the-art 'One Stop Market' in Nyahururu.

For this ambitious project, a total of 4 acres of land has been allocated for the expansion and modernization of the market. The objective is to integrate both the Mitumba market and the grocery market into one major shopping area.

To facilitate this process, the chairpersons from both markets will collaborate with their respective vendors to address concerns and issues through a public participation exercise prior to the commencement of the project.

During his address, the CECM Trade, Mr. Stephen Kisorio, assured the market vendors that construction would be executed in phases to avoid disputes and minimize the displacement of traders.



These collaborative efforts are aimed at enhancing livelihoods and fostering growth opportunities for residents, in line with H.E Governor Joshua Irungu's commitment to expand and modernize not only Nyahururu, but also Rumuruti and Nanyuki markets. This initiative underscores the county government's dedication to grassroots development and emphasizes the importance of state partnerships in driving sustainable progress.

The new market will serve as a vibrant hub for local farmers and Mitumba traders to sell their products, while also creating employment opportunities and improving

the overall socio-economic landscape of Laikipia County. With its modern facilities and strategic location, the modern market is poised to become a cornerstone of the town's economy, attracting both vendors and customers alike.

This initiative underscores the county government's dedication to grassroots development and emphasizes the importance of state partnerships in driving sustainable progress.

Article: June Yator
Images: June Yator

Launch of New ECDE Model Fully Equipped in Kahuho



On February 5, 2023, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu E.G.H launched a new model fully equipped Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) class in Kahuho, Githiga ward.

The ECDE, located near the border with Marmanet ward, is set to serve the neighboring communities in both wards.

The class is equipped with multi-coloured, child friendly furniture to ensure that the learners are cognitively stimulated in a comfortable and safe in environment. This also creates a happy and fun environment for the children thus encouraging the learners to consistently show up to school.

The center also comes with a water storage tank, modern

swings, ablution facilities and security fencing.

“We are committed to raise the literacy levels in the county and one of the measures we are putting in place is the building and equipping of the new model ECDE centers in the county to ensure all our ECDE learners transits to primary schools, just the way we are offering bursary funds to ensure all our primary schools children transitions to secondary schools,” Governor Irungu said.

“The conducive environment that the center creates enables the children to process new information, learn new skills and languages without disruptions,” the Deputy Governor H. E. Reuben Kamuri said during the opening ceremony.

Early childhood development is a crucial stage of development as it sets a firm foundation for the children helping them thrive and unlock their full potential as they grow up on education radar.

The government is set to build more ECDE centers across the county and hire more ECDE teachers to cater for the ever-growing appetite for education in Laikipia County.

Also present were Ag. CECM Education Mr. Stephen Kisorio, Chief Officer Education Mr. John Gichuki, Chief Officer Finance Mr. Daniel Ngumi, Chief Officer Livestock and Fisheries Ms. Mary Gichuru, among other county officials.

Article: Irene Ndiritu
Images: Kipkimei Rutto

Expanding Water and Sanitation Services For Nanyuki

In a strategic move to boost water and sanitation infrastructure in Nanyuki, Laikipia Governor H. E. Joshua Irungu EGH spearheaded a crucial meeting on February 14, 2024, with the Nanyuki Water and Sanitation Company (NAWASCO) board and top management team.

The meeting focused on securing funding for two strategic projects: the Nanyuki River Intake Project and the Likii A-Makutano Sewer Project, amounting to a total of ksh.146.5 million.

This significant investment is intended to enhance the water supply and sanitation services. For instance, the Nanyuki Bulk Water Project alone is poised to elevate the daily water supply for domestic consumption by an impressive 6,000 m³ per day. Simultaneously, the Likii A-Makutano sewer project aims to expand the sewerage system coverage from 44% to 52%.

The project's new intake will be constructed along the River Nanyuki at Kahurura, with a water connection pipeline extending through Kanyoni to Rubis, ultimately integrating with the existing reticulation network. Not only does this address the escalating demand for clean water among residents, but it is also projected to boost monthly revenues to public coffers by Ksh 5.4 million.

Governor Irungu expressed his satisfaction with the development, highlighting its potential to increase line coverage from the current 94



percent to an impressive 96 percent within the Nanyuki Municipality.

"With these transformative initiatives underway, the future of Nanyuki shines brighter, promising enhanced access to clean water and improved sanitation, laying a robust foundation for sustainable development and improved quality of life for all residents," said Governor Irungu.

This substantial investment holds promise for significantly improving sanitation standards and services, especially crucial amidst a growing urban population. The projects align with Laikipia County's vision of fostering "an inclusive society offering a sustainable high quality of life."

Accompanying Governor Irungu were key county officials, including County Secretary Mr. Koinange Wahome, CECM Water and Natural Resources Ms. Leah Njeri, CECM Finance Mr. Samuel Gachigi, and NAWASCO Managing Director Eng. Kennedy Gitonga, along with other senior government officials.

Article: Ann Ngunjiri
Images: Ann Ngunjiri

Governor Joshua Irungu EGH Opens 3rd Session of the 3rd County Assembly of Laikipia



Governor Joshua Irungu officially opened the Laikipia County Assembly's 3rd session on February 13, 2024.

In the same session, his Excellency the Governor also gave his State of the County Address in a full packed county parliament, all the MCAs in attendance, cabinet members and other senior government officials.

The Governor highlighted his administration's key development achievements for the year 2023 key among them transformation of the health sector, the revitalised water provision projects

like the ongoing 300 water projects and procurement of a drilling rig, the bursary fund for education support, interventions in agricultural sector like the Warehouse Receipt System coming up in Laikipia West, fruits tree seedlings distribution program and revamped extension services across the County.

Additionally, Governor Irungu highlighted his effort in youth empowerment through talent development in sports, notably Governor's Cup which attracted more than 400 teams in 2023, and artistic expressions studio Ajiry Digital Centre

now running in Nyahururu. Governor also informed the honourable house of the success in uptake of Enterprise Fund and Cooperative Revolving Fund, and also plans in reviewing trade related laws to ensure trade and enterprises thrive in Laikipia

In his address, Governor commended the Assembly led by the Speaker Hon. Lantano Nabaala for the support afforded to Executive arm that He leads through prompt policy and law formulation and legislations which in turn support the rolling out of development programs.

"Let us strive to do the best we can for our people, to actualise what we promised them so that we live up to our vision of 'An inclusive County with sustainable quality life'. This is our dream as envisioned in our Third Generation County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2023-2027)." The Governor said while ending his speech.

Innovation, Teamwork and Learning were the Hallmarks of 2024 Orthopedic Camp



“I always come away from Kenya feeling like I have learned more than I have taught,” Dr. Rob Poulter, one of the Future Health Africa Orthopaedic surgeons said.

Teaching and innovation were the key themes of the Orthopedic Camp run by Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital, in conjunction with Future Health Africa. This was the second consecutive edition to be held at NTRH since doctors were reinstated to service in 2023

“There has been a lot of sharing of knowledge and skills,” Dr. Sammy Kilonzo, NTRH Chief Executive Officer said, during the closing dinner of the camp. “Every year we should be building on what we did.” He added.

“**Of the 86 surgical beneficiaries, 68 benefited from more than one major procedure.**”

More than 1600 clients were screened (over 150 per day). Additionally, 86 major surgical procedures were completed in a camp that ran from 26th January to February the 8th. Of the 86 surgical beneficiaries, 68 benefited from more than 1 major procedure.

Aside from the surgical procedures, 505 clients received physiotherapy services, while 523 benefitted from the hospital’s own unique ‘back school’ group exercise therapy. The back school, which is the first in Kenyan public hospitals,

505 clients received physiotherapy services, while 523 benefitted from the hospital's own unique 'back school' group exercise therapy.

was running during weekdays throughout the orthopaedic camp and has been operating every week for over a year.

"I pray to God that the energy continues." Health CECM Mr. Albert Taiti said. "We had people who had already registered as people with disabilities get deregistered," he said, concerning the work of the medical team during the camp.

Beyond the benefits to the patients the camp also was beneficial to the medics participating in it. For those involved in the surgeries in theatre, there was exposure to using ultrasound-guided nerve blocks, a cost-effective and less risky anaesthetics mechanism, that is often not used due to the lack of a dedicated portable ultrasound machine.

During the camp there was also a series of Continuing Medical Education (CMEs), touching on a range of topics from managing bone infections such as Osteomyelitis to nerve repair, management of various fractures and spinal injuries from Orthopedic surgeons who are leaders in the UK in these fields.

"I always come away from Kenya feeling like I have learned more than I have taught," Dr. Rob Poulter, one of the Future Health Africa Orthopaedic surgeons said.



Article: Andrew Maina
Images: David Serem/Dr. Mercy Kamau

Wrist Surgery gives Hope to End of Five-Year Journey of Suffering



As the NTRH fraternity, we can only wish Lucy Wangui, Godspeed in her recovery.

When Lucy Wangui fell and suffered a wrist injury in 2018, she was not only unable to carry out her daily chores, but her disability also created tensions at home as her family tried to adjust on who to take her responsibilities.

“I slipped and fell one day, while going about my day, and hurt my hand while trying to use it to catch myself” Lucy Wangui says of her fateful accident.

Having made multiple visits to several hospitals, and even undergoing physiotherapy to no avail, her social life also strained, some friends and even some of her key family members deserted her. (In hope the family will make amends, we intentionally

conceal their identity).

It was his uncle who brought to her attention about the camp at Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital and when she enquired from the hospital, she was advised on dates of when the Orthopaedic and Trauma camp was scheduled - from January 26th to February 8th this year.

“When I was brought to this hospital, the staff took a look at my X-rays, and ordered new ones to review the injury to my hand,” Lucy explains. “They then asked me to wait for the Orthopaedic Camp starting in January and called me to come in and see the doctors when the camp began,” she adds

Now in recovery from surgery, Lucy says she can already use her hand in ways that she had been unable to, in the time between her suffering her injury and the intervention from the Orthopaedics Camp team.

“I am extremely pleased that now I am recovering the use of my hand; where the doctors performed the operation I now have some mobility,” Lucy says. “I hope God blesses these doctors and that they may come to Laikipia again and again to help more people,” she added.

Wangui’s journey to full recovery is eminent, a reality that had slowly faded off after a five-years long wait, but she is now full hope, hope for many things, her normal life, her family. As the NTRH fraternity, we can only wish, Godspeed in her recovery.

Article: Andrew Maina
Images: David Serem



DEAR TAXPAYER

**The Nanyuki Teaching
and Referral Hospital
Pay bill Number Is**

3131311

Laikipia County Revenue Board

Tulipe Ushuru Tujenge Laikipia

Join Saccos to Enjoy Economies of Scale, Governor Appeal to People of Laikipia

H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, has commended Tigithi Traders Sacco for its role in financially empowering its members and fostering community solidarity.

The governor was speaking during the Sacco's 10th anniversary celebration in Matanya, Tigithi ward on 17th February 2024.

The County boss was impressed by the strides made by the Sacco since its registration in 2014, posting exponential growth both in membership and in finance. For instance, the Sacco has 2,775 registered members up from 356 members in 2014 which it attributes to exemplary services it offers to its members.

"I am pleased with the achievement of this Sacco, people coming together to enjoy economies of scale, that is the spirit of cooperative movement. It is in the cooperatives that people of Laikipia will derive socio-economic growth and increase households' income," Governor Irungu said.

Tigithi Traders Sacco was identified as the best rural Sacco in Laikipia County in 2023 and also emerged position one for Saccos

that hold Annual General Meetings.

The Sacco Chairman Mr. Timothy Kuira, reminisced the Sacco's journey which started with the intention to consolidate and integrate milk production in Tigithi. He added that later, savings and credit was identified as a fundamental aspect to be able to empower agri-businesses.

"As we celebrate today, the Sacco has grown beyond our expectation and imagination. Members deposit stands at Ksh 127 million and a loan portfolio of Ksh 134 million. Last year, we issued loan amounting to Ksh 85.6 million and loan repayment of Ksh 64.2 million," Mr Kuira said adding that in a span of 10 years, the Sacco has surpassed the minimum threshold of Ksh 100 million required in order to be regulated by Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority (SASRA).

The anniversary celebration also doubled as the Sacco's Annual General Meeting during which members approved dividend to be issued at 15 percent for share capital and interest on member's deposit at 7%.

The members also agreed to put in motion plans to comply



with SASRA regulations such as institutionalizing FOSA by building their own office premises.

Present were Deputy Governor Hon. Reuben Kamuri, Laikipia Senator Hon. John Kinyua, Laikipia East MP Hon. Mwangi Kiunjuri, Tigithi MCA Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki, Mukogodo West MCA Hon. Nicholas Lempaira, CEC Administration Ms. Purity Kendi, CECM Agriculture Mr. Denis Kasoo, Cooperative Revolving Fund Administrator Mr. Richard Murigu, among other county officials.

Article: Nahashon Maina
Images: Nahashon Maina

Laikipia Commemorates World Wetlands Day



The County Government of Laikipia, through the department of Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change, enthusiastically marked World Wetlands Day on February 2, 2024, at Manguo Wetland in Nyahururu, emphasizing this year's theme of "Wetlands and Human Wellbeing."

The commemorative event which united various stakeholders showcased a commitment to raising awareness about the urgent need to conserve wetlands such as swamps, marshes, and riparian lands—essential ecosystems that support human wellbeing and the thriving of wildlife and aquatic species.

Speaking during the event, the Assistant County Commissioner and also the chief guest for the day, Mr. Joseph Wanyonyi, emphasized the necessity of embracing holistic strategies to protect wetlands by addressing pressing issues such as pollution and encroachment. In line with this, he stressed the interconnectedness of human actions and wetland health, calling for concerted efforts to safeguard these invaluable environments.

"Our wetlands are dynamic ecosystems supporting our lives and our survival. We

therefore must recognize that our actions have a profound impact on these delicate environments, and it is our responsibility to ensure their protection," said Mr. Wanyonyi.

In his remarks, the Chief Officer of Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change, Mr. Abraham Lemanyishoe, affirmed the county government's commitment to conserve and restore Manguo Wetland and other county wetlands

through strategic measures such as the planting and growing of bamboo trees. He further called for collective responsibility in the conservation effort, saying,

"As we celebrate World Wetlands Day, let us stand united in our shared commitment to conserve and protect wetlands for the benefit of present and future generations," the CO advised.

Activities for the day included Manguo town clean-up, tree planting, and the acknowledgement of stakeholders with certificates for their vital contributions.



Article: Ann Ngunjiri
Images: Ann Ngunjiri

ACK Archbishop Pays Governor Irungu a Courtesy Call

Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) Archbishop the Most Rev. Dr. Jackson Ole Sapit on February 7, 2024 paid a courtesy call to H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH at his Nanyuki offices.

Archbishop Ole Sapit encouraged Governor Irungu to keep on entrenching servanthood leadership in his leadership based on transparency, accountability and fairness, for it is only then, the supreme ACK leader affirmed, success in leadership can be realized.

H.E Governor Joshua EGH appreciated the Archbishop for considering honoring Laikipia in his visit and his vocal demand for peace in Laikipia North.

Governor too commended the Archbishop's firm stance in seeking accountability from political leaders at both levels of government advocating for measured utterances rather than political outbursts that are divisive and uncivil.

The Anglican leader was joined by the Bishop of Mt. Kenya West Diocese Rt. Rev Joseph Kagunda and other members of the clergy while on a peacebuilding mission in Laikipia.

Welcoming the Archbishop too was Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri, Chief Officer Economic Planning and County Development Mr. Burje Mohamed among other county officials.

A fervent prayer for Laikipia and for its leadership was done as Archbishop appreciated the warm welcome he was accorded.

Article: irene Ndiritu
Images: Nahashon Muhia



Uniting Bodaboda Sector into Cooperatives

On February 3, 2023, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH convened an economic empowerment workshop for bodaboda sector leaders at the county hall, Nanyuki, in collaboration with Saving and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOs).

Key on the agenda was the mobilization of bodaboda operators in the county to join registered SACCOs and also bring different SACCO into one entity.

Upon joining a Sacco, the operators are set to benefit in various ways including loans and financing programs to enable them grow their business as well as saving and investment strategy trainings which provide long term financial returns.

“Today marks the bold step toward uniting all our bodaboda savings and Credit Cooperative Societies in Laikipia to harmonize their common objectives of economic empowerment,” Governor Irungu said.

The Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri encouraged the mobilization and coming together of bodaboda SACCOs saying that the enrollment of the bodaboda operators to register in cooperatives will promote the bodaboda transport sector as well



streamline the trade.

The sector has provided employment to a large number of the youth thus improving their living standards. A follow up meeting is scheduled in March to review the enrollment of the operators in the SACCOs.

Also present during the

meeting were CECM Administration Ms. Purity Kendi, CECM Health Mr. Albert Taiti, Chief Officer Trade Mr. Samuel Njuki, Chief Officer Youth and Sports Ms. Jecinta Koree, among other county government officials.

Article: Irene Ndiritu
Images: Kipkimeiri Rutto

Modern Livestock Market Opened in Ewaso

On February 12, 2024, H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH officially commissioned a one of a kind modern livestock market at Ewaso in Mukogodo West that is set to enhance livestock trade in the area.

In a day, the livestock trade can go up to 300 heads of cattle and 700 sheep and goats, all exchanging hands inside the market at an estimated market value of 15 million to 20 million shillings.

This demonstrates the importance of the new multimillion market. The facility will be an economic hub for people of Laikipia North whose main source of income is Livestock farming.

The government will also be utilizing the facility to provide essential services like disease surveillance, monitoring and vaccinations, in addition to streamlining revenue collection and reducing leakage.

The Governor was accompanied by County Secretary Mr. Koinange Wahome, CECM Trade and Tourism Mr. Stephen Kisorio, area MCA Hon Nicholous Lempaira, Chief Officers including: Mr. John Gichuki Education, Mr. Samuel Njuki Trade, Mrs. Mary Gichuru Livestock, and Ms. Jecinta Koree Youth and Sports, among other Government officials.



Fish Farming: 70, 000 Fish Fingerling Distributed Across County



The County Department of Agriculture - Fisheries Section, distributed 70,000 fish fingerlings to farmers across the county on Friday, 2nd February 2022.

This is the third bunch of the 400,000 fish fingerlings program that is being rolled across the county this financial year FY2013/2024. Approximately 150,000 fish fingerlings out of the 400,000 have already been distributed.

While overseeing the distribution, Chief Officer of Livestock Mary Gichuru

emphasized on the nutritional benefits of fish and the ease in rearing them as an economic venture for both the young and elderly. She added that the department will continue supporting farmers through extension services and advisories on how to successfully rear fish.

“This is your government, and we are committed to uplift farmers so that livestock keeping and fish farming can be among the key revenue streams. We will also ensure you have access to quality fingerlings, feeds, dam liners and market training,” the chief officer encouraged.



Article: Mollin Wanjiru
Images: Mollin Wanjiru

Editorial team

Gakuu Mathenge - Director

Kariuki Stevejackson
John Muriithi
Irene Ndiritu

Compiling, editing, layout & design and production



Our Vision

An Inclusive County with Sustainable Quality of Life

Our Mission

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

**For contribution or feedback, write to the Publication Supervisor,
Director Public Communications at: mathenge.g@laikipia.go.ke**

