



Laikipia

The official newsletter of the County Government of Laikipia

**WEEKLY
BULLETIN**

A Grand Moment for Laikipians

The County Government of Laikipia is preparing for one of the deepest engagements with its citizens and stakeholders on development of the county.

A total of 36 public engagements have been lined up across the county from October 12th-16th to give citizens a chance to say how development in their respective areas should be financed.

Their input will be incorporated in the Laikipia County Finance Bill 2020 which will become a law once passed by the county assembly and signed by the Governor.

The public participation activities provide a moment for the citizens to reflect on what the fee, licenses and charges that they pay to the county are utilized and make decisions of financing of projects in the current financial year. Public participation is the hallmark of Kenya's devolution whereby citizens participate in decision-making in the legislation process. The process involves informing, listening, analyzing, dialoguing, debating and implementation of agreed process.

In the forthcoming public participation activities, citizens are expected to ask what the county government has done with funds after they raised the own source revenue more than two-fold between 2016/2017 and 2018/2019.

More than two dozen counties among them



A past citizen engagement in Nanyuki ward

Meru, Nyeri, Makueni, Kitui, Kiambu, Vihiga, among others have been in Laikipia for peer learning.

Some transformative projects that the government is implementing include the Solio Water Project in Laikipia Central, Makurian Water Project in Laikipia North and Kinamba Water Project in Laikipia West.

Through the water-for-production approach the county is seeking to raise incomes through

provision of water. Some of the already implemented projects include Kariunga, Gatirima, Kajul, Wangwaci, among others.

Under the Smart Towns initiative, the government has embarked on upgrade of the county's urban centres to improve business environment. This has centres which were dusty getting tarmac and well-lit streets. These include Rumuruti, Kinamba, Sipili, Ndurumo, Karaba, Mutanga, Karandi, Wiyumiririe, Nanyuki and Nyahururu.

Many rural roads are increasingly becoming better courtesy of the Equipment Leasing Programme. It should be strengthened to be able to improve the 3,000 kilometres network of unclassified roads within the county.

The Laikipia civil works programme has changed the face of Nyahururu's Jua Kali area as the artisan can attest based on the increased traffic of customers.

It has also greatly improved health sector with new theatres in Ndindika, Lamuria, Kimanjo, Doldol all aimed at ensuring accessibility of quality healthcare to the citizens.

The government is also re-focusing all the ten vocational training centres to become business-oriented by offering market-driven courses.

These are some of the projects that make Laikipian proud of paying taxes.



Solar-powered street lights installed at Karaba Market in Marmaent ward under Laikipia smart towns initiative

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF LAIKIPIA



COUNTY TREASURY
P.O. BOX 1271-10400 NANYUKI.

INVITATION TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETINGS ON
FINANCE BILL 2020/2021 12TH-16TH OCTOBER 2020 ACROSS THE
COUNTY

DAY ONE MONDAY 12/10/2020

S/NO	VENUE	DATE	TIME
1	Ntalaban Centre	12/10/2020	09:00 am
2	Mia Moja Centre	"	12:00pm
3	Kalalu Centre ACC ground	"	02:30 pm
4	Muramati Centre	"	12:00 pm
5	Demu Primary Centre	"	09:00pm
6	Jua kali Centre	"	03:00 pm
7	Nanyuki Social hall	"	10:00 am
8	Thingithu Shopping Centre	"	02:00 pm

DAY TWO TUESDAY 13/10/2020

1	Kiwanja Ndege Centre	13/10/2020	10:00 am
2	Ilpollei Centre	"	01:00 pm
3	Kimanjo Catholic Church	"	01:00 pm
4	Ewaso Centre	"	10:00 am
5	Lekiji Centre	"	10:00 am

6	Depatas Centre	"	02:00 pm -
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DAY THREE WEDNESDAY 14/10/2020

S/NO	VENUE	DATE	TIME
1	Matanya Centre	14/10/2020	09:00 am
2	Lamuria Centre	"	12:00 pm
3	Ngobit Centre	"	03:00 pm
4	Shalom Centre	"	10:00 am
5	Wiyumiririe Centre	"	2:00 pm
6	Pesi Ward Office	"	12:00 pm
7	Salama Polytechnic	"	10:00 am
8	Thome Centre	"	03:00 pm

DAY FOUR THURSDAY 15/10/2020

S/NO	VENUE	DATE	TIME
1	Olmoran Centre	15/10/2020	10:00 am
2	Sipili Centre	"	02:00 pm
3	Nyahururu Social Hall	"	10:00 am
4	Karuga Centre	"	12:00 pm
5	Kwanjiku Centre	"	03:00 pm
6	Oljabet Social hall	"	02:00 pm
7	Gatundia Centre	"	12:00 pm
8	Ndurumo Centre	"	10:00 am

DAY FIVE FRIDAY 16/10/2020

S/NO	VENUE	DATE	TIME
1	Karandi Centre	16/10/2020	02:00 pm

2	Kinamba	"	10:00 am
3	Lonyiek Centre	"	10:00 am
4	Survey Hospital	"	02:00 pm
5	Kandutura Centre	"	02:00 pm
6	Muwarak Centre	"	10:00 am

Written submissions can be forwarded to the County Executive Committee Member Finance, Economic Planning and County Development through the email lcrb@laikipia.go.ke or murungi.ndai@laikipia.go.ke so as to reach him not later than 15th October, 2020. The proposed bill can be downloaded from the County website www.laikipia.go.ke.

Further you can engage the head of treasury on below platforms;

Facebook: Laikipia County Treasury

Twitter: @county_treasury

Whatsapp 0717031031

Murungi Ndai

CECM – Finance and Economic Planning.

County Government of Laikipia



Citizens give their views on the way a project is being implemented in Laikipia. Stakeholders are involved in every step of implementation of projects

Delivery Beyond Outputs–Re-orienting Leadership Focus to Outcomes

Laikipia top managers have just concluded a one week vigorous training on Enterprise Development Programme.

Aiming at implementing enterprise development programs and projects in all departments or parastatals, the government converged all the CEC Members and their Chief Officers to refine skills on project management.

The training was geared towards creating an enabling business environment by ensuring maximum support to the local businesses.

The government engaged various experts to take the team through this noble exercise. The experts were drawn from MA consulting, Serian Consulting, and ADEC.

Laikipia government aims at supporting the managers to identify, design and effectively implement enterprise development programs and projects in respective departments or parastatals.

The enthusiastic training helped the officials reorient their mindset and believe that locally made products have high quality. The leaders resolved to change their past ways of governing the county as one cannot continue doing things the same old way and expect different results.

The reason why governments exist is to facilitate thriving of businesses whether private or public through creation of policies that aim to encourage investments and not kill the ones incubating. To achieve this, the senior management at the county level must aim to align all employees towards achieving the organizational objectives.

No government exists without development. All officers vowed to be promoting the development of enterprises in the county as the foundation of increasing incomes and improving livelihoods of all Laikipians. As a start, buying the locally manufactured products is a



Winnie Pertet, from Serian Consulting Limited taking Laikipia Staff through a just concluded one week training at the County Hall

sign that citizens are ready to help each other grow.

There is no sense at all in importing products that are manufactured within the county borders while those manufacturing them here lack market.

“To develop Laikipia, you must buy what is produced in Laikipia and by Laikipians, and making other sectors do the same,” said Professor Nick Wanjohi, one of the facilitators.

According to the Professor, the government should come up with policies that promote consumption of local products and discourage consumption of foreign products if there is an investor manufacturing the same in Laikipia.

“You must develop policies that encourage promotion of local products as an indication of patriotism, sophistication and civilization, which will in turn present consumers of imported (yet available in the county) as unworthy traitors of the newly found develop-

ment course for the county and country.

Through this, the governing leaders were challenged and accepted to move their focus from exporting raw materials and importing the final products, and instead be manufacturers of the final products. It is a challenge for all Laikipians to contribute towards this development by buying from local manufacturers.

The county government has already geared up efforts to manufacture the first Kenyan made car in Nyahururu. The government is working hand in hand with the BJ-50 inventor to see that his production improves on quality. The Sagak Tech, that is making the Laikipia car, has a ready market in Laikipia government waiting for completion of the first batch.

Facilitator after facilitator insisted on the need for a cultural change to experience real development. People express resistance when there is no clear communication and an achievable goal. A real change will now trickle down from the senior members who received the training to the subordinate staff with a well-aligned leadership. There is a need to work as a team from the department level without leaving anybody behind to achieve the set objectives.

Promotion of local products will be done departmentally with each sector contributing to at least 40 per cent promotion every financial year. The next appraisal exercises will be done with local content in mind. This is one of the ways to ensure the government leads in campaigning for the need for local consumption.

There is a need to move from outputs to outcomes. We must focus ourselves on impact. For example, when coming up with a budget to say how many boreholes will be dug or how many trucks will be leased, officers must have in mind what impacts those projects will have on the citizens.



12,500 Vulnerable Households Put on Medical Insurance Scheme

The county is paying medical insurance

cover for a total of 12,500 poor households from all over the county.

Of this, 4,500 of the group will get NHIF cards paid for a whole year by the government. Representatives from every home will this week be issued with their cards after the government paid for their premiums.

An additional 8,000 households will provide partial payment for a period of between three to six months depending on their level of vulnerability based on the data from the M-Jali.

Laikipia County is data driven in making decisions and policies. The county also makes good use of evolving technology. It is through the combination of the two that Laikipia used the M-Jali mobile APP to collect social economic data on people to come up with a list of the neediest in the county and help them access uninterrupted Medicare.



Verification of the persons being registered by community health volunteers

Categorization of the two groups was on the basis of personal possessions and availability of vital the basic needs from the M-Jali data. Each family revealed whether they own property and of what worth, whether they resided on a rental or own house, ability to

pay for various bills, and access to water. The results were fed to the app which brought the two distinct categories.

The 4, 5000 were found to be in dire need of aid while the 8,000 had a potential to pay but needed a boost.

Enrolling and carefully registering the selected group takes time and efforts. First the contact person in each family is sent a message indicating the place and time officers will be conducting the exercise. A call the follows from the community health workers on the ground to confirm that all is set for the date. The area chiefs, MCAs and health workers avails themselves to confirm that the needy are the ones who benefit and not one takes advantage.

The county government targets to ensure that every Laikipian has an insurance cover in a bid to achieve universal health coverage. Medical services are expensive when a person does



An NHIF drive in Laikipia County



not

Nanyuki SME Now Producing Low Sugar Carbonated Drinks



Wambui Mwangi who has been under the Laikipia Innovation Development Programme demonstrating one of her inorganic products

Have you been struggling with an urge for a soda but find the available one too sugary? Well, consider yourself lucky. A Nanyuki start up, The Butty Box, has a solution for you.

The firm manufactures a type of carbonated soft drink with minimal sugar for better dieting. One of the main drinks under this name is Water Kefir- a sparkling probiotic drink whose taste resembles that of lemonade.

Ms Wambui Mwangi, who is the person behind Agro processing start-up, insists on use of non-chemical raw materials to maintain good health in her customers. She and her better-half use only locally produced fruits to add flavor to their special soft drink. They do not allow even the smallest amounts of chemicals like those found in coffee.

The raw materials come from the small scale farmers of dairy and fruits farmers. No preservative exist in the couple's products, hence have high minerals and vitamins, similar to the ones found in ripe fruits.

"Our products are dairy and caffeine free and a healthy alternative to soda. Our drinks do not contain any chemicals, preservatives or artificial colors. We use locally sourced fruits to flavor our drinks," says Ms Mwangi.

She recognizes the county government of Laikipia's efforts to hand-hold small businesses as she is one of the over 350 innovators under the Laikipia Innovation Development Programme.

Before the incorporation into the programme, The Butty Box was known to only a few individual and according to the law she was operating an illegal

business, for lack of proper certification. Though the product was a genuine and healthy one, is only through a go ahead from Kenya Bureau of Standards (Kebs) approval that it was recognized as legit.

"We are grateful to the County Government of Laikipia for facilitating us to get a Kebs certificate. Our business has been in operation since September 2019 but it was not until around April 2020 that we came out to mass produce, now that we had received a Kebs certificate," said the innovator.

Other assistance from the county gov-

ernment includes numerous trainings and general linkages to the consumers.

The business has now grown to give its customers a variety of Kebs approved products to choose from. These are composed of three distinct flavours Lemon Ginger, Passion and Pineapple Mint.

"At the moment we only have the three flavours but we are expanding and incorporate more," said the ambitious Political Science Degree holder from Maseno University. Ms Mwangi has worked in the hospitality sector for the last six years.

Asked why they ventured into producing this rare product, she says they sported a lack of consumer friendly product and thus saw a business opportunity.

"We noticed a gap in the market for natural low sugar carbonated soft drinks and we decided to seal it," she said.

The Butty Box products are mainly in various outlets in Nanyuki, Nyeri and Nairobi towns. A market study by the entrepreneurs show that most of the customers are females aged between 25 and 45 years old. However, the product is recommended for all people of all ages, and especially those who are health conscious.

When covid-19 hit the country, the couple adopted by majoring on online selling. Delivery is done within 24 hours in Nairobi and major cities, and only within 48 hours when a customer hails from the Coast region.

For more queries, clarifications or ordering of the organic products,

Call Ms. Mwangi on 0726823355, or

Social media handles @buttyboxnanyuki

Website:

www.thebuttybox.biasharaafrica.com



Focus on 130 Groups That Got KCSAP Cash



Members of Mwiyo Women group who benefited with 2 incubators with an egg capacity of 520

The Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) has aided various groups in the county grow economically through productive engagements.

Ninety (90) of the Common Interest groups (CIGs) have been funded to the tune of Kshs.420, 000 each amounting totaling to Kes. 37.8 million.

Another 40 sets of groups comprising the Vulnerable and Marginalized (VMGs) were funded with Kshs. 350, 000 each, totaling to kshs. 7million. The farmers have been able to put the money into the selected Climate Smart Agriculture priority Value chains which including but not limited to; dairy, sheep, chicken rearing and farming of sorghum and beans.

These groups have been drawn from six wards in the county including, that is, Ngobit, Segera, Tigith, Olmoran, Salama and Rumuruti wards as these were the most affected by climate change in the county, hence their priority.

The Laikipia county Department of Agriculture in partnership with the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture early this year released cheques amounting to 44.8M to 110 farmers' groups.

In those CIGs 15 are from Rumuruti, 13 in Olmoran, Salama 15, 22 in Ngobit, 13 in Tigithi, 12 in Segera and Rumuruti 4, Olmoran, Salama 2, Tigithi 6, Ngobit and 2 in Segera.

The matching grants support CIGs to invest in community micro-projects that focus on the following areas:

- Implementation of Climate Smart Agriculture and Technology Innovation Manage-

ment Practices (TIMPs) (70 percent of the proposal budget)

- Livelihood diversification (20 percent of the proposal budget)
- Mainstreaming nutrition (10 percent of the proposal budget)

The groups have been trained on various Agricultural practices to help them improve their livelihoods by the Extension officers.

Over 90 percent of the procurement of the things needed by each group has been made.

In the sub-projects various dams have been rehabilitated including the Matwiku dam which is almost complete.

Laikipia government has partnered with KCSAP

on various projects within the county.

KCSAP is a Government of Kenya initiative Supported by the World Bank. The Project Development Objective "to increase agricultural productivity and build resilience to climate change risks in the targeted smallholder farming and pastoral communities in Kenya, and in the event of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, to provide immediate and effective response".

The partnership helps in supporting smallholder farmers to adopt integrated climate-smart Technology, Innovation and Management Practices (TIMPs) and also support investments through a community-driven development approach in smallholder agro-pastoral production systems and in pastoral extensive production systems.



Matwiku dam that has been done through the KCSAP

County Formulating Measures to Protect Environment



Water and Environment CEC Njenga Kahiro during the reviewing of the County environment action plan

Laikipia County is developing a one-of-a-kind draft on County Environmental Action Plan (CEAP). This will be the first ever in the county and will entail how to sustainably manage the environment.

The county Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources has partnered with National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and World Vision to come up with a concrete draft to guide the county for the next five years.

"We are preparing the county environment Action Plan that will run from for five years from 2020 to 2024," said David Kingori, the county director for Environment department.

The constitution requires that every county prepare their action plan on conserving the environment through Environment Management and Coordination Acts (NEMCA).

The preparation has seen a technical team form to holistically look at ways of sustainably managing the county environment, as a requirement from the NEMCA.

According to the director, the final report on the plan will show how Laikipia will sustainably utilize the natural resources which include management of minerals, forests, wild life and wet lands.

Through numerous public participations, the

team is taking views from the citizens on ways to manage the environment and how they would like the government to come in.

The team has composed a draft which went to county environment committee and to all stake holders in natural resource management in the county for proposals of what the final report should entail.

The initial draft will then go to the cabinet for approval and some amendments if any. The county assembly will make their final approval to be accepted as a guiding principle in the county in matters environment conservation.

CEAP is intended to provide guidelines on solutions to some Environmental impacts in the county.

Environmental conservation and protection calls for every Laikipian to play an active role to ensure the vision becomes a reality. Poaching, for example, is highly prohibited as it leads to extinction of unique world life preserved in the county in various conservancies.

Burning plastics in open areas is one of the most common ways of harming the environment as it ends up producing harmful chemicals dangerous to animals, human beings and even plants. Others are using chemicals in gardens that are near a river, afforestation, and littering the environment by throwing waste in undesignated places.

To protect the environment, do at least the following: plant more trees to increase the tree cover, avoid using plastic bags and look for alternatives and dispose waste in their rightful places.

KCB'S Checklist for Groups, Chamas Seeking Economic Stimulus Loans

The Covid - 19 pandemic has taken a toll on the nation's economy, not sparing the counties Laikipia included. In a response to the pandemic, Laikipia County has reached an agreement with stakeholders on an economic stimulus package to a tune of about Ksh. 3.3 billion. The package has been established with the support of financial institutions among them; Cooperative, Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), Equity, Family and the National Bank.

This package is aimed at providing an economic boost to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and about 5,000 beneficiaries from Laikipia County are expected to dip hands into this cookie jar. Listed under the beneficiaries are groups and chamas which run a business, asset financing and table banking.

However, the deal comes with some few requirements in order to qualify for the loans

under the package. For instance, KCB bank has issued a list of requirements for the groups seeking to benefit from the bag of money.

For a group to qualify, it must have been in existence for at least one year. The group should present legal proof which is a certificate of registration together with the legal requirements from the County Government. On top of all that, the group needs to show minutes from its meetings with group members who should be between five to fifteen people.

The chama does not have a lot to present as security for it to secure a loan. The financial background needed, requires a group to show its banking history for a period not less than six months. This is needed to show how the group's relationship with a bank has been. As for guarantors, a personal guaran-

tee by the group officials is what groups need.

The group officials will therefore have to present their national identification and a KRA Pin. To stamp the security seal on the deal, the same leaders will be required to give their residential details.

Interested groups should be able to provide the existing business records where possible. These records include receipts of transactions made by the group, and invoices, to show whether there has been growth for the period they have been in business. KCB bank has issued a minimum of 10% saving ratio to the amount needed, that should be met. The stimulus package for groups aims to leverage businesses through loans running for a tenure of one year. What a way to salvage Laikipia's economy!

How GIS Technology Is Improving Efficiency in Laikipia



Land CAS Hon Gideon Mungáro (second left) with H. E. Governor Ndiritu Muriithi during the official hand over of the GIS laboratory last year

The Geographic Information System (GIS) is a modern way of locating the actual placement of anything whether in underground, under water or on the surface of the earth.

The County Government of Laikipia has adopted the new technology to seal all county revenue loopholes which has contributed to loss of revenue.

With the new system that will be incorporated in all business premises, relevant officers will be in a position to have a clear figure of the number of enterprise in the county. The system also indicates the number of those who have paid their bills and thus help point out illegal businesses which may have found their way in the market.

As various organizations and departments try to encompass the digital system, Nanyuki Water and Sewerage Company (NAWASCO) is already leading the way. Though the company had started to use the GIS in 2014, it was not until 2017 that they started using it comprehensively.

According to the Nawasco GIS expert Mr. James Kirumba, the company has developed two versions of the technology to help even those at the lowest levels to use the rather complicated system.

"We have the main GIS systems for the experts and a simplified online version to be used even on a mobile phone," he said, stating that the simplified version came to be in 2018.

For the workers on the ground, the online type helps in reading the metres in a thorough manner without skipping any, hence increasing the revenue. Before connecting the GIS in the metres, the readers had a rough time searching for non-conspicuous metres.

The system helped in updating maps and showing the exact location of the pipeline system as well as the metres.

The system has been helping Nawasco make

guided decisions supported by facts like knowing the actual length of pipes needed in a certain area, while still in the office. This has greatly saved on wastage of materials for the company.

Upgrading of pipes in a given locality necessitated by an increasing population is only possible through this new way of information system a larger population a given area calls for a wider pipe to serve them steadily with adequate water.

Destruction of pipes or other underground fibre optics is a thing of the past as then people used to guess the location of the pipe sys-

tem. Estimation are bound to have some faults and hence the need to upgrade to a modern connectivity.

Once all the systems in the county adopts the GIS system there will be a quick implementation of all the projects. The system provides all the information and the real situation in the ground from an officer in the office.

However, the system is not a thing to encourage laziness and armchair way of doing things, but rather a guiding principle to base any decision without guess work.

A GIS representation of water meters so far installed within Solio Water project

