

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



# Laikipia County

Our Vision: An Inclusive County With Sustainable Quality of Life



[www.laikipia.go.ke](http://www.laikipia.go.ke)



With 80-bed maternity ward, a 20-cot newborn unit, 2 theatres & a 20-bed gynaecology ward



Water Tanks - FAO pg. 29



Livestock Vaccination campaign pg. 28

## Mother and Child Unit at NCRH Officially Opened

DP pledged KSh180 million from MoH to build a new outpatient complex at NCRH

Mother and Child Unit at Nyahururu County Referral Hospital, NCRH, is now operational after its official opening by Kenya's Deputy President HE. Rigathi Gachagua, E.G.H.

The multifunctional

Mother and Child Unit is a unique unit specially dedicated to mother-child care, first of its kind in Mt. Kenya region.

The facility has two dedicated theatres for maternal and women health, a delivery room...



# NANYUKI WATER & SANITATION COMPANY

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-Our Facebook page Nanyuki Water and Sanitation Company  
-Our Toll Free No. 0800 721 101 -Email: info@nawasco.co.ke

## WATER RATIONING PROGRAM EFFECTIVE 19TH MARCH, 2024

Due to the reduced water flows that we are receiving we will be supplying water to different areas as scheduled below effective 19th March, 2024:

AREA SERVED	DAY
1) Mountain View and Ichuga	10.00 p.m. - 5.00 a.m. Daily
2) Muthaiga P.C.E.A , Upper & Lower Primary	3.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. Daily
3) Kenol, Daiga Millers, 62 Paradise, Emess, Ngei	6.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. Daily
4) Muthaiga B, Mosque and environs	6.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. Daily
5) Temu Estate 10.00 p.m. -	5.00 a.m. Daily
6) Likii A	6.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. Daily
7) Likii B	6.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. Daily
8) Thingithu Phase III	5.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. Daily
9) Taji Estate	8.00 a.m. - 8.00 a.m. (24hours) Monday and Sunday
10) Makutano - Roma Minimal flows Daily	
11) Kenya Airforce, Batuk 24 hours with minimal flows Daily	
12) Milimani Estate, Summer homes, Camp George, Consolata Hospital, Likii Hill area	6.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. Daily
13) Nkando, Kangaita	12.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Daily
14) Kaugu Estate and Kanyoni Pumping shifts Daily	
15) Samart Estate, Leisure, Kongoni Minimal flows Daily	
16) Milimani, Roma Area, Double SS Areas	6.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. (minimal flows) Daily
17) Mugambi Estate and Environs	6.00 a.m to 3.00 p.m. (minimal flows) Daily
18) Kilimo, Ruai, PEFA and Kwambuzi	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. (minimal flows) Daily
19) Nyariginu and Kenya fibre	9.00 p.m. - 2.00 a.m. Monday and Tuesday
20) Katheri Centre	9.00 p.m. - 2.00 a.m. Friday, Saturday & Sunday
21) Katheri, Reserve, Kigart	9.00 p.m. - 2.00 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday
22) Major Mwitii, Temple mount, Neema areas and Beisa	8.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Tuesday only
23) ACK, Upper Milimani area	8.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Saturday only
24) St. Jude Nturkuma Primary, Lower Nkando	8.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Thursday only
25) Nabosa Area	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday
26) Dallas and Judea Area	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Thursday and Friday
27) Ichuga Queens and Baraka Dispensary area	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Saturday and Monday
28) Baraka, Tosha Area	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Friday only
29) Baraka , Makutano junction	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday
30) Sweetwaters, Mirera	6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Monday and Sunday

**Note:**

- All customers are encouraged to have adequate storage.
- The schedule will be reviewed as the situation calls for.
- In the event you don't receive water as scheduled please let us know through:



## Distributing Nyota Bean Seeds to farmers for Seed Multiplication

Laikipia's Department of Agriculture has embarked on a strategic initiative of distributing high quality Nyota bean seeds for seed multiplication in the county targeting 1500 farmers. The exercise was carried out from March 1, 2024 to March 9, 2024.

The certified Nyota bean seeds were sourced from the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KARLO).

Nyota bean variety, through research, has been proven to have high yield compared with other bean varieties while also having considerable disease resistance - for optimum production

The distribution exercise was spearheaded by the County Crops officer Ms. Margaret Evanson while ward agricultural officers have been tasked to facilitate the distribution exercise to the selected farmer groups.

Prior to the distribution, the department conducted a series of workshops and informative sessions to educate farmers on the unique attributes of Nyota beans and provided guidelines for



optimal cultivation.

Training sessions were led by agricultural experts from the department and other organisations who shared insights into soil preparation, planting techniques, and post-harvest management.

To make the program effective in offering of extension services, the

department targeted farmer groups, making the exercise seamless and project impact assessment effective.

Ward Agricultural Officers will be visiting the farmers periodically to monitor progress, and offer additional training as needed.

Article/images: Mollin Wanjiru

# Roads Improvement Across the County

## Mahianyu-Macira road in Igwamiti ward



## Mburungatia - Mirera Road - Thingithu ward



## Mburungatia - Mirera Road - Thingithu ward



**45.6 kilometres of roads handed over for use after grading and gravelling in February, while score are under improvement waiting completion t March through April**

**Raya B bride - on going constructions - Salama ward**



**Tank Nyeusi Road - Segera ward**



**Ngenia- Cheetah Road- Umande ward**



Compiled by Nancy Muthoni

## A New Cooperative Society in Laikipia East

The Department of Trade, Tourism, Cooperatives, and Enterprise Development has an addition of another farmers' cooperative society called the Jikaze Cooperative Society, from Ngobit ward.

The new cooperative joins over 200 cooperatives registered in Laikipia County offering jobs to 8710 people according to the latest verified data by the department.

Speaking during the official opening of the cooperative on March 20, 2024 in Wiyumiririe, HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH expressed his optimism of the Ngobit-based cooperative terming the forming of the cooperative as bold economic move for the farmers – he also issued them with certificate of registration.

“I’m glad you have soya being among key crops you will be growing; it is a unique crop that does very well in this region which receives average rainfall. I want you to grow and become the biggest producers of soya in Ngobit ward and Laikipia at large.” Governor Irungu encouraged.

Mr. Isaac Muiga, the chairperson for Jikaze Cooperative explained that the society will help its



members promote their welfare and economic interests by aggregating their soya produce and leveraging on the collective strength of its people to secure credit – in effort of uplifting members economically.

County Executive Committee Member in charge of Trade, Tourism, Cooperative, and Enterprise Development Mr. Stephen Kisorio emphasized the importance of community members joining hands and working towards a common goal.

“There is strength in unity. Once you have aggregated your produce, you become strong, you are able to bargain for favourable market prices, and accessing financial support for expansion and

growth becomes easy,” Mr. Kisorio advised.

Mr. Kisorio assured Jikaze cooperative members of government support in training its management team and availing low priced financial services through the Laikipia County Cooperative Development Revolving Fund (LCCDRF).

In attendance were CECM Agriculture Mr. Dennis Kasoo, Chief Officer Trade and Cooperative Mr. Samuel Njuki, Chief Officer Livestock and Fisheries Mrs. Mary Gichuru, Chief Officer Administration Mr. Mike Kemboi, and Chief Officer Governor’s Office Mr. Stephen Lapan, among other county officials.

Article/images: Nahashon Maina

# Baringo Benchmarks with Laikipia on ECDE Modernization

The Department of Education, Vocational Training and Library Services on March 12, 2024 hosted a delegation of the Education Committee from Baringo County Assembly to learn about ongoing ECDE modernization program in Laikipia. The meeting took place at the county headquarters in Rumuruti township.

Discussions also centered on strategies to mitigate obstacles hindering 100 per cent transition from ECDE level to primary school, primary to secondary and secondary to tertiary level, especially in areas declared disturbed due to cattle rustling activities.

Both Baringo County and parts of Laikipia neighboring Baringo are affected by the banditry menace that come with disruptions of social economic activities as families, teachers and learners are displaced or institutions of learning destroyed.

Led by Baringo County Assembly Deputy Speaker Hon. Nicholas Kimosop, the team noted that while ECDE education on the Laikipia side of the border has since been restored and revamped,



learning had stalled on some parts of Baringo side.

Chief Officer for Education Mr. Mwangi Gichuki agreed that many ECDE institutions along the border admit learners from the Baringo side.

Key also on the peer-to-peer benchmarking tour was exchanging notes on Laikipia's ECDE model and teacher management strategies, and ECDE teachers' scheme of service.

Other issues discussed

were bursary awarding and education in disturbed environments affected by insecurity and government operations.

The CO Education Mr. Gichuki and Baringo's lead, Deputy Speaker Hon. Kimosop described the meeting as a productive peer-to-peer experience promising to keep the spirit of collaboration noting it is then the two counties can develop, socially, and economically.

Article: Gakuu Mathenge

## Pastor Dorcas Commissions Health Soccer Tournament in Laikipia

The Health Soccer Tournament in Laikipia kicked off on March 16, 2024 at the Nanyuki Stadium in an event sponsored by Her Excellency Pastor Dorcas Rigathi, spouse to Deputy President.

The tournament is aimed at giving hope and dignity to the boy-child in Laikipia and keep them engaged positively as a way of fighting drug addiction.

To counter drug addiction menace among the youth, the Country's Second Lady spearheaded the initiative to engage them in sporting activity as a positive occupation and a platform to extend compassion and social relief and rehab therapies to them.

The Tournament in Laikipia will have 32 teams drawn from across the county.

“The best players shall form the Laikipia United Team that shall compete and represent the county at national tournament under the Dorcas Rigathi Foundation (DRF) Health Soccer Tournament against addictions,” said Pastor Dorcas.

H. E. Governor Joshua Irungu



EGH expressed optimism that the tournament will boost fight against alcoholism and drug abuse amongst youth while also being a source of income to participants.

“The soothing sports interactive atmosphere marks a starting point to reforming our youths through engagement aiming to economically empower them as well as eliminate the drug menace,” Laikipia

Governor said.

Present were Her Excellency Laikipia First Lady Mrs. Grace Wakahora, Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri, County MP Hon. Jane Kagiri, Ag Laikipia CECM Sports Mr. Stephen Kisorio, Chief Officer Sports Ms. Jecinta Koree, APECK Chair-Laikipia Rev. George Munene, DCC Laikipia East Mr Patrick Muli, among others.

Article: John Muriithi  
Image: Nahashon Muhia



## Deputy President Opens 53rd Huduma Centre in Laikipia

Laikipia County has joined few counties in Kenya that has two Huduma Centres, adding up from the Nanyuki Huduma Centre branch.

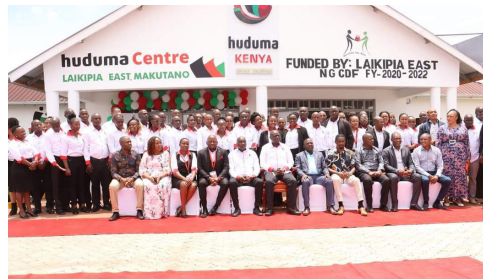
The 53rd Huduma Centre was officially opened by the Deputy President H.E Rigathi Gachagua at Makutano town, Ngobit ward, on March 4, 2024.

HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH hosted the Deputy President joined by the governor of the neighbour county of Nyeri, HE. Mutahi Kahiga EGH.

Makutano Huduma Centre will serve residents of Laikipia, Nyeri and Nyandarua counties who have been seeking these services from Nanyuki, Nyeri and OL Kalao branches.

The branch will offer 153 government services key among them: Issuance of Identity Cards, Issuance of Duplicate Identity Cards, Issuance of Birth Certificates, Application for Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO), Registration of Self-Help Groups CBOs, online services among others.

The ever busy one-stop shop



attracts hundreds of people seeking national government services. The ripple effect is trade enhancement that comes of people concentration at one place; expanding the customer base for traders in the market, in hotel industry, in transport sector, in banking, among other sectors.

This facility therefore becomes a strategic installation for Laikipia and her neighbour counties as it brings convenience and socio-economic benefits to the trio counties.

Leaders accompanying the Deputy President during the opening included: Laikipia Senator Hon. John Kinyua, Defence Principal Secretary Hon. Patrick Mariru,

Wildlife PS Sylvia Museiya, PS Public Service Amos Gathecha, Laikipia County Commissioner Onesmas Kyatha, Laikipia East MP. Hon. Mwangi Kiunjuri, Laikipia West MP. Hon. Wachira Karani, Laikipia Women Rep. Hon. Jane Kagiri, Laikipia County Secretary Wahome Koinange, and Laikipia County Assembly Speaker Hon. Lantano Nabaala led his honourable troops of Laikipia County MCAs.

Host of other senior political leaders, both from the national and county government attended the event.

Article: Kariuki Stevejackson  
Image: Kipkimei Rutto

## Workshop for Revenue Staff on OSR Collection

H.E Joshua Irungu EGH on March 8, 2024 opened a two-day training workshop for Laikipia County Revenue Board (LCRB) and the Ward Revenue Receiver (WRR) from the 15 wards by the Commission on Revenue allocation (CRA) and Institute of Public Finance (IPF).

The training has equipped the staff on ways of improving Own Source Revenue (OSR).

In addition to this, the team gained insight into the criteria used by the CRA for determining equitable share distribution and the factors that designate a county as a hardship area.

A county's OSR is the money gotten from to levying, charging and collection of fees, including rates, rents, royalties, stamp duties, registration and licensing fees and taxes from within their jurisdictions as allowed through County Government Act (2012).



## Ofisi Mashinani: Bringing Revenue Services Closer

The County Government of Laikipia in the month of March 2024 started a programme dubbed Ofisi Mashinani to reach business owners at their local levels of operation.

Ofisi Mashinani is a program that simplifies access to revenue services by setting up mobile offices in various locations and aims to eliminate long queues and tedious processes associated with paying for licenses and other services.

By using Ofisi Mashinani, a trader saves on time and efforts to travel to county offices in Nanyuki, Nyahuru and Rumuruti towns to pay for business permits and licenses without unnecessary hassles.

Article/images: Nicholas Gthinji



LAIKIPIA COUNTY REVENUE BOARD



# OFISI MASHINANI

*Pata leseni ulipo!!!*

**30TH MARCH 2024**

WARD	TOWN CENTRE	TIME
NANYUKI	NGANDO	8AM TO 5PM
THINGITHU	JERICHO	8AM TO 5PM
NGOBIT	KARIGUINI	8AM TO 5PM
SALAMA	PESI/KIAMARIGA	8AM TO 5PM
SOSIAN	LUONIEK	8AM TO 5PM



**H.E GOVERNOR  
JOSHUA IRUNGU EGH**

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#TULIPEUSHURUTUJENGELAIKIPIA

## Partnership: NTRH Staff Benefit from Week-long Workshop on Emergency Care

Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital, NTRH held a joint week-long emergency care workshop that started on March 15, 2024, in what marks another step in sustained effort to improve outcomes in this critical healthcare provision front in the hospital.

The training, a partnership between NTRH, Emergency Medicine Foundation Kenya (EMFK), and the British Royal Infirmary, saw scores of staff drawn from different competencies take part in intense simulations on emergency scenarios, key in building rapid diagnosis, teamwork, and seamless communications to make the best outcomes.

Among other areas, the intense training care focused on rapid diagnosis for unresponsive high-risk trauma patients and speedy assessment to attend to urgent cases such as pregnant mothers where two or more lives are at risk.

“Kenya loses approximately 57 lives every hour, which could potentially be halved with a working emergency care system,” notes EMFK on its website.

NTRH is one of the



128 beneficiaries of the partnership spread across the country, as EMFK seeks to spread its reach to impact on more lives. The partnership aims at tailoring the Kenya Emergency Medical Care Policy 2020-2030 to cater for the varying emergency healthcare in the counties.

The sustained workshops are a boost to the efforts to fortify emergency care at NTRH. Emergency healthcare being a budding area in Kenya, the sustained investment by NTRH puts it at the forefront in improved outcomes. Since 2019, the facility runs a 24 hour operations in the emergency care.

Through the comprehensive emergency medical care

training programs, EMFK has empowered 1,085 healthcare providers through workshops and 3,412 via webinars, while collaboration with the National Government expands influence in emergency medical care education, policy formulation, and strategic partnerships.

The introduction of the County Emergency Medical Care Champions program, with champions in 22 counties, highlights EMFK's proactive approach to fortifying regional emergency medical care, solidifying the hospital's role as a key player in shaping and advancing emergency healthcare services nationwide.

Article: David Serem  
Image: David Serem

## Completion of Makutano Market Ablution Block - Ngobit ward



## Construction of Kiamariga ablution block - Salama ward



## Construction commences for Kinamba market stalls - Githiga ward

The market has already been expanded and gravelled



# Mother-Child Hospital at NCRH Officially Opened for Service

Mother and Child Unit at Nyahururu County Referral Hospital, NCRH, is now operational after its official opening by Deputy President HE. Rigathi Gachagua, E.G.H.

The multifunctional Mother and Child Unit is a unique hospital specially dedicated to mother-child care, first of its kind in Mt. Kenya region.

The facility has two dedicated theatres for maternal and women health, a delivery room with a capacity of three, up to 80 bed maternity ward, a 20-cot newborn unit, and up to 20 bed gynaecology ward space.

The facility is also fully fitted with modern equipment and is connected to the new liquid oxygen tank. The newborn unit now boasts of six incubators up from the three of the past; ten phototherapy units up from only two; twenty cots up from ten; two CPAP machines and four resuscitaires.

The unit also has space that can comfortably accommodate three mothers providing Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC); with an option to expand to accommodate more.

The new hospital complex was designed with



consideration of an annual tally of over 5,000 mothers delivering at this hospital. The design also factored-in a possible 50 percent surge or more in maternal health demand that will come after commissioning and from the superior service experience that clients will experience.

In his address during the official opening of the facility, Deputy President H.E. Rigathi Gachagua, EGH acknowledged the

unique healthcare approach by County Government of Laikipia led by HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH. In support of health intervention in Laikipia, the DP committed that Ministry of Health will support Laikipia in construction of a new expanded KSh180 million outpatient complex at NCRH.

Article: Esther Muthoni  
Image: Nahashon Muhia

## Crop Development through Irrigation

Laikipia's Department of Agriculture and Irrigation has been desilting and expanding community earth dams with an aim of increasing the area under Irrigation as opposed to rain-fed crop production.

The works have started in Marmanet and Nanyuki wards. Nyanjiku dam in Marmanet and Nkando dam in Nanyuki have already been desilted. Commencement of the same has started at Imenya dam in Ngobit.

Nyanjiku dam in Marmanet ward has a capacity of 15,000 cubic meters and will benefit over 500 direct farmers – approximately 1,000 livestock will benefit from the area surrounding the dam.

The Chief Officer Agriculture and Irrigation, Ms. Elizabeth Mwangi while inspecting Nyanjiku dam in Melwa, Marmanet Ward on Monday, 4 August 2024 said that the department will desilt and expand a dam in every ward in FY2023/2024.

Further, the CO elaborated that the departments' primary goal in irrigation development and management is to provide a consistent water source for farmers, enabling them to irrigate their crops throughout the year,



promoting better yields and increased food security.

Over the years, rain-fed agriculture is becoming less reliable due to climate change that has affected weather patterns globally. Prolonged drought has led to crop failure for a number of consecutive years calling for farmers to

adopt smart technologies.

The Department of Agriculture is committed to supporting farmers to minimize reliance on rain fed agriculture.

Article/images: Mollin Wanjiru

## Issuance of Certificates to Newly Trained Coaches and Referees

The County Government of Laikipia in conjunction with Football Kenya Federation (FKF) on March 8, 2024 issued certificates to newly trained coaches and referees at the Nanyuki County Hall.

H.E Governor Joshua Irungu E.G.H presented the certificates to the 28 coaches and 77 referees who had completed the football trainings with the FKF.

The trainings conducted in Rumuruti and in Nanyuki involved a two-week CAF D level training for the coaches and a one-week level III training for the referees.

“The sports trainings we have accorded our youth will enable them cultivate values such as discipline, teamwork, perseverance, equality and inclusion- qualities that will shape their lives and careers,” said Governor Irungu.

The County Head also stated that the trainings provided would improve the quality of football played by the county teams during different competitions like the Governor’s Cup Tournament.

“Sports are essential to the youth as they enable them develop strong social bonds. Through constant exercises in training, general



body fitness is enhanced, significantly improving their health,” said the Chief Officer Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services, Ms. Jecinta Koree, during the meeting.

The CO acknowledged the shortage of referees and coaches that has been in the county and said the training is a step towards filling that gap.

The Chairman FKF Laikipia, Mr. Abdul Kaka, commended the youth for their dedication in the training and encouraged them saying, “engaging in sports is a worthy investment as it provides many career opportunities for the youth.”

County Government of

Laikipia is also working with FKF to register the county teams with FIFA Connect to improve the welfare and dignity of sports coaches, referees, teams and players and keep track of players wherever they are in the world.

So far, the County Government has provided trainings for over 100 referees and coaches and is set to continue the exercise.

Present was Chief Officer Trade Mr. Samuel Njuki, Chief Officer Governor’s Office Mr. Stephen Lapian among other government officials.

Article: Irene Ndiritu  
Images: Kipkimei Rutto



## Borehole Drilling in Kiwanja Commences

Senior County Government officials on March 14, 2024 led the Kiwanja and Njorua residents in the ground breaking ceremony for a new bore hole in the area.

Led by County Secretary Mr Koinange Wahome, the team met community leaders, teachers and management of Kiwanja Secondary school, Njorua secondary school and neighbouring Kiwanja Primary school to appraise them on sustainable water management and resource sharing between stakeholders.

The facility is part of the ongoing multi-pronged county government program to expand access to clean water to ensure no one walks for more than a kilometer in search of clean water by drilling bore holes, refurbishing old ones, and providing rain water harvesting and storage tanks to 50,000 households across the county.

Parents, leaders and teachers commended the county government for decision to drill the borehole for Kiwanja area residents which they said would greatly boost good health among students and community at large who currently depend on a sub-surface dam for the commodity.



A multi-stakeholder management committee is expected to be formed to assume management and maintenance of the facility once in full operation.

The county government has announced plans to deploy agricultural extension officers to all borehole sites to assist communities set up high commercial value fruit trees nurseries intended to help communities diversify

their household incomes in line with ongoing climate change mitigation policies.

The CS was accompanied by Chief Officer for Administration, Mr. Mike Kemboi, Chief Officer for Education, Vocational Training and Library Services, Mr. Mwangi Gichuki, Governor's Delivery Unit Advisor, Mr. Gitonga Wambugu, among others.

Article: Mathenge Gakuu

## Interactive Meeting with the County Enforcement Team

County Enforcement Unit is a critical function of all County Governments. This is the team that enforce compliance of county laws and regulations. The Unit is established by County Law Compliance and Enforcement Act, 2018.

In appreciation of their crucial mandate, the County CECM in charge of Administration, Coordination, ICT and Public Service, Ms. Purity Kendi convened an interactive meeting with the enforcement team On March 21, 2024.

The meeting's objective was one; discuss emerging issues in their work; their challenges while discharging their duty; and, foster to cohesion and collaborative approach in the team.

"Just like police who enforce national laws, county also rely on you to enforce county laws. Your work is therefore a big contributing factor to development because we cannot collect revenue without you to enforce compliance, we inspect markets, eateries and construction sites with your help, making your job the centre stage of government operations," CECM Kendi reminded the team.



The team expressed their satisfaction with government's support saying their working environment have significantly improved. The open-forum discussion further allowed the team to also express challenges they are experiencing - which the departmental heads present promised to address.

The Chief Officer Administration, Coordination, ICT and Public Service Mr. Mike Kemboi urged them to entrench professionalism in all their undertaking reminding them that they are part of the administration's face.

"How you treat people while manning the gates, while

manning any government installation, while controlling crowd or enforcing compliance in town, reflects on how government treats its people" the CO advised.

The Director Administration, Mr. Charles Muiruri with the County Enforcement Superintendent, Mr. Eston Nyaga acknowledged the need to address the concerns raised by the officers while also committing to ensuring the unit lives up to its mandate.

A similar meeting will be held in Laikipia West to engage the officers in the constituency.

Article: Irene Ndiritu  
Images: John Muriithi

## Boost To Service Delivery as NYAHUWASCO Relocates To New, Spacious Offices

Over the years, the Nyahururu Water and Sanitation Company (NYAHUWASCO) has grappled with subpar working conditions in rented spaces, impacting its ability to provide optimal services. This, however, is expected to change with the company's strategic relocation to new and expansive office facilities located close to Nyahururu law courts.

Speaking at the official office opening event on March 15, H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH emphasized the transformative potential of the relocation to not only enhance operational efficiency but also enhance customer satisfaction.

"The relocation of NYAHUWASCO's offices isn't just an infrastructural upgrade; it's a renewed commitment to serve communities with excellence by ensuring seamless access to essential services," said Governor Irungu.

Echoing the Governor's sentiment, CECM Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change Ms. Leah Njeri expressed confidence that the new offices would significantly boost staff morale and productivity.



"NYAHUWASCO's new offices will not only enhance efficiency but also motivate the staff to strive for even greater results, ultimately serving our community with excellence and dedication now and in the years to come," the CEC said.

Mr. Bernard Mwaura, the Managing Director of NYAHUWASCO, expressed gratitude to stakeholders whose collaborative efforts made the office relocation a success, noting that the new offices add to the company's achievements and reflect the company's commitment to improvement. Other achievements include the

reduction of non-revenue water for the Rumuruti and Igwamiti schemes from a high of 35 percent to 22 percent and 60 percent to 27 percent, respectively.

With this, he stressed that the company looks forward to a future of enhanced service provision, and the new offices will serve as a catalyst to boost the continued effort in fulfilling its mandate to provide reliable water and sanitation services to the people of Laikipia West and beyond.

Article: Ann Ngunjiri

## NYAHUWASCO Reducing Non-Revenue Water

Nyahururu Water and Sanitation Company (NYAHUWASCO) has significantly reduced their non-revenue water (NRW) in all their areas of jurisdiction by eight per cent.

Speaking during the company's relocation to new offices on March 15, 2024, Mr. Bernard Mwaura, the Managing Director of NYAHUWASCO revealed this saying Rumuruti and Igwamiti were the best performing schemes recording a reduction of NRW from 35 per cent to 27 per cent.

Non-Revenue Water is the water produced by a water utility but is lost due to issues like leakages and illegal connections, and hence does not earn any revenue for the organization.

According to Governor Joshua Irungu EGH who graced the event, this performance is consistent with the priority for the water sector in Kenya. The National Water Services Strategy goal is to reduce NRW to under 30 per cent. It is also a positive indicator towards compliance with the Vision 2030 goal which is to reduce this to under 25 per cent.

Governor Irungu has challenged the company to continuously improve on their service delivery as they focus on connecting more people to get water, upgrade their efficiency and customer care service.



Article: John Muriithi  
Images: Nahashon Muhia

## Blending Profit, Peace and Nature Conservation

The County Government of Laikipia in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Laikipia Nature Conservancy (LNC) has initiated innovative and profitable relationships that blend conservation of nature, peace building and economic wellbeing of communities in Ol-Moran Ward.

State Department for Basic Education and the Laikipia Nature Conservancy have brought together twenty two (22) primary schools and eleven (11) secondary schools from Kirima Sub County to develop environmental curriculum teaching materials suitable for Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) implementation local schools.

The LNC has availed two consultants to help with the process.

“The government is keen to align the CBC with environment and climate change education. Educational visits to national parks and nature parks are an integral part of CBC. LNC meets this need by opening up its wildlife education center to local schools” said Mr. Mwangi Gichuki Chief Officer for Education.

Among initiatives to reduce cyclic conflicts by the LNC



involves distribution of avocado seedlings in an effort to diversify sources of income and reduce dependency on cattle keeping that is at the center of cattle rustling activities.

“The county government is deploying agricultural extension officers to assist schools set up proper tree nurseries. The successful ones can earn some income from selling seedlings to the community, the government and agencies, all these efforts directed to environmental conservation,” Mr. Gichuki added.

Bee keeping and introduction

of pig farming to willing farmers to replace cattle is among ideas floated to make Karima Sub County less attractive to cattle rustlers from neighboring counties, and more productive and peaceful for the locals.

Mr. Gichuki was the Guest of Honor at the closing ceremony after a two-day environmental curriculum development workshop at the Laikipia Nature Conservancy. He was accompanied by CO for Administration, Mr. Mike Kemboi.

Article: Gakuu Mathenge

## Laikipia Marks World Water Day with Call for Peaceful Water Management

On March 22, 2024, H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH presided over the World Water Day celebration held at Naibor town in Segera Ward.

World Water Day is commemorated annually on March 22nd to raise awareness about the significance of water resources and the need for sustainable management to ensure equitable access to safe and clean water for all.

In line with this year's theme "Leveraging Water for Peace," the event provided an opportunity for leaders, stakeholders and communities to reflect on the interconnectedness of water, peace, and security, particularly in Laikipia, a semi-arid county that has for so long grappled with water challenges escalated by the effects of climate change.

Speaking at the event, Governor Irungu noted that water is a vital resource that can foster peace or ignite conflict. He highlighted the county government's strides and commitment towards providing, conserving and managing water efficiently with the goal of creating a water secure county.

"Water is a fundamental



human right, and its sustainable management is essential for peace and development. In Laikipia, we are implementing various projects, including the drilling of boreholes and providing 50,000 water tanks to women to improve access to clean and safe water for domestic and livestock use," said Governor Irungu.

He further called for concerted efforts among stakeholders as effective collaboration emerges as a strategic approach towards addressing water resource conflicts among communities upstream and downstream

as well as to mitigate human-wildlife conflict arising from constrained water resources.

With this, Governor Irungu pledged to convene an engagement meeting with key players in the water sector, such as the Water Resource Authority (WRA) and the Water Resource Users Association (WRUA), to explore effective policies such as the Water Catchment Management Plan that chart a path towards a more sustainable and harmonious future for all.

Article/images: Ann Ngunjiri

## Laikipia County Climate Smart Agriculture Multi-Stakeholder's Platform (CSA-MSP)

Laikipia County has joined 23 other counties that have created County Climate Smart Agriculture Multi-stakeholder's Platform (CSA-MSP).

The platform's formation is in line with Kenya's commitment to implement CSA measures to address the impacts of climate change and to meet her obligations to the Paris Agreement in reducing emissions, as stipulated in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

To this effect the County department of Agriculture in collaboration with the national government and development partners convened a 4-day stakeholder's workshop to enhance promotion, adoption of the CSA platform. The workshop began on March 11, 2024.

The state actors in the workshop included Climate Change Unit from the Ministry of Agriculture and Alliance for Bioversity and Help Self-Help Center (HSHC).

Lack of proper coordination across stakeholders and actors in Climate Smart Agriculture has been



identified as one of the biggest challenge as highlighted in the Kenya Climate smart Agriculture Strategy (KSAS).

The committee will also ensure they mobilize resources, develop policies for climate action and engage more stakeholders for climate Action in the agriculture sector. The ripple effect of this synergy will see adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture, promotion of its implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Speaking during the workshop, the Chief Officer Agriculture and irrigation Ms. Elizabeth Mwangi appreciated that agriculture department alone cannot address climate change issues and called for collaborative efforts between Government and Non-Governmental actors in efforts of reversing

effects of climate change and mitigation interventions..

Stakeholders involved included representatives from the County department of Agriculture, County department of trade, County department of Water and Environment, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Financing Locally-led Climate Action program (FLLoCA) Laikipia, Kenya Agricultural Business Development Project (KABDP), Food Systems Resilience Project (FSRP), the Kenya National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Kenya meteorological Department (KMD), Hand in Hand East Africa, Horizon Business ventures, and Farmer representatives among others.

Article/Images: Ann Ngunjiri

## Pastor Dorcas Visits Ol Ngarua Special School

On March 13, 2024 H.E Pastor Dorcas Rigathi together with H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH visited Ol Ngarua Special School in Laikipia West while on her four-day tour in Laikipia.

The spouse of the Deputy President encouraged the children at Ol Ng'arua to remain focused in their studies and remain true to their life goals and aspirations.

“I would like you to know that there is nothing you cannot achieve if you set your mind into it. You only need to put God first, pray all the time, obey your parents and teachers, and work hard,” the Second Lady encouraged.

The Second Lady called on all government agencies at both levels of government to be sensitive to the needs of specially abled and their representation be adhered to in political nominations, state and county appointments, in competitive recruitment among other platforms.

During the visit, Mama Dorcas donated assistive devices such as tricycles and white canes to enable the abled differently children in the school to carry out their daily activities easily. She also donated teaching aids, toiletries and foodstuffs.

During the event, speaking to the students, teachers and parents, Governor Irungu called implored parents and the community to



understand that every child has equal rights before God and Government.

“Therefore, education for children living with disability is a mandatory call – that way, we promote inclusivity and pool all talents from all our children into nation building,” the Governor

said.

Several leaders accompanied the Second Lady including Laikipia's Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri, Laikipia Senator John Kinyua, Laikipia's Women Representative Jane Kagiri, among national and county leaders.

Article: Irene Ndiritu  
Images: Nahashon Muhia



## Laikipia Meets Israel: Exploring Sustainable Water and Food Solutions

On March 13, 2024, HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH held discussions with the Israeli Ambassador to Kenya H.E Michael Lotem on possible partnerships in expanding access to clean water and improving productivity in agriculture.

This is furtherance to Laikipia County's accelerated efforts of exploring different ways of finding sustainable solution to clean water provision and best agricultural practices that guarantees food security in the county.

In this light, Israel is a global leader in water resource management, agricultural technologies, and Laikipia seeks to harness the same knowledge and replicate in

Laikipia.

Geographically, Israel is a country in the Middle East whose climate and soil type is considered unfriendly to agricultural activities and water remains a rare resource, yet in the midst of those realities, the Jewish state is a key exporter of food products, agricultural technologies, with enough water for irrigation and domestic use.

"We are also looking to possibilities of taking some students who have completed training in agriculture, agribusiness and technology to Israel to benchmark in



Israel in their fields and come back and impart that knowledge to our farmers," Governor Irungu explained after the meeting.

Conversation will be advanced until a framework is established, within which this partnership will be operationalised.

## France Ambassador to Kenya Visits Governor Irungu

On March 27, 2024 France ambassador to Kenya, HE Arnaud Sequet paid HE. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH a courtesy call in his Nanyuki office.

The teams from both sides, Laikipia and France, agreed that cultural wealth is a front that both sides share and initiated a friendship that both parties can in future exploit.

Health and agricultural innovations are another fronts both leaders observed as potential areas of mutual interest, for research and development interventions.

Governor Irungu and Ambassador Sequet agreed to keep doors of the newly established friendship open for future developmental exploits.



Article: Kariuki Stevejackson  
Images: Nahashon Muhia

## NTRH Offers Free Screenings in World Kidney Day Observance

The Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital, NTRH, marked World Kidney Day with a public screening for members of the public at the health facility on March 14, 2024.

Sixty-one people received an assortment of kidney health diagnostic tests from blood sugar and blood pressure measurements to urinalysis, as well as an assortment of kidney health-related talks concerning, diet, exercise, and testimonials about living with and overcoming chronic kidney illnesses.

World Kidney Day, is an observance set aside by the World Health Organisation on every second Thursday of March. This year's theme is 'Kidney Health for All'.

According to the Laikipia County Statistical Abstract 2024, there were 14,242 reported cases of Diabetes in 2021, with 142 deaths, and 35,891 reported incidences of High Blood Pressure in the same year.

According to the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) for 2023-2027, the Laikipia Health Service targets to raise the percentage of diabetics in the county with their blood sugar under control from 11 percent to 50 percent over five years.

The screening event was organized in partnership with the Kenya Renal Association, as one of several events across Kenya, to sensitize the public about Kidney health.

NTRH has daily Diabetes Outpatient Clinics (DOPC), as well as a fully operational 10-bed Kidney Dialysis centre serving as many as 45 patients a week.

One such example is Ibrahim Juma, a local resident who has been receiving kidney



dialysis from NTRH since December 2023.

"I am well looked after here [at NTRH]" Ibrahim said "Medics are available, drugs are available, if I feel any complications the doctors respond to me promptly, and there are even nutritionists who help me manage my diet," he added.

Article/images: Andrew Maina

## LHS Kicks Off Household Registration Drive

The Laikipia Health Service (LHS) has kicked off a month-long Household Registration and Enrollment drive and deployed 1,153 Community Health Promoters (CHP) for the job.

The CHP teams have been split into 156 units spread across the county to do door-to-door visits to register household members and collect data on health needs.

Information collected in specialized mobile devices will be used to link cases captured with the LHS facilities at the local level for processing at the local level or for referral to other facilities and specialists depending on individual needs.

“This is the first phase and will be repeated after six months to monitor any changes in between,” said Dr. Donald Mugoi, the County Director of Health, Preventive and Promotive Services.

The information captured is expected to improve efficiency in health services delivery by informing planning for medical supplies distribution to facilities where they are most needed after analysis of data collected to reduce wastage and time spent by management and patients in referral trips from



one facility to another.

“This also informs staffing and human resource deployment decisions based on anticipated service demand ahead of time, for example using the data collected on expectant mothers to plan for delivery services in each facility” Dr. Mugoi added.

On Saturday, LHS issued a general notice to members of the public to expect the visits by the Community Health Promoters who will also answer their questions.

The CHP personnel have identification badges and

introduction letters to identify themselves properly to every household they visit.

The exercise is in preparation for the rolling out of the anticipated Universal Health Coverage (UHC) policy nationwide.

Dr. Mugoi said LHS was in touch with other stakeholders and will be making regular public updates on the progress of the exercise.

Article: Gakuu Mathenge

## 340,000 Sheep, Goats Vaccinated in Laikipia North

Department of Agriculture, Laikipia County, in collaboration with Impact Kenya launched the vaccination exercise targeting 340,000 sheep and goats in Mukogodo East and Mukododo West wards on Monday, 25th March 2024.

The intervention is geared towards safeguarding livestock from contagious diseases that pose threats to animal health and economic stability for the pastoral community.

The vaccination sought to curb against diseases such as Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) commonly known as goat and sheep plague, and goat pox diseases.

Sheep and goat pox, CCPP, and PPR are highly contagious viral diseases that affect sheep and goats, affecting the respiratory system leading to Pneumonia. Severe cases can result in high mortality rates.

The PPR disease is characterized by fever,



coughing and diarrhea. The disease spreads rapidly within flocks.

“This vaccination program underscores our commitment to promoting animal health, ensuring food security, and fostering sustainable agricultural practices. By safeguarding our small ruminant populations, we are not only protecting livelihoods but also contributing to the overall prosperity and resilience of our nation,” CECM DALF Mr. Dennis Kasoo explained during the vaccination exercise.

The department had received alarming reports from farmers regarding the three diseases that

have caused deaths.

The mobile vaccination teams will traverse rural areas reaching out to the herders to provide vaccination and treatment services to the sick animals in the area. The team will be led by the Ag. Director Veterinary Services Dr. Jackson Ncebere and IMPACT Kenya's program director Mr. John Tingoi.

CECM Agriculture and Livestock officially launched the program, accompanied by the Chief Officer Livestock and Fisheries Mary Gichuru, at Chumvi Centre in Mukogodo East and will run for two weeks.

Article/images M,ollin Wanjiru

## Laikipia Schools Receive Water Tanks to Enhance Water Harvesting

H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH flagged off the distribution of 20 water tanks to various learning institutions across the county on March 28, 2024 in a significant development towards enhancing access to clean and safe drinking water in Laikipia.

These 10,000-litre water tanks, funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), marked a pivotal step forward in establishing sustainable water harvesting and storage infrastructure, crucial to ease accessibility to clean and safe water at schools.

"Ensuring the availability of clean and safe water in schools remains a priority for my administration, as it directly impacts the continuity of the learning process and the overall well-being of students," Governor Irungu said during the distribution exercise.

With this, he expressed gratitude to FAO for their invaluable partnership with the county government, noting that it is a remarkable progress towards realizing the ambitious goal of distributing 50,000 water tanks by 2027.

'Through concerted efforts



and strategic partnerships, the county government continues to make significant strides towards a future marked by enhanced infrastructure and improved access to basic water services that promote the health and well-being of the communities.' Governor Irungu added.

Leaders present during the flag-off included: County Secretary Mr. Koinange Wahome, CECM for Water, Environment, Natural

Resources, and Climate Ms. Leah Njeri, CECM for Education Mr. Stephen Kisorio, CO for Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change Mr. Abraham Lemanyishoe, CO for Administration Mr. Mike Kemboi, CO for Livestock and Fisheries Ms. Mary Gichuru, and CO for Education Mr. John Gichuki, among county officials.

Article/images: Ann Ngujiri

# Laikipia hosts 2024 edition of International Day of Forests

Laikipia County basked in the limelight of hosting 2024 edition of the International Day of Forests held at Lariak Forest in Muhotetu, Laikipia West sub-county on 20 March 2024.

HE Governor, Joshua Irungu EGH, played host to delegates from the National Government led by Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Ms. Soipan Tuya.

Key stakeholders, United Nations and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) representatives, and wananchi inside Lariak forest where event took place.

Laikipia county has come to embody as a top site for cutting edge research, policy formulation and implementation of innovative solutions in environmental conservation and Climate Change mitigations featuring national and county governments, private commercial investments in nature conservation, leading international nature conservation civil society and local communities among others.

However, all this must be harnessed for meeting the



peoples' immediate needs for dignified life.

In recognition of this CS Tuya declared the state was keen to ensure that even international players on Forests, Environment and Climate Action “incorporated the communities’ water needs, food security needs and economic development needs of the Kenyan people”

This concern has been incorporated into the quest to plant 15 billion trees to scale up national tree cover to 30 percent by the year 2032 though a policy requirement that 30 percent of all trees planed are fruit trees that have an immediate nutritional and economic benefit to the communities and individual households.

Fodder trees to supplement

livestock feeds have also been captured as a key factor in this.

To boost access to tree and fruit seedlings to individuals and communities the Laikipia County government has donate some 20 acres of land to Kenya Forestry Research Institute (FEFRI) for trees and fruit seedlings propagation in addition to the Lariak Forest designated status as central seedling propagation and distribution site.

The 2024 International Day of Forests was themed “Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for Better World” in line with the quest to deployment of technology like drones for surveillance and protection of forests.

Article: Mathenge Gakuu  
Images:Nahashon Muhia

## Final Women Forum in Kinamba

On March 6, 2024 H.E Governor Joshua Irungu EGH concluded the first phase of women fora at Kinamba Catholic Church Hall where he engaged over 500 women leaders from Olmoran, Sosian, Githiga and Marmamet wards.

The sixth and final forum had the same agenda of women development focusing on the provision and distribution of 50,000 water tanks of 3000 litre capacity. **See more on previous edition, issue 129**



Images: Nahashon Muhia

# International Women's Day at Nanyuki GK Prison

Laikipia County had unique venue for International Women's Day, at Nanyuki G.K Prison.

Deputy Governor HE. Reuben Kamuri accompanied by CECM Administration Hon. Purity Kendi graced the event.

This year's theme is 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress'- a theme motivated by enormous contribution contribute in societal socio-economic growth and hence the need to upscale those efforts to encourage equity, inclusivity and integration.

Speaking during the event, DG Kamuri called for more deliberate policies that promote women empowerment noting that women's approach in development is unique from how men approach development in society.

"Women have reconciliatory approach to development, they empathize with victims of inequality and women-driven policies mostly seeks to protect their children, hence healing the society," the DG noted.

County minister of Administration, Madam Kendi on her part encouraged women to keep on fighting



for their rightful place in the society, in community leadership, political leader and even in sphere of emerging technological world.

"Even when you are here in prison, for whatever reason or circumstances that brought you here, your place as a sister, as woman, and especially as a mother, cannot be replaced. I want to urge you to never give up on yourself, while incarceration and after. The community needs you; our nation needs you," the minister implored.

The Nanyuki GK Prison leadership committed to

ensure that women in the facility, within the time they shall serve, they will have a proper environment for reflection and correction, so that when their time in the facility is over, they be integrated back to the community for nation building.

International Women's Day is marked annually on March 8th to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women but this event happened a day earlier to align with facility's and leaders' schedule).

Article: John Muriithi





# LAIKIPIA COUNTY AJIRY CENTER

- ☑ Music Distribution.
- ☑ Marketing.
- ☑ Other Music Business topics.



Producer Tjay

## MUSIC BUSINESS



Location: Nyahururu, DCC Compound



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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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