



WEEKLY REVIEW



ISSUE 85 | 06TH - 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2021



From left Nyeri Deputy Speaker Hon. Samuel Kariuki, Finance Committee Vice Chairman Hon. Eric Wamumbi, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga and Majority Leader Hon. James Kanyugo during the assenting of the five bills to law outside the Governor's office.

A recap of the five assented bills

By Governor's Press Unit

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga has assented to law five new bills which are set to greatly benefit Nyeri residents.

While assenting to the Bills into law, Governor Kahiga lauded the county assembly for its focus and commitment towards meeting its

legislation mandate including the creation of bills and policies which have notably transformed the lives of local wananchi.

Continued on page 2, 3 & 4.

CGN acquires state of the art ambulances

The ambulances which were flagged off by the Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga will be added to the fleet of 14 others which were purchased in the year 2013 and will aid in rushing of patients from one medical facility to the other.



Story on page 5

The Nyeri County Public Transport Bill, 2021

The Bill's purpose is to provide for County transport; road use and maintenance; parking; street lighting; traffic management as well as to provide for adequate, safe and efficient county transport facilities and services at a reasonable cost to the people. It will also facilitate the management, planning and development of county transport facilities and transport infrastructure and to ensure a balanced county transport policy and planning.

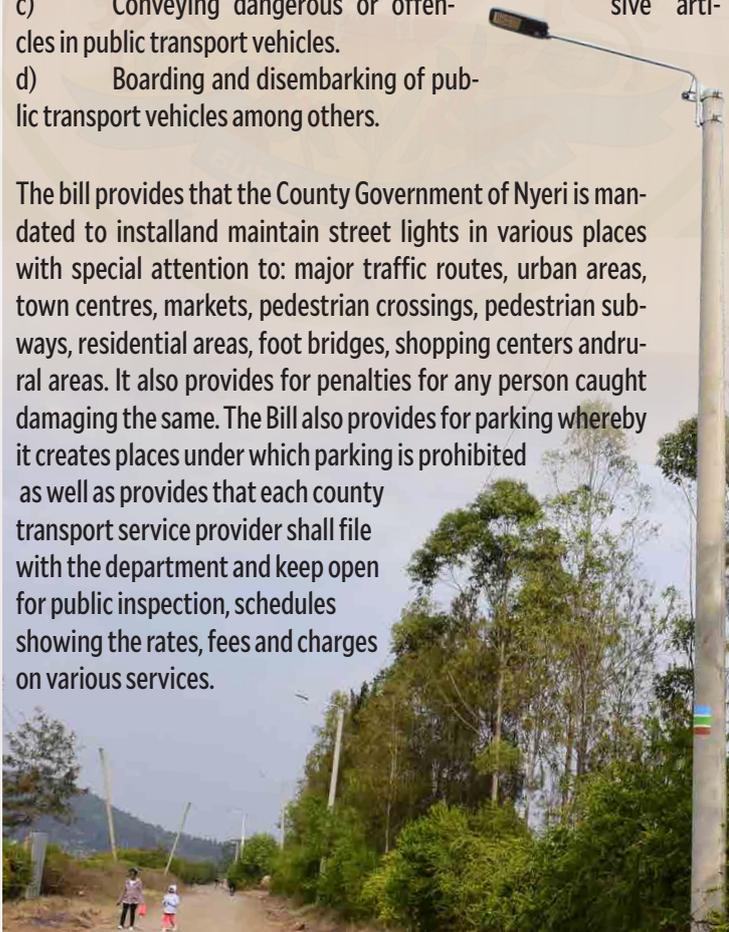
The Bill provides for the establishment of the road construction and maintenance committee whose responsibilities include:

- a) Management, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of County roads.
- b) Rehabilitating and maintaining road reserves and access to roadside development.
- c) Ensuring that the quality of road works is in accordance with the set standards.
- d) Overseeing in the management of traffic and road safety on county roads, in collaboration with other agencies or national authorities among others.

It also provides for traffic and public road transport whereby the department is mandated to promote road and transport. Several offences and penalties have been added including:

- a) Transportation of hazardous materials
- b) Preventing engagement of a public transport vehicle.
- c) Conveying dangerous or offensive articles in public transport vehicles.
- d) Boarding and disembarking of public transport vehicles among others.

The bill provides that the County Government of Nyeri is mandated to install and maintain street lights in various places with special attention to: major traffic routes, urban areas, town centres, markets, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian subways, residential areas, foot bridges, shopping centers and rural areas. It also provides for penalties for any person caught damaging the same. The Bill also provides for parking whereby it creates places under which parking is prohibited as well as provides that each county transport service provider shall file with the department and keep open for public inspection, schedules showing the rates, fees and charges on various services.

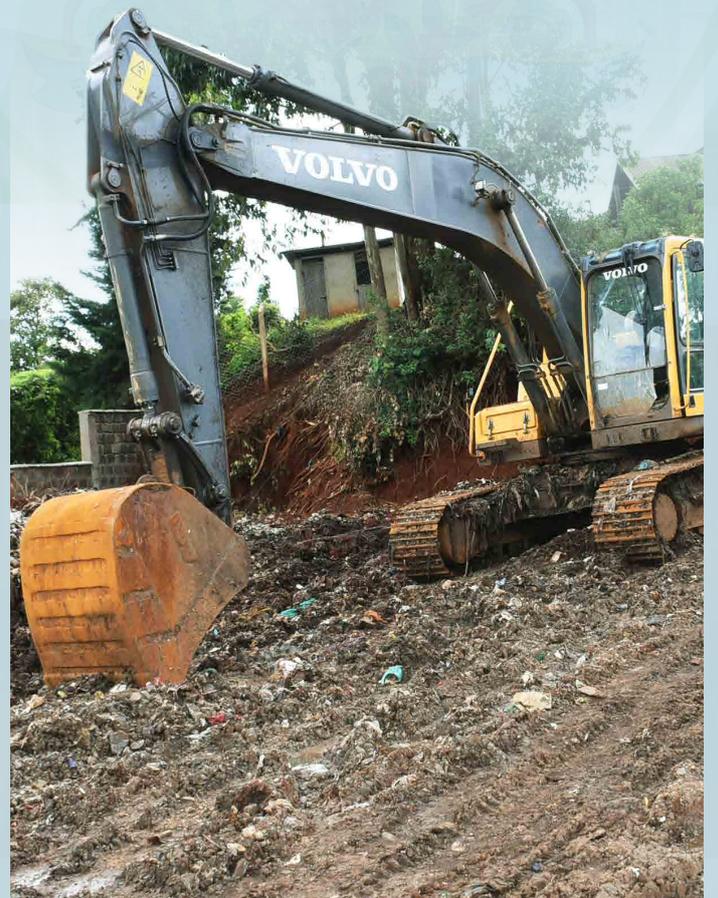


The Nyeri County Solid Waste Management Bill, 2021

This Bill makes provision for the management of solid waste in the county, provides a legal framework for the implementation of the county integrated solid waste management as well as encourages public participation in the management, protection and conservation of the environment.

The Bill provides that the county government shall directly or indirectly undertake collection of solid waste from the streets and any other public spaces. It also imposes a duty to the county government to arrange for the collection, treatment and disposal of all waste arising within its area of jurisdiction and to take all necessary and reasonably practicable measures to maintain all places falling within its area of jurisdiction in a clean and sanitary condition at all times. It also imposes various duties on owners or occupiers of houses to ensure that their surroundings are clean as well as separation of hazardous waste.

Further, the Bill provides for treatment of waste including the application process for obtaining a license for treatment of waste. The county government is mandated to undertake disposal of solid waste either by controlled tipping, sanitary land filling, recycling, composting, incineration and any other disposal method that may be in place depending on the type, quality and quantity of the waste. It also imposes the duty to establish waste disposal sites in various places to the county government.



The Nyeri County Finance Bill, 2021

This Bill provides for the amendment of the Nyeri County Revenue Administration Act, 2014 in relation to taxes, fees and charges for various services and other revenue raising



measures. According to Governor Kahiga, this bill is a timely one as it has put measures in place to cushion people especially with the economic crisis as a result of Covid-19 pandemic such as reduction of parking fees.



The Nyeri County Youth Development Bill, 2021

In line with Article 55 of the constitution, every government is mandated to provide a framework for youth empowerment.

This bill therefore, gives effect to this Article whereby a youth development committee which provides a mechanism for the realization of the rights of the youth and creates mechanisms that promote the effective and inclusive engagement of youth in Development issues, has been established.

Other functions of the Committee include but not limited to:

- Inspire and promote the spirit of unity, patriotism, volunteerism, and service among the youth.
- Formulate operational guidelines that protect the youth against any form of abuse or manipulation.
- Mobilize and sensitize relevant stakeholders on the concept of community youth service.
- Act as a voice and bridge to ensure that the government and other policy makers are kept informed of the laws and aspirations of the youth among others provided for in the Bill.

Through this committee, the youth's participation in governance and leadership roles has been strengthened. It also provides for mechanisms for identifying, developing, nurturing and supporting youth's creativity and talents among others. The assembly's Deputy Speaker/Ruring'u MCA Hon. Samuel Kariuki noted that the county assembly will look into setting aside seed capital for the Youth Development Fund in the coming supplementary budget.

The Nyeri County Disaster Management Bill, 2021

The purpose of this Bill is to provide for a more effective organisation of disaster risk reduction and mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters; and for connected purposes.

To aid in better management of disasters various committees will be established under this bill including disaster management committee, directorate of disaster management, Sub county ad-hoc disaster response committee, the ward ad-hoc disaster response committee and the sub location ad-hoc disaster response committee.

The Bill provides for the measures by the county government for disaster management. The measures include:

- Co-ordination of actions of the departments of the county government, national government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community based organizations and faith based organizations in relation to disaster management.
 - Co-operation and assistance to any other person, as requested by them or otherwise considered appropriate by it.
 - Establishment of institutions for research, training and developmental programmes in the field of disaster management.
- It also provides for instances when a disaster can be declared, the duration of the disaster, termination of period of disaster, steps to be taken to abate a disaster.

The Bill also provides for offences and penalties which include:

- Obstruction
- Making a false claim
- Misappropriation of money and materials and
- False alarm

Majority leader Hon. James Kanyugo noted that the county assembly is focused on achieving its mandate and will continuously work in harmony with the county executive to implement more bills and policies which will better the lives of Nyeri residents.

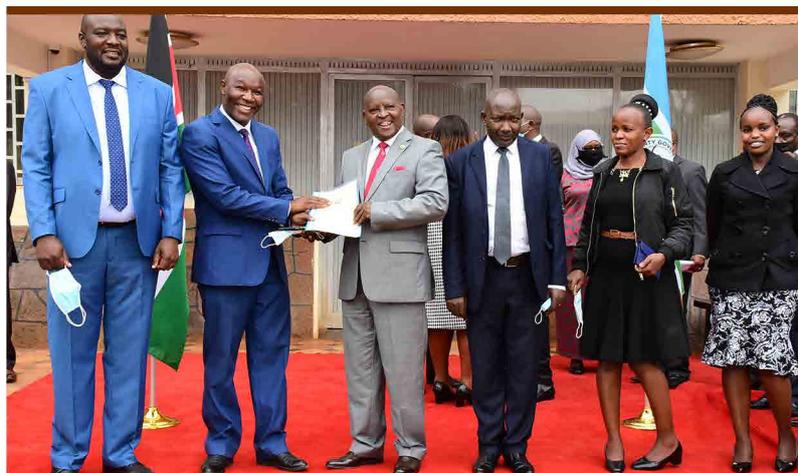
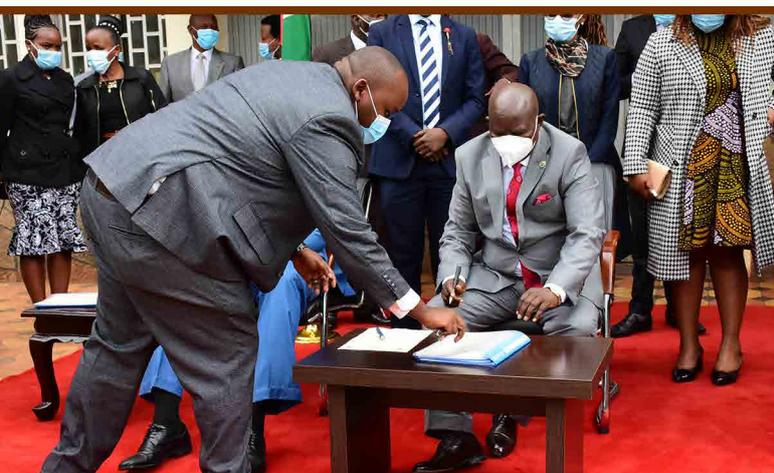
Check related pictorial on the next page.





BILLS SIGNING PICTORIAL

H.E GOVERNOR MUTAHI KAHIGA HAS ASSENTED TO LAW FIVE NEW BILLS WHICH ARE SET TO GREATLY BENEFIT NYERI RESIDENTS.



Health

CGN acquires state of the art ambulances

The new acquisitions flagged off have a portable suction machine, portable oxygen cylinder with wall mounted oxygen regulators, ECG monitor with defibrillator, bag valve mask for adults and children, auto-loading stretcher and mattress, spine board, trauma kit, folding stretcher, laryngoscope set, adjustable cervical collar and first aid kit.

Story | J Joseph Wambugu & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

The County Government of Nyeri has acquired state-of-the art ambulances which will go a long way in saving more lives in this era of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The ambulances which were flagged off by Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga will be added to the fleet of 14 others which were purchased in the year 2013.

The new acquisitions flagged off have a portable suction machine, portable oxygen cylinder with wall mounted oxygen regulators, ECG monitor with defibrillator, bag valve mask for adults and children, auto-loading stretcher and mattress, spine board, trauma kit, folding stretcher, laryngoscope set, adjustable cervical collar and first aid kit.

The vehicles will aid in rushing of patients from one medical facility to the other. They will be stationed in major hospitals in Nyeri County particularly at this time of rising cases of Covid-19.

“The two modern ambulances are well equipped and modified like mini Intensive Care Units (ICU) and completely installed with oxygen. They are also more user friendly compared with others which were procured eight years ago,” noted the governor.

They are Toyota Land Cruiser brands which are very hardy for the roads in rural areas. The personnel to be manning the vehicles have already been trained.

The two vehicles have been acquired at a cost of Kshs. 19 million through the Department of Health Services. Each ambulance is worth Kshs. 9.5 million.

Governor Kahiga said two more ambulances have already been procured and will be arriving in the county soon.



Partnership

World Vision partnership with CGN

Story | Faith Hiuhu & Photo | Peter Wangari



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre) with officers from the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services led by CEC Esther Ndung'u (fourth right) and World Vision team after they paid a courtesy call to the governor.

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga met with a team from World Vision and deliberated on areas of partnerships with the NGO which will enhance service delivery for Nyerians.

World Vision and Africa Youth Transformation have partnered with the County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services, in the policy

formation of the Nyeri Youth Development Policy which is at its formulation stage.

The partnership is on youth development policy public participation.

The two entities will be partnering on this for the public participation of the policy which will see the youth in the eight sub-counties come out to weigh in on it; as well as bring meaningful input

into the decision-making process of the same.

The governor noted that such partnerships bring together the expertise and resources of the two sectors with the intention of providing services for the people of Nyeri, which is the sole duty of the county government.

World Vision has been working with the County Government of Nyeri in key sectors

and interventions such as education and child protection, WASH (Water, sanitation and Hygiene), community engagement & sponsorship and livelihoods and resilience and the fight against Covid-19 especially in Kieni West covering Gatarakwa, Mugunda, Mweiga and Mwiyo wards.

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NYERI COUNTY WEEKLY REVIEW

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Q&A

Meet the longest serving Executive Driver Sammy Munyari

Munyari calls it a day after 38 years behind the steering wheel.

Sammy Munyari is the longest serving executive driver in the County Government of Nyeri. He has worked diligently since he first secured employment in the defunct local government on 11th July 1983.

Munyari who is a husband and a father of five has thoroughly enjoyed his tenure as a senior driver for over three decades. He says that for anyone to thrive in their career, they must have a whole lot of discipline, patience, kindness, teamwork and respect towards those one interacts with.

Here is what he has to say about his driving career:

1. When did you join government as a driver and how many governments have you served?

I first joined the defunct local government on 11th July, 1983. I have served under all the four governors in the County Government of Nyeri.

2. In which category of drivers do you belong?

I belong to the Executive Driver category.

3. What inspired you to have a passion in driving?

When I first secured employment in the government, I was hired as a casual labourer. In the course of my work, I met a plant

operator who inspired me to learn how to drive. I trained under him and eventually became a plant operator too. Then in 1999 there were vacancies advertised for the senior driver position. I applied and was recruited for the job.

4. Which counties have you travelled as a driver chauffeuring your bosses? Have you ever driven outside the country?

I have traveled to all the counties except Marsabit and Garissa. I have also driven to neighbouring countries like Uganda and Tanzania.

5. Driving in those old days were only for manual vehicles, today there are even automatic cars. Which one do you prefer and why?

Since most government vehicles are manual, I would say that I am well versed with a manual car but I can also drive an automatic vehicle easily.



6. In this era of technology, drivers use Google Maps for directions. Do you use it yourself?

I sometimes use it and it has come in handy especially when I drive to new places.

7. Improvement of road network is one of the major developments Governor Kahiga has done in the current government. Has he also improved your working conditions including training?

Road network improvement is quite an important development for the growth of a county like this. As a driver it is also important that one keeps going for refresher courses on driving to ensure that you are up to date with new trends emerging on road signs and road usage. As a government driver I regularly go for refresher courses at The Kenya Institute of Highways & Building Technology (KIHBT) which have come in handy in my career as a driver.

8. For a good senior driver to survive on the roads for all the years like you have done, what is needed? Advise young drivers.

Personally I put God first in every-



thing that I do. With my career it's not any different. Also, there is the aspect of discipline, tolerance, perseverance and respect that one has to have so that you can relate well with other drivers on the roads as well as your colleagues. My advice to the young drivers would be this: be your own self; invest in your skill as a driver by occasionally going for refresher courses and be patient with yourself and others. Remember to avoid alcohol all the time while driving.

9. What lessons have you learnt from your colleagues, bosses and friends?

I have learnt that to work harmo-

niously with people, you have to first be aware of whom you are, as well as to take time to learn the personalities of your colleagues. This makes the working environment conducive.

Also, diligently perform your duties with patience, kindness, and teamwork and you will rarely find yourself at loggerheads with people be it your supervisors or your juniors.

10. What major challenges have you encountered during the period you have worked.

In the 38 years of my career, I have encountered some challenges but none supersedes the Covid-19 pandemic. This has changed our way of living. When it did hit us we had to change how we carried out our duties even as drivers. However, since it's been here with us for quite some time now we ought to find a way to get a new normal.

11. When will you retire? Are you retiring voluntarily under the Voluntary Early Retirement programme or just the normal government retirement after attaining 60 years?

My retirement is the normal government retirement, which in

my case is set for June next year, when I turn 60.

12. What are you planning to do after retirement?

I have invested on my family and have been working on some projects with my wife. I will go back and now fully concentrate on the projects as I spend ample time with my family.

13. What is your parting shot

I would like to first thank the County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H.E Mutahi Kahiga which has been the source of my income for all those years. As I had mentioned earlier, I have worked under all the four county governments but I must say that this one is being run differently and efficiently. This is an inclusive government that really cares about the welfare of its workers.

Also, to my colleagues who I will be leaving behind, I would persuade them to invest in their families as well as perform duties assigned to them unwearingly; and that they should honor and love God above all things.



Courtesy calls



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (centre) after he hosted the Kenya Union of Post Primary Education Teachers (KUPPET) Nyeri branch officials.

KUPPET Nyeri team's courtesy call to the governor

The governor assured them that the County Government of Nyeri is ready to offer continued support.

Story | Carol Wanjiku & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga hosted the Kenya Union of Post Primary Education Teachers (KUPPET) Nyeri branch officials who paid him a courtesy call.

The officials led by the Executive

Secretary Francis Wanjohi deliberated on matters affecting the teaching fraternity particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic and on how best to find solutions to improve their welfare.

The governor assured them that the County Government of Nyeri is ready to offer continued support as well as to implement a series of strategies meant to enhance access to quality education.

Mr. Wanjohi lauded governor Kahiga for transforming the county in all sectors for the last four years.

TEAWASCO board's courtesy call to the governor

Story | Faith Hiuhu & Photo | Peter Wangari

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga met with TEAWASCO Chairman Joel Kariuki and Managing Director Simon Wanjau, who paid him a courtesy call in his office.

which is funded by the County Government of Nyeri and is in its final phase, as well as Gura Intake relocation which will increase water supply for the residents.

They discussed the progress of Titie Treatment Water Works



Mental health

Mental health sensitization in Nyeri County

● *Nyeri County according to WHO ranks 4th in place with mental issues being the leading cause of suicides. This makes mental health a critical issue that needs to be addressed.*

Story | Jane Baru



constraints, bereavement and fear of the disease.

To mitigate this, the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services, in close collaboration with the Department of Health, HERAF and other civil societies organised a mental health sensitisation forum for social welfare officers in Nyeri County. The officers will trickle down the same information to Nyeri residents.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Kenya is ranked as the sixth among African countries with high rates of depression, substance abuse and anxiety.

Further, research done by the Ministry of Health states that one in every four Kenyans suffer from mental health illness. Nyeri County according to WHO ranks 4th in place with mental issues being the leading cause of suicides. This

makes mental health a critical issue that needs to be addressed.

More over, the persistent Covid-19 pandemic has escalated the mental health cases reported due to issues such as economic

In addition, the knowledge gained will help social welfare officers in identifying and managing mental health illness even at the grass-root level.

Nyeri KCGWU officials' courtesy call

Story | Maureen Muthoni & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga met with the Kenya County Government Workers Union (KCGWU), Nyeri branch officials who paid him a courtesy call.



The team which was led by the branch Chairman Charles Kagwi lauded the governor for improving the welfare of about 4,000 workers in the County Govern-

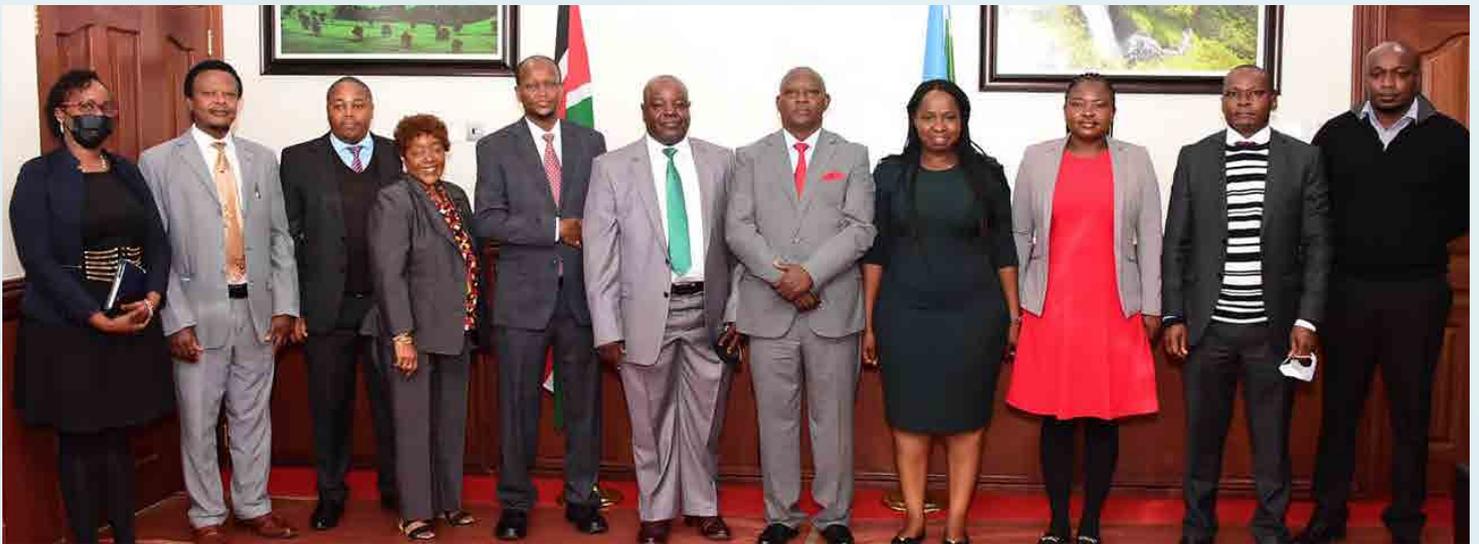
ment of Nyeri. The governor emphasized that the County Government of Nyeri's leadership is committed to improving the services of its staff

through training, timely payment of salaries and motivation of staff.

Education

Communications Authority collaboration with CGN

The Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) launched its third regional office in Nyeri town in 2018 in a bid to continue decentralizing its operations across the country and taking its services closer to its licensees and ICT consumers.



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre) with officials from the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA). BELOW: The Governor (right) receiving a gift from CA Central Regional Manager Mohamed A. Haji.

Story | Faith Hiuu & Photo | Peter Wangari

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga was delighted to host officials from the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA), where they discussed areas of collaboration with the regulatory authority for the communications sector in Kenya, on how it will execute its mandate in the county more efficiently. The Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) launched its third regional office in Nyeri town in 2018. This was in a bid to continue decentralizing its operations across the country and taking its services closer to its licensees and ICT consumers. Some of its functions include: compliance, monitoring

and enforcement in the communication sector.

The governor noted that regulation especially in the communication sector which has seen tremendous

growth in the last few years is vital.

“The regulation of the sector requires closer consultation with such stakeholders in order to en-

sure public interest is maintained and our people are empowered even in the field of ICT,” he added.

The team led by the CA Central Regional Manager Sammy Mwachuri visited the governor ahead of the tentative launch of the ‘Spectrum Monitoring System’ to be held on 17th September at Wambugu Farm.

The Nyeri office serves several counties, namely; Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Murang’a, Embu, Meru, Tharaka-Nithi, Isiolo, Samburu,, Marsabit and Garissa. Others are Mandera, Wajir, Tana-River, Laikipia and Nyandarua





Opinion piece

By Nelson Maina - Budget Coordinator, the Chapter Six Group

The debate around "World Bank" projects

The County Government of Nyeri has two projects that have elicited a lot of debate; the Kshs. 335 million Naromoru level 4 hospital and the Kshs. 600 million Nyeri mega bus terminus.

The two projects are funded by the World Bank through the Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP) for the hospital and Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) for the bus terminus.

But does this make the two World Bank Projects?

To answer this question we must ask ourselves what are the sources of revenue for County Governments.

The snippet above is extracted from the fourth quarter implementation status report as at 30th June 2021. The middle column shows the amount of revenue Nyeri County expected while the last column shows exactly how much was disbursed by end of that financial year.

We have three main sources of

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI		
TRANSFERS FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020-2021 AS AT 30 th June, 2021		
	TOTAL ALLOCATION FOR FY 2020/2021 (Kshs)	AMOUNT DISBURSED AS AT 30.06.2021 (Kshs)
Equitable Share	5,412,150,000.00	5,877,594,900
Level 5 Hospitals	407,861,272.00	407,861,271
Road Maintenance Fuel Levy Fund	151,875,577.00	190,282,444.25
User Fees Forgone	13,701,379.00	13,701,379.00
Development of Youth Polytechnics	48,949,894.00	48,949,894.00
Kenya Urban Support Program (UDG)	236,639,100.00	128,687,212.15
Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP) Level I:	75,000,000.00	45,000,000.00
Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP) Level II Grant	0	184,795,683.00
Transforming Health Systems for Universal Health Care (THSUCP)	28,800,000.00	27,352,241.75
DANIDA	15,390,000.00	15,390,000.00
Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP)	26,276,263.00	11,459,306.00
Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP)	316,227,550.00	282,341,990.40
CDC for HIV Programme	20,000,000.00	7,186,566.75
TOTAL	6,752,871,035	7,240,602,888.30

revenue for Nyeri County.

1. **Equitable Share** : This is the largest source of revenue for all counties. It is the amount of national revenue collected and shared among the 47 counties. In this case it was 82% of total revenue from the national government transfers.

2. **Conditional grants** : This is revenue which can only be spent on certain expenses only. We have conditional grants from treasury e.g Level 5 hospitals, fuel levy fund and user fees foregone among others.

We also have conditional grants from donors and development partners for example KUSP, KDSP, KCSAP, THSUCP and others; this is

where the World Bank Projects fall under.

3. **Local revenue** : For most counties this is the smallest proportion of revenue. Nyeri county in 2020/21 collected 886million, the highest amount so far. This is about 10% of total revenue for the county.

Now that we have identified the three major sources of revenue for Nyeri County, is it possible for World Bank or any other donor to dictate the kind of project to be implemented with its funds?

To answer this we look at section 108 of the County Government Act 2012 that provides the details of the information included in the

CIDP.

The County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) is a document prepared by all counties to guide their development for five years.

Section 104(1) further says that no public funds shall be appropriated outside a county's planning framework. In this case the CIDP.

This means all revenue including donor funds can only be spent on the projects captured in the CIDP.

This is why we conclude by saying, Naromoru level 4 hospital and the Nyeri mega bus terminus are World Bank funded County Government of Nyeri projects.



DEPARTMENT OF INTRASTRUCTURE, ROADS & PUBLIC WORKS

THEN & NOW



Improvement of walkways at Asian Quarters, Nyeri town using cabro paving blocks.



Gichatha-ini Kwa Duncan Bridge in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East sub county.



Ha Kamune bridge in Chinga ward, Othaya.



Kahachu-Kahuti-ini bridge in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East sub-county.



Ria Gitutu bridge in Gikondi ward, Mukurwe-ini sub-county.