



Nyeri County Weekly Newsletter



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Agriculture

Nyeri has invested in carefully selected technologies and innovations to improve production and productivity and support commercialization

Nyeri accelerates innovation & technology in Agriculture



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga (right) visiting one of the stands at Central Kenya ASK Show, Kabiru-ini grounds. Behind him is Agriculture CEC James Wachihi.

Story & Photos | Governor's Press Unit

Agriculture is the backbone of the Nyeri County economy. Besides providing income and a livelihood for the largely rural population, agriculture greatly contributes to enhanced primary health care. The County Government of Nyeri has recognized the place of innovation and

technology as key drivers in enhancing food security, agricultural growth and agro-based trade. Therefore, it has prioritized its investments in this sector. From coffee to tea to dairy, three of CGN's priority agriculture value chains, Nyeri has invested in carefully selected technologies and innovations

to improve production and productivity and support commercialization. Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga, while speaking during the official opening of this year's A.S.K Nyeri National show at Kabiru-ini grounds, noted that this year's theme, 'Promoting Innovation and Technology in Agriculture and

Trade' is timely, seeing that technology is a cardinal enabler of the country's economic growth and development.

Continued on page 2-4

CHANGAMKIA
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
INGIA KWENYE TOVUTI
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Transformation One home, one biogas project

Scorecard My four year score-card



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (right) visiting one of the stands at Central Kenya ASK National Show, Kabiru-ini grounds. Nyeri branch Chairman Patrick Karinga (second left) accompanying the Governor. BELOW: Governor inspecting an agricultural stand during his visit at the show.

The four-day ASK show opened its doors to the showgoers after a two-year absence occasioned by the Covid-19 outbreak and the related mitigation protocols.

“We are a happy people with the resumption of the show seeing that it offers a platform where agriculture stakeholders can meet to engage in the learning and sharing process. It is also critical to disseminate information on new trends, innovations and technologies in agriculture. I’m greatly encouraged when I see young people in this County develop a motorcycle-driven coffee pulper, initiate waste recycling programs for alternative animal feed sources, among other initiatives that contribute to the much-needed agricultural transformation,” said the Governor.

Governor Kahiga thanked the entire ASK team and all exhibitors who have made this year’s show possible. He also called upon the Central Kenya Economic Bloc (CEREB) leaders to embrace this annual activity and make it even international to increase the region’s visibility and market access.

Agriculture CEC James Wachihi noted that all these innovations open new frontiers for agribusiness, which can only lead to better returns for the farmers.

“It is important to recognize partners doing amazing innovations for enhanced agriculture and trade in the County. From some young innovators at the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology who developed a motorcycle-driven coffee pulper, to groups of young men and women who recycle waste for alternative animal feeds, to our local processors like Wakulima Dairy who have

found ways of fortifying the products, for instance, their coffee flavoured yoghurt among others,” added the CEC. ASK Show Central branch Chairman Patrick Karinga encouraged parents, guardians, tutors and supervisors to allow students to visit the show to equip themselves

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with the necessary knowledge, skills and information required in this technological age.

“The show exposes farmers to new farming trends and technologies that ensure production efficiency. These include new irrigation systems, greenhouse technologies silage making and conservation, organic farming, livestock value-chain approach, among others and as such, people are encouraged to attend,” said the Chairman.

The Regional Commissioner Esther Maina said the region is primarily an agricultural hub which must continue to consolidate its position in the economic development of Kenya by improving the technologies in agriculture production both for local consumption and export.

To accelerate the dissemination of innovations and technologies, the County Government has partnered with private sector players to stage the annual Wambugu ATC field day, usually held in the last week of July. To this end, Governor Kahiga emphasized the need to synergize the two fairs and build on the successes of each of them.

The World Bank has also awarded Nyeri County for being the top County in implementing the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) for four years. The project has enabled the CGN to scale up the farmers’ adoption of technologies, innovations and proper management practices.

“We are very proud of this achievement because it has caused real transformation to our rural population. This climate-smart agriculture aims to increase agricultural productivity and enhance resilience to the changing climate and weather patterns,” Governor added.



PHOTO GALORE

GOVERNOR'S PRESS UNIT



PHOTO GALORE

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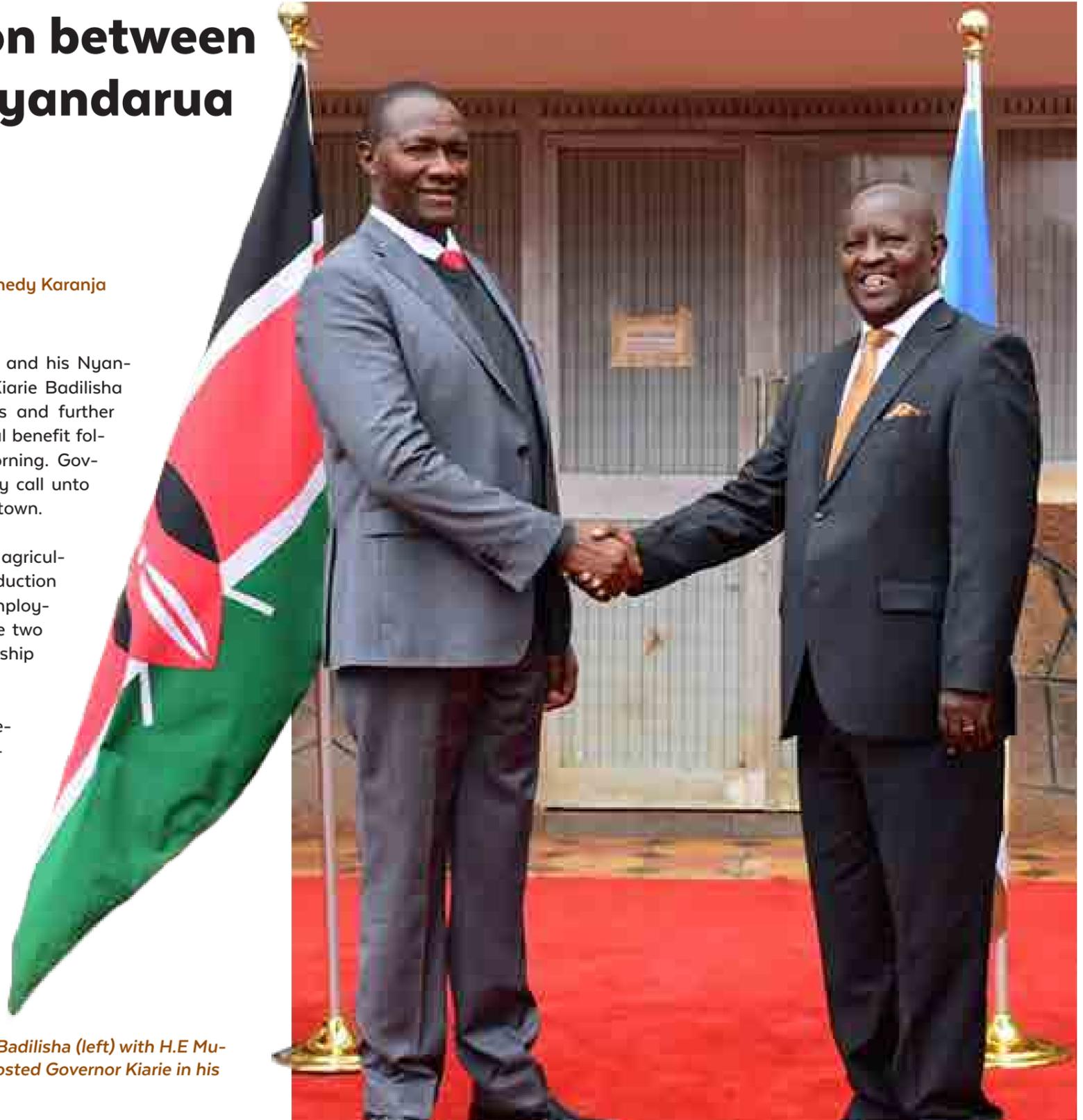
Collaboration between Nyeri and Nyandarua Counties

Story - Njambi Mugo | Photo - Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga and his Nyandarua counterpart H.E Dr. Moses Kiarie Badilisha have pledged to enhance relations and further partnership for their citizens' mutual benefit following their bilateral talks this morning. Governor Badilisha had paid a courtesy call unto Governor Kahiga in his office, Nyeri town.

The two counties, which are largely agricultural, will collaborate to boost production in the Agriculture sector creating employment opportunities. In addition, the two leaders agreed on a greater partnership in Health and youth welfare.

The two Governors pledged to rejuvenate the Central Region Economic Bloc (CEREB). They called upon their counterparts to join in the cause to promote the economies of the 10 member counties in areas of Agriculture, Trade, Health, and Tourism, among others.



Nyandarua Governor H.E Dr. Moses Badilisha (left) with H.E Mutahi Kahiga after Governor Kahiga hosted Governor Kiarie in his Nyeri town office.

EU-FAO Digital Land Governance programme

Story & Photo - Marylynn Wanjiru

The County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Lands, Housing, Planning and Urban Development held a conference for the European Union - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Digital land governance programme. Nyeri County is the headquarters of the 7 Counties in cluster 8 of the programme. The planning meeting was attended by officials from FAO, Council of Governor's representative together with representatives from Counties in the cluster which are Murang'a, Nyandarua, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, kirinyaga and Embu. The programme, funded by European Union and FAO is geared towards improving food and nutrition security, livelihoods and sustainable development through



equitable and secure access and management of land. This will be achieved through:
 1. Enhanced efficient and effective land

governance through the digitisation and digitalization of land records and processes.
 2. Improved conflicts and disputes reso-

lution mechanisms on land and natural resources.
 3. Improved and inclusive policy, legal and institutional frameworks.

CGN and KEMSA collaboration enhancement



From left Health Director Dr. Nelson Muriu, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga, KEMSA CEO Terry Kiunge and Acting Health CEC Robert Thuo pose for a group photo after the CEO paid a courtesy call unto the Governor.

Story - Njambi Mugo | Photo - Peter Wangari

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga hosted KEMSA CEO Terry Kiunge Ramadhani who had paid a courtesy call to his office. They deliberated on ways to enhance collaboration between the Agency and the County Government to allow for seamless workings between the two organizations. The CEO pledged to fast track the delivery of drugs and consumables procured by coun-

ties in a bid to promote effective services within the health sector. She also noted that the Agency will collaborate with the County Government in capacity building the healthcare workers. Governor Kahiga pledged his commitment to strengthening and optimizing services in the health-care sector. One such key measure is through continuous restocking of drugs in the health facilities to ensure pa-

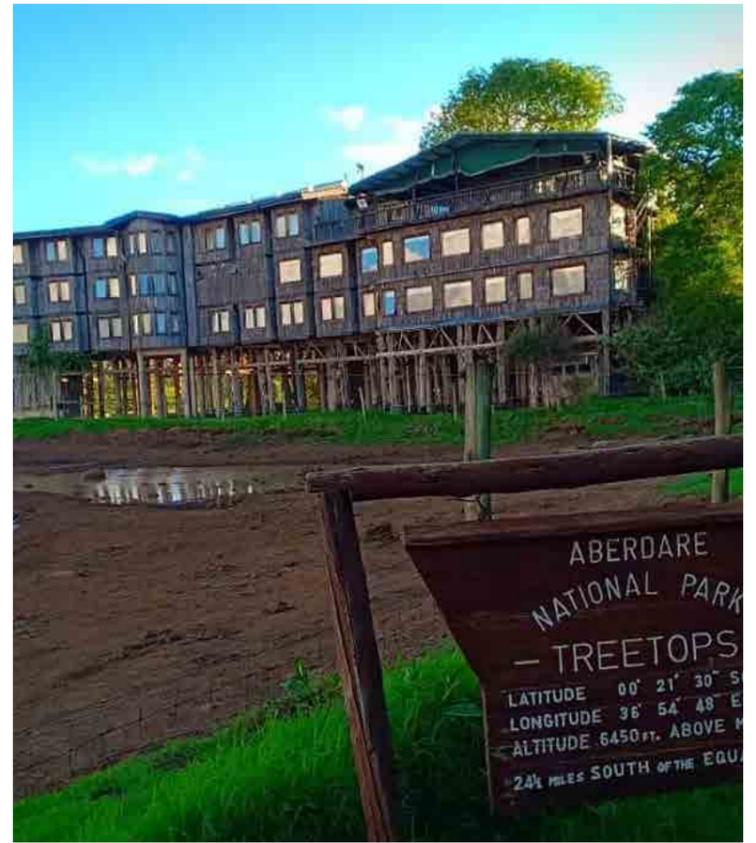
tients who visit the facilities do not lack drugs. This has been achieved through the implementation of the Nyeri Health Services Fund which ring fences monies collected in the health facilities which is then used to buy supplies. Through this fund, the hospitals are now at an advantage to request supplies directly from KEMSA once they are depleted.

Launch of Nyeri County CIPCAC work plan

Story & Photo - Saveria Nyambura

The Department of Health in conjunction with the Ministry of Health has launched the Nyeri County Infection Prevention Control Advisory Committee (CIPCAC) work plan 2022. Through the County IPC Co-ordinator Boniface Macharia, the event brought all the County Level 6 to Level 3 hospital representatives. Hospital / facility presentation was done by Eunice Wachira from Mukurwe-ini Sub county Hospital while Dr. Oscar Agoro

took the members through the overview of the CIPCAC work plan. "I believe and trust that these CIPCAC work plan will strengthen evidence based IPC decision of health facility level towards combating threat post by pandemic while achieving the WHO sustainable development goals," noted the CEC Health Robert Thuo while addressing the members present during the launch.



Nyeri Tourism Sector mourns Queen Elizabeth

Nyeri's Tourism Sector joined the world in mourning the late Queen Elizabeth II at the age of 96 years, we extend our sympathy to the family and the world.

Nyeri's itinerary is not complete without a mention of Queen Elizabeth II, so is the British history, without a mention of Nyeri county. The county is rich in heritage tourism among them the history of the Princess who climbed to a three bedroomed lodge built on top of a fig tree overlooking an elephant watering hole and descended as a queen overnight.

The legendary Treetop Lodge and a sister to the famous Outspan Hotel, that is located in the pristine Aberdare National Park, which is along the elephant migratory route from Mt. Kenya National Park and is a game viewing site. The Queen's visit to Nyeri county is also marked by a monument in the Italian War Memorial Church, within the town as well as the St. Philip's ACK Church in Naromoru which she officially opened in 1952 and planted a commemorative tree which still stands today a plaque "Brazilian Rosewood donated by Major Baynes on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for mourning service on 2/2/1952 To God Be The Glory".

The other world-famous tourist sites to the county are the: Room 18 at the Treetops Lodge, the honeymooners room and the Queen's cave at the mountain moorland where she had dinner after becoming queen.



GOVERNOR'S PRESS UNIT:

- Carol Nderi** - Director
- Joseph Wambugu** - Chief Editor
- Njambi Mugo** - Editor
- Kenneth Ngatia** - Graphic Designer

Governors promise to increase agriculture budgetary allocations



Nyandarua Governor H.E Dr. Moses Badilisha (left) presenting a trophy to officers from Trade Department led by Director Peter Theuri and Monicah Wachira. H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga looks on. This was during the Central Kenya ASK National Show, Kabiru-ini grounds.

Story - Joseph Wambugu | Photo - Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga and his Nyandarua counterpart H.E Dr. Moses Kiarie Badilisha have pledged to increase budgetary allocations towards

the agriculture sector in their respective counties. The two governors committed to ensure more resources are allocated towards

the revitalization of agriculture and trade sectors in order to boost food production, increase farmers' income and create employment.

The governors were speaking at Kabiru-ini grounds where Governor Badilisha officially opened this year's A.S.K Nyeri National show.

The theme for this year was 'Promoting Innovation and Technology in Agriculture and Trade'.

The governors also promised to continue to revise and customize the national agricultural related laws and policies to suit the current technological advances and research which will in turn grow agricultural productivity regionally. They also encouraged show goes to learn and gain from the technologies and innovations exhibited to enhance food security and national growth.

Governor Kahiga and Badilisha also pledged to ensure that the Central Region Economic Bloc (CEREB) participates fully in the next year's show. They also called upon their counterparts to join in the cause to promote the economies of the 10 member counties in areas of Agriculture, Trade, Health, and Tourism, among others.

During the event, the best organisations were awarded trophies for the exemplary performance.

Laundry, kitchen and morgue projects almost complete

Months after Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga laid a foundation stone for the laundry, kitchen and mortuary projects at the new Naromoru Level 4 Hospital, the projects are now almost complete.

This is Phase 2 of the project which will cost Kshs. 72 million. Once the projects are complete, the hospital will be operational.

The first phase of the medical facility was constructed at a Kshs. 229 Million after the County Government of Nyeri was ranked Position two nationally under the Kenya Devolution Support Program supported by World Bank.

The project is being done by the County Government project jointly with the World Bank under the KDSP program.



SCAM ALERT

BEWARE OF ONLINE SCAMMERS. REPORT THEM!



IT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT THERE ARE **INDIVIDUALS SOLICITING MONEY** ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI **FOR SPACE ALLOCATION AT THE ASIAN QUARTERS NEW BUS TERMINI.**

WE URGE THE PUBLIC TO TREAT SUCH AS FAKE AND WITH THE CONTEMPT IT DESERVES.

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Governor opens ONQ Nyeri, Kenya



Governor Mutahi Kahiga (right) together with The Kenya Company COO Sean Hammerle (left) during the official launch of ONQ Kenya, Nyeri branch.

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By the end of next year, the number of young people who will have direct employment will have hit 1,000

Story - Joseph Wambugu | Photo - Peter Wangari

In one of the efforts by the County Government of Nyeri to attract investors, through the Private Public Partnership (PPP), Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga officially launched yet another international Technology company in Nyeri. ONQ Kenya (Nyeri) is a medical billing and robotics experts with branches in Panama and India. The global labour outsourcing company opened its doors with 25 employees in October last year and now has over 200 employees. It targets to hire 2,500 youth in the next five years.

By the end of next year, the number of young people who will have direct employment will have hit 1,000 whose impact to their families, extended families and the county at large will be huge.

The company is situated at KDS Center building, Nyeri town where it occupies three floors. This is the 3rd office globally after other offices in India and Panama.

The Kenya Company COO Sean Hammerle said the office has significant impact to the youth in Nyeri and Kenya by

providing them with stable employment and professional growth opportunities. After only nine months of operation, ONQ company which is another giant company of JITU Technology, currently employs over 200 youth, which goes a long way in solving Kenya’s unemployment challenge. In terms of empowerment, ONQ hires and trains all its employees, equipping them with skills. In a short period, the agents are knowl-



edgeable in the processes of US medical billing and automation. Furthermore, ONQ employees gain exposure to working in a global company. With a source of livelihood and stable income, the Nyeri ONQ agents can reach their professional and personal goals. The company has become a safety net for educated youth to secure long-term career opportunities for personal growth. ONQ is a global labor outsourcing company providing medical billing services

to US companies. Therefore, Agents in the ONQ Kenya office deal directly with US patients, providers, and payers. The company’s activities include providing patient services, which encompasses inbound and outbound calls dealing with billing questions, insurance information, and more detailed information about exams or procedures they have received. The providers are mainly medical groups which are formed in the US by medical practitioners within one field like radiographers, neurosurgeons, cardiologists and on.

Further the company transfers money directly from United States to the country the labor is being outsourced and not vice versa making a reality of what foreign direct investment is all about.

The Manager of the Company Fridah Mumbi and Director Morris Mwangi lauded Governor Kahiga for his support of the company and for creating an enabling environment for conducting business.

In support of the Education sector

Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri joined a team from Semiconductor Technologies Limited in their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity at Kambura-ini Primary School

in Naromoru / Kiamathaga ward, Kieni East sub-county.

The CSR activity involved a donation of desks to the school in a bid to improve the learning environment for the stu-

dents.

The County Governor of Nyeri is committed in improving the education sector around the county by improvement of infrastructure.



Governor commissions leather goods production unit



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga admiring one of the shoes which has been made at Rukira VTC in Othaya. Accompanying him are officers from the Gender, Youth & Social Services Department led by CEC Esther Ndung'u (left) and Chief Officer Eng. Mwangi Kamanja (right). BELOW: One of the state-of-the-art machines which will be used for leatherwork.

Story - Njambi Mugo | Photo - Peter Wangari

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga commissioned a modern Leather Goods Production Unit at Rukira Vocational Training Centre in Mahiga ward, Othaya.

This is the first cottage industry to produce the first pair of leather shoes and has been fully funded by the County Government of Nyeri.

Governor Kahiga noted that this will create employment for the youth as the machines have a capacity of producing 900 pairs of shoes per day. It will also benefit many families indirectly.

The Governor also noted that there is a budget to train Nyeri youth for the production of foot ware, leather bags, wallets, leather belts among others. The VTC will mainly produce shoes for nursery school learners, primary school pupils and secondary school students in the county.

Already tens of Trainer of Trainers have already been trained for the work.

The machines which were procured by the Department of Gender, Youth & Social Services include 25 tonnes hydrau-

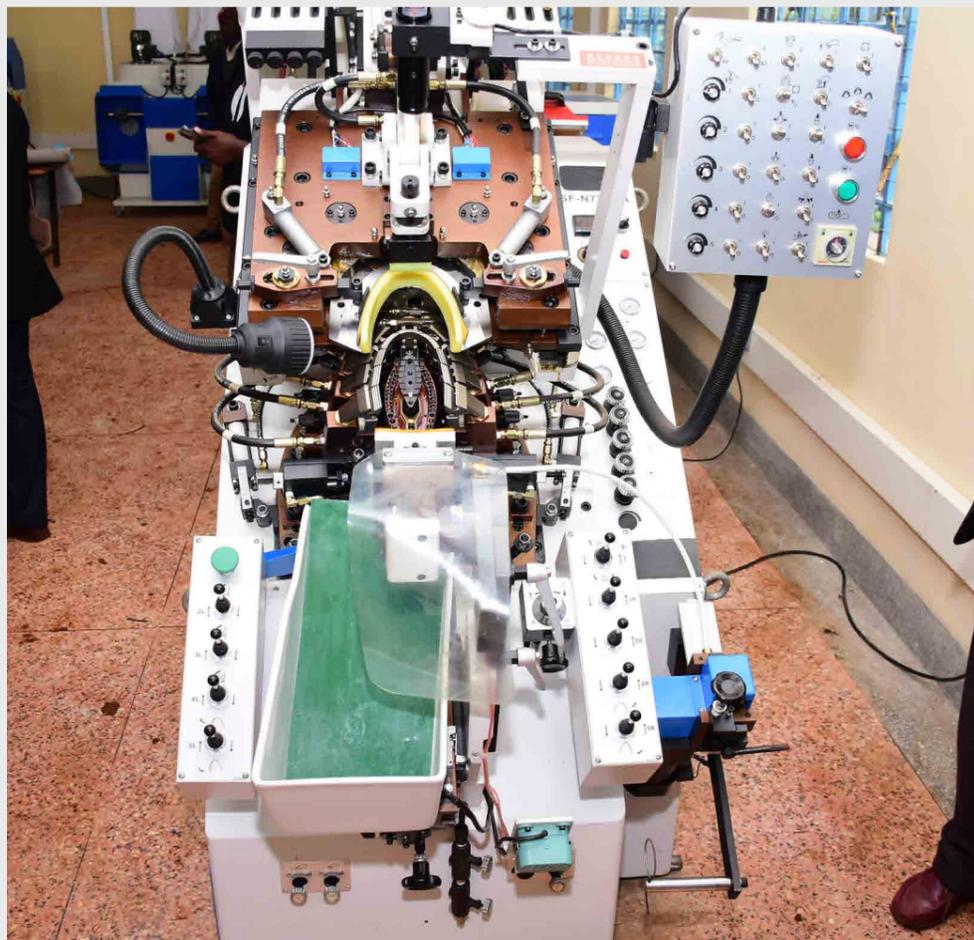
lic swing arm clicking machine, heavy skiving machine with dust collector, twin head bottom roughing machines with dust collector, hydraulic toe lasting machine 9-pincers with cementing, heating chamber among others.

The machines were later handed to the Department of Education & Sports.

This will soon turn to be a business hub and encouraged Nyerians to adopt the 'buy Nyeri build Nyeri' slogan as this will create employment for the locals.

Gender CEC Esther Ndung'u lauded Governor Kahiga for reviving the institution and initiating this project saying the economy in the area will improve since local materials will be purchased thus creating jobs.

Nyeri youth will also be trained on the production of foot ware, leather bags, wallets, leather belts among others. The VTC will mainly produce shoes for nursery school learners, primary school pupils and secondary school students in the county.



Inspection of modern equipment at the new Naromoru Level 4 hospital

Story - Joseph Wambugu | Photo - Peter Wangari

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga together with Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri inspected the newly installed modern equipment and machinery at the new Level 4 Hospital in Naromoru town, Kieni East Sub County.

The state-of-the-art machines were distributed by the National Government after the County Government constructed the project jointly funded by the World Bank under the Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP).

Governor Kahiga thanked H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta for the support of the equipment and promised to operationalize the medical facility in the next three months once kitchen, laundry and mortuary units are complete.

The construction of this three - storeyed 175 bed capacity hospital will host key departments including; General OPD, Casualty, Pharmacy, Laboratory, Maternal and Child Health unit, specialized clinics, maternity, inpatient wards (medicine, orthopaedic, surgical) and two operating theatres.

This hospital will guarantee provision of surgical and inpatient services and ultimately contribute to decongestion of the Nyeri County Referral Hospital.



Learning instructional materials flagged off

Story - Njambi Mugo | Photo - Peter Wangari

The County Government of Nyeri is committed to continue enhancing the quality of education for young learners across the ECDE centres in Nyeri.

For this reason, Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga together with Deputy Governor H.E David Waroe Kinaniri flagged off learning materials and teaching guides at Town Hall grounds, Nyeri town.

The consignment consisting of reading and writing materials, chinks, pencils, charts among other things will be distributed to over 22,000 learners across the 436 ECDE centres in Nyeri County. In the last five years, the County Government of Nyeri has employed over 800 ECDE teachers and translated their terms to permanent and pensionable. It has also built and renovated 39 ECDE centres.

For the next five years, the County Gov-



ernment is planning to introduce a Free School Milk program for every ECDE child, twice a week to improve their nutrition, construct 50 CBC model classrooms, 100 ablution blocks, and improve on existing sanitary facilities.

In support of solid waste management

Story - Joseph Wambugu | Photos - Kenneth Ngatia



Nyeri County Secretary Ben Gachichio flagging off a new garbage truck. BELOW: Gachichio with officers from the County Public Service, Sanitation & Waste Management Department and other officers from the CGN.

On behalf of Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga, the County Secretary Ben Gachichio, launched 20 skips and a new garbage truck. This will add onto the 33 skip bins and 15 waste chambers, and 8 collection trucks already provided to enhance efficiency in garbage collection.

This is part of the promise to the great people of Nyeri on the wider mission to accomplish and achieve solid waste management within the County. The County Government of Nyeri together with the Nyeri County Assembly has already made policies that will lead us towards attainment of a clean environment. The Nyeri County has a Solid Waste Management Act 2021 as well as the Nyeri Municipality Solid Waste Management Plan 2020.

The County Government has also purposed to adhere strictly to the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) Regulations on waste management and will purpose to do so with the new National Sustainable Waste Management Policy 2021 as guided by the Ministry of Environment.

The tonnage of waste in the County is 35,000 tonnes annually. This is a notable increase due to increased population, rural urban migration and emerging residential estates. Collection is done through either door to door collection or from centralized collection points.



Kirimukuyu Super Mill launched

Story - Njambi Mugo | Photo - Kennedy Karanja

Agriculture is a sector that plays a key role in the economic transformation of our county and country at large.

For this reason, we have continued to make deliberate investments in the sector through value addition programmes to ensure farmers make profit from crop farming and livestock keeping. Together with Kirimukuyu MCA Hon. Muriithi Ndagita, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga launched Kirimukuyu Super Mill, an animal feeds processing plant, from which 36 groups based in the ward will use to make animal feeds, earn an income from subsequently, improve their living standards.

The Community Based Organization was provided with a miller, mixer, scales and raw materials.

The County Government of Nyeri is committed in improving agriculture and boosting farmers in their work to ensure food security.



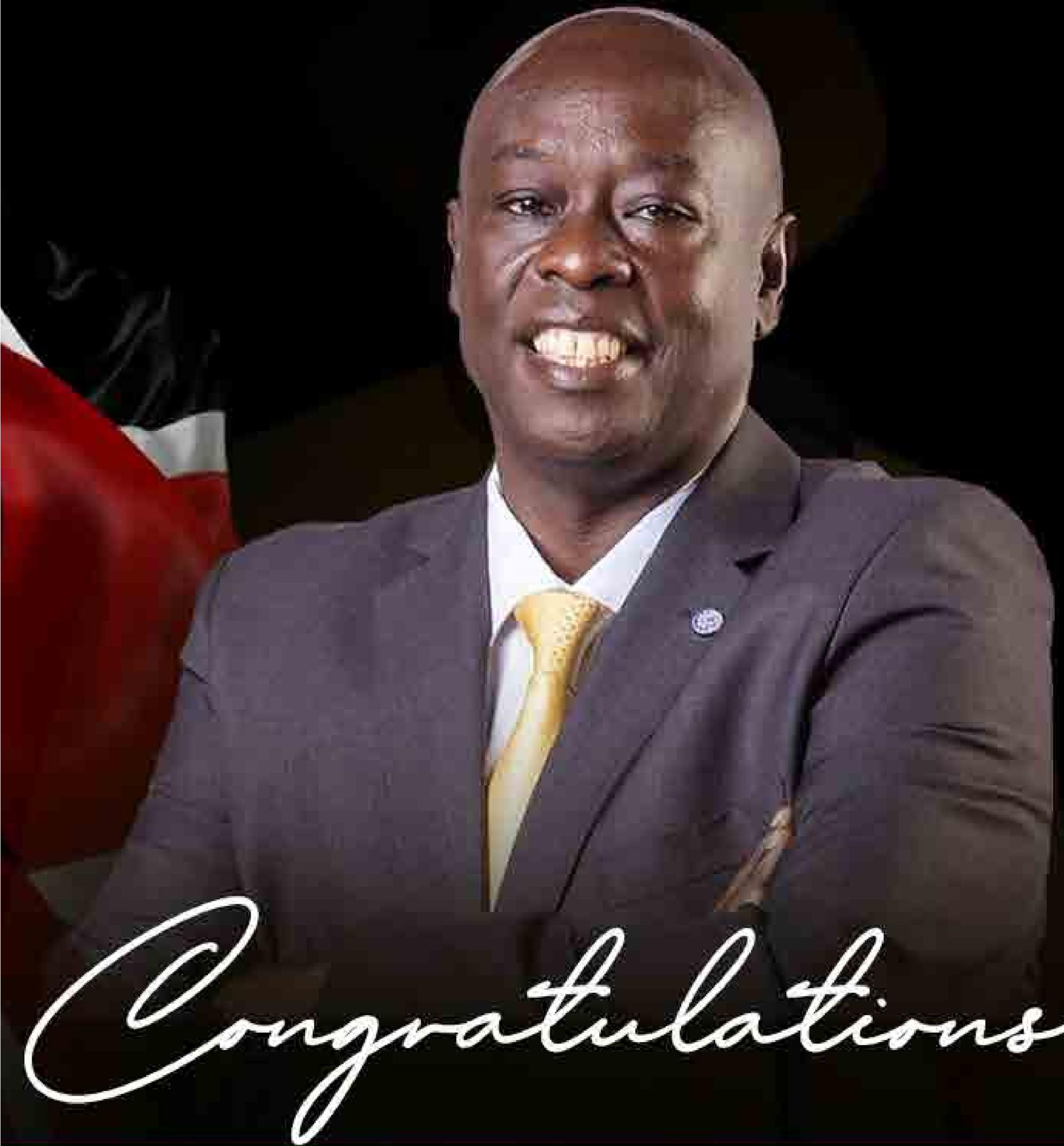


Congratulations

H.E DR. WILLIAM SAMOEI RUTO

**THE FIFTH PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

FROM H.E MWALIMU MUTAHI KAHIGA | GOVERNOR, NYERI COUNTY



H.E HON. RIGATHI GACHAGUA

**THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

FROM H.E MWALIMU MUTAHI KAHIGA | GOVERNOR, NYERI COUNTY