



Medical drugs hereness!

The health sector remains a key docket close to the heart of the County Government of Nyeri's leadership led by H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga. To this end, the leadership has put in place measures geared towards improving efficiency and effectiveness in this sector. To address the issue of lack of drugs, the County Government procured a consignment of pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals from the Kenya Medical Sup-

plies Authority (KEMSA) and Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS). The drug supplies have already been replenished in most rural health facilities across Nyeri County. The County Government envisions to restock basic medical drugs on a monthly basis ensuring drugs are available to patients at all times.

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CGN releases Kshs. 30 million claims for over 500 employees



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This is an initiative which has only been made possible due to the implementation of the Nyeri Health Services Fund. The Fund has helped address the issue of perennial drug shortages within the County's health facilities in the sense that it ring-fences monies collected from the facilities.

Other objectives and purposes of the Fund are:

- To improve the quality of health care services- the fund guarantees that health facilities have better access to financial resources ensuring uninterrupted service delivery to Nyeri residents.
- Better response to emergencies- the Fund will ensure hospitals are more responsive to medical and public health emergencies because part of the funding will finance running of county ambulances and emergency services.
- 100% reinvesting- monies collected will be reinvested back to the health facilities. Twenty per cent of the monies are set aside for disbursement and are equitably allocated to primary health services.

Governor Kahiga has pledged his commitment to promoting affordable health care services, through initiatives such as the Nyeri County Health Services Fund adding that not only will it revolutionize the health sector but also enhance efficacy in service delivery.

According to Health Director Dr. Nelson Muriu, some of the essential drugs being distributed include antibiotics, painkillers, hypertension drugs such as amlodipine Besylate, Losartan/ HCTZ, Atorvastatin and Metformin for Diabetes. Some of the non-pharms procured include sanitizers, gloves and coveralls.

So far, the drugs have been disbursed to all the rural health facilities across the county.

For he who has health has hope and he who has hope has everything.



Intergovernmental forum on Agriculture



Story & Photo | Peter Wangari

Agriculture continues to be the mainstay of the economy of Kenya and is also the backbone of Nyeri's economy. H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga joined colleague Governors, Deputy Governors, and County Executives for Agriculture for the 4th Intergovernmental Forum on Agriculture co-chaired by CoG Chair of Agriculture Committee H.E Dr James Nyoro - Governor Kiambu County and CS Agriculture Peter Munya.

The forum brought together the two levels of Government, private sector, farmer organizations and development partners, to discuss the pathway to agriculture transformation in the country.

This year's forum themed, 'Strengthening Intergovernmental Relations and Partnerships for Sustainable Food Systems towards 100% Food & Nutrition Security in Kenya' discussed among other things;

1. Review of the policy environ-

ment and acceleration of implementation for better sector performance.

2. Enhanced funding to the sector by both levels of Government.

2. Harmonisation of taxes and levels to reduce the burden on farmers.

3. Scaling up adoption of climate smart agriculture.

4. Enhanced private sector involvement in agriculture.

5. Development of a sector M&E framework and big data system, among others.

Other Governors present included: Siaya Governor, H.E Cornel Rasanga and Transzoia Governor, H.E Patrick Khaemba.



NACADA commends former 2NK driver John Maina Muthoni

The National Authority for the Campaign against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) hailed former 2NK driver John Maina Muthoni for his commendable deed of driving inebriated students to a nearby police station. Speaking while visiting Governor Mutahi Kahiga, NACADA CEO Victor Okioma thanked Muthoni for his intervention. Okioma also thanked the governor for his magnanimous act of offering Muthoni an opportunity to fend for his family.

Governor Kahiga on his end reaffirmed that Muthoni will soon be joining the County Government of Nyeri once the requisite procedures and protocols that govern government employment are completed. Muthoni thanked the governor for the job opportunity and promised to be zealous and diligent in the execution of his duties. He also took the opportunity to caution those selling drugs and alcohol to students, saying enabling substance abuse amongst minors should be punished heavily. Muthoni also urged fellow drivers and particularly PSV drivers to exercise caution on the roads during this festivities period so as to reduce road carnage. NACADA's CEO Okioma said they have joined hands with NTSA to also reduce road carnage and enforce responsible driving this season.

NACADA presented a plaque and a certificate to Muthoni as well as a Christmas token to appreciate him for his intervention and inspiration to fellow drivers to join in the fight against substance abuse.



Some of New Fortis Sacco members attending the 46th AGM. The dividend pay-out ratio at New Fortis ranks amongst the highest in the Sacco movement across the nation at 12.9%.

Saccos as key drivers of the economy- New Fortis 46th AGM

Story | Carol Nderi & Photo | Peter Wangari

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (*inset*) joined New Fortis Sacco as they celebrated their 46th Annual General Meeting since its inception. The sacco has grown in leaps and bounds, with a current solid membership of 17,720 as of the year 2021, up from 15,758 in 2020 and 14,890 in 2019. New Fortis stands tall as a driver of the Nyeri economy and is a key pillar of Nyeri's socio-economic transformation agenda.

It is impressive that the dividend pay-out ratio at New Fortis ranks amongst the highest in the Sacco movement across the nation. This year, 740 million shillings will be pumped into the economy of Nyeri via dividends/interest at a rate of 12.9%.

Despite the ravages of Covid-19, it is commendable that New Fortis

has continued to display resilience and strength amidst the tribulations and challenges it has had to endure, even as it aspires to scale greater heights. The chairman of New Fortis John Githinji reiterated that the board of management is drawing up a post pandemic recovery strategy.

The success of cooperative societies is dependent on proper governance. To enhance good corporate governance in our cooperative societies, the County Government of Nyeri has in the last 3 years initiated a capacity building program for cooperative leaders to improve their management and leadership skills. Since the inception of this program, the

County Government of Nyeri has been able to train over 900 cooperative leaders and staff. In this financial year, an extra 3 million shillings has been allocated for a similar program targeting to train 600 cooperative leaders by June 2022.

The county government will strive to continue providing an excellent environment for the cooperative movement to thrive and ensure that their continued growth is sustainable. Businesses can only

thrive where government plays a facilitative role and the private sector takes advantage of the opportunities therein.



In support of the advancement of Dairy Value Chain



From right: Agriculture CEC James Wachihi, Governor Mutahi Kahiga and Dodla Dairy Kenya Limited General Manager Anand Baphtay after the consultative meeting in the governor's office.

Story | Carol Nderi & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

In a bid to support the Dairy Value Chain as one of the components of Agriculture, which the Nyeri economy heavily relies on, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga met with Dodla Dairy Kenya Limited through their General Manager Anand Baphtay.

The firm is seeking to set up a Milk Processing Plant and a Dairy Feed Plant in an area with an adequate water and electric-

ity supply and good infrastructure for easy access by farmers. Public Private partnerships (PPPs) are ideal in the realization of best practices and the County Government of Nyeri is cognizant of this and is continually striving to provide a conducive environment. The firm is aiming to set up a Dairy Feed Plant with a capacity of producing 25 MT Feed per Day which can approximately feed 10000+ cattle daily. The Milk Processing Plant will have the capacity to

produce 50,000 liters of milk. This will also generate employment in tune of 300 direct and 1000 indirect employment opportunities in Nyeri county.

The Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries's CEC said that the department will seek to work with Dodla Dairy Kenya Limited in the full realization of this. This will cascade to more money trickling down to the farmers' pockets and boosting the Nyeri economy further.



CGN releases Kshs. 30 million claims for over 500 employees



Story | Joseph Wambugu & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

The County Government of Nyeri has released Kshs. 30 Million worth of claims to 562 employees of the defunct local authorities of Nyeri. The arrears date back to 7 years ago during the transition in governance from the then local authorities to county governments at the onset of devolution.

These were part of the Kshs. 57 million claims which were in form annual leave allowances, overtime claims and uniform arrears for the 562 employees who were working at the obsolete Othaya Town Council, Karatina Municipal Council, Nyeri Municipal Council and Nyeri County

Council. Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga (*inset*) while making the announcement to the workers said they were to be paid by the former regimes about seven years ago but failed to do so.

While noting that there is need to cater for the welfare of employees, the governor promised them that the balance of Kshs. 27 million will be paid once the funds are available.

The governor during the meeting with the employees urged them to embrace dialogue on issues as opposed to court battles.

Governor Kahiga also promised promotions with time since some have stagnated in one position for many years.

The County Public Service Board

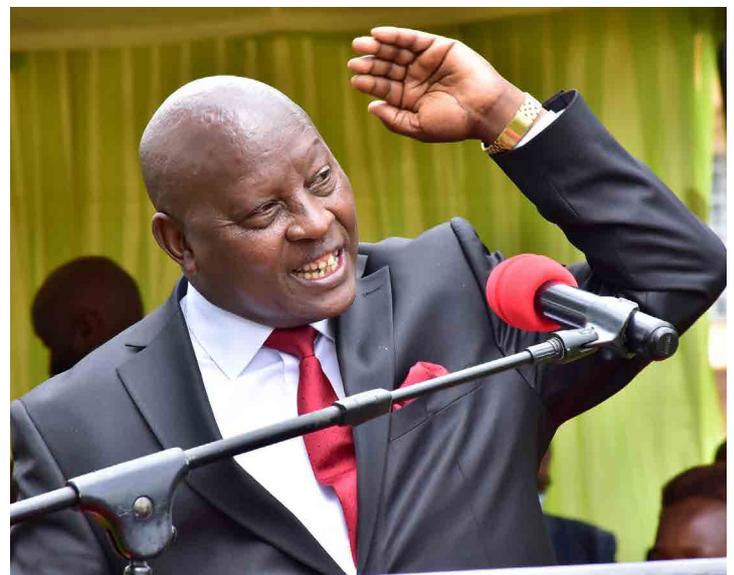
held a meeting with the Kenya County Government Workers Union Nyeri branch officials and made efforts to resolve the pending matter since the advent of

Devolution as the court directed that both the County and the union seek an out of court settlement.

The board held a meeting with the union and agreed that the matter be raised with the Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee (IGRTC) as the claims arose during the transition to the devolved government. The report was sent to the committee and further adopted by the summit.

The board was further advised that before payment of the claims, the County Government of Nyeri should consider engaging with the office of the Auditor General with a view of commencing the verification process.

Kenya County Government Workers Union Deputy Secretary General John Ndunda and Nyeri branch Chairman Charles Kagwi lauded the governor for his efforts of clearing the claims since the four governors who have served before never did it.



Socio-economic empowerment through increasing coffee production

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Coffee farming is a major income earner to most farmers in Nyeri County. To this end, the County Government of Nyeri is committed to boosting this sector with the aim being to increase earnings and livelihoods for the farmers.

To achieve this, the County Government under H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga is committed to enhancing the gains of the Coffee Revitalization Programme with the main objectives being to increase coffee production, increase farmers' income and improve their livelihoods. The governor accompanied by Kirimukuyu MCA Hon. Anthony Ndagita and Agriculture CEC James Wachihii held a consultative forum with farmers from Karogoto Coffee Factory which is under the New Tekangu FCS. They deliberated on the gains made including a



60% increase in production (1.2 million kilograms of cherry to 2 million kilograms) since the program was initiated. The governor also issued them with high grade organic manure which will improve the quality and quantity of their yield as well as supplement fertilizers used whose prices are sometimes exorbitant. Further, they visited a youth group in Thamaru which was provided with coffee seedlings and high grade organic manure.

Last year through this programme, the county government also issued Ruiru II coffee seed-

lings and manure to farmers. Similarly, under the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) coffee revitalization project, the Department of Agriculture intends to support Rutuma Coffee Cooperative Society with financial resources to procure coffee farm inputs and modernizing their factory. This initiative will increase coffee production and productivity, improve the efficiency of farmer cooperatives and improve market access for smallholder coffee producers.



Briefly...

A state-of-the-art milk pasteurizer has been installed at Iria-ini Dairy Farmers Society, Kairuthi trading Centre, Iria-ini ward, Othaya.

Flagging off of indigenous chicks to Mukurwe-ini CIGs

The CECM Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries James Wachihi flagged off the consignment of Improved Kienyeji chicks at Maganjo Coffee Factory in Mukurweini Central, Mukurweini sub-county.

The chicks have been procured through the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries as a means of empowering small scale farmers by providing them with a source of income as well as promoting nutrition in their households. The total number of chicks distributed were 3940 to 13 Common Interest Groups (CIGs). One of the beneficiary groups



was a Vulnerable and Marginalized (VMG) group Jiunge Autism, whose members are persons sup-

porting those living with autism. This empowerment program is in line with the big four agenda

whose mandate, among others, is food security.

KCSAP

The CEC also launched biogas plants, which will promote the use of green energy conserving the environment

Empowering small scale farmers through KCSAP

The Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries CEC James Wachihi distributed a consignment of Kari Improved kienyeji chicks and farm inputs in Gakawa ward, Kieni East sub-county. The 3,500 one month old indigenous chicks were distributed to seven groups. Further, three farmers' groups received chain link, another three received iron sheets and Hose pipes were given to five more groups. The CEC also launched biogas

plants, which will promote the use of green energy conserving the environment as well as an incubator which will empower the beneficiaries to hatch and sell their own chicks, earning them an income subsequently improving their lives. These items have been provided to farmers through the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP). KCSAP is a World Bank programme which aims at increasing agricultural produc-

tivity and building resilience to climate change risk in the targeted small holders farming and pastoral communities in Kenya, and in event of an eligible crisis or emergency to provide immediate and effective response. The programme is implemented in 24 counties with Nyeri County being ranked the best for three consecutive years for implementation of KCSAP activities.



Environment conservation exercise

Story | Mary Lynn & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

The Department of Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development CEC Diana Kendi (pictured below) together with Chief Officer George Mwangi led a tree planting exercise that was held at the Nyeri Cultural Centre in Nyeri Central sub-county. The activity brought together different groups drawn from across the county including the Veteran Matigari History Foundation Group (VEMAHI), Chaka Talanta Self-help group among others. The VEMAHI Mau Mau group members led by their chairman Paul Ngatia emphasized on the

importance of conserving the forests highlighting how the forests were important during the Mau Mau resistance era as they provided shelter and protection. The department aimed at planting 1,000 indigenous trees during the exercise. Currently, Nyeri County ranks position one countrywide with 38.4 % forest coverage, which the Governor Kahiga led administration is committed towards increasing in a bid to conserve the environment. While thanking the groups, the CEC reiterated the importance of environmental conservation and pledged to work hand in hand with them.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, YOUTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H.E Governor Edward Mutahi Kahiga in conjunction with County Ward MCAs, is pleased to announce that, the County Government is now rolling out;

“The Nyeri Youth, Women and Persons With Disabilities Empowerment Programme.”

This programme aims to boost organized group's Income Generating Activities (IGAs) and transform them into viable economic ventures by supporting the youth, women and persons living with disability with equipment tools & machinery. This is hoped to promote the IGAs into formal established businesses.

This is therefore a **CALL FOR PROPOSALS** from such groups that require such support and have met certain conditions by filling the prescribed form which can be obtained from Social Welfare Officer in your Sub-County or through the area MCA.

The forms and guidelines can also be downloaded from the County website; www.nyeri.go.ke

The fully filled form with supporting documents should be returned to the **Chief Officer, Social Welfare Officer at your Sub-County or the area MCA's office or via email to nyerigenderyouthss@gmail.com on or before 7th February, 2022.**

WARDS FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS FY 2021-22

Konyu	Kamakwa/Mukaro	Thegu River
Aguthi-Gaaki	Mweiga	Iriaini Othaya
Chinga	Kirimukuyu	Gatitu/Muruguru
Iria-ini Mathira	Ruring'u	Mahiga
Gakawa	Karima	Wamagana

Bungoma County officers visit Nyeri for benchmarking

Story & Photo | Sam Gitonga

A team of officers from the County Government of Bungoma visited Nyeri County for a benchmarking tour on matters Trade.

The team led by John Ndombi, Municipal Manager Kimilili, Bungoma county, was officially received by Nyeri CS Ben Gachichio on behalf of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga.

Nyeri County continues to lead in innovative solutions in trading activities having two large markets, Chaka Integrated Market and Karatina market, where the team paid a visit.

Under the guidance of Trade, Tourism and Co-operative Development Chief Officer George Mwangi, the team also visited the ultra-modern Nyeri Main Bus Termini at Asian Quarters, which is almost to be operationalized. The bus park will not only decongesting Nyeri CBD, create employment opportunities but also provide a conducive environment for small



scale traders.

The County Government of Nyeri under the stewardship of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga has constructed and rehabilitated about 76 markets in the last four years. The Department of Trade remains

committed to achieving its goals which include:

- Developing market and economic growth
- Promoting fair trading environment and consumer protection
- Promoting industrial and enter-

prise development

- Promoting value addition.

Mr. Ndombi lauded Governor Kahiga for the stellar performance highlighting that tremendous work has been achieved in the trade sector.



Briefly...

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga distributed 96 doper sheep to six groups at AMS Naromoru in Thegu River ward, Kieni East sub-county.

In addition, he commissioned a commercial feed formulation machinery inclusive of one feed mixer, one hammer mill and one digital weighing balance to Njung'wa CBO which consists of 30 members.