



Launch of ASDSP & KCSAP items in Gakawa



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Nyeri recognized for leading in the cooperative function

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Bursary Will equally be distributed to all the 30 wards benefitting around 28,000 students



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga signing a dummy cheque of Nyeri County Elimu Bursary Fund in a past event. In the current financial year, the governor is expected to issue Kshs. 160 million as bursary funds benefitting around 28,000 students.

Governor to disburse Kshs. 160M Elimu Bursary Funds

Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change the world. These were powerful words remarked by Nelson Mandela which today we can verify it seeing that not only does education help us to

better understand the world we live in but it also interconnects and equates us as humans.

This is a concept that the County Government of Nyeri led by H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga is alive to and has since heavily

invested in the sector towards the betterment of both young and old learners. One of the key efforts is supporting students from vulnerable homes with financial support.

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H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre) with some of the guardians of beneficiaries of Nyeri County Elimu Bursary Fund last year.

Governor Kahiga, who doubles as the CoG Education Committee chair has continuously emphasized on the need for education and the fruits that it bears continuously persuading parents and students to keep their hopes alive and encourage them not to focus on the hardships encountered while pursuing education.

In light of this, Governor Kahiga will soon launch the disbursement of Kshs. 160 million Elimu Bursary Fund to vulnerable students in learning institutions including: secondary schools, universities, youth polytechnics, colleges and special schools. The bursary fund for this financial year will be equally distributed to all the 30 wards benefitting around 28,000 students.

Governor Kahiga will also distribute funds to the beneficiaries of the Governor's Scholarship Bursary Programme where 60 bright and needy students, two per

ward, receive a full sponsorship. This fund targets students going to form one who have scored 350 marks and above. They will be added to the previous 180 students already receiving full scholarship bringing the number to 240 beneficiaries.

The Department of Education and Sports led by CEC Margaret Macharia, Chief Officer Simon Wachira and Director James Kiretai has already called for applications making announcements in churches, school assemblies, public barazas among others areas. Currently, the forms for this bursary application are being issued out at the ward representatives offices. The department will later conduct a countywide public participation forum in all the 30 elective wards, which will integrate the members of the community who will agree on the students to benefit with the bursaries.

“My administration has been setting aside funds every financial

year to ensure that our students are educated without being interrupted due to lack of school fees. For the last four years we have supported over 60,000 students with bursary funds and awarded 180 bright students from needy families with full scholarships. It is my hope, that through education, the students will be guided on how to think and behave in a way that contributes to their success, improving both their personal satisfaction and that of their communities,” noted the governor.

Other efforts to improve the education sector by the County Government include:

- In the ECDE sector, the county government has employed over 800 ECDE teachers to facilitate the learning of our young children.
- It has built and renovated over 40 ECDE centres creating conducive learning environment for the learners.
- The Vocational Training

Centres have received a tremendous input creating conducive environment for learning and innovation to take place. 13 polytechnics have been built, renovated as well as equipped by the County Government.

- Annually, the county government distributes ECDE learning, reading and playing materials as well as teacher guides across the ECDE centres in the county.
- The county government also distributed water tanks that helped in ensuring general sanitation and children's hygiene during this Covid-19 pandemic period.
- The Department of Education conducted a training exercise for VTCs managers and chairmen in a bid to promote good governance in the learning institutions.

Launch of ASDSP & KCSAP items in Gakawa

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

The Agriculture sector plays a key economic role for Nyeri County's residents seeing that most engage in the trade in both small scale and large scale. In line with this, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga has continued to support Nyeri farmers through private public partnership with international entities and donors.

One of the notable projects from such partnerships is the Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP) which focuses on the three value chains of cow milk, Indigenous chicken and Irish potatoes. Through ASDSP, which is financed by the County Government, the National Government and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the programme has increased productivity of prioritized value chains, strengthened entrepreneurial skills of value chain actors, improved access to market by value chain actors, strengthened structures and capacities for coordination, cooperation and consultation in agriculture sector.



In the current financial year, the programme is scheduled to support the following innovations which Governor Kahiga launched some of the items today in Gakawa ward:

Indigenous chicken value chain: 20 solar powered incubators to 20 groups, improving chicken processing facility and provision of value addition equipment such as Defeathering machine, deep freezer, and fridge and roasting oven. Dairy Value Chain will benefit with automatic yoghurt packaging machine, two solar milk pre-chillers, milk ATMs for dairy

cooperatives, four chuff cutters for dairy groups and establish 15 acres of brachiaria (fodder grass). Irish potato value chain will receive walking tractors for potato production mechanization for 4 value chain organizations, 1,346 potato storage crates, 605 packaging sacks, and cottage processing facilities for four value chain organizations.

Further, under the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture project (KCSAP), Governor Kahiga issued out the following items to CDDC groups in Gakawa ward: chain link, hose pipes, spray pumps,

plastic drinkers, watering cans, one-month old chicks, growers mash, chick mash and assorted pesticides.

In addition, under the Micro project funding 51 Farmer Groups in Gakawa ward have benefited with KCSAP Grants in the Dairy Cow, Indigenous Chicken, Irish potato and Beans value chains. Under the Sub Project funding the Ward has benefitted with funds for rehabilitation of Kamangura / Mikumbune Earth Dam which has benefitted over 800 farmers. The construction of Mureru /Acacia Irrigation Water Project is currently ongoing set to benefit over 569 farmers with coverage of 145 acres.

KCSAP is a programme which aims at increasing agricultural productivity and building resilience to climate change risk in the targeted smallholders farming and pastoral communities in Kenya, and in event of an eligible crisis or emergency to provide immediate and effective response.



Nyeri County Youth Policy Validation Workshop



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga addressing participants during the stakeholder's validation workshop of the Nyeri County Youth Policy. Governor Kahiga emphasized that the voice of the youth is important in today's world and hence encouraged them to continue airing their views on the youth policy.

Story | Consolata Kingo'ori & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga presided over the stakeholder's validation workshop of the Nyeri County Youth Policy, which is being implemented through the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services.

The workshop sought to engage various youth stakeholders who will validate proposals presented by the youth during the public participation exercise held across the eight sub counties. During the public participation exercise, Nyeri youth were given an oppor-

tunity to integrate their voices and share their views into the policy.

The Nyeri County Youth Policy seeks to address issues affecting the youth in Nyeri by providing broad based objectives and strategies that will be implemented to give the youth meaningful opportunities to reach maximum potential. It also provides a framework on which all programmes and sectorial policies will base their efforts to mainstream issues affecting the youth at all levels including mechanism of accountability in the county.

Some of the thematic areas it addresses include: sexual reproductive health rights, mental health, GBV awareness, labour & unemployment, arts & sports, ICT & Innovation, governance & leadership and agriculture & agribusiness.

Governor Kahiga emphasized that the voice of the youth is important in today's world and hence encouraged them to continue airing their views on the youth policy. He also encouraged them to take advantage of all the opportunities offered to them by the Government including apply-

ing for jobs, Government tenders, programs like the internship and Kuza Kazi programme as well as take part in Agribusiness seeing that Agriculture is the backbone of this country.

The Governor also recognized the efforts of key stakeholders in the development of this policy including World Vision, Africa Youth Transformation and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Nyeri will be the 3rd county to implement a youth policy with others being Nairobi and Makueni counties.



Some of the bridges which were inspected by H.E Mutahi Kahiga included Gichatha-ini, Kahachu- Kahuti-ini and Kinyariti bridges in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East sub county.

Inspection of 3 bridges in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga together with Iria-ini MCA Hon. David Kabatha inspected three vital bridges in Mathira East sub county.

The bridges/box culverts which includes Gichatha-ini, Kahachu - Kahuti-ini and Kinyariti bridges have been constructed by the Department of Transport, Infrastructure & Energy. The bridges, which have never been in existence since time immemorial have now tremendously improved accessibility and connectivity especially for the local residents who can now interact easily and engage in economic activities. The bridges provide safe passage across River Ragati and River Kuru.

Governor Kahiga noted that his government is committed to improving infrastructure in a bid to open up the county, creating room for socialization and economic activities to thrive.



Commissioning of Kiamwangi milk cooler, Mathira East



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (left) with Iria-ini MCA Hon. David Kabatha during the commissioning of Kiamwangi Dairy Self Help Group in Mathira East sub county. BELOW: The modern milk cooler.

Story | Joseph Wambugu & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga commissioned a modern milk cooler at Kiamwangi Dairy Self Help Group, Iria-ini Ward in Mathira East sub-county.

The cooler which was purchased by the County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries has increased the daily milk collection from 150 litres per day to currently 4,800 litres

per day. The milk buying price has since increased with farmers receiving Kshs. 40 per litre currently.

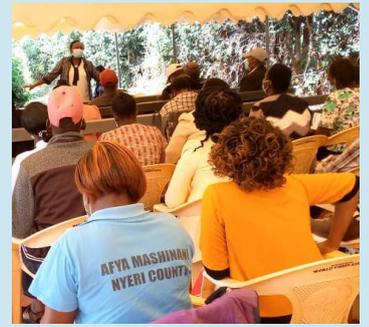
The cooler which has a capacity of holding 2,200 litres serves over 500 milk farmers from Kahachu, Kamatanga, Kiamwangi, Cheru, Kiaritha-ini, Muhuhi and Gachau areas.

The department also installed a solar panel, a backup generator as well as trained farmers on how to increase milk produc-

tion.

The dairy farmers present thanked the Governor for the cooler saying it has helped in elimination of souring/curdling of milk due to cooling at the collection centre itself.

Governor Kahiga, area MCA Hon. David Kabatha and Agriculture CEC James Wachihi promised to pump more funds in the cooling plant in the spirit of embracing technology in the Agriculture sector.



Training of CHVs in Nyeri County

Story & Photo | Catherine Muthoni

Amref Health Africa funded by Africa CDC in collaboration with Nyeri County Health Department has carried out the training of CHVs in Nyeri Central Sub County on fighting COVID-19 pandemic.

The training was carried out at Nyeri town Health centre and facilitated by the Sub County Community Health Strategy Focal Person Josephine Mathenge and the Sub County Public Health Nurse Susan Kamau.

The CHVs were mainly educated on COVID-19 preventive measures to the community and different ways on how to encourage and impact importance of vaccination to the community that is still unvaccinated.

Main challenges during the vaccination exercise were also tabled which included fear by the community members of the expected side effects after vaccination. Strategies on how to increase the vaccination numbers in future were also mentioned which included community based mobilisation targeting unvaccinated households.

The meeting targeted fifty CHVs from all the CUs in Nyeri Central Sub County.

Nyeri leads in vaccination drive



ty with 4722 having received a booster dose. This accounts for 54.2% coverage for 1st dose and 41% for the population fully vaccinated.

This has been achieved through the vigorous mass vaccination campaigns being carried out by the Department of Health Services.

The department finished a 10-day mass vaccination exercise which targeted 56,103 persons in the county, who had not yet received a single dose since the vaccine was rolled out in March 2020.

The exercise was in partnership with UNICEF through UNOPs Kenya, stakeholders at the community level like JOICFP Kenya, the clergy and the CHVs. Amref Health Kenya has also been a key partner in the vaccination campaigns.

Story & Photo | Catherine Muthoni

Nyeri has been recognized for leading in the number of popu-

lation vaccinated for Covid-19 across the country. Nyeri has tied position one with Nairobi County. The Department has so far

reached 238,823 persons for the 1st dose vaccination, while 182,810 have completed the 2nd dose vaccination across the coun-

Prayer Breakfast

This year's theme was 'Committing to Peace and Unity: It Shall be Well with Nyeri County and Nation'

8th Annual Nyeri County Prayer Breakfast

Story | Joseph Wambugu & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri leaders, members of the clergy, business community and representatives from the National Government convened for a prayer breakfast meeting organized by the Nyeri Ecumenical Bishops Council.

This year's theme was 'Committing to Peace and Unity: It Shall be Well with Nyeri County and Nation.'

This initiative was started by the Nyeri Ecumenical Bishops Council

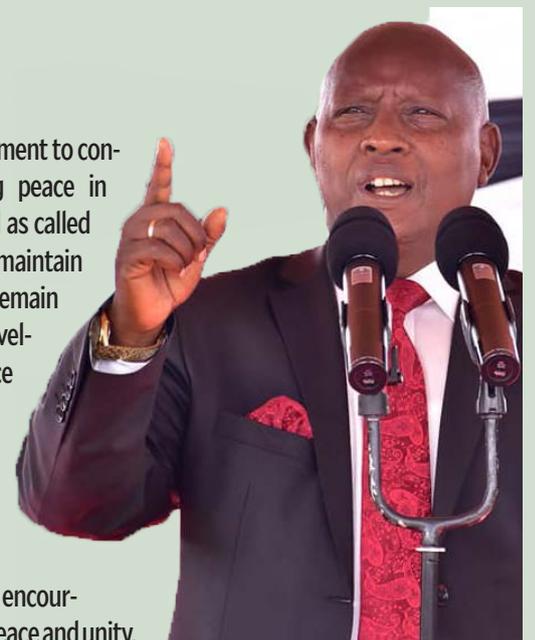
eight years ago, with an aim of forging togetherness in prayer and presenting the problems in the region to God.

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga appreciated the council led by the Patron Nyeri Catholic Archbishop Rev. Anthony Muheria for their consistency and faithfulness to this prayer breakfast which has brought the people of Nyeri together.

He further expressed his commit-

ment to continue maintaining peace in the county as well as called upon leaders to maintain harmony and remain dedicated to development and service delivery to local wananchi.

In light of this year's theme, Nyeri leaders and residents were encouraged to embrace peace and unity.



Nyeri County consultative meeting



Story | Joseph Wambugu & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga officiated a consultative meeting between the Nyeri County Public Service Board and top management staff at Wambugu ATC Farm. The board held a one-day meeting with all

Chief Officers, Directors and Departmental HR Officers to deliberate on matters Performance Management, Staff Establishment, Delegated Authority among others. Governor Kahiga thanked the team for its commitment which has ensured the county retains position one countrywide in the World

Bank rankings. He also lauded them for creating a conducive working environment for the over 4,000 staff in the County Government of Nyeri. The theme of the meeting was; Transforming the County Public Service of Nyeri through a value & ethics driven approach.

Mathira East

Kariki Social Hall which has a capacity of 400 people will be of great benefit to area residents

Governor commissions Kariki social hall



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga together with Hon. David Kabatha commissioned a modern hall in Iria-ini ward, Mathira East sub-county. Kariki Social Hall which has a capacity of 400 people will be of great benefit to area residents as they will now have a safe space for holding meetings, indoor games, cultural events, festivals, exhibitions, workshops among other activities. The Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services will also equip the hall with seats.

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Distribution of dairy goats in Ruruguti, Othaya

Story & Photo | Joseph Wambugu

17 families benefitted with the dairy goats during the distribution exercise done at Ruruguti centre, in Iria-ini ward, Othaya.

The event was presided over by the Governor's political advisor Washington Karuki and the area MCA Hon. John Theuri.

17 does were distributed to 14 different families in order to boost milk production. Goat milk is loaded with calcium and other minerals.

The milk is naturally an excellent source of calcium, magnesium and potassium.

Additionally, goat milk contains the precursor to vitamin A in the milk fat which allows it to be readily bioavailable.



CoG Governor Kahiga tabled a report on the plight of ECDE teachers in the counties, allocation of funds and payment of ECDE teachers

Senate & CoG Education meeting

Story & Photo | Joseph Wambugu

Children are the future citizens of this country, hence a need to prioritize addressing their issues by both the National and County Governments since ECDE is a fully devolved function.

In his capacity as the Chairperson of the CoG Education Committee, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga joined the Senate fraternity, the Council of Governors Committee and other stakeholders during an Education meeting on Early Childhood Education sector.

Governor Kahiga tabled a report from the CoG on the plight of

ECDE teachers in the counties countrywide, allocation of funds and payment of ECDE teachers.

The report also highlighted the progress made by the county governments towards implementing the scheme of service, the efforts towards engaging ECDE teachers on enforceable contracts and recommendations for considerations on the Senate.

The governor urged the Ministry of Education to continue working hand in hand with the county government in a bid to strengthen the ECDE sector for the benefit of our children.



Nyeri County cooperative leaders' forum 2022



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga addressing co-operators during the Co-operative Leader's Forum 2022 at Nyeri County Culture Centre, Nyeri town.

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga presided over the Co-operative Leaders' Forum 2022 held at the Nyeri County Culture Centre. The theme of the forum was Building Back Better.

Governor Kahiga acknowledged the notable role the 179 active co-operatives play in social economic empowerment of Nyeri County residents. He assured that the County Government will continue supporting co-operatives through provision of extension services, co-operative audit at affordable rates, assistance in registration of new cooperatives and continued capacity building programs.

The co-operative leaders were taken through the Cooperatives

Bill 2022 by Deputy Commissioner for Co-operative Development Peter Wanjohi. This bill was developed following the taskforce assessment and findings to review the Co-operative law. The bill provides for matters relating to the promotion, constitution, registration of co-operatives.

Cooperative Alliance of Kenya CEO Daniel Marube commended the cooperative leaders and societies at large, for the fundamental role they play in empowerment of people. He added that CAK will produce a special magazine edition which will feature Nyeri cooperatives and their achievements in recognition of the good work done.

The County Government recognizes the great role played by non-state actors like Global Community which has trained

the County Government staff as Trainers of Trainers (ToTs) and gender champions and developed a curriculum to train on Co-operative Leadership, Advocacy, Policy Development and Gender-Mainstreaming.

Other measures geared towards improving the co-operatives include:

- Registration of 38 new co-operatives that will continue to receive early-stage care from co-operative officers.
- Capacity building program to enhance governance and compliance where over 1,000 co-operative leaders and managers have benefited. In this financial year, the County Government has set aside funds for the leaders' capacity building program that will take place from 2nd March, 2022.
- The coffee co-operatives have

benefitted through the Coffee Improvement Program through issuance of 250 tons of organic fertilizers and 25,000 coffee seedlings for farmers.

- The dairy co-operatives have benefitted with coolers, civil works and purchase of milk cans.
- The County Government has also granted funds to cooperatives for enterprise development for Kieni Dairy and Wakulima Dairy directed at value addition.
- Marketing co-operatives supporting value chains like beans, bananas and poultry have benefitted with resources aimed at enhancing those value chains.
- Countywide, farmers have benefitted from soil testing, lime and Mycorrhiza organic fertilizer.
- The County Government has employed several agricultural and cooperative extension officers.

Nyeri recognized for leading in the cooperative function

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri County led by H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga has been hailed for leading in the co-operative function which will see it being featured by the Co-operative Alliance of Kenya (CAK) in their monthly special edition. Nyeri is the first county to be featured.

CAK CEO Daniel Marube, who had paid a courtesy call to the governor, lauded the efforts of the county government in support of co-operatives in the county emphasizing on the great role they play in the social and economic growth within the societies. The CEO presented a proposal which will see Nyeri co-operatives and their achievements



featured in their magazine which is distributed to most offices in Kenya and across the East African Region.

Nyeri has 179 active co-operatives which enjoy a membership of over 400,000 which the county gover-

ment has continuously supported. Some of the measures to support this sector include annual trainings of co-operative leaders and registration of new co-operative societies.

Governor Kahiga noted that he's committed to continue putting in place raft measures that will ensure continuous prosperity of all cooperative societies in the county.

One-million kitchen gardens to promote food nutrition in Nyeri

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja



In line with the Big 4 Agenda, the National and County Governments are increasingly recognizing the fundamental importance of prioritizing food security and nutrition.

The One-Million kitchen gardens

initiative is a bid to boost nutrition as one of the Covid-19 response measures.

In Nyeri County, the initiative will benefit over 16,000 households who will receive shade nets and assorted indigenous seeds. The

beneficiaries are organised in 527 groups. All groups will additionally receive a solar drier. This will be used to dry vegetables for use during periods of scarcity.

50 4K clubs will also benefit from this initiative.

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga received some of the solar driers and shade nets to be distributed to all Nyeri sub-counties. The materials have been bought through the Smallholder Irrigation and Value Addition Project.

Expedition of KMTCC Mukurweini campus

Story | Carol Nderi & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Members of the KMTCC Mukurweini (Wamutitu) Campus Project Management Committee (PMC) met with H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga in a bid to follow up on the completion and facilitation of the campus and its subsequent admission of students. The institution had earlier signed an MoU with the County Government of Nyeri on areas of collaboration such as provision of land, which the CGN has honoured as well as monetary support among other areas of

partnership. NG-CDF Mukurweini has also facilitated the construction of classes and offices among other spheres of facilitation. This collaborative effort will go a long way in ensuring that the facility will be a beacon of excellence and provide quality education and training.

KMTCC Mukurweini upon its completion is expected to admit 2,000 students who will delve into the following areas of expertise; Clinical Medicine, School of Nursing, Pharmacy, Nutrition, Orthopaedics and

Medical Imaging. The campus is being constructed in phases and will have tuition blocks, administration blocks, library, games courts, hostels amongst other facilities. Phase One construction is being finalized and the first students will hopefully be admitted in September 2022.

The team led by the PMC Chair Xavier Nyamu says it will continue joining hands with the stakeholders to ensure the smooth completion of the institution.



H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre) with the members of the Mukurweini (Wamutitu) campus Project Committee Members after they paid a courtesy call to the governor. The campus is being constructed in phases and will have tuition blocks, administration blocks, library, games courts, hostels amongst other facilities.

Nyeri's training on county planning & budget making



The County Government of Nyeri in partnership with the World Bank under the Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP) organised a three-day training for civic educators on planning and budget making process.

The sensitization workshop was officially opened by Nyeri Economic Planning Chief Officer Francis Kirira was being facilitated by the Ministry of Devolution under the Directorate of Capacity Building.

Over 50 civic educators drawn from all the departments and some from the County Assembly of Nyeri were the participants during the workshop.

The educators were being trained on topics which include;

- Development Planning – types of plans; Vision 2030, CIDP, ADP, Strategic Plan and annual work plans.
- Types of budgets.
- Budget making process and cycle, budget preparations process and format.
- Budget approval process, implementers and reporting.
- Highlights of the payment process.