



# WEEKLY REVIEW



ISSUE 92 | 06TH - 10TH DECEMBER, 2021

## My four-year scorecard

### GOVERNOR KAHIGA

In his fourth State of the County address at the Nyeri County Assembly, Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga notably highlighted the scores that have placed Nyeri County on a pedestal, having been rated, recognized and acknowledged by institutions of high repute.

Nyeri County has been recognized by external bodies including The World Bank, Royal Dutch Embassy, National Treasury, Open Budget Forum among other organisations which should serve as an inspiration to Nyeri citizens.

The County Government of Nyeri has delivered an incredible service that has been rated the best in the country by all the credible national and international institutions that are mandated by law to assess and monitor county governments including:

- The World Bank through the Kenya Devolution Support Program rated Nyeri Number one in the country.
- The Procurement Oversight Authority gave the county the highest trophy for 75% compliance with the law.
- Further, the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project rated Nyeri top in the country for two consecutive years.



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***H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (centre in red tie) and Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia together with members of the County Assembly of Nyeri after the reading of the 4th State of the County Address at the Assembly grounds.***

Nyeri people; to build on the progress the county has made so far to achieve its vision of a healthy, wealthy and secure people.

Governor Kahiga also thanked the Nyeri County staff for their commitment to service and their cooperation with his administration.

“Through dedication and team work observed by every county

staff member and a seamless working relationship with the County Assembly of Nyeri, Nyeri today stands proud of the milestones that the current government has achieved. Today, Nyeri stands on the threshold of a peaceful county, where collaboration and working together have seen Nyeri regain its coveted place among the counties as a

bastion of peace, hard work and progress. This is the legacy my administration has established and one whose credit goes to all elected leaders including the MCAs who have been key pillars in my government’s success,” he noted. The State of the County address highlighted the situation as is, took stock of the gains made, challenges encountered and

mapped out a way forward towards development and prosperity of the people of Nyeri county. Governor Kahiga underscored the gains made in each sector despite the global Covid-19 pandemic.

These are some of the major gains which have been achieved per department.

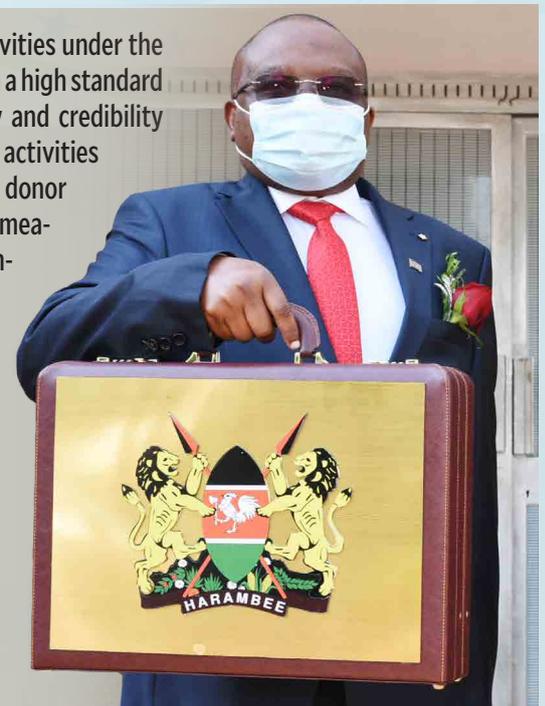
## Department of Finance and Economic Planning

The county Treasury was committed to providing a conducive environment for its customers especially the ones seeking revenue services at the county headquarters. To achieve this, the department constructed a state of the art ablution block. In addition, to provide adequate space for safe custody of important documents, the department was able

to procure and fabricate two containers which also provided space for a resource center for various policy documents prepared by the department. The containers will also be used to supplement office space for officers before funds are available to expand the existing offices.

During the FY 2020/21 the county government attained a revenue collection of Kshs. 886 million from its own sources which was a major accomplishment especially at a moment of recovery from the global Covid-19 pandemic. The county treasury also spearheaded the coordination of World

Bank funded activities under the KDSP to maintain a high standard of accountability and credibility of the funded activities in line with the donor guidelines. The measures took ensured that the allocations were well utilized and that they improved the image of the county to attract future investors and donors.



## Department of Health Services

The department has achieved world class statistics in the Covid that did not only include public barazas but also through social media, radios and television stations among others which significantly accelerated Covid-19 vaccination. A total number of 164,230 persons have received their 1st Dose and 102,408 persons have received their 2nd Dose as of 23rd Nov 2021. The department has developed a County Vaccination macro plan for the roll-out of the multiple vaccines which targets to vaccinate 436,968 by June 2022.

Governor Kahiga thanked the development partners who have continued to assist the county with technical support namely; the AMREF, University of Maryland, Clinton Health Access Initiatives (CHAI), and United Nations Office for Projects Services (UNOPS).

Nyeri County is experiencing a 'double burden' of disease that entails a lingering communicable disease burden with an increased burden of non-communicable conditions including diabetes, cancers, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases. To this end, it has fully operationalized the High Dependency Unit at the Nyeri County Referral Hospital and established an Emergency Opera-



*The Naromoru Level 4 Hospital in Kieni East sub-county whose construction is almost complete. (Below) Two state-of-the-art ambulances which were acquired by the Department of Health Services to help save lives in the county.*

tion Centre which will a long way to provide critical care.

Further, the county has a well-established Community Health system with 2,510 Community Health Volunteers who were very instrumental in the registration of indigents to NHIF. Working with CHVs, 18,984 people were identified for inclusion into the UHC indigent scheme.

In order to enhance the service delivery in health, the county recruited 61 nurses and promoted 254 health care workers during the year. Six doctors have reported back after postgraduate training having qualified in various specialties and sub-specialties.

The county government also assented the signature Nyeri County Health Services Fund Act 2021 which will ring fence health money generated in the facilities and the same collections will be retained there as a fund to run those facilities including primary health facilities without the long county finance processes that occasion delays and causes gaps. The department also developed the County HIV/AIDS Implementation Plan (2021-2025), Nyeri County Nutrition Action Plan (2020-2025), Nyeri County Emergency Medical Care Plan 2020/21 - 2024/25 and the Nyeri County UHC Health Financing Strategy

2020-2023.

The department continuously procured and supplied health commodities to all 127 County Government health facilities with a fill rate of over 72%. The department procured and distributed medical drugs and other medical supplies worth Ksh 284,943,358 (UHC allocation, Ksh, 85,000,000 and County allocation Ksh 199,943,358) during the financial year 2020/2021. To date, the County has drawn commodities worth KShs. 288,000,000 million. We must applaud our courts who have finally freed counties from the monopoly of KEMSA in procurement of drugs.

On health infrastructure development, the construction of the 175-bed capacity level 4 hospital in Naromoru is in the last phase of completion. This will play a pivotal role in providing referral services in Kieni East and West Sub Counties. Bulk oxygen plants and piped oxygen to wards have also been installed in Karatina and Mt Kenya hospitals and increased the supply of essential medicines and other medical supplies.



## Department of Education and Sports



*New Sagana ECDE in Ruguru ward in Mathira West sub-county. The Department of Education has constructed 34 new ECDE classrooms, renovated 21 classrooms and built 35 new toilet blocks.*

The county government has taken lead in taking ECDE education to another level with a view to professionalizing the service. In order to get value for money on behalf of our children the County Government has engaged on a program to retrain and retool our

teachers.

The department has constructed 34 new ECDE classrooms, renovated 21 ECDE classrooms, built 35 new toilet blocks in all the wards and procured and distributed instructional and learning materials to all public ECDE centers.

To assist the needy and bright students, the county government has disbursed Ksh 270 million from the Elimu Bursary Fund to 60,000 beneficiaries and on the Governor's Scholarship Bursary programme- a total of 180 students have benefited with full

scholarship.

In support of sporting activities, the department has constructed perimeter walls in Ruring'u, Karatina and Gichira. It has also fenced Ihururu, Othaya, Kinunga and Naromoru with a chain link to prevent any encroachments.

## Department of Trade, Tourism & Cooperatives



*The new Kiawara Market shade in Mugunda ward, Kiieni west sub-county.*

The Trade department has constructed 180 stalls in the all the 30 wards to improve the business environment and enhance

accessibility to goods and services. It has also disbursed loans to 126 individuals amounting to Kshs. 40 million. The county gov-

ernment also initiated the BodaBoda loans scheme to enhance self-employment to the youth through which 14 Boda-bodas

and 2 Tuk-tuks have been acquired.

To incentivize the tourism sector, the County Government has put measures in place by reducing the costs of Business permits, offering free covid-19 tests and vaccination which is one of the critical MoH guidelines. This is intended to motivate entrepreneurs to resume their businesses. The County Government in partnership with the national government and other agencies is at the initial stages of developing an ultra-modern theatre at the culture Centre.

To enhance co-operative Governance, management and leadership, the department has trained over 900 co-operative management committee members and the entire cooperative leadership.

## Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries



The county government's focus has been to ensure food security and nutrition to all Nyeri residents, while striving both directly and indirectly to create employment opportunities. Through the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project, the county supported packaging of climate change resilient technologies through funding of producer cooperative societies; Mukurwe-ini Wakulima Dairy received 21 Million, Kieni Dairy Products Limited (KDPL) and Sabeke Cooperative received 11 Million each while Natural Ways Supplements that makes Banana Flour in Mukurwe-ini received 3.7M to enhance its production. Mukeni Poultry Cooperative, Mwikuria Grains and Nyeri South Banana Producers Cooperative received Kshs. 1 Million each. The Project also gave grants to Micro Projects in 6 wards across the County worth Kshs. 157 Million to 182 Groups.

To support Dairy Value addition the department completed phase-1 in constructing of a cooler housing for Kairuthi dairy worth 4 million and a milk pasteurizer at a cost of 8 Million. It also distributed twenty-five-50 litres milk cans to a Dairy Self-help group in Mweiga Ward worth 0.3 Million. Further,

46 dairy goats worth 1 Million were procured and distributed to the county farmers with the goal being to boost production and farmers' incomes.

To mitigate against livestock diseases, 85,942 animals were vaccinated during the period under review across the county. The department continued to offer free Artificial Insemination to dairy farmers in the county and a total of 15,538 dairy cows were inseminated.

The department rehabilitated the Thiha-Sagana irrigation project and de-silted Kiria and Lusoi earth dams at a cost of 72.4 million, which will ensure adequate water supply for irrigation throughout

the year.

Through the Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP II), which is a tripartite collaboration involving the Government of Kenya, the County government, Government of Sweden and the European Union (EU), the department supported Cow milk, indigenous chicken and Irish potato value chains to achieve commercialization level. During the F/Y Ksh 23.3 Million was utilized to capacity build the value chain actors and to purchase innovation equipment such as feed mixture for feed formulation, Incubators, Black soldier Fly starter kit and Irish potato Apical cutting seeds production.

The department also undertook a coffee rehabilitation program whereby 250 tonnes of Organic Fertilizers and 25,000 coffee seedlings were supplied to farmers in Kirimukuyu Ward at a cost of 3 Million. The County Government also procured and distributed lime and Mycorrhiza Fungi to coffee farmers through their respective coffee Factories at a cost of 14 Million.

To increase fish production in the county, the department distributed 220 fish feeds worth Kshs. 1.1 Million. Ksh 5.6 Million has also been allocated to support Aquaculture development in the county to initiatives such as procurement and distribution of fingerlings, fish feeds and purchase of a motorized boat. Last year a total of more than 34 tonnes of fish was harvested in 1,960 fish ponds and 38 public dams; which were all sold and consumed in Nyeri adding an approximately Kshs. 22.9 M to the pockets of Nyeri fish farmers.

To combat climate change, the department has promoted fruit trees planting in the county by maintaining a 100,000-seedling capacity of fruit tree nursery. In addition, the department procured and distributed avocado seedlings to farmers in Iriaini ward Nyeri South worth Ksh 500,000.



## Department of Youth, Gender & Social Services



*Two State-of-the-art fire engines which were purchased by the County Government of Nyeri in a bid to support disaster management in the county.*

The department acquired two modern state-of-the-art fire engines at a cost of Kshs. 100 million to strengthen the fire disaster response. To bring services closer to wananchi, the department constructed two (2) new fire stations at Othaya and Kiawara that has now increased the number of fire stations in the county from two to four.

Through the ward specific program, the department purchased equipment to be distributed to 244 special groups across 17 wards in this county. The department will also distribute equipment worth Kshs. 26 million to

groups in 15 wards through the Nyeri County Youth, Women and PWD Empowerment Programme in this financial year. The equipment will empower the groups in income generation, stabilizing their lives.

The county government continues to engage youth into gainful employment through private partnership with organizations such as the Coca Cola Company through Almasi Beverages where it has recruited 150 youth to benefit from the KuzaKazi Youth Empowerment programme. It has also engaged KEPSA on youth employability and soft skills, part-

nership with the National Council for Persons with Disability (NCPWD) and Walkabout foundation to support the provision of assistive devices for the persons living with disability.

Further, it has collaborated with Center for Rights Education and Awareness (CREAW) to create awareness and sensitize the community against Gender Based Violence and distribution of sanitary towels for vulnerable girls and young mothers, partnership with Center for Health Solutions (CHS) on the training of the Gender Based Violence technical working group.

The department constructed two new modern social halls at (Kariki and Muruguru) which can accommodate 500 people per sitting and also renovated Chinga and Mweiga Community halls. In partnership with NACADA, the department has constructed a modern drugs and substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation center at Ihururu at a cost of Kshs. 50 million that includes the furnishing of the building and two staff houses. This will help in rehabilitation of our citizens that have fallen into the trap of drugs and substance abuse.

## Office of the County Attorney

The county government has established the office of the County Attorney as stipulated by the County Attorney Act, 2020. The office consists of the County Attorney, who is the head of the Department, the County Solicitor and other County Legal Counsels. This new

office has proven to be a critical cog in the wheel of The Nyeri County Government. It has been involved in preparation of legislative proposals and bills and their achievements are seen in the numbers of legislation passed by the County assembly of Nyeri.



## Department of Lands, Housing, Physical Planning, Urban Development



*An aerial view of the ultra-modern Nyeri Main Bus Termini (based at Asian Quarters). It is a flagship project under the County Government of Nyeri in partnership with the World Bank through the Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP).*

The department has prepared Local Physical Development Plans for 17 colonial villages at a cost of 42 million. Additionally, the 10-year GIS based county spatial Plan which provides the development path for the County by identifying the economic and social drivers in the County has been completed. In collaboration with the Kenya Informal Settlement Project

(KISIP 1) and National Land Commission, the department has processed over 700 titles for Miiri, Gitero, Ihwagi, Kiaruhiu, Mweiga, Kiamwathi, Giakaibei and Njoguni settlements.

On infrastructure development, the 1st phase of the Nyeri Main Bus Termini through the Kenya Urban Support Programme funding at a cost of Ksh.540 million

has been completed. Upon completion, the project will not only de-congest the Nyeri CBD but also ensure ease of doing business for small scale traders. In addition, the department has upgraded 32 km of road within Nyeri Municipality and constructed one bridge at a cost of 50 million.

In the current financial year 2021/2022, the department plans

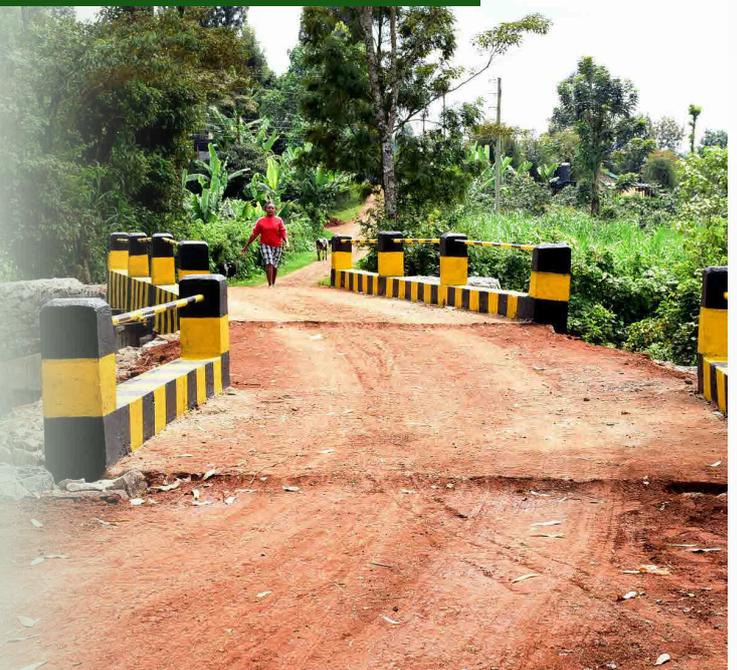
to upgrade Mukurwe-ini and Naromoru to Town status, construct a boundary wall and develop walkways within and around the Asian Quarters at a cost of 86 million, upgrade 23 km of roads within the Municipality at a cost of Ksh.28.5 million among others.

## Department of Transport, Public Works, Infrastructure & Public Works

The department has upgraded 393 Kilometers of earth roads to gravel and murram standards, 643KM of road has been maintained through grading and spot gravelling, while 17 previously impassable roads have been opened up and 0.7KM of tarmac road constructed. Further, 25 bridges; 18 box culverts bridges and 7 footbridges were constructed to improve connectivity between neighbourhoods and villages. This was done at a cost of approximately Kshs. 600 Million. The department installed 485 street lights, 152 flood lights all at a cost of Kshs. 101 million and in promoting use of alternative sources of energy, 17 biogas plants were installed in Aguthi-Gaaki Ward at a cost of Kshs 4.5 million.

In the current financial year, the county Government has planned to maintain 1000 Kilometers of road through grading and spot improvement with murram/gravel; upgrade 100 Kilometers of Earth Road to gravel/murram standards, construct 10 box culverts bridges and one footbridge. All this is estimated to cost Kshs. 250 Million.

The department will also install 338 new street lights, 90 new high masts and 11 new biogas installations in various parts of the county all at an estimated cost of Kshs. 66 million.



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

## Department of County Public Service & Solid Waste Management

Human resource management is a very important function in every organization. As such, the department has been running the County Payroll by the 10th of every month thereby enabling the employees to be paid in good time and hence a key motivator to the staff.

The County Government has further warranted that its staff members have a medical cover and a work-injury and group life cover. It has also ensured that the County Public Service adheres strictly to the Public Officers Ethics Act.

The County implemented a voluntary early retirement programme which was geared towards encouraging willing officers to retire voluntarily, a measure that ultimately has a positive effect towards reducing the county wage bill. Further, officers who had served a complete contract will have their terms translated to permanent terms in an effort to give job security and enhance staff satisfaction

and engagement.

Since 2017, the county government has been running a highly intensive internship programme, whereby 518 interns have been recruited, 49 of whom have been absorbed in various County Departments. Further, a total of 1,350 trainees from different learning institutions have benefited through the attachments.

To enhance the management of the County Public Service, the County embarked on adoption of ICT in its processes. This included digitization of staff records and ensuring staff clearance forms are available in the website among others. This was supported by the Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP) under Key result Area on Human Resource Management and Performance Management. The department procured the equipment necessary for the digitization exercise that has been fully operationalized. To date, it



has digitized 100% of the files. In the provision of sanitation services, the department has increased its waste management trucks through procurement of two trucks, one side loader truck and two skip mounted loaders. This adds to the previous five trucks procured last financial year increasing the fleet to eleven and a total number of 27 skip contain-

ers. The County Government has engaged the private sector in seeking innovative ways of solid waste management and the process is ongoing. Perimeter walls have also been constructed in Gikeu and Karindundu dumpsites and one proposed transfer station at Blue Valley. The department is currently in the process of procuring land as a proposed sanitary landfill.

## Department of Water, Environment, Irrigation, Natural Resources & Climate Change



The County Government has ensured uninterrupted water supply for consumption and irrigation, by pipeline constructions and storage facilities, rehabilitation, drilling and equipping of boreholes as well as rehabilitation of dams. To ensure adequate water for irrigation and watering animals during the dry season, the department has sustained the intake by constructing 39 water Masonry tanks with a capacity ranging from 100m<sup>3</sup> to 225m<sup>3</sup> and purchasing 207 plastic tanks each of 1,000 liters. To ensure equity in water supply, these tanks

were distributed in all the eight sub-counties. The achievement has enabled 25,000 households to access clean drinking water. The department in collaboration with various stakeholders has planted 112,000 tree seedlings in various public institutions, riparian zones and on-farm forestry. The success of water distribution and supply to the county could not have been possible without the support of private and development partners. We recognize our collaboration with both Tana Water Works Development Authority and Kenya Climate

Smart Agriculture (KCSAP) which has translated into incredible support. The department in the financial year 2021/2022 will be completing the ongoing programmes which are; rehabilitation of 7 boreholes with pumps, solar, tanks, drilling of 3 new ones, supporting the water service providers especially Taewasco and Narowasco, completion and installing tanks and pipelines to 23 community water and Irrigation projects. These will go a long way in ensuring that the water dream is fully realized.

## Performance

# Signing of performance contracts by Nyeri CECs



*A group photo of Governor Mutahi Kahiga (centre) with CECMs after the signing of performance contracts which serve as a benchmark for evaluating performance.*

Story Njambi Mugo & Photo | Peter Wangari

The Nyeri County Executive Committee Members have signed their performance contracts as a sign of their commitment to achieving specific service delivery targets that are verifiable and auditable.

This is in line with the County Government Act 2012 requirements

that the County Government establishes a system of managing performance. The contracts have and continue to serve as a benchmark for evaluating performance. Nyeri Governor H.E. Mutahi Kahiga who oversaw the exercise said performance contracting is aimed at improving efficiency and effectiveness in the management of the public service.

He called upon them to continue embracing teamwork, engagements and consultations as well as to undertake monitoring and evaluation regularly in a bid to achieve great strides across all their departments.

This exercise will then be cascaded down to the Chief Officers, directors and all staff members across the county.

The CECs who signed their Performance Contracts were Robert Thuo (Finance and acting Lands CEC), Muthui Kariuki (Transport and Infrastructure), Dr. Kwai Wanjaria ((Health Services), James Wachihi (Agriculture), Diana Kendi (Trade and Tourism) and Esther Ndung'u (Gender and Youth).

## CHV's chairpersons convene for community dialogue days

Story | Muthoni Kanja

The Department of Health services convened a convention for dialogue days which brought together Community Health Volunteers Chairpersons from various community units together. The exercise was held in a bid to create a platform where they can exchange ideas as well as air out the various challenges, they face at the community levels. The chairpersons highlighted



their achievements, exchanged ideas of their good practices as well as aired out their various issues and possible solutions.

Ann Nduta, Community Health Strategy Coordinator, who was one of the facilitators lauded them for their commitment and pledged that she will be instrumental in her capacity in ensuring that their working conditions are improved. She encouraged them to practice integrity and accountability when discharging

their mandate. Herbert Barasa, RMNCAH & Nutrition Programme Monitoring and Evaluation lead at Amref Health Africa emphasized on understanding their position as leaders noting that they are the image of the people they represent. He reminded them on the critical role they play in Maternal Healthcare and encouraged them to be good ambassadors at the grassroots by referring expectant mothers to the clinics for ANC's and delivery.

**Devolution conference**

# 7th annual devolution conference in Makueni

Story & Photo | Joseph Wambugu

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga joined fellow governors during the official opening of the 7th Annual Devolution Conference in Makueni County.

The five - day conference was officially opened by former Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.

The conference had brought together over 2,000 delegates from all the 47 counties in order to share experiences, challenges and organize how to share resources to mitigate climate change as well as exchange ideas on how to boost the efficacy of devolution.

Nyeri is among the 33 counties which have put in place legal policies on climate change.

This year's theme was 'Multi - level governance for climate action' while sub-theme was 'Sub-National mobilization in unlocking the full potential of climate action during and after pandemics'.

The Governor also visited several exhibitions stands including Nyeri County stand where he appreciated the efforts which have been put in order to market Nyeri County and its products.

**FROM TOP:** A stand displaying some of the products from Nyeri County during the recently concluded devolution conference. Governor Mutahi Kahiga (third left) with his counterpart governors (from left) Charity Ngilu (Kitui), Ndiritu Muriithi (Laikipia), Wycliffe Wangamati, Wycliffe Oparanya (Kakamega), Prof. Anyang'Nyongó (Kisumu) and Francis Kimemia (Nyandarua) during the official opening day of the Devolution conference in Makueni. Governor Mutahi Kahiga visiting the Nyeri stand during the conference.



## KSG training

# Officers trained on PR and Customer Care by KSG



*A group photo of Nyeri CS Ben Gachichio (third left seated), KSG Embu Campus Deputy Director Fredrick Mukabi (second left seated) with staff of Nyeri county who are being taken through the Public Relations and Customer Care course.*

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Peter Wangari

The County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga is concerned about the career progression and productivity of its employees. To this end, the county government has drawn officers from various departments who are being taken through a Public Relations and Customer Care course under the Kenya Devolution Support Pro-

gramme (KDSP) which will notably advance their career.

The County Secretary Ben Gachichio officially opened the two-weeks training which is being offered by the Kenya School of Government Embu Campus at Wambugu ATC Farm.

The CS noted that the training will inculcate core skills and competencies to these officers which will guarantee a positive movement towards service delivery

for Nyeri County residents. He also added that the county government will look into addressing the training gaps which still exist within the various departments. Some of the topics which will be covered include:

- Concept of Public Relations and Customer Care
- Culture and Change Management
- Functions of Government
- Corporate Social Responsibility

- Managing Corporate Image

- Role of communication in PR & CC

- Stress Management

- Gender Mainstreaming

KSG Embu Campus Deputy Director Dr. Fredrick Mukabi noted that this is a crucial training which will help the officers be transformed, promote efficiency and effectiveness while serving the mwananchi.

## Another win for Nyeri

It's another win for Nyeri County after emerging the winner of the Beyond Zero Health Award.

This was during a function held at state-house Kenya. The winner, Bonny Maina of Ngamwa Dispensary received the award together with Nelly Maina, the County nursing services coordinator.



## Health

# One-week free fistula camp launched in PGH

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Peter Wangari

According to a report by the World Health Organization (WHO) more than 50,000 cases of fistula are reported annually. Most of these cases are either the obstetric or vagina fistula which occurs when a mother has a prolonged, obstructed labour, but doesn't have access to emergency medical care, such as a C-section. As a result of this, a woman with a vesicovaginal fistula ends up constantly leaking urine and/or stool after childbirth.

In a bid to address this challenge, the County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Health Services carried out a one-week free female genital fistula medical camp from the 22nd to 26th of November at the Nyeri County Referral Hospital (PGH).



*Some of the health workers who attended the launch of the fistula medical camp at the Nyeri Referral Hospital.*

The medical camp was carried out in joint collaboration with Mpesa Foundation, Royal Media Services and Flying Doctors Society of Africa who were funding the surgeries and providing the medical supplies.

The free Vesico-Vaginal Fistula (IVVF) camp whose objective was to offer reconstructive surgery in a bid to end women's suffering and restore their dignity, targeted to reach over 60 patients from within Nyeri and neighbouring

counties. Health CEC Dr. Kwai Wanjaria thanked the sponsors for this noble act noting that through these surgeries, the lives of women who are suffering from fistulas will be changed.

## World Fisheries Day celebrated

Story Samwel Gitonga & Photo | Peter Wangari

The Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries in collaboration with Aquaculture Business Development Program (ABDP) led the county in marking the World Fisheries Day.

The event whose theme was 'Total compliance with human rights in aquaculture and dam fisheries' was held in Thegu-River ward, Kieni East sub-county.

John Mambo, a member of Jeng'u Fishing and Sport group which has a total of 30 members, thanked the County Government of Nyeri for providing them with 10,000 fingerlings which they rear in Jeng'u Dam. Mambo noted that the project has transformed their lives seeing that they harvest and sell 7kgs per day.



Grace wanjiru, a farmer and AFS (Aquaculture fish school) group member also lauded the county government for its continued efforts in ensuring that fish farmers are now recognised adding that they are counting profits from investing in this value chain. Through ABDP, AFS group members received five liners.

The County Government is committed to continue supporting fish farmers including more collaborations with key stakeholders in the fish farming sector. In addition to supplying farmers with fingerlings, it has also allocated a stall in the newly built modern Chaka Market where fish will be sold. Through ABDP, it will develop a fish

input supply area, fish outlet area, fish display area, fish storage area and a fish eatery area.

## Agriculture

# E-voucher input system M&E exercise in Nyeri



*A group photo of officers drawn from the National and County Government's department of Agriculture at Townhall grounds before the Monitoring & Evaluation exercise of the e-subsidy system programme in Nyeri County.*

Story Njambi Mugo | Photo Peter Wangari

Nyeri CS Ben Gachichio on behalf of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga met with a team from the Ministry of Agriculture who were in the county for a Monitoring and Evaluation exercise on the e-subsidy system programme which was piloted in Nyeri County.

The programme, is a project by the Ministry which purposes to reform the input subsidy management from the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB)

voucher system to an e-subsidy programme; the main objective being to increase efficiency and enhance impact to the targeted beneficiaries.

The programme has been piloted in 12 counties and will focus on different value chains including coffee, rice, potatoes among others. In Nyeri County, the programme was initiated in 2020 and supports the coffee value chain in Karima ward, Othaya sub-county and Konyu ward, Mathira East sub-county.

Through public-private partnership, the Ministry has identified various local agro-dealers who provides farmers with the necessary inputs such as fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides and agricultural lime bearing in mind different regions, and value chains of different needs. The farmer caters for 60% of the cost and the Ministry tops up for the 40% required in the season.

The e-voucher input system is expected to boost the productivity of the small holder and also intro-

duce better agronomic practices. This will be achieved through:

- Reducing soil acidity by increased use of lime. Integrating digital tools to address counterfeit products to pay agro-dealers on time and track.

So far, a total of 1,010 farmers have redeemed the vouchers in both wards at a cost of about Kshs 6.7 million and the government contribution totalling to about Kshs. 4.9 million.

GOVERNOR'S PRESS UNIT



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## Economic recovery

# Nyeri recognized for economic recovery strategy



Story & Photo | Joseph Wambugu

In the recently concluded annual devolution conference, Nyeri County was recognized as one of

the counties which made quick Economic Recovery interventions during the Covid-19 pandemic. Following the outbreak of the Covid -19, the County Government of Nyeri came up with five

quick interventions including; Jenga Soko a Kuza Kazi Program where the county built 5,500 market stalls and trained market entrepreneurs with the goal being to drive self-employment

opportunities for economic vulnerable individuals. The County Government of Nyeri also started the Nyeri Youth Service Program where 10,000 youths benefited. In the Agriculture sector, the county created opportunities for 9,000 economically vulnerable individuals to engage in income generating activities in both the aquaculture and aviculture value chains. There was also capacity building of 500 Jua Kali artisans who earned an income from the manufacture of hospital beds. On Virtual market program, there was enlisting and training of 1,000 businesses/ individuals in the county on e-commerce operations and conducting business online through the developed platform.

## Nyeri County shines yet again

Nyeri took the top position among new counties that are investing heavily in avocados during the annual Avocado Industry Excellence Awards.

The event was held at Safari Park Hotel. Nyeri did beat Nakuru, Uasin Gishu, Bomet and Makueni counties in that category.

The event was organised by Avocado Society of Kenya.





COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI

# HAPPY JAMHURI DAY

**H.E MWALIMU MUTAHI KAHIGA**  
GOVERNOR, NYERI COUNTY

