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YOUR WEEKLY REVIEW

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State unveils multi- million infrastructure drive in Kisii

The multi-sectoral championed development projects include a Sh62 million digital and infrastructure upgrade at Bogesaka D.O.K Primary and Junior Secondary School in Nyamache Sub County

State Department for Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Stephen Isaboke (center) and M-Pesa Foundation's Project Manager Eng. Zachary Hamptons (left) after unveiling the plaque for the construction of the Sh62 million education infrastructure at Bogesaka D.O.K. Primary and Junior Secondary School in Nyamache Sub-County, Kisii County.

BY VIOLET OTINDO (PCO)

The Government has launched Sh77-million development projects drive in Kisii aimed at transforming and boosting the county's infrastructural outlook.

The projects include the construction of education and community infrastructure projects that is targeted at improving service delivery.

The multi-sectoral championed development projects include a Sh62 million digital and infrastructure upgrade at Bogesaka D.O.K Primary and Junior Secondary School in Nyamache.

> This is a particularly special moment for me as an alumnus of this primary school because it brings back so many memories

The construction was launched by Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Stephen Isaboke in partnership with the M-Pesa Foundation Project Manager Eng. Zachary Hamptons.

The school will get modern classrooms, science and ICT laboratories constructed and will receive specialised learning equipment and high-speed fibre-optic internet connectivity through the initiative implemented under the M-PESA Foundation's Citizens of the Future programme.

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State launches Sh77million infrastructure drive in Kisii

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The project is expected to be completed by January 2027, positioning the rural institution as a modern learning centre equipped to support digital education.

Speaking during the groundbreaking ceremony, Isaboke described the project as a milestone and an opportunity to provide future generations with better learning opportunities.

"This is a particularly special moment for me as an alumnus of the primary school because it brings back so many memories of being where these children are standing now, dreaming of what the future might hold," Isaboke said.

"To return here today as a Principal Secretary, carrying the means to completely transform my former primary school, is the honour of a lifetime. This is where my journey started, and I want to ensure the journey for the next generation starts on an even stronger foundation," he said.

On his part Eng. Hamptons said the investment was aimed at bridging digital and infrastructure gaps in rural schools.

"We cannot build the future of our nation using yesterday's tools. This programme is not just about laying bricks and mortar but installing fibre-optic internet, building digital labs and equipping science rooms to ensure that we bring the digital economy directly to learners," he said.

State Department for Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Stephen Isaboke (left) during the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a Sh62 million education infrastructure at Bogesaka D.O.K. Primary and Junior Secondary School in Nyamache Sub-County, Kisii County

PS Isaboke, joined by other government officials, also raised Sh15 million towards St. Ambrose Kabeo Catholic Parish infrastructure development projects and engaged residents on government programmes under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

He attributed the increased pace of development in the region to enhanced cooperation between political leaders and government institutions, saying collaboration had created an environment for accelerated service delivery.

The PS urged leaders and government officials to remain focused on delivering services to Kenyans, saying development should take precedence over political differences.

Solicitor General Shadrack Mose called on residents to support government initiatives, noting that communities should remain engaged in national development programmes.

On the other hand, Medical Services PS Dr. Ouma Oluga encouraged residents to register for the Social Health Authority (SHA), saying increased enrolment was critical to expanding access to healthcare services.

On his part, Kisii Governor Simba Arati praised the cooperation between the national and county governments, saying the partnership had accelerated development projects in Kisii, including markets, roads and modern stadia.

He pledged continued collaboration with the national government while calling for political tolerance.

Gusii Stadium to be expanded at Sh 1 billion

BY MERCY OSONGO

Gusii Stadium has been demolished to pave way for the expansion of the facility to international standards at a cost of Sh 1 billion.

The project, which will facilitate the modernization of the facility into a 14,000-seater capacity Stadium, is expected to be completed by April, 2027.

Key improvements under consideration will include the expansion of the football pitch as per FIFA standards, upgrading of the running track, and other works.

Speaking during an inspection of the ongoing works last week, Kisii Governor Simba Arati said the facility will significantly support students enrolled under the Competency-Based Education pathway in Sports Science by providing practical learning facilities.

"Students pursuing the Sports Science pathway will have an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in athletics, coaching and sports management through real-life activities courtesy of this facility," Arati noted.

He also encouraged the young people to pursue careers in sports-related disciplines such as coaches, trainers and physiotherapists among others, saying there was a wide range of opportunities, both locally and abroad.

The county boss noted that boosting the region's sports infrastructure aligns with the county government's commitment to nurturing talent and creating employment opportunities for young people.

Shabana FC's Secretary General Elizaphan Kerama welcomed the move to upgrade the stadium saying it will provide athletes with access to quality facilities for regular training and competitions.

Kerama noted the facility will also help the Kenyan Premier League clubs to identify and develop talent early, thereby easing the process of scouting and signing new players.

He added that young athletes will also have an opportunity to meet their role models during national competitions and these events will encourage them to work harder to unlock their potential.

"Modern infrastructure can also provide a level playing field for the athletes to compete successfully at the national and international levels," Kerama affirmed.

Gusii Stadium, owned by the Kisii county government, has been hosting Kisii-based side Shabana FC's home games and other lower league games.

31.5 million Kenyans now registered under SHA

BY GILBERT MUTAI, KNA

At least 31.5 million Kenyans are now registered under the Social Health Authority (SHA) as the government accelerates reforms aimed at expanding access to affordable healthcare across the country.

Speaking during a boda boda empowerment forum at the Kericho Teachers Training College grounds, Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale said the uptake reflects growing public confidence in the new health financing model. He noted that Kericho County has already enrolled more than 450,000 residents, placing it among the leading counties nationally.

"The Social Health Authority is ensuring that no Kenyan is locked out of healthcare because of an inability to pay. It is designed to protect families from catastrophic medical expenses while guaranteeing access to essential services across all levels of care," Duale said.

The CS said SHA is transforming healthcare delivery by removing financial barriers that have long prevented many households from accessing treatment, adding that the system is anchored on equity and sustainability in health financing.

Duale also announced a major boost to maternal healthcare, revealing that the government has allocated Sh4 billion to fully cover maternity services in public health facilities, allowing expectant mothers to safely deliver without incurring medical costs.

"This intervention guarantees dignity and safety for every mother during childbirth. No woman should have to worry about hospital bills at the most critical moment of bringing life into the world, and the government is deliberately removing that burden through full maternity coverage," he said.

The CS said the policy is also expected to significantly reduce maternal and newborn mortality by encouraging more expectant mothers to seek skilled delivery services in formal health facilities.

He further confirmed that primary healthcare services have been fully funded under ongoing reforms, describing them as the foundation of preventive care and early disease detection within the Universal Health Coverage framework.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale addressing boda boda riders during an empowerment forum at the Kericho Teachers Training College grounds, where he announced major gains in SHA enrolment and new health infrastructure investments for Kericho County. PHOTO: GILBERT MUTAI

In a major infrastructure boost for Kericho, Duale announced that the county will receive a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine, a move expected to reduce referrals to Eldoret and other distant facilities.

"This MRI equipment will bring specialized diagnostic services closer to the people of Kericho. It will reduce delays in diagnosis, lower travel costs for patients, and strengthen the county's capacity to handle complex medical cases locally," the CS explained.

He also disclosed that Sh9.8 billion has been allocated to transition 7,740 Universal Health Coverage workers into permanent and pensionable terms, adding that consultations with key government agencies are in the final stages, ahead of full absorption by July.

On health financing, Duale said the government has already cleared Sh4 billion in outstanding NHIF claims and is processing additional verified payments within the current budget cycle, assuring healthcare providers of continued financial stability in service delivery.

Beyond health, he highlighted wider government interventions including reduction of fertilizer prices from Sh7,000 to Sh2,500, employment of more than 100,000 teachers and establishment of over 600,000 market stalls nationwide to support small traders.

"These interventions are not isolated achievements; they are part of a coordinated national strategy to strengthen household incomes, boost productivity and ensure that economic growth is felt at the grassroots level," said Duale.

He urged Kenyans to register for SHA through *147#, saying the programme protects households from catastrophic medical expenses and ensures access to essential healthcare services, including maternity care.

"Every registered Kenyan is assured of financial protection when seeking healthcare. This system is built to ensure that illness does not push families into poverty, and that every citizen can access treatment with dignity and without delay," he added.

Duale also called on young people to actively participate in voter registration, saying leadership choices directly influence national development outcomes.

The CS said the reforms reflect the government's commitment to equitable development, improved service delivery and strengthened public health systems across all counties.

Coastal counties launch Sh156bn Blue Economy plan to create jobs

Officials display copies of the newly launched Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) Blue Economy Multi-Agency Action Plan (JKP-BEMAP) 2026-2030, a Sh156 billion ($1.2 billion) roadmap for jobs, climate resilience and shared prosperity across Kenya's six coastal counties, during the launch ceremony in Mombasa. PHOTO: RAMADHAN NASSIB

BY RAMADHAN NASSIB

Six coastal counties have launched a Sh156 billion ($1.2 billion) blue economy plan aimed at creating jobs, strengthening climate resilience and promoting shared prosperity for communities along Kenya's coastline over the next four years.

The Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) Blue Economy Multi-Agency Action Plan (JKP-BEMAP) 2026-2030 was unveiled in Mombasa at the close of the Our Ocean Conference. The plan brings together county governments, national agencies and development partners under a unified investment roadmap.

JKP Governors' Forum Chairman Dhadho Godhana said the plan was developed through extensive consultations with local communities, county governments and technical experts, and will guide the region's blue economy agenda over the next four years.

"This plan has involved all communities, all counties, all the technical teams, right up to the governors. Today, we have come to endorse it as the official plan for our programmes as a community of coastal counties," he said.

The Tana River Governor said the coastal bloc had also rolled out a Blue-Green Bond targeting nearly $400 million to reduce its dependence on the national government and establish a sustainable financing base for coastal development projects.

"It is not about what others have done. It depends on what we want to achieve. It's about how we make that progress," Godhana said, urging Beach Management Units, SACCOs, conservancies and small traders to take advantage of the plan.

He said the Mombasa Agreement would help ensure benefits reach small-scale fishermen.

"When it comes to implementation, it is the counties, and within the counties, it is the people," he said.

Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) Director General Justus Omae Nyarandi said the agency had supported development of the plan and would continue monitoring its implementation.

"We will soon be supporting the people of the Coast in training around 15,000 coxswains. We want to recognise their prior learning and give them certificates so that we are able to increase safety in our waters," Nyarandi said.

He added that the global shipping industry was shifting away from fossil fuels.

"As KMA we are exploring possibilities of having green energy, especially around our coast, so that we can be producers of green energy like hydrogen," he said.

JKP Secretariat Chief Executive Officer Dr Emmanuel Nzai said the plan, developed with the National Government, targets bankable projects worth up to 1.5 billion US dollars, timed to align with Kenya Vision 2030.

"The President had a rallying call that we must organise ourselves, and a plan we already have. This is now the complete plan of Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani in partnership with the National Government," Nzai said.

He listed priority areas including marine transport, shipyards, fish ports, deep-sea fishing vessels, tourism infrastructure, and infrastructure to support planned special economic zones.

Blue Economy Technical Advisor Dr Edwin Ogumbo outlined the plan's funding structure.

"We expect 35 per cent of this fund from national government agencies. County governments will contribute 20 per cent, giving us 55 per cent, meaning we already have enough to convince development partners to add another 20 per cent," Ogumbo said, adding that private investors would then fund the remainder.

BY THE NUMBERS

15,000

"We will soon be supporting the people of the Coast in training around 15,000 coxswains. We want to recognise their prior learning and give them certificates so that we are able to increase safety in our waters."

Kenya tests Ebola outbreak response capacity in KNH simulation exercise

BY JUDY SHERI (PCO)

Kenya is strengthening its preparedness against Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). Recently, the Ministry of Health simulated Ebola patient handling and management at Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH).

Led by the Kenya National Public Health Institute (KNPHI) in collaboration with partners including STRIDES and the World Health Organization (WHO), the simulation tested the country's capacity to rapidly detect, isolate, investigate and manage suspected Ebola cases in a real-time emergency setting.

It comes amid heightened regional vigilance following ongoing Ebola outbreaks in parts of East and Central Africa, and forms part of Kenya's broader strategy to ensure health systems remain prepared to respond to emerging public health threats.

Officials from KNPHI, Kenyatta National Hospital and partner organisations observe response teams during a full-scale Ebola simulation drill designed to strengthen coordination, case management and infection prevention and control measures.

Designed to mirror real-life conditions, the exercise assessed critical response functions including screening and triage, isolation procedures, laboratory testing, case management, surveillance, infection prevention and control, safe and dignified management of deaths, risk communication and decontamination procedures.

One scenario involved a patient presenting with symptoms consistent with Ebola Virus Disease who was later confirmed positive through laboratory testing.

The exercise followed the patient's journey from initial screening and isolation to clinical management, surveillance investigations and eventual safe and dignified burial procedures after the patient succumbed to the disease.

A second scenario involved a patient initially identified as a suspected Ebola case but later diagnosed with malaria and safely discharged following clinical assessment and laboratory testing. The scenario tested the ability of health workers to differentiate Ebola from other illnesses with similar symptoms while maintaining strict infection prevention and control measures.

> “The drill evaluated the effectiveness of Kenya's Ebola screening criteria at healthcare facility entry points, safe transfer of patients

The drill evaluated the effectiveness of Kenya's Ebola screening criteria at healthcare facility entry points, the safe transfer of suspected patients arriving by ambulance, proper use of personal protective equipment, specimen collection and transportation, laboratory result communication and coordination among multidisciplinary response teams.

It also assessed the management of critically ill patients, documentation processes and the ability of healthcare workers to maintain infection prevention and control standards.

CSOs, faith-based groups trained to promote peace ahead of 2027 elections

BY EKUWAM SYLVESTER AND BECKLYNE CHERONO

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) in Uasin Gishu County have been trained on their critical role in promoting peace, unity, and democratic governance ahead of the 2027 General Election.

The sensitization forum, held at the Rift Valley Technical Training Institute (RVTTI) in Eldoret, was organized by the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) as part of a broader electoral preparedness programme targeting key stakeholders in the electoral process.

Speaking during the training, ORPP North Rift Regional Coordinator Hassan Maloba emphasized the important role that CSOs and FBOs play in promoting electoral integrity and civic education.

He said the week-long programme adopted an inclusive approach by engaging political party officials, women leaders, youth representatives, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and representatives of civil society and faith-based organizations on different days.

“This training has given civil society organizations an opportunity to understand the preparedness of the IEBC, the ORPP, and other institutions for the 2027 General Election,” said Maloba.

ORPP Regional Coordinator Northrift, Hassan Maloba, speaking during an interview at the Electoral Preparedness Training for CSOs and FBOs at RVTTI, Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County.

“Today we focused on how civil society organisations can partner with ORPP to ensure we have a peaceful election in 2027. They have been trained on their role and how they can advocate for the rights of youths, PWDs and women,” he added.

Maloba noted that participants are expected to cascade the knowledge gained to their community members to ensure wider civic awareness.

> “The CBOs have members in the community, so we expect them to share this information and sensitize others

“The CBOs have members in the community, so we expect them to share this information and sensitize others on their role in the coming election. They should also understand the partnership between ORPP and civil society and how political parties operate,” he said.

The ORPP sessions covered the legal and regulatory framework governing political parties in Kenya, including registration, monitoring, regulation and compliance enforcement to uphold democratic principles.

Participants were also taken through the constitutional role of civil society and faith-based organizations in promoting good governance, integrity, transparency, accountability and social justice.

State delivers 2,700 title deeds in former colonial settlements in Nyandarua

BY MILLICENT NZULA AND VIOLET MANGO

The Government has issued 2,700 title deeds to residents of Nyandarua County who have lived for decades without land ownership documents.

Speaking during the issuance ceremony, Lands Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome said the exercise followed long-standing complaints from residents, particularly those living in former colonial villages.

She noted that the government had responded to concerns raised by wananchi, adding that the issuance of title deeds demonstrates its commitment to fulfilling development promises. “We have listened to the cries of people living in colonial villages. This is evidence that the current government is delivering on its promises,” she said.

Lands Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome (centre) hands over a title deed to a beneficiary in Ol Kalou, Nyandarua County. She issued 2,700 title deeds to residents of the area.

Wahome added that the title deeds will enable beneficiaries to access credit facilities from financial institutions and invest in development projects.

“It will be a new dawn for the residents. They can now go to the bank and access loans to start businesses and improve their livelihoods,” she added.

Nyandarua Governor Moses Kiarie Badilisha welcomed the initiative and lauded the establishment of a land’s office in Ol Kalou town, noting that it would bring services closer to residents. He said residents previously travelled long distances to access land services in Nyahururu, but the new office would ease access and improve efficiency.

“It is now a dream come true since residents will only travel a few kilometres to access government services,” said the Governor.

Nyandarua Woman Representative Faith Gitau urged residents not to politicize the issuance of title deeds.

Health officials push early antenatal care to save mothers in Kwale

BY CHARI SUCHE, KNA

Health stakeholders in Kwale County are stepping up efforts to reduce maternal deaths through early antenatal care, increased family planning awareness, community health education and greater male involvement in maternal healthcare.

According to health officials, Kwale recorded 28 maternal deaths during the 2024/2025 financial year. Between January and June 2025, a further 18 maternal deaths were reported, while 13 cases have already been recorded between January and May 2026.Health experts attribute many of the deaths to preventable complications, including postpartum haemorrhage and pregnancy-induced hypertension.To address the challenge, the Fanikisha Foundation, in partnership with the Kwale Department of Health, has been conducting community dialogues to educate families on maternal health, family planning, proper nutrition and childhood immunisation.

Shaban Mohamed and his wife Biishe Umazi at their home in Mwamambi B village, Kwale County. The couple says early antenatal care and male involvement have helped them navigate a healthy pregnancy after a previous miscarriage.
PHOTO: CHARI SUCHE

Kiambu named top county in adolescent health protection

BY ROSE MUTHONI

Kiambu County has been recognized as the best-performing county nationwide in protecting adolescent health, winning the County Excellence Award for Best Adolescent Triple Threat Performance.

The award was presented by Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale during a national recognition ceremony and received on behalf of Kiambu County by County Director of Health Dr. Hillary Kagwa.

Kiambu earned the accolade for recording the lowest combined burden of adolescent HIV infections, teenage pregnancies, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), collectively referred to as the "Triple Threat."

The recognition highlights the county's sustained efforts to strengthen preventive healthcare through investments in adolescent-friendly health services, public awareness campaigns, and partnerships aimed at improving the wellbeing of young people.

During the ceremony, Duale also launched the Kenya AIDS Integration Strategic Framework (KAISF) 2025-2030 and the 47 county syndemic operational plans, which will guide the country's response to HIV and related health challenges over the next five years.

The framework is expected to enhance collaboration between the national and county governments by supporting community-based interventions, including ward-level sensitization campaigns, medical outreach programmes, and other locally tailored health initiatives.

Duale said Kenya had made significant progress in reducing new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths and encouraged counties to sustain investments in prevention, treatment, and care services, particularly for vulnerable populations.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale (left) presents the County Excellence Award for Best Adolescent Triple Threat Performance to Kiambu County Director of Health Dr. Hillary Kagwa during a national recognition ceremony. Kiambu was honored for recording the lowest combined burden of adolescent HIV infections, teenage pregnancies and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV).

Government steps up push for five million international tourists

BY EMMANUEL MASHA AND SHANI RHAI

The Government has intensified efforts to position Kenya as a leading global tourism destination, targeting at least five million international tourist arrivals by the end of the year.

Tourism Principal Secretary Prof. Julius Bitok, who also assured the public that Kenya remains free of the Ebola virus, said the target would be achieved through expanded international flight connectivity, improved tourism infrastructure, enhanced destination marketing, and increased investment in hospitality training.

Speaking during the official opening of the 22nd Kenya Association of Hotelkeepers and Caterers (KAHC) Annual Symposium at a hotel in Malindi, Prof. Bitok said the government was working closely with the private sector to unlock the tourism industry's full potential.

"We are committed to ensuring that Kenya receives five million tourists by the end of the year. We have engaged hoteliers and other stakeholders, and one of the key issues requiring urgent attention is improving air connectivity," he said.

Tourism Principal Secretary Prof. Julius Bitok addressing journalists during the 22nd Kenya Association of Hotel Keepers and Caterers (KAHC) Symposium held in Malindi .

The Principal Secretary said the government was considering proposals from KAHC to to open Kenya's air space to more international airlines, noting that increased air connectivity would significantly boost visitor arrivals.

"Our target is to increase tourist arrivals by about 2.3 million. This is achievable. If South Africa increased its arrivals by nearly two million in one year, Kenya can do the same if we do things differently," he said.

Prof. Bitok assured international travelers that Kenya was free from Ebola and urged tourists not to cancel their travel plans because of misinformation.

"There is no Ebola case in Kenya. The government has put in place watertight surveillance and response measures at all airports, seaports and border entry points to detect, contain and respond to any suspected case," he said.

He emphasized that maintaining confidence in Kenya as a safe destination was critical to sustaining growth in tourism, one of the country's leading sources of foreign exchange earnings and employment.

BY THE NUMBERS

2.3m

Our target is to increase tourist arrivals by about 2.3 million. This is achievable. If South Africa increased its arrivals by nearly two million in one year

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Kenya National Highways Authority
Quality Highways, Better Connections

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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

COUNTRY: KENYA
HORN OF AFRICA GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
CREDIT NO.: 6768-KE

TECHNICAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TRAINING OF THE SELECTED UNEMPLOYED YOUTH, PROJECT-AFFECTED PERSONS, AND PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES IN ISIOLO, MERU, WAJIR, AND GARISSA COUNTIES

1. The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards the second cohort of the Technical Capacity Development through Training of the selected Unemployed Youth, Project Affected Persons, and People Living with Disabilities in Isiolo, Meru, Wajir, and Garissa Counties.

2. The selected individuals will participate in a comprehensive technical skills training program at craftsmanship level. This training will be conducted at Nkabune Technical Training Institute, North Eastern National Polytechnic, Bishop Locati Training Institute, Sensei Institute of Technology, and Meru National Polytechnic. The aim of this training is to equip participants with the necessary skills to enhance their economic potential and employability in various fields.

3. The institutions and the courses that will be covered are as follows:

Institution	Course	Duration	Requirement	Examining body
Nkabune Technical Training Institute (Meru)	Masonry/Masonry Level 4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Electrical Installation and Electronics	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Plumbing Level 4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Automotive Engineering	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Beauty Therapy and Hairdressing/ Barber	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Fashion and Design	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Food and Beverages/Food Production Level 4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Welding and Fabrication	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
The North Eastern National Polytechnic (Garissa)	Hairdressing L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Welding L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Mobile Repair	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Food and Beverages L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Carpentry	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Fashion Design	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	ICT Technician L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Electrical Installation L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Plumbing L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
Bishop Locati Training Institute (Isiolo)	Carpentry and Joinery Level 4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Plumbing Level 4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Food and Beverages	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Fashion and Design	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Computer and Mobile Repair Technician L4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy/ Barber	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Motor Vehicle and Motor cycle Mechanics	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Electrical Installation and Electronics	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Masonry/Mason Level4	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
	Welding & Fabrication	1 Year	KCSE	TVET/CDACC
Sensei Institute of Technology	Plant Construction Mechanics	1 Year	National ID & Valid Driving License	NITA
Meru National Polytechnic	Plumbing L4	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Electrical Installation and Electronics	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Carpentry	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Flooring/Tile layering technology	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Pastry and Bakery Level 4	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Welding and Fabrication	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Masonry/Mason L4	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Garment making artisan	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Tailoring and Dressmaking Artisan	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Security Management	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
Meru National Polytechnic	Beauty Therapy and Hairdressing/ Barber	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Food and Beverage	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Fashion and Design			
	Computer Packages	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Computer and Mobile Repair Technician L4	1 Year	KCSE	MNP
	Motor Vehicle and Motor cycle Mechanics	1 Year	KCSE	MNP

4. The Kenya National Highways Authority, a State Corporation under the Ministry of Roads and Transport, established under the Kenya Roads Act, 2007, now invites eligible applicants to submit their applications for the training. Interested Applicants should provide information demonstrating that they meet the basic requirements to be selected for the technical training. The minimum requirements are:

a) The Applicant must be between 18 and 35 years.
b) The Applicant must meet the following educational requirements:

i. For courses examined by TVET/CDACC/MNP: The minimum requirement is KCSE certificate, any grade.
ii. For courses examined by NITA: No formal educational qualifications are required. Applicants may have any level of education, including those who have not completed formal schooling or have discontinued their education at any stage. The sole prerequisite is possession of a valid Kenyan National ID Card and valid driving license.

c) The Applicant must be a resident of either Meru, Isiolo, Wajir or Garissa County.

NOTE: Preference will be given to: Applicants who are living with disabilities (PWD) and/or orphaned and/or those from single parenthood families and/or young single parents.

5. Application Forms can be collected from the office of Area chiefs or at the KeNHA Regional Offices at Isiolo and Garissa, OR at the County Commissioners' offices, at Isiolo, Meru Wajir and Garissa OR downloaded from the KeNHA Website **(www.kenha.co.ke)** and they are **FREE OF CHARGE.**

6. Application forms **MUST** be **SIGNED AND STAMPED** by the Area Chief or Assistant County Commissioner as proof of the residency status of the applicant.

7. All Applicants must register at the drop-off points detailed in Item No. 8 below.

8. The Applications should be delivered in hard copy to KeNHA Regional Offices in Isiolo and Garissa, or at the Isiolo County Commissioner's office, Meru County Commissioner's office, Garissa County Commissioner's office, Wajir County Commissioner's office, the respective Area Chief's Office, or any of the HoAGDP Resident Engineers' Site Offices at Ndumuru, Garbatulla and Wajir Town (iMall).

9. The Applications MUST be addressed to the address below and should be clearly marked **TECHNICAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TRAINING OF THE SELECTED UNEMPLOYED YOUTH, PROJECT AFFECTED PERSONS AND PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES IN ISIOLO, MERU, WAJIR AND GARISSA COUNTIES** and **MUST** be submitted by **Thursday, 23rd July 2026** at **1700Hrs (East Africa Time)**.

Director, Development
Attn: Deputy Director, HoAGDP-1
Kenya National Highways Authority
Barabara Plaza, Block C, 2nd Floor, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA),
off airport South Road, along Mazao Road
P. O. Box 49712 – 00100, NAIROBI, KENYA
Tel: + 254 - 20 - 4954116

10. Further information may be obtained from the address below:

Attention: **Director, Development**
Street Address: **Kenya National Highways Authority**
Barabara Plaza Block A, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA),
off airport South Road, along Mazao Road
Floor/Room Number: **Block A, 1st Floor, North Wing**
City: **NAIROBI, KENYA**
Telephone: **+254-20-4954116**

Email addresses: **(1) directordevelopment@kenha.co.ke**
(2) hornofafrica@kenha.co.ke

NOTE: Interested Applicants are required to continually check the Kenya National Highways Authority website: **www.kenha.co.ke** for any additional information or clarifications that may arise before submission date.

Eng. Luka Kimeli
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Koome calls for shift towards alternative justice systems in Africa

Chief Justice Martha Koome addressing delegates during the 3rd Africa Chief Justices' Alternative Dispute Resolution Forum (ADR) in Nairobi.

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A, KNA

Chief Justice Martha Koome has called for the transformation of Africa's justice systems to make them more accessible, inclusive, responsive, and people-centred.

Speaking during the official opening of the 3rd Africa Chief Justices' Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Forum in Nairobi, Koome emphasized the need to strengthen alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and other alternative justice systems to complement formal court processes and expand access to justice for millions of Africans.

"We gather at a time when access to justice remains one of the defining challenges confronting African societies. While our constitutions and statutes promise justice for all, the lived experiences of many Africans tell a more complex story," she said.

The CJ cited findings from the recently released Afrobarometer Round 10 Survey on Access to Justice, which revealed that only half of citizens across 38 African countries surveyed expressed confidence that ordinary people who are wronged can obtain justice through the courts.

The survey further showed that many Africans continue to seek justice through traditional leaders, community elders, customary courts, religious leaders and other community-based dispute resolution mechanisms.

Koome noted that these findings underscore the need for African judiciaries to broaden their understanding of justice and create pathways that enable disputes to be resolved fairly, affordably, efficiently and in ways that strengthen social cohesion.

"The findings challenge us as judicial leaders to create pathways through which disputes can be resolved quickly, fairly, affordably and in ways that strengthen rather than fracture communities," she stated.

The CJ reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to promoting Alternative Justice Systems (AJS) and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), as critical pillars of judicial transformation.

She observed that while courts remain indispensable guardians of constitutionalism, human rights and the rule of law, they are not the only legitimate avenues through which justice can be achieved.

She further highlighted the growing importance of ADR in supporting economic development across the continent.

Nakuru distributes 3,100 improved chicks to boost poultry farming in county

BY CAROLINE NYAKIO AND ESTHER MWANGI

The County Government of Nakuru, in partnership with the Kenya Livestock Commercialization Project (KELCOP), has distributed high-quality breeding chicks to community groups in Rongai Sub-County in a move aimed at boosting meat and egg production, reducing inbreeding, and increasing household incomes. Under the initiative, eight community groups received a total of 3,100- day old chicks and 41 bags of poultry feed as part of efforts to promote commercial poultry farming and improve livelihoods in rural households.

The beneficiary groups include Arise and Shine Group, Amani Makongeni Self-Help Group, Terik Women Group, Salama Lomolo, Kaptera Women Group, Pandaptai Self-Help Group, Ruiyobei Women Group, and Koilitit 032. The support is expected to help the groups expand poultry production, increase household incomes, and improve food and nutrition security.

Addressing beneficiaries during the distribution exercise, Nakuru County Chief Officer for Public Service Joseph Kibusia said the initiative is aimed at empowering farmers and strengthening agricultural enterprises through targeted support programmes.

FEATURE: KENYA URBAN SUPPORT PROGRAMME

New governance drive aims to close gender gap in land ownership

BY MARY GORETTY (MYGOV)

The State Department for Lands and Physical Planning, in collaboration with the State Department for Gender Affairs and Affirmative Action under the Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP), is spearheading a bold initiative to operationalize gender-responsive land governance systems.

By harnessing the transformative power of women's land rights—including making spousal consent a statutory requirement for all land parcel transfers and ensuring equal representation of women in Community Land Management Committees—the initiative seeks to address long-standing inequalities and promote women's economic empowerment.

Joyce Kamire, Assistant Director of Land Adjudication and Settlement and the department's Gender Focal Person, said that despite Kenya's robust legal framework on land rights, women continue to face significant barriers to owning and controlling land.

"Rural women make up nearly three-quarters of the agricultural labour force but own less than five percent of the land," Kamire said, underscoring the gap between legal provisions and actual practice.

She noted that efforts to bridge this gap are already bearing fruit in Turkana County, where residents of several villages in Kakuma recently participated in a land registration sensitization exercise under KUSP.

The initiative has strengthened land governance and promoted inclusive development in the region while facilitating the election of Community Land Management Committees.

"The Kakuma sensitization exercise demonstrates how community participation can anchor inclusive development and ensure women, youth and persons with disabilities are not left behind," Kamire remarked.

She pointed to data from the 2022 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey showing regression, with 75 percent of women owning no agricultural land compared to 61.3 percent in 2014.

"This inequality perpetuates poverty and marginalization of women, especially in rural areas," Kamire emphasized.

A local administrator in Kakuma addrressing a public baraza. The Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP), is spearheading a bold agenda to operationalize gender-responsive land governance systems in Turkana County.

Kamire noted that a major barrier to implementing and monitoring these laws is the lack of reliable, up-to-date, and official data on women's land ownership.

"Without reliable official data, we cannot hold institutions accountable or design effective interventions," she stressed.

To address this, Kamire explained that the State Department for Lands and Physical Planning, in collaboration with the State Department for Gender Affairs and Affirmative Action, is proposing a high-impact technical initiative under KUSP to leverage government digital infrastructure.

"ArdhiSasa will become the backbone of real-time, evidence-based policymaking," she said, referring to the Ministry of Lands' digital platform that will be enhanced to capture gender-disaggregated land statistics annually.

This innovation, Kamire added, provides a strategic platform to accelerate gender equality by addressing poverty, strengthening institutions, and ensuring equitable financing and resource access with a gender perspective.

"We want to move from reliance on intermittent surveys to a system of sustainable, official data," she explained.

Kamire underscored that out of the 15 elected Community Land Management Committees, not less than five must be women, with equal representation in the secretariat, alongside representation by persons with disabilities and youth.

"Equal representation in community land management panels is not optional, it is a statutory necessity," she stressed.

She explained that the exercise forms part of KUSP Phase Two's broader efforts to support sustainable urban development, strengthen community participation, and improve land management systems in underserved areas across the county.

"By embedding gender equality in these processes, we are laying the foundation for equitable urban growth and stronger community institutions," Kamire said.

She said that strategies include conducting awareness and sensitization campaigns on women's land and inheritance rights in collaboration with county governments.

Maara dancers receive chicks in new income-generating project

BY DICKSON MWITI AND BEATRICE MWENDE

The Maara Culture Community-Based Organization (CBO), an umbrella body comprising 20 cultural groups, has benefited from a donation of 1,600 hybrid layer chicks and Sh400,000 in initial capital to kick-start a poultry farming project.

Maara Cultural Dancers Ambassador Kimathi Ntumiiru said 400 members of the group received the chicks, with each dancer allocated four. The donation will be distributed across all five wards where the dancers' groups are based.

Mara Cultural Ambassador Kimathi Ntumiiru handing over the chicks to the dancers at Matheru ACC grounds.

Ntumiiru said that despite the challenges the CBO members have faced, the support is a dream come true. He noted that the funding received during the Maara Cultural Festival Season IV has significantly boosted their economic prospects, as they will rear the chickens, sell the eggs, and ensure that individual dancers benefit financially.

Mitheru location Chief, Edna Risper Gakii encouraged the groups to take care of the poultry project because, through such an initiative, they will cater for their financial and other needs.

Sugar production rises 2 pc on back of sector reforms

BY GILBERT MUTAI, KNA

Kenya's sugar production has increased by approximately 22 per cent over the past year following ongoing government reforms.

As a result, the country is set to harness the sector's vast potential in electricity generation and ethanol production to strengthen energy security and reduce dependence on imported petroleum products.

The Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development, Mutahi Kagwe, said the reforms, which include the leasing of state-owned sugar factories and enhanced support for farmers, are beginning to deliver measurable results. Kagwe added the state is shifting its focus towards maximizing the full economic value of sugarcane through electricity cogeneration and industrial ethanol production.


Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development Mutahi Kagwe addresses the media after touring West Valley Sugar Company in Kericho County.

Speaking at the West Valley Sugar Company in Kericho County, Kagwe said the factory alone has the capacity to generate up to 15 megawatts of electricity—nearly three times its current output—by fully utilizing bagasse, the fibrous residue left after sugarcane is crushed.

"West Valley is currently generating five megawatts of electricity while utilizing only about 30 per cent of its available bagasse. If the entire resource is exploited, the factory has the potential to produce up to 15 megawatts," said Kagwe.

Kenya Power, US firm partner to shield wildlife from electrocution risk

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A

Kenya Power, through its Institute of Energy Studies and Research (IESR), has rolled out a wildlife protection project aimed at safeguarding birds of prey and other animals from electrocution.

The initiative will be implemented along sections of the country's electricity network that traverse wildlife corridors, in partnership with US-based Kaddas Enterprises. It involves retrofitting power lines with wildlife-friendly covers in identified electrocution hotspots.

The project was launched at Soysambu Conservancy, approximately 130 kilometres northwest of Nairobi, where cases of bird electrocution have been frequently reported. Soysambu Conservancy is a critical habitat for Kenya's raptors, including the Augur Buzzard and Martial Eagle, which often use power lines and poles for perching and hunting.

Eng. Henry Pwani, Head of Research at IESR said Wildlife is part of our national heritage which heavily drives the tourism sector. Equally, Kenya Power's role in energy distribution is a key component of our country's economic growth. The project's aspiration is to ensure peaceful co-existence between nature and the energy infrastructure adding that, at IESR, the focus is to develop solutions that support this co-existence and enhance business efficiency.


Simon Thomset, Consultant with Sheik Mohamed bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund with one of the rescued birds of prey at the Soysambu Raptor Centre.
PHOTO: HANDOUT

Electrocution of animals and human activities account for most cases of power outages, estimated to be approximately 50 per cent. Of these, 30 per cent are attributable to wildlife contact with power lines.

The five-year partnership between Kenya Power (through IESR) and Kaddas Enterprises is tipped to substantially reduce cases of electrocution of wildlife, as well as power outages resulting from these incidences.

"By safeguarding wildlife, we are also improving power supply reliability to give a better experience for our customers. This is a win-win situation to the environment and our business," said Eng. Pwani, adding that IESR will continue to explore more solutions for the issues affecting the community where Kenya Power operates.

> "This line serves a big part of Nakuru and by undertaking this project here, we will pick useful lessons

The Lanet-Naivasha Interconnector, which traverses Soysambu Conservancy, has faced power supply interruptions linked to electrocution of birds and animals such as giraffes. Lessons from the implementation of the wildlife protection project along this line will be instrumental in the rollout of the project across other areas within the country.

"This line serves a big part of Nakuru County and by undertaking this project here, we are looking forward to pick lessons that will be helpful as the project is rolled out in other hotspot areas across the country," said Wesley Kerich, Kenya Power's County Business Manager for Nakuru.

Beyond retrofitting wildlife friendly covers on power lines, the partnership between Kenya Power's IESR and Kaddas Enterprises also includes a training component.

Kenya now secures rights to host global AI military ethics summit

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A

Kenya has secured the rights to host the fourth Responsible AI in the Military Domain (REAIM) Summit in 2027, marking a major milestone in the country's growing influence in global technology diplomacy and international security discussions.

The announcement was made at the UN-affiliated AI, Security and Ethics Conference in Geneva by Kenya's Special Envoy on Technology, Ambassador Philip Thigo, who represented Defence Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya.

Scheduled for April 2027 in Nairobi, the summit will make Kenya the first African country to host the prestigious global forum. Previous editions have been held in the Netherlands, South Korea and Spain. The REAIM Summit is regarded as one of the world's leading platforms for dialogue on the responsible use of artificial intelligence in military operations. It brings together governments, defence institutions, technology companies, researchers and international legal experts to discuss emerging technologies and develop policy frameworks for their responsible application. Key topics expected to dominate the Nairobi summit include governance of autonomous weapons systems, machine learning in defence operations, algorithmic decision-making in warfare and international standards for responsible deployment of military AI technologies.

Kenya's Special Envoy on Technology, Ambassador Philip Thigo (right), during the UN-affiliated AI, Security and Ethics Conference in Geneva where Kenya secured hosting rights for the fourth Responsible AI in the Military Domain (REAIM) Summit scheduled for 2027. PHOTO COURTESY

Kenya's successful bid comes amid growing global debate over the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence in defence and security sectors. Discussions during the third REAIM Summit in Coruña, Spain, highlighted the challenges of achieving international consensus, with only 40 of 85 participating countries endorsing the final "Pathways to Action" framework.

Observers note that increasing geopolitical competition and differing approaches among major military powers continue to complicate efforts to establish universally accepted rules governing military AI.

Kenya's selection is expected to position Nairobi as a neutral platform where nations with differing strategic interests can engage constructively and strengthen cooperation on responsible AI governance.

Ambassador Thigo, who was recently recognized by Apolitical among global leaders in AI governance, said the 2027 summit would focus on translating discussions into practical action.

He noted that the agenda will prioritize regional capacity building, assessment of institutional preparedness within defence systems and development of public-private standards for responsible technology procurement.

A key objective of the summit will be ensuring that developing countries gain access to the expertise and tools required to audit military AI systems, protect digital sovereignty and prevent their territories from becoming testing grounds for foreign defence technologies.

Hosting REAIM 2027 is expected to strengthen Nairobi's standing as a leading centre for technology policy, innovation and international diplomacy.

Chirchir urges schools to align courses with global job market

BY DENNIS LESOITE AND VINCENT MININGWO

Roads and Transport Cabinet Secretary Davis Chirchir has challenged learning institutions across the country to align their programmes with the demands of the global labour market.

He urged schools, colleges and other institutions to introduce courses and skills that prepare learners for employment opportunities abroad.

The CS said learning institutions should embrace globally competitive programmes, including the teaching of foreign languages, to equip students with the skills required to compete in international job markets.

Speaking during a thanksgiving ceremony at Kabarnet Boys Senior School in Baringo County, Chirchir said increasing globalisation and labour mobility have created vast employment opportunities for qualified professionals in foreign countries.

He added that educational institutions should begin preparing learners from an early stage by introducing international languages and specialized programmes that enhance their competitiveness in overseas job markets.

Roads and Transport Cabinet Secretary Davis Chirchir addresses participants during the thanksgiving ceremony for Kabarnet Boys Senior School in Baringo County.

"There are so many job opportunities in overseas countries like Dubai, Singapore, America, China and France. Learning institutions just need to ensure that they produce professionals who are well versed with at least one foreign language," said Chirchir.

The Cabinet Secretary observed that diaspora employment opportunities continue to play a significant role in supporting Kenya's economy through remittances sent home by Kenyans working abroad. According to Chirchir, labour export has emerged as one of the country's leading sources of foreign exchange earnings, with thousands of Kenyans securing jobs in different parts of the world and supporting their families through regular remittances.

"Kenyans who work in various overseas countries always send the proceeds they get to their families in different parts of this country. In this way they are helping to grow our economy," he said.

He noted that diaspora remittances have grown steadily in recent years, increasing from more than Sh400 billion in 2022 to over Sh600 billion in 2025, demonstrating the growing contribution of Kenyans living and working abroad to the national economy.

Chirchir attributed the growth to government efforts aimed at expanding access to overseas employment opportunities and connecting Kenyan professionals to global labour markets.

French Ambassador to Kenya Arnaud Suquet commended the school for incorporating French language studies into its curriculum.

New plan to blend technical skills with professional certification

BY EKUWAM SYLVESTER AND NELSON OBWANA

The TVET Authority is partnering with the Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Examinations Board (KASNEB) to integrate professional accounting and management certifications with technical training.

Speaking while presiding over the launch of KASNEB Revision Guides during a Consultative Forum for Centres of Excellence and Accredited Training Institutions held at The Eldoret National Polytechnic, Technical and Vocational Education and Training Principal Secretary Dr. Esther Muoria said the move is part of efforts to bridge the gap between technical skills and professional expertise in the country.

Technical, Vocational Education and Training PS Dr. Esther Muoria speaking during the launch of KASNEB Revision Guides during a Consultative Forum for Centres of Excellence and Accredited Training Institutions held at The Eldoret National Polytechnic, Uasin Gishu County.

"We are very happy as technical trainers to integrate with KASNEB, which is a professional and business training body, so that when we work together, we can graduate people with technical skills as well as entrepreneurial and management skills," she said. The event marked a key milestone in improving the quality of learning and strengthening the national training curriculum to match the changing needs of the job market. The focus is on combining specialized training with entrepreneurship to improve employability among young people.

Dr. Muoria said the government is working to integrate KASNEB professional business training with practical technical programmes offered in TVET institutions across the country to ensure both technical and professional training are delivered together for better learning outcomes.

Dr. Muoria announced that KASNEB is revising its syllabus and learning guides to support this integration.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

KENYA INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (KITI)

SEPTEMBER 2026 INTAKE

Kenya Industrial Training Institute (KITI) is Training Institute under the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, situated in Nakuru town. It offers Industrial/ Entrepreneurship skills training for school leavers and skills upgrading for industrial workers and employees from SMEs & SMIs. The Institute is also partnering with GIZ and CDF Committees and KCB Foundation to train employees from Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Small & Medium Industries (SMIs) in Clothing and Textiles, Welding and Fabrication, Foundry Technology, Automotive, Building and Construction, Electrical and Electronics, Food and Beverage, Leather and Tannery and Entrepreneurship. The Institute is well equipped with state of the art training facilities/ equipment including a modern and registered medical facility with qualified medical staff offering medical and counselling services to the trainees.

LONG TERM KNEC EXAMINED COURSES

	COURSE TITLE	PERIOD	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	FEES Boarder	FEES Non Boarder	EXAM BODY
1	**BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Diploma in Civil Engineering Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Grade C- and above	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Diploma in Civil Engineering Module 2	1 Year	Pass in Diploma in Civil Module 1 OR pass in craft building technology module 2			KNEC
	iii) Diploma in Civil Engineering Module 3	1 Year	Pass in Diploma in Civil Module 2			KNEC
	iv) Diploma in Building Technology Module 1	1 year	KCSE Grade C- and above			KNEC
	v) Diploma in Building Technology Module 2	1 Year	Pass in Diploma in Building Module I OR pass in craft in building technology module 2			KNEC
	vi) Diploma in Building Technology Module 3	1 Year	Pass in Building Technology Module 2			KNEC
	vii) Diploma in waste water	2 Years	Pass in plumbing craft			KNEC
	viii) Diploma in water supply	2 Years	Pass in plumbing craft			KNEC
	ix) Craft Certificate in Building Technology Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Grade D or pass in Artisan			KNEC
	x) Craft certificate in Plumbing	2 Years	KCSE Grade D or pass in Artisan			KNEC
	xi) Plumbing artisan	1 Year	KCSE mean grade D- KCPE / KJSEA			KNEC
	xii) Carpentry level 4.	6 Months	KCSE/KCPE / KJSEA or pass in carpentry level 3			CDACC
2	**CLOTHING AND TEXTILES DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Diploma in Fashion Design and Clothing Technology Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Minimum grade C-	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Diploma in Fashion Design and Clothing Technology Module 2	1 Year	Pass in Diploma Module I OR pass in craft in fashion in clothing Module 2			KNEC
	iii) Diploma in Fashion Design and Clothing Technology Module 3		Pass in fashion and clothing Module 2			KNEC
	iv) Craft Certificate in Fashion Design and Garment Making Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Minimum Grade D Plain			KNEC
	v) Craft Certificate in Fashion design & Garment Making Module 2	1 Year	Pass in craft Module 1			KNEC
3	**LEATHER & TANNERY DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Artisan in Leather and Tannery	1 Year	KCPE /KJSEA and above	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Craft Certificate in Leather and Tannery	2 Years	KCSE Grade D or pass in Artisan			KNEC
	iii) Foot wear Level 4	6 Months	KCPE/KJSEA or Pass in Foot Wear level 3			CDACC
	iv) Leather work level 4	6 Months	KCPE/KJSEA or Pass Leather work level 3			CDACC
	v) Leather processing level 4	6 Months	KCPE/KJSEA or Pass in Leather processing level 3			CDACC
4	**I.C.T DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Diploma in ICT Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Grade C- and above	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Diploma ICT Module 2	1 Year	Pass in ICT Diploma Module I or Pass in ICT certificate module I			KNEC
	iii) Diploma in ICT module 3	1 Year	Pass in ICT diploma module 2			KNEC
	iv) Craft Certificate module 1	1 Year	KCSE Mean Grade D plain			KNEC
	v) CBET ICT Level 4	6 Months	KCSE/KCPE/KJSEA mean grade D- / Pass in ICT level 3			CDACC
5	**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Plant & Production options) module 1	1 Year	KCSE minimum Grade C	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Plant & Production options) module 2	1 Year	Pass in Diploma Module 1 OR pass in Craft in mechanical engineering module 2	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	iii) Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Plant & Production options) module 3	1 Year	Pass in Diploma in Mechanical Module 2			KNEC
	iv) Craft in Mechanical Engineering module 1	1 Year	KCSE Minimum Grade D plain			KNEC
	v) Craft I Mechanical engineering module 2	1 Year	Pass in Craft Mechanical Eng. module 1			KNEC
6	**AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Diploma in Automotive Engineering Module 2	1 Year	Pass in Automotive Diploma module I OR pass in Automotive craft module 2	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Diploma in Automotive Engineering Module 3	1 Year	Pass in Automotive Diploma module 2			KNEC
	iii) Craft certificate in Automotive module 2	1 Year	Pass in Automotive Craft Module 1			KNEC
7	**ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS**					
	i) Diploma In Electrical & Electronic Technology (Power / Telecommunication Options) Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Mean Grade C- & above	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Diploma In Electrical & Electronic Technology (Power / Telecommunication Options) Module 2	1 Year	Pass in Diploma in Electrical /electronic module 1 OR Pass in craft module 2			KNEC
	iii) Diploma In Electrical & Electronic Technology (Power Telecommunication Options) Module 3	1 Year	Pass in Diploma module 2			KNEC
	iv) Craft Certificate In Electrical & Electronic Technology (Power / Telecommunication Options) Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Mean Grade D plain & above			KNEC
	v) Craft Certificate In Electrical & Electronic Technology (Power / Telecommunication Options) Module 2	1 Year	Pass in craft Module I			KNEC
	vi) Electrical Installation Level 4	6 Months	KCSE /KCPE/KJSEA or Pass in level 3			CDACC
	vii) Electrical Engineering (Installation & Power option) level 5	2 Years	KCSE Grade D OR pass in Level 4			CDACC
	viii) Electrical engineering (Power, Telecommunication and Electronics options) Level 6	1 Year	KCSE grade C- OR pass in level 5			CDACC
8	**FOOD AND BEVERAGE DEPARTMENT**					
	i) Craft Certificate in Food Science & Technology Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Mean Grade D plain and above	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent 25,500/=	1st term 23,000/= Subsequent 16,000/=	KNEC
	ii) Craft certificate in food & beverage sales and service module 1	1 Year	KCSE Mean Grade D plain and above			KNEC
	iii) Diploma in Food & Beverage Management ,Module 1	1 Year	KCSE Mean Grade C- plain and above			KNEC
	iv) Diploma in Food & Beverage Management , module 3	1 Year	Pass in Food & Beverage 2			KNEC

INDUSTRIAL SKILLS UP-GRADING COURSES

1	**BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT** ii) Plumbing Basic ii) Painting and Decoration	3 months	School leavers, employees from SMEs & SMIs, Employees from Industries	1st Term 32,500/= Subsequent terms 25,500/=	1st Term 23,000/= Subsequent terms 16,000/=	NITA KITI
2	**CLOTHING & TEXTILES DEPARTMENT** i) Hair Dressing & Beauty Therapy (Basic) ii) Hair Dressing & Beauty Therapy (Intermediate) iii) Hair Dressing & Beauty Therapy (Advance) iv) Knitting Basic v) Garment Making (Basic) vi) Garment Making (Intermediate) vii) Garment Making (Advance)					NITA KITI
3	**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT** i) Welding & Fabrication (Basic) ii) Welding & Fabrication (Intermediate) iii) Welding & Fabrication (Advance) iv) Turning(Basic) v) Turning (Intermediate) vi) Turning (Advance)					KITI NITA

Ministry spearheads local tea value addition and packaging before export

A tea plantation in Kenya. Inset: Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe speaking during the North America Tea Conference in South Carolina

BY WANGARI NDIRANGU (KNA)

Agriculture and Livestock Development CS Mutahi Kagwe has called on investors to package tea meant for export here in Kenya, saying this would be cheaper and even guarantees higher returns for both producers and buyers.

Kenyan tea is often packaged outside the country because buyers at the Mombasa Tea Auction are international companies that purchase bulk tea, which they then blend, package, and brand with their own names, rather than a Kenyan brand.

This practice reduces the value of Kenyan tea, as the most profitable parts of the supply chain, blending and packaging, are conducted in consuming countries, away from Kenya.

Additionally, challenges such as high costs of local packaging materials due to taxes and difficulties in accessing high-grade, internationally compliant packaging resources have historically hindered local value-addition.

Speaking at the North America Tea Conference in South Carolina, Kagwe announced that the government has removed taxes on packaging materials for agricultural products.

The move, he said, allows Kenyan exporters to package tea at the source, according to international market specifications, thus delivering direct-to-shelf products with assured freshness, traceability and better returns to farmers.

"By packaging at origin, we eliminate unnecessary costs, improve competitiveness, and strengthen Kenya's position in the global tea market," Kagwe told delegates.

The CS highlighted Kenya's leadership in global tea production, noting that the country produced 598.47 million kilograms in 2024, a 4.95 percent increase from the previous year, a growth driven by favorable weather, subsidized fertilizer programs, and expanded processing capacity.

He further pointed to Kenya's diversification into Orthodox and specialty teas, with purple tea developed at the Tea Research Institute standing out as the only variety of its kind in the world.

Purple tea is celebrated for its health benefits and antioxidant content, with purple Orthodox tea fetching three to four times the price of black tea.

"Kenya's innovation in tea not only secures better earnings for farmers, but also places us ahead in meeting shifting global consumer demands," he said.

The CS also underscored tea's environmental and cultural importance, describing it as both a livelihood and a crop that conserves ecosystems by preventing soil erosion, supporting biodiversity and sequestering carbon.

Kagwe further urged the US market to embrace Kenyan black, green, and purple teas, noting that quality goods would always find a market.

He was accompanied by Tea Board of Kenya CEO Willy Mutai, KTDA Chair Geoffrey Kirundi and his CEO Wilson Muthaura, together with the Kenyan ambassador to the US, David Kerich.

Kenya is a major global tea producer and exporter, renowned for its high-quality black tea grown in the fertile highlands of the Great Rift Valley.

The industry features both large, company-owned estates and hundreds of thousands of small-scale farmers, with the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) representing the majority of smallholders.

Tea production is influenced by weather, particularly rainfall and temperatures and the country employs the CTC method (Cut, Tear, and Curl) to process most of its tea, creating grades like Fannings and Dusts used in tea bags.

The Agriculture CS was on a week-long mission in the United States to secure better market access for Kenyan agricultural products.

Experienced coxswains to gain formal certification under new programme

BY ROBERT OJWANG'

Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA), in partnership with the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), has rolled out the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) certification programme targeting more than 250 coxswains operating in the Lake Victoria region. The pilot initiative aims to improve safety standards and professionalism in inland water transport, while also enhancing skills development and youth employability.

Speaking during the assessment exercise in Kisumu County, BMA Senior Principal Trainer I (Nautical Science), Maj. (Rtd) Franklyne Toniok, said the programme will assess individuals with existing maritime skills and experience and enable them to obtain formal certification, opening up employment opportunities within the maritime sector.

Maj. Toniok, who was representing BMA Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Eric Katana, said that individuals who have acquired practical skills through work experience but lack formal qualifications will be assessed to pave the way for their certification as Coxswain Class III operators.

BMA Senior Principal Trainer 1 Nautical Science, Maj. (Rtd.) Franklyne Toniok during an assessment exercise of Coxswains held in Kisumu County.

Toniok said the assessment exercise had recorded significant progress, attracting coxswains from Migori, Kisumu, Homa Bay, and Siaya counties as part of efforts to establish a broader certification program for maritime operators across the Greater Lakes Region. "By the end of the second day, we had assessed more than 150 coxswains against a target of 250. This demonstrates the strong response from industry players and places us on course to achieve our target," he said. He expressed confidence in the Academy's ability to meet and surpass its goal in increasing the pool of qualified personnel required to support Kenya's growing maritime sector.

Toniok noted that many coxswains operating on Lake Victoria possess valuable practical experience but lack formal certification, making the RPL framework a critical pathway for career progression.

"Recognition of Prior Learning gives practitioners an opportunity to have their skills formally assessed and recognized. This not only improves their employability but also contributes to safer navigation and better service delivery within the maritime sector," Toniok said.

Experts rally African leaders to lead in the global digital economy

BY PASKAL OSONGA AND MOLVIN LAVENTA (KNA)

African governments, businesses, technical experts and communities have been urged to work together to build an internet ecosystem that is inclusive, innovative and resilient.

The Chair of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) Board, Tripti Sinha, said Africa's digital transformation will depend on collaboration, innovation and resilience, describing them as the key pillars that will enable the continent to shape and lead the global digital economy.

"The answer lies not in a single solution, but in a powerful combination of forces at the heart of this year's theme: Shaping Africa's Internet Future Through Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience," she said during the opening of the Africa Internet Summit 2026 in Nairobi.

Sinha noted that Africa's diversity presents both opportunities and challenges, making collective action essential.

"Africa's internet future cannot be built in isolation. Collaboration is essential because it enables governments, the private sector, civil society and international partners to align their efforts and work towards shared goals," she said.

Stakeholders gather for a photo session during the Opening Ceremony of the Africa Internet Summit 2026 held in Nairobi.

Youth urged to embrace TVET for employability

BY FREDRICK MARITIM (KNA)'

The Government is implementing a raft of programmes aimed at reducing youth unemployment.

Principal Secretary for Youth Affairs and the Creative Economy, Fikirini Jacobs, said the government is equipping the young people with market-driven skills, expanding internship opportunities, supporting entrepreneurship and opening up overseas job markets.

He was speaking during the National Amani Youth Summit at the Moi University School of Law Annex Campus in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County.

The PS said unemployment remains a major concern among Kenyan youth, but noted that the government is addressing the challenge through practical interventions designed to create sustainable livelihoods.

Fikirini said the country is deliberately shifting towards technical and vocational education to bridge the skills gap and support industrialisation.

"For far too long, we have had about one million university students and only about 20,000 students in our technical institutions. That imbalance has contributed to the unemployment crisis because the economy needs more technical skills," the PS said.

The PS noted that enrolment in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions has now risen to about 900,000 students, describing the growth as a significant milestone in preparing young people for self-employment and the country's industrial transformation.

He urged young people to embrace technical training and entrepreneurship, saying practical skills would create businesses capable of employing others rather than increasing the number of job seekers.

"You are not graded by how many A's or B's you have. You are graded by how well you can fix a machine. That means you can create an enterprise that will employ others," he said.

The PS said the government has rolled out several youth empowerment initiatives, including internship programmes, labour mobility opportunities, enterprise grants, the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) programme and apprenticeship schemes to improve employability.

He noted that more than 121,000 young people have already benefited from NYOTA grants, while another 90,000 youth are undergoing apprenticeship training under the programme's master craftsperson model to equip them with hands-on skills for employment and self-employment.

He added that thousands of young people are already benefiting from government-funded initiatives, including the Climate Works Programme targeting 200,000 youth across the country and the Nairobi River Regeneration Project, which has employed about 45,000 young people.

The PS also called on eligible youth to take advantage of the available opportunities through transparent government recruitment processes, saying programmes are designed to ensure inclusion and equal access.

FEATURE: CONSERVATION

Ministry plants 36,000 bamboo seedlings to restore River Nzoia

BY HILDA CHESHARI (MYGOV)

The State Department for Wildlife, through the Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI), has planted more than 36,000 bamboo seedlings along River Nzoia in Siaya County.

The seedlings are part of a bold campaign to restore degraded riparian ecosystems, reduce disaster risks, and strengthen climate resilience.

Launched at Nyadodera and presided over by Conservation Secretary Dr. John Chumo on behalf of Principal Secretary Ms. Silvia Museiya, the initiative is already transforming the riverbanks into a green corridor of restoration and opportunity. It has brought together local communities, scientists, government agencies, and development partners in a united conservation effort.

Dr. Chumo described bamboo as a sustainable resource capable of addressing multiple environmental challenges while boosting household incomes.

Community members participate in a bamboo growing exercise in Nyadodera, along the Nzoia River, Siaya County. A total of 36,000 seedlings were planted during the one-week campaign period, which was spearheaded by the Wildlife Research and Training Institute.

"Bamboo restoration presents a unique opportunity to restore ecosystems, improve livelihoods, and strengthen climate resilience," he said.

"The Ministry remains committed to supporting this initiative through the Institute as we work towards a greener and more sustainable future," he said.

He emphasized that the campaign contributes directly to the Government's ambitious target of growing 15 billion trees by 2032 and aligns with the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which positions environmental conservation as a pathway for socio economic transformation.

The Wildlife Research and Training Institute has adopted a science driven approach, guided by ecological monitoring and research findings to ensure interventions are effective and evidence based.

WRTI Director Dr. Patrick Omondi underscored the Institute's commitment to supporting the national tree growing agenda while restoring degraded ecosystems.

Health experts push for newborn screening to combat debilitating Sickle Cell disease

BY SHANEL KWAMBOKA AND DAVIS LANGAT

Homa Bay County residents have been urged to embrace early diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease (SCD), with health experts saying it is one of the most effective ways to prevent deaths associated with the condition.

Speaking during the commemoration of World Sickle Cell Day in Homa Bay, health professionals noted that many children living with the disease die because they are diagnosed too late, denying them access to life-saving treatment.

Dr. Meshack Liru, a pediatrician in Homa Bay County, said the prevalence of Sickle Cell Disease in the region stands at nine per cent, making it one of the hardest-hit areas in the country.

According to Dr. Liru, the disease is costly to manage, and delayed diagnosis continues to contribute significantly to mortality among affected children.

"About 80 per cent of children with Sickle Cell Disease in this region die because they are diagnosed late. Early diagnosis and treatment can greatly improve patients' quality of life and reduce deaths," said

Dr. Meshack Liru (Center) speaking to the media about the need to seek early diagnosis of sickle cell disease (SCD).
PHOTO: SHANEL KWAMBOKA

Dr. Liru.

He emphasized the importance of routine newborn screening, noting that it enables healthcare providers to identify affected infants early and begin treatment before complications arise.

Homa Bay is among the 17 counties in Kenya with a high burden of Sickle Cell Disease, a genetic blood disorder inherited from parents.

County Executive Committee Member for Health, Grace Osewe, said the county government has introduced several interventions aimed at reducing the burden of the disease.

MKU students' EcoScrubber innovation reaches global finals in American contest

BY MUOKI CHARLES

Young innovators are increasingly positioning the country and the continent as a hub of creativity, technology, and problem-solving after emerging among the best in global student innovation competitions.

Kenyan students from various universities, including Mount Kenya University (MKU), Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), and Machakos University, recently earned international recognition after developing solutions aimed at addressing real-world challenges ranging from environmental pollution to digital transformation.

One of the standout innovations is the EcoScrubber, developed by a team of four MKU students, namely Wesley Njenga, Franklin Mwendwa, Elijah Maina, and Ejike Chinyere from the School of Public Health. The innovation is a hybrid emission control and carbon-capture system that converts toxic pollutants from incinerator chimneys into useful construction materials.

The team emerged as finalists in the Wege Prize 2026 competition held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, United States, where they competed against 87 teams from more than 30 countries representing nearly 200 academic disciplines. The competition, organised by Ferris State University's Kendall College of Art and Design, challenges students globally to develop solutions based on circular economy principles. Team lead Wesley Njenga, said the global recognition demonstrated the potential of home-grown innovations to solve international challenges.

From left; Catherine Atieno of JKUAT, Salim Kim of Machakos University, Brian Ngugi of Mount Kenya University and their instructor Kevin Tuei, beat more than 220,000 students from around the world to win the Huawei global award.

> The team's innovation was inspired by an encounter in Thika where they saw a truck releasing heavy smoke, raising concerns about air pollution

"We were honoured to showcase home-grown solutions like EcoScrubber, as well as compete with the best in the world," Njenga said. The team's innovation was inspired by an encounter in Thika where they witnessed a truck releasing heavy smoke, raising concerns about air pollution. The experience motivated them to explore ways of capturing harmful emissions and transforming them into valuable products. Other young innovators also recorded a major milestone at the Huawei ICT Competition Global Finals held in Shenzhen, China, where a Kenyan team featuring MKU student Brian Ngugi, alongside Catherine Atieno of JKUAT and Salim Kim of Machakos University, won the grand prize after emerging the best among more than 220,000 participants worldwide.

The competition tested participants' expertise in emerging technologies including artificial intelligence and cloud computing.

Gov't reaffirms commitment to affordable water, sanitation services

BY CALEB WANENE(PCO)

The Government has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening public institutions, fostering strategic partnerships and embracing innovation to accelerate progress towards universal access to safe water and sanitation by 2063.

Speaking during the closing ceremony of the Africa Public Service Day (APSD) 2026 celebrations at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) in Nairobi, Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes Cabinet Secretary Geoffrey Ruku said achieving sustainable water security and sanitation requires coordinated efforts among governments, development partners, the private sector, academia, civil society organisations and local communities.

"Access to clean water and safe sanitation remains a key pillar of economic growth, public health and human dignity.

Achieving these goals will require stronger partnerships and sustained investment across all sectors," said Ruku.

Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special programmes CS Geoffrey Ruku (middle in suit) and PS in the same Ministry Dr. Jane Imbunya (Left) pictured after officiating at the Public Service Day 2026 celebrations at KICC, Nairobi.

The Cabinet Secretary noted that this year's APSD theme, "Enhancing Public Sector Institutions and Empowering Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships to Achieve Universal Water Availability and Safe Sanitation by 2063," highlights the critical role of effective public institutions in promoting sustainable development and improving citizens' well-being.

Ruku challenged public servants to prioritize results, accountability and innovation in service delivery, saying the success of government institutions is measured by the impact they have on citizens' lives.

"Our responsibility as public servants is to deliver tangible results that improve the lives of citizens. Innovation, accountability and effective service delivery must remain at the centre of everything we do," he said.

The Cabinet Secretary also announced that public servants will receive a salary increment beginning in July, describing the move as part of the Government's commitment to improving employee welfare and motivating workers to enhance productivity and service delivery. "The Government values the contribution of public servants and remains committed to creating a conducive working environment that enables them to serve Kenyans effectively," he added.

During the ceremony, Principal Secretary for Public Service and Human Capital Development Dr. Jane Kere Imbunya presented the APSD 2026 Symposium Communiqué, which called for increased investment in water infrastructure, adoption of digital technologies, strengthening institutional capacity and enhanced regional cooperation to ensure equitable and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.

Dr. Imbunya highlighted the transformative role of innovation in the sector, citing solar-powered water systems, smart water metering, digital payment platforms and modern water treatment technologies as practical solutions that are improving access to clean water and enhancing public health.

"Technology, creativity and partnerships are proving that public institutions can deliver innovative solutions that improve service delivery and transform the quality of life for citizens," said Dr. Imbunya.

The closing ceremony reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to the African Union Agenda 2063 and called for sustained action to translate commitments into tangible outcomes for present and future generations.

FEATURE: FOOD PRODUCTION

Embu rolls out school-based farming initiative to boost nutrition

BY SAMUEL WAITITU, KNA

The County Government of Embu has intensified efforts to enhance food security and improve nutrition among school-going children.

The county government is implementing a programme that brings together farmers, schools, and government agencies to promote food production and agricultural skills.

The initiative is being implemented through a partnership involving the Embu County Departments of Agriculture and Education, the Cereal Growers Association (CGA), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Speaking during a Farmers' Field Day at St. Chrysostom Comprehensive School in Kiamuringa, Mbeere South Sub-County, the County Chief Officer for Agriculture, Njeru Mwita, said the initiative is designed to improve both agricultural productivity and nutrition outcomes for schoolchildren.

Mwita said they want to use schools as practical learning and demonstration hubs for better farming practices for farmers across the county as well as meeting feeding and nutrition goals for learners.

He said farmers participating in the programme are learning improved farming methods that will increase productivity and strengthen food security at both household and county levels.

He noted that partnerships among various stakeholders was critical in promoting sustainable agriculture and ensuring farmers have access to knowledge and innovations that improve yields.

For the schools, Mwita said the program seeks to revive and expand the 4K Clubs in line with the Competency-Based Education (CBE) enabling learners to acquire practical agricultural skills and participate in food production activities.

"We want to encourage young people in schools to start projects like the 4K clubs because these young people are the great farmers of tomorrow. Once they acquire farming skills, they can also transfer the knowledge to their parents," he said.

According to Mwita, the initiative is helping change perceptions about agriculture among learners by demonstrating that farming can be a viable source of income even on small pieces of land.

"These kids will learn that agriculture can be another avenue of making money. They have been taught that they do not need huge portions of land to start farming, grow food and make money," he said.

Maize and cabbage grown at a demonstration farm at St. Chrysostom Comprehensive School in Kiamuringa, Mbeere South Constituency, Embu County.

Sh145m investment to modernise Limuru dairy

BY GRACE NAISHOO

Dairy farmers in Kiambu County are set to benefit from enhanced milk processing and value addition services following the implementation of a Sh145 million modernization project at the Limuru Dairy Farmers' Co-operative Society.

The project is implemented through a partnership between the World Bank-funded National Agriculture and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP), the Kiambu County Government, and farmers. Speaking during a visit to the dairy processing plant in Limuru, County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Wilfred Mwenda said the transformation at the facility demonstrates the impact of strategic partnerships in agricultural development.

"We visited Limuru Dairy and witnessed firsthand the transformation taking place in Kiambu's dairy sector. The investment made through the World Bank and NARIGP is a strong vote of confidence in the potential of our farmers and the leadership," said Mwenda.

KETRA intensifies campaign to shield local industries from unfair imports

BY ELVIS LEMISO (PCO)

Kenyan manufacturers and producers have been urged to take advantage of trade remedy mechanisms to protect their businesses from unfair import competition as the Kenya Trade Remedies Agency (KETRA) intensifies efforts to create a level playing field for local industries.

Speaking on behalf of KETRA Chief Executive Officer during the BIZLINK Trade Expo 2026 in Eldoret, Director of Trade Remedies Complaints Management Mr. Erick Nabwana Ludasia urged manufacturers to promptly report cases of unfair import trade practices, noting that early intervention enables the Agency to investigate and take appropriate action.

"KETRA's doors are always open to Kenyan manufacturers seeking guidance on trade remedies measures. If you believe your business has been adversely affected by unfair import trade practices, we encourage you to engage with us through our official communication channels or visit our offices," Mr. Nabwana said.

He emphasized that KETRA remains committed to creating a fair-trading environment between local and international manufacturers, adding that protecting domestic industries would support export growth, increase foreign exchange earnings and create employment opportunities for Kenyans.

The outreach comes at a time when businesses are navigating a rapidly changing global trading environment marked by new trade agreements, shifting supply chains, geopolitical tensions and increased efforts by countries to protect their local industries.

Trade remedies have consequently become a critical policy tool for addressing unfair trade practices while supporting industrial growth and ensuring local manufacturers can compete effectively.

Uasin Gishu County, which hosted the expo, provided a strategic platform for the engagement due to its growing role as an agricultural and industrial hub.

The county hosts major manufacturing enterprises, including textile producers such as Rivatex East Africa Limited and Ken-Knit Kenya Limited, which have contributed significantly to employment and economic development.

However, the two industries, like many local manufacturers, have faced increasing competition from imported products, affecting their market performance and highlighting the need for effective trade remedy measures.

Speaking during a panel discussion at the event, Uasin Gishu County Acting Director of Investment and Industrialization, Ms. Brenda Rono, said the county government remains committed to creating a favourable business environment by working with national institutions to protect local enterprises from unfair import competition.

She noted that ongoing investments in value addition, particularly in the dairy sector, would create new opportunities for farmers while strengthening local manufacturing.

"The County Aggregation and Industrial Parks present an opportunity for farmers not only to aggregate their produce but also undertake value addition. It is good to report that the National Government, through the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, has supported us in the dairy value chain," she said.

KETRA said continued engagement with businesses across the country will ensure more stakeholders understand their rights and the available mechanisms for addressing unfair import practices that threaten the sustainability of local enterprises.

Marsabit JSS teachers undergo ICT integration training

BY ANTHONY MELLY (KNA)

The Government has conducted a three-day Information and Communication Technology (ICT) integration training programme for 459 Junior Secondary School (JSS) teachers in Marsabit County as part of efforts to strengthen teachers' digital competencies and improve the delivery of Competency-Based education (CBE) in schools.

The training, being conducted in Marsabit Central, Moyale and Sololo Sub-Counties, is expected to enhance teachers' ability to integrate technology into classroom instruction and support the government's digital learning agenda.

Speaking during the training, Teachers Service Commission (TSC) Marsabit County Director Ali Abdi said the programme has been designed to equip teachers with practical digital skills that will improve teaching and learning across the county.

He said the training covers digital content creation, online safety, lesson planning and the use if digital learning platforms such as Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams.

He revealed that the government is funded through the Kenya Digital economy Acceleration Project (KDEAP), a World Bank-supported initiative aimed at promoting digital transformation and education and other sectors.

"The training is intended to equip teachers with skills needed to integrate ICT into daily classroom instruction and effectively utilize digital learning resources to improve learning outcomes," said Abdi.

He noted that the adoption of ICT and remote learning technology could help to address teacher shortages, particularly in remote and underserved areas, by enabling teachers to access, share and utilize digital content more effectively.

Abdi also commended the government's continued investment in the education sector, citing increased recruitment, promotion and improved remuneration of teachers in recent years.

He urged teachers to remain committed to providing quality education and supporting government initiative aimed at improving learning outcomes.

The TSC director further called for increased support for teacher career progression and continuous professional development through enhanced funding for training programmes.

FEATURE: IMPROVED SANITATION

Water projects ease long-standing scarcity in Masinga Sub-County

Kyuasini resident Rose Kavata speaking to the media after the commissioning of a borehole at Kyuasini in Masinga sub county, which was a relief to the community after suffering water scarcity for over 40 years.
PHOTO: ANNE KANGERO

BY ANNE KANGERO, KNA

For decades, inadequate access to water, poor sanitation, and limited livelihood opportunities have posed significant challenges to residents of Masinga Sub-County in Machakos County.

Community members and school-going children were often forced to travel long distances in search of clean water for domestic use and farming.

However, the commissioning of three boreholes has brought relief to more than 14,000 residents, significantly improving access to safe and reliable water in the area.

The boreholes, located at Kyuasini Primary School, Mukusu Secondary School, and Mukameni Primary School, were drilled by Habitat for Humanity Kenya in partnership with the County Government of Machakos, INADES Formation Kenya, and the Eastern Community Development Programme (ECDP).

According to Project Coordinator Stellamaris Mumbua of BMZ, who spoke during the commissioning ceremony, the partnership with Habitat for Humanity has also led to several interventions aimed at addressing water scarcity beyond borehole drilling.

She noted that these include the implementation of the BMZ Machakos Integrated WASH and Livelihoods Project, which combines water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions with climate-smart livelihood strategies to build resilient and self-sustaining communities.

Mumbua said 13 schools and surrounding communities in Masinga have been identified for the rollout of climate-smart farming initiatives.

Through the programme, residents are being trained in sustainable agricultural practices, including cattle rearing, beekeeping, and vegetable farming, to strengthen resilience and improve livelihoods amid changing climatic conditions.

Governor unveils system to reward excellence, sanction poor performance in county

BY MIRIAM NDUNGE(KNA)

Makueni Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr. awards one of the officers as he launched the County Rewards and Sanctions Framework

Makueni Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr. has launched the County Rewards and Sanctions Framework, a new initiative aimed at enhancing accountability, professionalism, and service delivery within the county public service.

The framework was unveiled during Public Service Day celebrations held at the Makueni Integrated Vocational Education Centre (MIVEC) grounds in Wote town, Makueni Sub-County, on Tuesday.

The initiative is a collaboration between the County Government of Makueni and the Makueni County Public Service Board (CPSB).

Speaking during the launch, Governor Mutula said the framework will promote a merit-based culture in the public service by ensuring that excellence is recognised and rewarded, while underperformance is addressed appropriately.

He noted that the framework provides a fair and transparent system that links employee performance to rewards and sanctions, helping to build a professional, ethical, and citizen-focused public service.

"The Rewards and Sanctions Framework is a strategic instrument for strengthening accountability and enhancing service delivery across the county. It creates a clear connection between performance and outcomes, ensuring excellence is recognised and fairness upheld," said Governor Mutula Jr.

Through the framework, outstanding employees will be eligible for various rewards, including monetary awards of promotions, salary increments.

State-Owned Enterprises enter new era of governance, transparency

BY NELLY MANGA (MYGOV)

The Government-Owned Enterprises (GOEs) are stepping into a transformative phase of corporate governance and financial accountability, following the enactment of the Government-Owned Enterprises (GOE) Act, 2025.

This landmark legislation is expected to fundamentally reshape how commercial state entities are managed, aligning them more closely with international best practices.

The implications of the new Act, alongside the implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) 18 and the newly issued IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards S1 and S2 is set to drastically change the operations of GOEs, enhancing efficiency and effectiveness.

This was disclosed during a joint forum led by the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (PSASB) in collaboration with the National Treasury, the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) and the State Department for Public Investments and Assets Management.

During the forum, it was noted that one of the most transformative provisions the GOE Act is the requirement for public service obligations to be separately accounted for.

Historically, state enterprises have combined commercial and social obligations within a single reporting framework, making it difficult to assess their true operational performance.

"The new approach is expected to improve transparency by enabling investors and policymakers to distinguish between commercial activities and government-funded public service mandates," PSASB CEO FCPA Georgina Muchai said.

She said that IFRS 18 introduces new requirements for the presentation of financial performance, including revised categories within statements of profit or loss, enhanced disclosure requirements and improved comparability between entities.

"We are also examining the readiness of Government-Owned Enterprises to adopt IFRS 18, the new international standard governing presentation and disclosure in financial statements."

"IFRS 18 introduces significant changes to the structure of financial statements, requiring greater consistency in reporting financial performance, enhanced disclosures and improved transparency around management-defined performance measures," FCPA Muchai added.

Across the wider GOE sector, she observed that experts have identified common challenges including limited technical understanding of IFRS 18 among non-finance executives, gaps in reporting systems and the need for stronger audit committee oversight of financial reporting reforms.

Experts evaluated the preparedness for IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards S1 and S2, which require entities to disclose sustainability-related and climate-related risks and opportunities that may affect enterprise value.

Though it, she noted that environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues have increased significantly, many Government-Owned Enterprises are only beginning their sustainability reporting journey.

The GOE Act itself, FCPA Muchai said that it provides for strengthening board accountability, risk management oversight, performance evaluation systems, transparency requirements and audit committee functions.

"While Kenya's largest and most commercially mature Government-Owned Enterprises are well placed to lead implementation of IFRS 18 and the sustainability disclosure standards, substantial work remains across the wider sector."

"Capacity building, stronger governance systems, and sustained support from PSASB, the National Treasury, and CMA will be critical for Government-Owned Enterprises to achieve full compliance with international reporting standards," FCPA Muchai said.

In line with the requirements of the GOE Act 2025, the governance architecture being introduced, particularly independent boards, audit committees, performance contracting, risk governance, and enhanced disclosure, creates a strong institutional foundation for the successful adoption of IFRS 18, IFRS S1, and IFRS S2 across Kenya's Government-Owned Enterprise sector.

NYOTA Programme shifts to on-the-job training phase in Kericho County

BY KIBE MBURU (KNA)

The National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) Programme in Kericho County has entered its On-the-Job Experience (OJE) practical phase, with about 80 percent of youth who completed theoretical and socio-emotional skills training now placed under approved master craftsmen and employers for hands-on workplace attachment. The placement marks the transition from classroom-based preparation to real workplace exposure, following the completion of a one-month theoretical skills training programme that equipped beneficiaries with foundational work-readiness competencies.

Kericho County Director of Youth Joash Ratemo, disclosed to KNA that the practical attachment phase is ongoing across all six sub-counties: Ainamoi, Belgut, Bureti, Kipkelion East, Kipkelion West, and Soin/Sigowet, with beneficiaries placed in trades aligned to their interests, labour market demand, and availability of suitable local employers.

The youth Director explained that the attachment phase is designed to deepen practical learning by allowing youth to translate classroom knowledge into real workplace tasks under close mentorship, while strengthening their technical competence, discipline, and overall employability.

"The youth are being trained in various technical, vocational and service fields including hairdressing, electrical engineering, tailoring, plumbing, masonry, mechanics, welding, carpentry, hospitality and catering, ICT, horticulture, barbering, baking, fashion design, among other skills under Master Craftsmen," Mr. Ratemo added.

Kenya advances nuclear power ambition after Canada exposure mission

BY MARY GORETTY'

Kenya's ambition to develop its first nuclear power plant has gained momentum after a high-level delegation from the Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) and partner institutions completed an exposure mission to Canada's advanced nuclear industry.

The Canada-Kenya Nuclear Engagement Programme provided Kenyan officials with insights into nuclear power development, including operations, regulation, safety systems, workforce development and the institutional frameworks required to establish a successful nuclear programme.

KenGen Managing Director Eng. Peter Njenga said the mission marked a critical step in preparing Kenya for nuclear energy development, noting that lessons from Canada would help shape the country's long-term energy strategy.

"This trip has helped us deepen our understanding of our role. We had first-hand experience learning from an established nuclear market, understanding the owner-operator model and translating that knowledge into a long-term plan for Kenya's energy system," he said.

KenGen has been designated as the owner-operator of Kenya's first nuclear power plant in partnership with the Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA). The initial nuclear development is expected to generate approximately 2,000 megawatts, with plans to expand capacity to 6,000 megawatts.

The delegation visited Ontario's nuclear facilities, including Bruce Power, one of the world's largest operating nuclear power plants with an installed capacity of 6,400 megawatts, where they learnt about nuclear operations, safety culture and the role of nuclear energy in supporting industrial growth.

Eng. Njenga said Kenya's nuclear journey would require more than building a power plant, emphasizing the need to develop strong institutions, skilled personnel and public confidence.

"Kenya's nuclear project must be understood as institution-building before it is understood as construction. Our aspiration is to build a nuclear organisation that reflects the highest international standards of operational excellence, safety culture, environmental stewardship and public accountability," he said.

The mission also exposed the delegation to Canada's approach to nuclear waste management, with lessons on long-term safety, regulatory oversight and maintaining public trust.

NuPEA's Eng. Eric Ohaga said the experience demonstrated that confidence in nuclear energy is built through strong safety systems, effective regulation and long-term commitments to responsible management of nuclear materials.

The Head of Cooperation at the High Commission of Canada to Kenya, Sophie Prince, said the partnership between the two countries would continue to support energy development, education and workforce capacity building.

"Building a nuclear programme is not only about technology; it is also about people, institutions and long-term capability," she said.

Beyond energy generation, Kenya expects nuclear power development to create opportunities in manufacturing, engineering, research and skills development. Officials said localization of equipment production and technical services would gradually increase economic benefits and support job creation.

The mission comes as Kenya seeks reliable and affordable baseload electricity to support industrial growth and economic transformation. Officials said international partnerships and continued investment in human capital would be essential in ensuring the country's nuclear programme meets global standards of safety and sustainability.

Kenya Steps Up cyber defences as NC4 moves to counter 3 billion attack attempts

BY EVERLINE KIMORGO AND BRIDGIT NASURUMBU (MYGOV)

Kenya is stepping up measures to strengthen its cyber defences following a surge in digital threats that saw more than three billion cyberattack attempts recorded within a three-month period, prompting enhanced coordination between government and critical industry players.

The National Computer and Cybercrime Coordination Committee (NC4) has outlined a raft of interventions aimed at protecting critical information infrastructure, improving incident response and strengthening the country's ability to detect and counter increasingly sophisticated cyber threats.

According to the latest NC4 status report, the attacks targeted vulnerabilities in sector systems, cloud services and government institutions, exposing the growing risks facing Kenya's expanding digital ecosystem.

To address the rising threat, NC4 said it will intensify collaboration with key sectors, including banking, mobile network operators, aviation, energy and other critical infrastructure providers, to enhance proactive defence measures and improve cybersecurity capabilities.

The committee is also developing a Rapid Reference Guide to standardise and streamline the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime cases, ensuring law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders have a coordinated approach in handling digital offences.

Principal Secretary for Internal Security and National Administration, Dr Raymond Omollo, said the approval of the National Cybersecurity Agency (NCSA) by Parliament marks a major step towards strengthening Kenya's cyber resilience.

Dr Omollo noted that the new agency will enhance coordination, safeguard critical information infrastructure and improve the country's response to emerging cyber threats.

"The approval of the National Cybersecurity Agency provides an opportunity to enhance national capacity in dealing with evolving cyber threats and safeguarding Kenya's digital ecosystem," he said.

NLC DEVELOPS GUIDE FOR THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LAND USE AND MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR LAND HELD BY PUBLIC AGENCIES

A NEW ERA IN THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND

The National Land Commission (NLC) has developed the Guide for the Preparation and Implementation of Land Use and Management Plans (LUMPs) for Land Held by Public Agencies, establishing a uniform national framework for planning, developing, utilising and safeguarding public land across Kenya.

Developed under Article 67(2)(a) and (h) of the Constitution, Section 17 of the Land Act, 2012, and Legal Notice No. 280 of 2017, the Guide provides public agencies with a practical roadmap for preparing 20-year Land Use and Management Plans and submitting them to the National Land Commission for approval. It marks a major milestone in Kenya's land governance reforms, advancing the constitutional requirement that public land be managed equitably, efficiently, productively and sustainably.

Why the Guide Matters

Public land is among Kenya's most valuable national assets but has long faced challenges including land grabbing, encroachment, underutilisation, fragmented planning, competing land uses and weak management systems. These have resulted in loss of public assets, land disputes, environmental degradation and missed development opportunities.

The Guide addresses these challenges by standardising how public institutions prepare and implement Land Use and Management Plans, ensuring public land is protected, optimally utilised and aligned with national development priorities.

What is a LUMP?

A Land Use and Management Plan is a GIS-based, site-specific planning document prepared for public land under Section 17 of the Land Act. Each plan covers a 20-year period and is reviewed every five years to respond to emerging development and environmental needs.

LUMPs are designed to prevent land grabbing and encroachment, eliminate conflicting land uses, optimise public assets, reduce disputes, protect environmentally sensitive and culturally significant areas, safeguard land reserved for strategic projects and promote climate resilience.

Guiding Principles

The Guide promotes sustainable land management, transparency, accountability, efficiency, environmental conservation, economic optimisation of public assets, conflict prevention, inclusive public participation and equitable access to social and economic benefits. It is intended for public agencies, State corporations, National and County Government institutions, planning professionals, development partners, professional bodies, non-state actors and the public.

Preparing a LUMP

The Guide outlines a structured process that can be completed within six months. A public agency first resolves to prepare a LUMP, notifies the National Land Commission and engages a consortium led by a registered physical and land use planner.

Planning professionals then undertake data collection, site analysis, mapping and preparation of draft proposals through stakeholder engagement and public participation. The completed plan is adopted by the public agency before submission to the National Land Commission for approval upon recommendation by the relevant planning authority. The Commission is expected to conclude the approval process within 30 days.

What Every LUMP Must Contain

Every LUMP must include an agency profile and land inventory, planning context, land ownership details, existing land use analysis, proposed developments, GIS-based maps, environmental and social considerations, implementation strategies, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and supporting technical documentation. Each report must also contain an executive summary, planning methodology, situational analysis and an implementation programme certified by registered planning professionals.

Implementation and Oversight

The National Land Commission serves as the approving authority, providing oversight, monitoring and compliance enforcement. Public agencies are responsible for preparing, implementing and managing approved plans, while planning authorities review plans, ensure compliance with planning standards and provide technical recommendations.

Every public agency must also prepare a Land Management Plan covering environmental safeguards, legal compliance, infrastructure maintenance, risk management, dispute resolution, land security and protection of public land boundaries. Agencies must maintain land for its approved purpose, obtain Commission approval before changing land use and comply with county planning requirements.

The National Land Commission will monitor implementation through site inspections, compliance reporting, performance monitoring and, where necessary, satellite imagery and drone technology to ensure developments conform to approved plans.

Transforming Public Land Management

The Guide provides public institutions with a practical framework for protecting strategic public assets, preventing illegal acquisition, promoting orderly development and reducing land-related disputes. By standardising planning procedures, strengthening institutional accountability and enhancing oversight, it supports sustainable development and ensures public land is managed prudently, efficiently and responsibly for the benefit of present and future generations.

DR ABDILLAHI SAGGAF ALAWY, CHAIRPERSON NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION

The Commission's mandate to monitor and exercise oversight over land use planning is inseparable from the planning process itself. Effective oversight presupposes the existence of well-prepared plans that provide clear benchmarks for implementation, compliance and accountability.

Where planning is absent, the consequences are evident: insecurity of public land tenure, uncoordinated and unsustainable development, encroachment on public land, degradation of ecologically fragile areas, and persistent challenges in the registration, protection and optimal utilization of public land.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO) KENYA COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE MS FARAYI ZIMUDZI

By introducing a clear technical framework for plan preparation and implementation, the Guide supports public agencies to optimize land use in a manner that is equitable, efficient, productive, and sustainable. Its emphasis on GIS-based planning, evidence-driven decision-making, stakeholder engagement, and alignment with County Spatial Plans will enhance land administration systems and improve accountability in public land management. As FAO we are proud to have supported the NLC in the development of this important policy and technical resource through the European Union and FAO Digital Land Governance Programme (DLGP). This milestone reflects our shared commitment to strengthening land governance systems, promoting sustainable natural resource management, enhancing food security, and fostering resilient and inclusive development.

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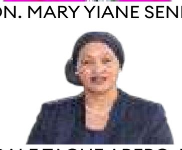

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State allays fears over GMO safety amid misinformation

BY DAVID NDURO, KNA

National Biosafety Authority (NBA) Legal Officer Moses Sande addressing journalists in Isiolo town.

The Government has sought to reassure the public over the safety of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) amid widespread misinformation surrounding the technology.

National Biosafety Authority (NBA) Legal Officer Moses Sande said the Authority has put in place stringent measures to ensure the safe development, importation and use of GMO technology in the country.

He emphasized that no individual or institution is allowed to introduce GMOs into Kenya without first undergoing rigorous scientific assessment and obtaining approval from the relevant regulatory agencies.

Mr Sande noted that cotton remains the only genetically modified crop approved for commercial cultivation in Kenya, adding that it is currently being grown in 30 arid and semi-arid counties.

He said scientists from the NBA and other government agencies are developing drought-tolerant crops to strengthen food security. Plans are also underway to begin trials of genetically modified maize and Irish potatoes to boost local production and meet the country's growing food demand.

Mr Sande spoke in Isiolo Town during a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) event at the Isiolo School for the Deaf, where he represented National Biosafety Board Chief Executive Officer Anne Karimi.

He disclosed that all GMO-related crops undergo extensive inspection, testing and verification before being approved for commercial release and consumer use.

"The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) and the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) are among the key institutions collaborating with the National Biosafety Authority to ensure safety and security in service delivery," said Mr. Sande. He further observed that several African countries have adopted GMO technology as part of efforts to address climate change and strengthen food security.

He cited South Africa, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Sudan as examples of nations that have embraced the technology.

Speaking during the event, Assistant Director of Education Eric Bundi thanked the Authority for donating food supplies and financial support to the school. The donation comprised eight bags of beans, four bags of maize, 30 cartons of milk and 10 jerrycans of cooking oil.

> "Cotton remains the only genetically modified crop approved for commercial cultivation in Kenya

Mr. Bundi said the support had come at a time the region continues to deal with the effects of prolonged drought.

The school's Principal, Godfrey Gikunda, appealed for continued support to enable the institution to expand its agricultural activities. He said the initiative would help supplement learners' nutritional requirements while enhancing food security at the school.

GMO technology involves the use of biotechnology to modify the DNA of crops or livestock. Scientists transfer specific genes from one organism to another to introduce desirable traits such as pest resistance, herbicide tolerance, drought resilience and improved nutritional value.

AFA system to track crops from farm to market

BY WANGARI NDIRANGU

The Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA) has commissioned the National Horticulture Traceability System, a digital platform designed to track horticultural produce from farm to market. The system is intended to improve Kenya's compliance with international export standards.

AFA Board Chair Cornely Serem said the platform will enable exporters and importers to verify the exact origin of horticultural produce, including the farm location and production practices.

"We will know exactly where crops are coming from, the chemicals used, and how they were produced," he said, noting that the system will help Kenya meet stringent market requirements, particularly in the European Union.

He added that the platform will enable authorities to quickly identify the source of rejected exports and address challenges at the farm level, describing it as a "game changer" for the horticultural sector.

From (L) Director HCD Christine Chesaro, AFA board member Dr. Resebellah Langat, Ag. Director AFA Dr. Calistus Kundu, Chairman FA Cornelly Serem, and board member Jairu Ombui during the launch of the national traceability system.

AFA Acting Director General Calistus Kundu said the system provides end-to-end traceability from planting to harvest, capturing key farm activities such as spraying, fertilization, irrigation, harvesting, and grading.

"We will know who planted what, when it was harvested, and how it was handled," she said.

BRIEFS

14,000 seafaring jobs for Kenyans in new KMA pact

BY MARY MTAWA AND JOAN KINUTHIA

The Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) has signed recognition agreements with four countries in a major push to expand employment opportunities for Kenyan seafarers, a move expected to create more than 14,000 jobs aboard international vessels.

The agreements, signed with Singapore, the Dominican Republic, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Korea, aim to enhance the global competitiveness of Kenyan seafarers while increasing the country's earnings through foreign remittances.

Speaking during a Cadet Sensitization Forum held in Mombasa, KMA Director General CPA Omae Nyarandi said the authority is committed to positioning Kenya as a leading supplier of skilled maritime labour to the international shipping industry.

Nyarandi said the agreements will provide Kenyan seafarers with access to employment opportunities in international fleets while strengthening the country's participation in the global maritime economy.

"The agreements we have signed will shape the maritime future for our seafarers and cadets by creating access to global opportunities," he said.

He revealed that KMA is also engaging additional international partners with the aim of securing more employment openings for Kenyan seafarers and maritime graduates.

The Director General further announced that the authority has awarded a contract for the production and delivery of Seafarers' Identity Documents (SID), an important requirement for seafarers seeking employment abroad.

According to Nyarandi, the contractor is expected to complete the assignment within two months before the SID sample is submitted to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for review and approval to ensure compliance with international standards.

"Our efforts demonstrate that the Authority listens to the needs of seafarers," he said.

Machakos health centre gets oxygen upgrade

BY ANNE KANGERO

Machakos Governor Wavinya Ndeti has commissioned a new oxygen piping system, oxygen manifold, and upgraded water supply and drainage infrastructure at Muumandu Health Centre in Kola Ward.

She unveiled the facilities during the final leg of her Machakos Sub-County development tour, which aims to enhance service delivery and ensure compliance with modern healthcare standards.

The oxygen piping and manifold system will provide an uninterrupted supply of medical oxygen to wards and emergency units, while the upgraded water and drainage systems are expected to strengthen infection prevention and sanitation at the facility.

Speaking during the commissioning, Governor Ndeti said the installations are designed to ensure health facilities remain fully operational, particularly during emergencies.

She emphasized that reliable oxygen and water systems are essential components of quality healthcare and must be prioritized in all public health facilities.

"Every facility must be prepared for emergencies. Basic infrastructure such as oxygen and water systems is not negotiable when it comes to saving lives," she said.

The Muumandu Health Centre serves residents of Kola Ward and surrounding areas. With the new upgrades, clinicians are now better equipped to handle respiratory illnesses, maternal emergencies and surgical referrals more effectively and safely.

County health officials said routine maintenance protocols have been established to ensure the systems remain functional throughout the year while improving patient safety and service delivery.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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